

July 2019

EiGo Koriyama!

Photo: Lake Inawashiro as seen from Konan-machi

Monthly news and information about Koriyama City in English

EVENTS

Summertime in Koriyama!

Summer in Koriyama City is fun-packed with festivals. This means food, drinks, music, yukata (summer kimono) fireworks and so much more. **EiGo Koriyama** brings you an overview of the major events in the city so you don't have to miss a single thing!

July



24-28

Summer Festa in Koriyama
Koriyama's famous beer festival. Enjoy beers, sausages and other festival foods, with a real Oktober-fest style German band and fireworks! Ein Prosit!
Place: Kaiseizan Park



27

Mizu-umi Matsuri (Lake Festival)
Celebrate summer on the beaches of Lake Inawashiro with tarai-bune (tub-like boats), music, kaki-gori (shaved ice) and a beach fireworks display!
Place: Tatehama Beach (Konan)



27-28

Otoro no Shishimai
A hallmark of Koriyama's culture is the Otoro-no-Shishimai dance, which is said to have originated from a visit by Minamoto no Shigeyuki (≈1000 AD).
Place: Otoro Taishidō Temple (Tomita)



31

Koriyama no Taiko
The day before the kick-off of the Uneme Matsuri, come down to Koriyama Station to see the best local taiko groups' powerful performances.
Place: Koriyama Station West Square

August



1-3

Uneme Matsuri
The Uneme Matsuri celebrates the legend of a court lady in the Nara-era, and sees a parade of hundreds of people parade down the Koriyama Ekimae-area, incl. hyotoko-dancers and a giant taiko-drum.
Place: Koriyama Station West-Exit Area



3

Fukuyama Dream Fireworks Festival
The 1st of Koriyama's two major fireworks festivals, signals the end of Uneme Matsuri.
Place: Fukuyama Riverbed Multipurpose Square



9-10

Hagihime Matsuri
This festival celebrates the legend of princess Hagi, and includes an onsen (hot spring) ceremony by the local Miss' Uneme and a lantern parade down the hot spring town.
Place: Bandai-Atami Hot Spring



14

Asakano Fireworks Festival
The 2nd big fireworks festival takes place at the Koriyama Culture Park, in the wide open fields of Mihota, but the fireworks can be seen far and wide. The perfect end to a hot summer day!
Place: Koriyama Culture Park

EVENT CALENDAR

For more information on Koriyama's annual summer festivals, visit the website of the Koriyama City Tourism Association at: <https://www.kanko-koriyama.gr.jp/event/summer.html>.

JULY Event & Location

6~	Exhibit: Paddington Bear™ (until September 8th) Koriyama City Museum of Art
15	Ryuun Nagai LIVE 2019 Myuukaru Gakuto-Hall
20	Japan-USA Collegiate Baseball Championship Series York Kaiseizan Baseball Stadium
20~	Summer Holiday Yurakkusu Matsuri (until Aug. 18) YRACS (Yurakkusu) Atami
20-24	62th Fukushima Pref. Middle School Sports Festival Kaiseizan Athletics Stadium, Koriyama Shinkin Pool, Sogo Gymnasium
24-28	Summer Festa in Koriyama - Beer Festival Kaiseizan Park
27	Mizu-umi Matsuri (Lake Festival) Funatsu Beach, Konan
27-28	Otoro no Shishimai Otoro Taishidō Temple (Tomita)
31	Koriyama no Taiko Koriyama Station West Square



Click on the events in the PDF online or subscribe to the monthly newsletter for more info!

www.tinyurl.com/KoriyamaEigo

AUG. Event & Location

1	Fumiya Fujii - 35th Anniversary Concert Koriyama City Cultural Center
1-3	Uneme Matsuri Koriyama Station West-Exit Area
3	Fukuyama Dream Fireworks Festival Fukuyama Riverbed Multipurpose Square
9-10	Hagihime Matsuri Bandai-Atami Hot Spring
10	Picture Book World in Fukushima 2019 Big-Palette Fukushima
12	GReeeeN Live Tour 2019 Koriyama City Cultural Center
14	Asakano Fireworks Festival Koriyama Culture Park
18	flumpool 9th tour 2019 'Command Shift Z' Koriyama City Cultural Center
25	Koriyama Nunobiki Highlands Festival Koriyama Nunobiki Kaze no Kogen



EVENTS

KIEA International Exchange Bus Tour 2019

Join the Koriyama International Exchange Association (KIEA) on a bus tour on the **8th of September** to our northern neighbors in Miyagi Prefecture: **Shiroishi-Zao**. You will leave from Koriyama City Hall together with KIEA-members and foreign residents and head north to visit **Shiroishi Castle** to learn about the history and enjoy the view of the area, have a nice lunch at **Sanku-an**, try your hand at making a kokeshi-doll at **Kokeshi-kan** and finally make your own ice-cream at **Zao Heartland**. Why not join the tour, visit some new places and meet some new people from different backgrounds? Please apply with the information listed below.

Participants: 20 (KIEA-members & foreign residents, 12 years and older) (participants will be selected at random in case there are more than 20 applicants for the tour).

Application: Please apply by phone (924-3711) or the online application form below by **August 2nd**.

Once you have applied, you will be informed if you were selected by **August 9th**. Online application form: <http://tinyurl.com/KIEABusTour>

Date: September 8th (Sun) (8:20 - 17:00)

Fee: ¥3,800 (incl. lunch, and all admission- and activity fees)



Photo: KIEA Bus Tour 2017

#MyKoriyama Instagram Contest

Can you show a new, beautiful side of Koriyama the world has not seen before? Enter the **2019 #MyKoriyama Instagram Photo Contest!** Share pictures of your favorite places, people, and hidden gems in Koriyama on Instagram, add the hashtag **#MyKoriyama** (along with a title and the location) to automatically qualify for great prizes! Entries are accepted between **July 20th** and the **31st of August**. For questions, contact the Koriyama International Policy Division at **024-924-3711** (JP/EN) or kokusaiseisaku@city.koriyama.fukushima.jp



NEWS

SDGs Future City

On the **1st of July**, Koriyama City was officially selected as one of Japan's 'SDGs Future Cities' by the Japan Cabinet Office. The first city in Fukushima Pref. to be selected, Koriyama's efforts towards the promotion of the United Nations' **SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)** received high praise. Koriyama's efforts were even designated as local governmental SDGs model-projects. The certificate for the city was awarded by none other than Prime Minister Abe himself. Koriyama City aims to keep working towards sustainability and the fulfillment of SDGs to create a better world for future generations. For more information on SDGs and Koriyama's efforts, visit www.city.koriyama.lg.jp/kurashi/sdgs/13872.html.



Rakuten Eagles vs. Yakult Swallows

On the **11th of June**, for the first time in three years, a friendly game by two professional baseball teams was played at the York Kaiseizan Baseball Stadium. The **Tohoku Rakuten Golden Eagles** from Sendai faced off against the **Tokyo Yakult Swallows**. Around 12,000 fans, old and young, came to cheer on their favorite team and the stadium area was filled with stands and a great atmosphere. The game ended in a **3 - 1** victory for Rakuten Eagles, which was great for all the local fans, with the Rakuten Eagles being the closest Pacific League-team to Koriyama City. Check out the website of Rakuten-Eagles to keep track of their games and visit their next one!



Abukuma River Disaster Drill

Koriyama City area has had its share of flooding disasters over the years. The Abukuma river flows through the basin on the east side of Koriyama City. The relatively low altitude of the surrounding area, and the fluctuating nature of the river makes the area vulnerable to river flooding. On the **26th of May**, in order to prepare for a possible flooding disaster, around 1,400 people, mostly from the firesquads and disaster prevention organizations from the 23 municipalities that surround Abukuma River, partook in a large-scale disaster drill organized at the riverbed in the Fukuyama area.

The event was a simulation of the river overflowing due to torrential rains, and consisted of practical drills such as rescuing evacuees using boats and stacking sandbags. All involved parties were able to reconfirm their tasks and connections to prevent or mitigate the impact of future flooding disasters.

Do You Know Koriyama?

Lake Inawashiro is located west of Koriyama City, and partly falls under Koriyama City's jurisdiction (shared with Aizu-Wakamatsu City and Inawashiro Town). With its surface of 103km² and max. depth of 94.6m, it is **Japan's 4th largest lake**. Once dubbed '**Tenkyo-ko**' (Heaven-mirroring Lake), Lake Inawashiro is known for its high water quality and clarity. The water is supplied mostly by molten snow from the surrounding mountains. It is of immense importance for Koriyama City too. Lake Inawashiro's water currently accounts for around **70% of Koriyama's water supply**, another important one being Abukuma River. This was not possible until the construction of the Asaka Canal in the late 19th century, which led to the rapid expansion and prosperity of the region. It is also a popular tourist destination, and not just for people. Swans from Siberia migrate to Inawashiro to spend the winter, making them a symbol of the lake.



For information, questions or tips, contact:
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