



# EiGoKoriyama!

News and Information about Koriyama City in English

January 2019

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Shinshu Matsuri – Winter Festa in Koriyama 2019

A true staple of the Koriyama new year: the **Shinshu (New Sake) Matsuri (Festival)**, or **Winter Festa in Koriyama**. Held at the Koriyama View Hotel Annex (4F) on Thursday the **7<sup>th</sup> of February**, the event is considered the official opening of the new sake-season, with the first batches of new *nihon-shu* (Japanese sake) being opened. For ¥4,500 (only ¥4,000 in pre-sale), enjoy and compare the taste of the new nihon-shu from 6 breweries in Koriyama, as well as various other local specialty products, such as a new special cocktail, various dishes with local brand vegetables, dishes prepared by the excellent cooking club of the Koriyama Women's University and live cooking demonstrations. Many of the products and dishes served will also be available for sale.



Come check out the taste of the new year at the Shinshu Matsuri in Koriyama!

**Date:** February 7<sup>th</sup> (Thu.), 18:30 – 20:00  
**Venue:** [Koriyama View Hotel Annex](#) (4F) ('Hanakatsumi-Yamazakura no Ma' rooms)  
**WEB:** [www.ko-cci.or.jp/event/maturi/winter.html](http://www.ko-cci.or.jp/event/maturi/winter.html)  
**Tickets:** ¥4,500, (¥4,000 in pre-sale, contact by phone ( ☎ 024-921-2610) or e-mail ([admin@entre.gr.jp](mailto:admin@entre.gr.jp)) (Admission restricted to those 20 years or older).



### Koriyama City Marathon Applications Open

One of the biggest sports festivals of Koriyama is the annual Koriyama City Marathon. Applications for the 2019 edition are now open from the **15<sup>th</sup> of January until the 1<sup>st</sup> of March!** This Golden Week, join in the fun, challenge yourself and get to know the city.



**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> of April (Monday/Public Holiday)

**How to apply:** ① RUNNET Website (<https://runnet.jp>)

② Get an application form from a city government office, city sports facility or community center and pay at the post office or a Postal Bank office.

**Fee:** Elementary-/junior high schoolers: ¥1000, Senior high schoolers: ¥2000, General runners/elementary schoolers with guardian (less than 10k): ¥3500, General runners (half marathon): ¥5000 (¥200 off for online appl.)

**Distances:** 1.5 km, 3 km, 5 km, 10 km, half marathon



## Event Calendar

### January

- 1/11~ **Brueghel Exhibit** (until March 31<sup>st</sup>) (Koriyama City Museum of Art)
- 19~ **Yukiasobi (Snow Fun) Event** (every Sat./Sun./Holiday until February 2<sup>nd</sup>) (Ishimushiro Fureai Bokujo Ranch)
- 20 **Ongaku-no-Ehon (Picturebook of Music)** (Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 20 **AsakaZA x Dance Square Do: Joint Performance** (Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 22-26 **Inter High: Speed Skating** (Bandai-Atami Sports Park Koriyama Skating Rink)
- 26-27 **2<sup>nd</sup> KIZUNA Cup Badminton Tournament** (Horaiya Koriyama Sogo Gymnasium)
- 27 **Music City Koriyama: Fureai Concert** (Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 31 **Pancho Amat (Cuba) Japan Live Tour 2019** (Koriyama City Cultural Center)

### February

- 2-3 **Denso Airybees, 1<sup>st</sup> Koriyama Home Games (Okayama Seagulls & Hisamitsu Springs)** (Horaiya Koriyama Sogo Gymnasium)
- 15 **14<sup>th</sup> Domestic Tourism Revitalization Forum in Fukushima (tourism booths open to the public)** (Big Palette Fukushima)
- 24 **ASAKA Chorverein 26<sup>th</sup> Regular Concert** (Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 24 **Koriyama Citizens Cultural Arts Festival** (Koriyama City Cultural Center)

### Inter High: Speed Skating in Koriyama!

The **Inter High School Sports Festival** (or 'Inter High' for short) is the biggest sports competition for high schoolers in Japan, where the best school athletes from all over Japan compete in various sports. For many sports, the inter high is one of the most prestigious competitions. The speed skating event this year will be held at the Bandai-Atami Ice Skating Rink (outdoor) in Koriyama!



The opening ceremony will be held at YRACS (Yurakkusu) Atami on the **22<sup>nd</sup> of January** from 14:00. The tournament itself will be held **between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>** at the Bandai-Atami Sports Park Koriyama Skating Rink. Koriyama has a group of very talented speed skaters, who could really use your support, so dress warmly and come down to the rink!

### Free Counselling Session for Foreign Residents

Applications are open for a **free consultation session** for foreign residents and their families with city hall staff on **March 10<sup>th</sup>**, for all questions regarding taxes, pensions, national health insurance, education etc. All consultation sessions are **free** and strictly **confidential**.

Be sure to make an appointment (required!) **before March 5<sup>th</sup>** (5 groups max., first come-first serve).

**Date:** March 10<sup>th</sup> (Sun.), 13:00 – 17:00

**Location:** Niko-Niko Kodomo-Kan (west of City Hall) 3F (volunteer room)

**Languages:** English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog, Japanese

**Questions/registration:** Fukushima International Association (FIA)

**TEL:** 024-524-1316 (Tue. ~ Sat., excl. holidays)

**E-mail:** [ask@worldvillage.org](mailto:ask@worldvillage.org) (possible in the above-listed languages)

### Top Athlete Development Class: Track & Field

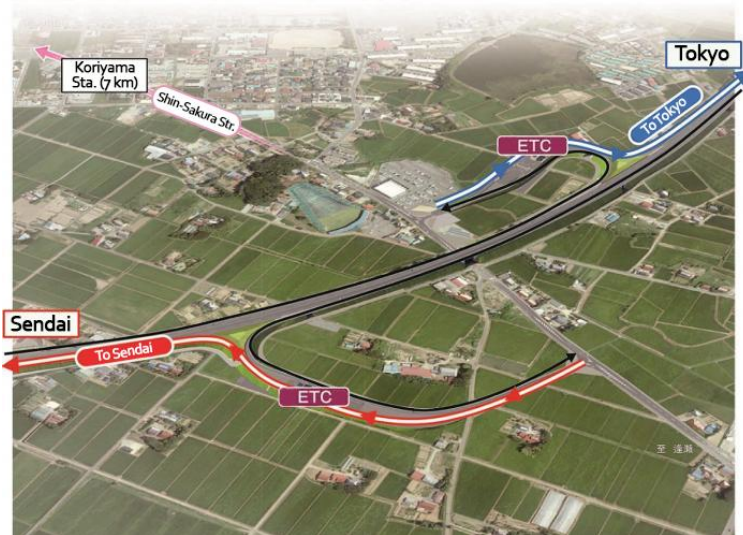
On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November, several sports instructors from the Fukushima University and the Toho Bank Track & Field Clubs among others were invited to give a special high-level sports class for junior and senior high school students in Koriyama. The class was given at the Hirose Kaiseizan Athletics Stadium. The participants were given in-depth and personal guidance to improve their individual skills, in order to foster the next generation of athletes from Koriyama.



### New Koriyama Chuo Smart IC Open Starting January!

As of the 13<sup>th</sup> of January, the new Koriyama Chuo Smart IC interchange on the Tohoku-Expressway is open. The new interchange is located on the crossing of Shin-Sakura Dori Street and the Tohoku Expressway, between the existing Koriyama IC and Koriyama-Minami IC, making access to the city center from the expressway much more convenient. Note: As the IC is a smart-IC without personnel, use of the IC is restricted to cars with an ETC-card. Be sure to have a working ETC-card installed in your car.

Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/jrpocy2C8gD2>



### Ready For Koriyama City Crowd Funding

In order to support projects set up by active Koriyama citizens, Koriyama City started a crowd-funding page in conjunction with the crowd-funding website Ready For. There is already a wide variety of proposed projects that are gathering steam, and there are even projects that have already reached their projected goals in no-time. Some, however, still need your help. Visit the Ready For-page, and see if there are any projects you would like to support to help make Koriyama a better place through civil participation. WEB: <https://goo.gl/VbRcqQ>

郡山を元気にする創業者や経営者を応援します!  
**KORIYAMA INDUSTRY CROWDFUNDING 2018**  
 こおりやま産業クラウドファンディング



### Winter Fun at Tsururinko Matsuri!

The annual Tsururinko Matsuri Festival at the Bandai-Atami Koriyama Skating Rink was held on a bright and shiny 2<sup>nd</sup> of December. The main event, the 'Tug-of-War On Ice' was very popular, with 78 teams joining the fray to win the grand prize of ¥100,000. For other visitors, a part of the beautiful outdoor ice rink was open to skate around on. Despite the cold wind, the sunny weather, the Tsururinko-Nabe (a warm, vegetable-filled pork soup) handed out for free, and the spirit and enthusiasm of the participants and spectators made for a warm December day.



### All Japan High School Robot-Sumo Tournament

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November, the 2018 All Japan High School Robot-Sumo Tournament was held at Big Palette Fukushima in Koriyama. 64 robots developed by teams from all over Japan managed to get through the preliminary rounds to enter the national finals in Koriyama. This competition proved a great challenge for the young engineers. The goal of the game, like real sumo, is to push the opponents' robot out of the sumo ring.

Along with the robot-sumo competition, Big Palette was also the venue for the 'Robot Festival Fukushima', making for a high-tech and exciting day, and glimpse of the future.



### Do you know Koriyama?

#### 'Gozen-Ninjin' local brand carrots

Koriyama has a rich agriculture, with a great variety of excellent, delicious local products. One long-time local favorite is the 'Gozen-Ninjin'. *Ninjin* is the word for carrot. *Gozen* comes from the legendary beauty *Shizuka Gozen*, or *Lady Shizuka*, featured in the epic *The Tale of Heike*. An exceptional beauty, she is said to have passed away in the area that is now Koriyama City. There is a shrine in the Otsuki-area dedicated to her, as well as Shizuka-Gozen Street, one of Koriyama's major streets traversing the city from east to west. A type of local carrots was named after her because of their beautiful, long and slender shape, vivid color and exceptional sweetness. These carrots have become one the most representative of Koriyama's local products, often used in Fukushima's most famous local dish '*ikaninjin*'. Gozen-Ninjin are available at various local supermarkets, farmers-markets and local product shops. They are in season from early-November until late February.



For more information, questions or tips, contact:

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