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2. Dates and functions are subject to change without notice. Be sure to check the latest information in advance.
3. Events marked with © are the major events.
4. Dates of events marked with ◇ are the same every year.
5. Japanese explanation appearing at the bottom of each entry give the name of the event and the nearest railway station in Japanese.
Point to this Japanese when you need help from a Japanese passerby.
6. Please refer to URL (basically in Japanese) for each event.
7. The Subway Lines and Station Numbers are indicated in parentheses ().

The Internet Website of Japan National Tourism Organization is available at <<http://www.jnto.go.jp>>.

Calendar Events to be enjoyed in December 2014



TOKYO 東京

- Date** Dec. 6 & Dec. 7
Zen-Nippon Karate-do Senshu-ken Taikai or All-Japan Karate Championship takes place at Tokyo Budokan Hall, Adachi-ku, for a team competition from 10 am to 4:30 pm on the 6th, and at Nippon Budokan Hall, Chiyoda-ku, for an individual competition from 9 am to 6 pm on the 7th. Admission is ¥2,000, effective for 2 days in both sites.
- URL** <http://www.jkf.ne.jp/>
- Access** (1) Tokyo Budokan: The Chiyoda Subway Line to Ayase Sta. (C 19) East Exit, and then walk 5 min.
 (2) Nippon Budokan: The Tozai, Hanzomon or Toei Shinjuku Subway Line to Kudanshita Sta. (T 07, Z 06, S 05), and then walk 5 min.
- 所在地** 千代田区 日本武道館、足立区 東京武道館
 全日本空手道選手権大会
- 最寄駅** (1) 東京武道館: 地下鉄千代田線綾瀬駅(東口)より徒歩5分
 (2) 日本武道館: 東西線、半蔵門線又は都営新宿線九段下駅より徒歩5分
-
- Date** Dec. 9 & Dec. 10
 ◇ **Seki-no Boro Ichi** (Rag Fair) at Honryuji Temple and its neighboring area, Nerima-ku. It originated from an agricultural fair, but now the stalls sell clothes, food, toys and plants from 10 am to around 9 pm on both days. The highlight of this fair is *Manto Gyoretsu* (a procession of people, some holding lanterns and others sounding bells and drums) from around 7 pm to around 8 pm on the 9th.
- URL** http://www.nerima-kanko.jp/ne_ev02
- Access** The Seibu Shinjuku Line to Musashi-seki Sta. (North Exit), and then walk 3 min.
- 所在地** 練馬区関町 本立寺
 関のボロ市
- 最寄駅** 西武新宿線武蔵関駅(北口)より徒歩3分
-
- Date** Dec. 12 ~ Dec. 14
Heiwajima Antique Fair at Heiwajima Tokyo Ryutsu Center, Ota-ku, is held from 10 am to 5 pm (to 4 pm on the 14th) daily during the period. (Please enter an hour before the closing time.) More than 280 dealers participate in this fair. Admission is free.
- URL** <http://www.kottouichi.com/hiwajima/HOME.html>
- Access** The Tokyo Monorail Line to Ryutsu Center Sta.
- 所在地** 大田区平和島 東京流通センター
 平和島骨董まつり
- 最寄駅** 東京モノレール流通センター駅
-
- Date** Dec. 17 ~ Dec. 19
 ◇◎ **Hagoita Ichi** or a shuttlecock and battledore fair in the compound of Senso-ji Temple, Taito-ku, is held from 9 am during the period. *Hagoita* is a wooden paddle (originally used in *Hanetsuki* or the traditional badminton-like game), and is often decorated with the figures of popular *Kabuki* actors and is made of elaborate silk collages. It is usually displayed in the house as a New Year's ornament.
- URL** http://www.senso-ji.jp/annual_event/osamenogoennichi.html
- Access** The Ginza or Toei Asakusa Subway Line to Asakusa Sta. (G 19, A 18), and then walk 5 min.
- 所在地** 台東区 浅草寺境内
 羽子板市
- 最寄駅** 銀座線又は都営浅草線浅草駅より徒歩5分

Date Dec. 21

◇ **Osame-no Daishi** or Year-end Fair at Nishiarai Daishi Temple, Adachi-ku, is held from 9 am to around 5 pm. Open-air stalls selling *Kumade* (ornamental bamboo rakes adorned with symbols of good luck for the New Year) are set up in the compound.

URL <http://www.nishiaraidaishi.or.jp/event/>

Access The Tobu Isezaki Line to Nishiarai Sta., and there change for the Tobu Daishi Line to Daishi-mae Sta., and then walk 5 min.

所在地 足立区 西新井 西新井大師

納めの大師

最寄駅 東武伊勢崎線西新井駅より、東武大師線に乗り換えて大師前駅下車、徒歩5分

Date Dec. 23

◇ **Tenno Tanjo-bi** or **Emperor's Birthday** (the national holiday). The public is permitted to enter the Imperial Palace grounds which are usually closed, via Nijubashi Bridge, to offer their congratulations to the Emperor and His Family annually. The Imperial Family will appear on the balcony to acknowledge the crowd. Hours are still to be arranged, as of Nov. 25.

Access The Chiyoda Subway Line to Nijubashi-mae Sta. (C 10), and then walk 3 min.

所在地 千代田区 皇居

天皇誕生日 皇居一般参賀

最寄駅 千代田線二重橋前駅より徒歩3分

Date Dec. 24

◇ **Osame-no Jizo** or Year-end Fair at Togenuki Jizo Temple (or Koganji Temple), Toshima-ku, is held from 9 am to around 5 pm.

Access The JR Yamanote Line or the Toei Mita Subway Line to Sugamo Sta. (I 15), and then walk 5 min.

所在地 豊島区 とげぬき地蔵(高岩寺)

納めの地蔵

最寄駅 JR山手線又は都営三田線巣鴨駅より徒歩5分

Date Dec. 27 ~ Dec. 29

◇ **Toshi-no Ichi** or **O-Deko Ichi**, Year-end Fair around Yagenbori Fudosen Temple, Chuo-ku, features many open-air stalls selling New Year's decorations, clothes, shoes, bags and the like from 11 am to 8 pm every day during the fair period.

URL <http://www.kawasakidaishi.com/about/yagenbori.html>

Access (1) The Toei Asakusa Subway Line to Higashi-Nihombashi Sta. (A 15), and then walk 3 min.

(2) JR Sobu Line's Rapid Train (Kaisoku) to Bakurocho Sta., and then walk 5 min.

(3) The Toei Shinjuku Subway Line to Bakuro-Yokoyama Sta. (S 09), and then walk 5 min.

所在地 中央区 東日本橋 薬研堀不動尊

歳の市/大出庫市

最寄駅 (1) 都営浅草線東日本橋駅下車より徒歩3分

(2) JR総武線(快速)馬喰町駅より徒歩 5分

(3) 都営新宿線で馬喰横山駅から徒歩5分

Date Dec. 28

◇ **Osame-no Fudo** or Year-end Fair is held at the following Fudosen Temples:

1. **Fukagawa Fudosen Temple**, Koto-ku, from 9:30 am to 8 pm.

Access The Tozai or Toei Oedo Subway Line to Monzen-Nakacho Sta. (T 12, E 15), and then walk 2 min.

所在地 江東区 深川不動尊

納めの不動

最寄駅 東西線又は都営大江戸線門前仲町駅より徒歩2分

2. **Meguro Fudosen Temple**, Meguro-ku, from around 10 am to around 7 pm.

Access (1) The JR Yamanote Line to Gotanda Sta. (West Exit). From there, take Tokyu Bus bound for Shibuya to Meguro Fudosen Bus Stop.

(2) The JR Yamanote Line to Meguro Sta., and then walk 20 min.

所在地 目黒区 目黒不動尊

納めの不動

最寄駅 (1) JR山手線五反田駅(西口)より東急バス渋谷行で目黒不動尊下車

(2) JR山手線目黒駅より徒歩20分

3. Takahata Fudosen Temple in Hino City, Tokyo, from around 9 am to around 5 pm.

Access 20 min. by Keio Railway Limited Express Train (three services per hour) from Shinjuku to Takahata-Fudo Sta., and then walk 5 min.
所在地 日野市 高幡不動尊
納めの不動
最寄駅 新宿より京王線特急電車(1時間に3本運行)で20分の高幡不動駅より徒歩5分

Date Dec. 31

Misoka Ichi or Year-end Fair in the precincts of Okunitama Shrine, Fuchu, on the outskirts of Tokyo, features open-air stalls selling New Year's decorations from 10 am to around 6 pm.

URL <https://www.ookunitamajinja.or.jp/matsuri/oharai.html>

Access (1) 25 min. by Limited Express Train on the Keio Line from Shinjuku Sta. to Fuchu Sta., and then walk 5 min.
(2) The JR Nambu Line to Fuchu-Honmachi Sta., and then walk 5 min.

所在地 府中市宮町 大国魂神社
みそか市

最寄駅 (1) 新宿駅から京王線特急で25分、府中駅より徒歩5分
(2) JR南武線府中本町駅より徒歩5分

Date Dec. 31

◇ **Omisoka** or New Year's Eve, the last day of the year. Many people stay at home and sit up until midnight to listen to *Joya-no-Kane*, or 108 peals of the temple bell, which ring out the old year and ring in the coming year. *Joya-no-Kane* are sounded at the most temples. The followings are well-known temples in Tokyo:

1. Zojoji Temple, Minato-ku

Access (1) The Toei Mita Subway Line to Onarimon Sta. (I 06), and then walk 3 min.
(2) The Toei Asakusa or Oedo Subway Line to Daimon Sta. (A 09, E 20), and then walk 5 min.

所在地 港区 増上寺
大晦日／除夜の鐘

最寄駅 (1) 都営三田線御成門駅より徒歩3分
(2) 都営浅草線又は大江戸線大門駅より徒歩5分

2. Gokokuji Temple, Bunkyo-ku

Access The Yurakucho Subway Line to Gokokuji Sta. (Y 11)

所在地 文京区 護国寺
大晦日／除夜の鐘

最寄駅 有楽町線護国寺駅

3. Kan'eiji Temple, Taito-ku

Access The JR Yamanote Line to Uguisudani Sta., and then walk 5 min.

所在地 台東区 寛永寺
大晦日／除夜の鐘

最寄駅 JR山手線鶯谷駅より徒歩5分

4. Shibamata Taishakuten Temple, Katsushika-ku

Access The Keisei Kanamachi Line to Shibamata Sta., and then walk 3 min.

所在地 葛飾区 柴又帝釈天題経寺
大晦日／除夜の鐘

最寄駅 京成金町線柴又駅より徒歩3分

5. Ikegami Honmonji Temple, Ota-ku

Access (1) The Tokyu Ikegami Line to Ikegami Sta., and then walk 10 min.
(2) The Toei Asakusa Subway Line to Nishi-Magome Sta. (A 01), and then walk 12 min.

所在地 大田区 池上本門寺
大晦日／除夜の鐘

最寄駅 (1) 東急池上線池上駅より徒歩10分
(2) 都営浅草線西馬込駅より徒歩12分

6. Sensoji Temple, Taito-ku

Access The Ginza or Toei Asakusa Subway Line to Asakusa Sta. (G 19, A 18), and then walk 5 min.
所在地 台東区 浅草寺
大晦日／除夜の鐘
最寄駅 銀座線又は都営浅草線浅草駅より徒歩5分

7. Shojuin Temple, Shinjuku-ku

Access The Marunouchi Subway Line to Shinjuku-Gyoenmae Sta. (M 10), and then walk 5 min.
所在地 新宿区 正受院
大晦日／除夜の鐘
最寄駅 丸ノ内線 新宿御苑前駅 徒歩5分

8. Tenryuji Temple, Shinjuku-ku

Access The Shin-Fukutoshin, Marunouchi or Toei Shinjuku Subway Line to Shinjuku-Sanchome Sta. (F 13, M 09, S 02) Exit, E5, and then walk 1 min.
所在地 新宿区 天龍寺
大晦日／除夜の鐘
最寄駅 地下鉄新副都心線、丸の内線又は都営新宿線 新宿三丁目駅、徒歩1分(出口:E5)

- "SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES" クリスマス -

*Please contact each church for details.

Dec. 24 & Dec. 25

1. St. Ignatius Church

Tel. (03)3263-4584

Access The JR Chuo Line, the Marunouchi or Namboku Subway Line to Yotsuya Sta. (M 12, N 08), and then walk 3 min.
所在地 千代田区 聖イグナチオ教会
クリスマス
最寄駅 JR中央線、地下鉄丸ノ内線、又は南北線四ツ谷駅より徒歩3分

2. Franciscan Chapel Center

Tel. (03)3401-2141

Access The Hibiya or Toei Oedo Subway Line to Roppongi Sta. (H 04, E 23), and then walk 5 min.
所在地 港区 フランシスカンチャペルセンター
クリスマス
最寄駅 地下鉄日比谷線又は都営大江戸線六本木駅より徒歩5分

3. St. Alban's Church (Anglican-Episcopal)

Tel. (03)3431-8534

Access The Hibiya Subway Line to Kamiyacho Sta. (H 05), and then walk 10 min.
所在地 港区 聖オルバン教会
クリスマス
最寄駅 日比谷線神谷町駅より徒歩10分

4. Tokyo Union Church

Tel. (03)3400-0047

Access The Ginza, Chiyoda or Hanzomon Subway Line to Omotesando Sta. (G 02, C 04, Z 02), and then walk 5 min.
所在地 渋谷区 東京ユニオン教会
クリスマス
最寄駅 銀座線、千代田線又は半蔵門線表参道駅より徒歩5分

5. Tokyo Baptist Church

Tel. (03)3461-8425

Access The Tokyu Toyoko Line to Daikanyama Sta., and then walk 7 min.
所在地 渋谷区 東京バプテスト教会
クリスマス
最寄駅 東急東横線代官山駅より徒歩7分

KANTO 関東

Date Dec. 2 & Dec. 3



Chichibu Yo-Matsuri or Night Festival in Chichibu, Saitama Pref. The festival, counted as one of the three grandest float festivals in Japan, and is designated as one of the National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Assets. It is highlighted by a parade of six huge, lavishly adorned and lantern-lit floats continually from 12 noon to 4:30 pm and from 6 pm to 8 pm on the 2nd, and from 9 am to around midnight on the 3rd. While parading, local *Kabuki* plays are performed on the floats from 11 am to 2 pm, and also on the makeshift stage in the parking lot of Yao Department Store from 4 pm on the 3rd. A fireworks display is scheduled at Hitsujiyama Koen from 7 pm on the 2nd, and from 7:30 pm on the 3rd.

URL http://navi.city.chichibu.lg.jp/p_festival/1030/

Access The Seibu Ikebukuro Line to Seibu-Chichibu Sta., and then walk 15 min.

所在地 埼玉県 秩父市内 及び秩父神社

秩父夜祭

最寄駅 西武池袋線西武秩父駅より徒歩15分

Date Dec. 13 & Dec. 14



Teppo Matsuri or Gun Festival at Iida Hachiman Shrine, Ogano-machi, Saitama Pref. On the 14th, the events are scheduled as follows: (1) a performance of local *Kabuki* from 11 am and from 7:30 pm, (2) *Daimyo Gyoretsu*, a feudal lord procession from 3:30 pm, (3) the highlight of this festival, *Otachi Shinji* in which two sacred horses gallop up the steps to the Shrine, amid a volley of rifle shots into the air, from around 4 pm, and (4) *Mikoshi* (portable shrines) and floats parading through the town from around 5 pm.

URL <http://www.kanko-ogano.jp/event/dec/>

Access The Seibu Ikebukuro Line to Seibu-Chichibu Sta. From there, 50 min. by bus for Kurio, and then get off at Kurio Bus Stop.

所在地 埼玉県 秩父郡 小鹿野町 飯田八幡神社

鉄砲まつり

最寄駅 西武池袋線西武秩父駅より西武バス「栗尾行き」で50分、栗尾下車

Date Dec. 16



Nincho-no-mai & Miyabito-no-mai or Ancient Court Dances at Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine, Kamakura, Kanagawa Pref. A *Shinto* priest clad in a white robe and four Shrine maidens in *Juni-hitoe* or 12-layer ceremonial garments of court ladies perform *Nincho-no-mai* dance & *Miyabito-no-mai* dance from around 5 pm to around 7 pm.

URL <https://www.hachimangu.or.jp/about/matsuri/index.html>

Access JR Yokosuka Line to Kamakura Sta., and then walk 10 min.

所在地 神奈川県 鎌倉市 鶴岡八幡宮

人長の舞／宮人の舞

最寄駅 JR横須賀線鎌倉駅より徒歩10分

Date Dec. 21



Osame-no Daishi or Year-end Fair at Kawasaki Daishi Temple, Kawasaki, Kanagawa Pref., is held from around 9:30 am to 3 pm. This fair is one of the biggest of its kind in Tokyo and Vicinity.

URL <http://www.kawasakidaishi.com/event/dec.html>

Access The Keihin Kyuko Line to Keikyu-Kawasaki Sta. From there, the Keihin Kyuko Daishi Line to Kawasaki Daishi Sta., and then walk 8 min.

所在地 神奈川県 川崎市 川崎大師

納めの大師

最寄駅 京浜急行で京急川崎駅まで行き、京浜急行大師線川崎大師駅より徒歩8分

Date	<u>Dec. 28</u>
◇◎	Osame-no Fudo or Year-end Fair at Naritasan Shinshoji Temple, Narita, Chiba Pref. <i>Otakiage</i> or a fire ceremony is held in the compound of the temple from around 10:30 am to around 1 pm. Open-air stalls are set up along the main street leading to the temple from 10 am to 4 pm.
URL	http://www.naritasan.or.jp/monthly/gyoji_year10-12.html
Access	(1) JR Sobu Honsen Line to Narita Sta., and then walk 10 min. (2) The Keisei Line to Narita Sta., and then walk 10 min.
所在地	千葉県 成田市 成田山新勝寺 納めの不動
最寄駅	(1) JR総武本線成田駅より徒歩10分 (2) 京成線成田駅より徒歩10分

Date	<u>Dec. 31</u>
◇	Yokohama Chukagai "Count Down" or the year-end count down event is held at Kantei-byo and Maso-byo in Chinatown, Yokohama, Kanagawa Pref. <i>Shishimai</i> (Lion Dance) is performed on the grounds of Chuka Gakuin School from around midnight on Dec. 31st.
Note	Kantei-byo: Temple dedicated to the Chinese hero, <i>Kantei</i> or <i>Guan Yu</i> (?~219) Maso-byo: Temple dedicated to <i>Maso</i> or <i>Ma Zhu</i> (960-987), a Goddess of the Sea
URL	http://www.yokohama-kanteiby.com/
Access	(1) The Minatomirai Line to Motomachi-Chukagai Sta., and then walk 5 min. (2) The JR Negishi Line (or the JR Keihin Tohoku Line from Tokyo) to Ishikawacho Sta., and then walk 10 min.
所在地	神奈川県 横浜市 中華街 中華学院 カウントダウン
最寄駅	(1) みなとみらい線元町・中華街駅より徒歩5分 (2) JR根岸線(東京からは京浜東北線が乗り入れ)石川町駅より徒歩10分

- "Closing dates for the New Year's holidays" 年末年始休館日 -

The following **Museums** are closed during the period mentioned below in () :

Tokyo National Museum (12/24-1/1)
National Museum of Modern Art , Tokyo (12/28-1/1) & Craft Gallery (12/28-1/1)
Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (12/28-1/1)
National Museum of Western Art (12/28-1/1)
Edo-Tokyo Museum (12/28-1/5)
Idemitsu Museum of Art (12/22-1/9)
Suntory Museum of Art (12/29-1/1)
Japan Folk Crafts Museum (12/26-1/9)
Japanese Sword Museum (12/18-1/5)
Bridgestone Museum of Art (12/26-1/1)
National Museum of Nature and Science (12/28-1/1)
National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (12/28-1/1)

The following **Gardens** and **Amusement parks** are closed during the period mentioned below in () :

Higashi Gyoen (Imperial Palace East Garden) (12/28-1/3)
Koishikawa Korakuen Garden (12/29-1/1)
Kiyosumi Teien Garden (12/29-1/1)
Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden (12/29-1/3)
Rikugien Garden (12/29-1/1)
Hamarikyu Onshi Teien (Hama Detached Palace Garden) (12/29-1/1)
Ueno Zoo (12/29-1/1)
Tama Zoo (12/29-1/1)

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Calendar Events to be enjoyed in December 2014



HOKKAIDO & TOHOKU 北海道・東北

Date Dec. 27 ~ Feb. 28

Zao Juhyo Light-up at Zao Onsen Ski Ground, Yamagata, Yamagata Pref., features the lighting up *Juhyo* known as "Ice Monster", trees covered with frost, along the Zao Ropeway Sancho Line and around Jizo Sancho Sta., from 5 pm to 9 pm daily on the following days; Dec. 27th-Jan. 4th, 10th-12th, 17th, 18th, 24th-Feb. 28th. On Jan. 31st, an event in which skiers and snowboarders holding torchlights descend on the Uwanodai ski slope under a fireworks display is held from 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm.

Access The Yamagata Shinkansen Line or JR JR Ou Honsen Line to Yamagata Sta. From there, 45 min. by bus to Zao Onsen Bus Stop, and then walk 15 min. to Uwanodai Gelande Ropeway Sta.

URL <http://zaoropeway.co.jp/zao/winter/lightup.html>

所在地 山形県 山形市 蔵王温泉
蔵王樹氷ライトアップ

最寄駅 JR山形新幹線又はJR奥羽本線山形駅より、バスで45分蔵王温泉下車、徒歩15分で上ノ台ゲレンデ ロープウェイ駅

Date Dec. 31

◇◎

Namahage (folklore demons that pay frightening visits to children of local houses) in Oga, Akita Pref., is designated as one of the National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Assets. Local groups of *Namahage*-masked men, disguised as devils, visit private houses in the villages in the evening, grumbling "Any good-for-nothing fellow hereabouts?" A demonstration of *Namahage* in action and *Taiko* drumming is held in the parking-lot of the City Hall from 3 pm to 3:30 pm. After being purified at Shinzan Shrine, *Namahage* also visit Japanese-style inns, *Ryokan* and *Minshuku*, in the city from around 6 pm to 7:30 pm for the guests.

Access The JR Oga Line to Oga Sta., and then walk 5 min. to Oga City Hall.

URL <http://www.namahage-oga.akita.jp/english/index.html>

所在地 秋田県男鹿市 真山神社
なまはげ

最寄駅 JR男鹿線男鹿駅より徒歩5分で男鹿市役所

CHUBU 中部

Date Dec. 13

◇

Ikenoue Misogi Matsuri (Hadaka Matsuri), or Naked Festival of Katsuragake Shrine, Gifu, Gifu Pref. The ritual takes place at Katsuragake Shrine from 1:30 pm, and then *Misogi* is conducted by over 100 youths clad in loincloths, diving into the Nagara River to purify and exorcise themselves from 3 pm.

Access 20 min. by Gifu Bus from JR Gifu Sta. or Meitetsu Gifu Sta. to Ikenoue Bus Stop, and then walk 5 min.

URL http://www.gifucvb.or.jp/event/detail_winter.php?eid=00046&syu=1&season=winter&shiki_keisai=1

所在地 岐阜県 岐阜市 池ノ上町 葛懸神社 長良川
池ノ上みそぎ祭り(裸祭り)

最寄駅 名鉄岐阜駅又はJR岐阜駅より岐阜バスで20分、池ノ上下車 徒歩5分

Date Dec. 7 , Dec. 14 & Dec. 23

Atami Kaijo Hanabi Taikai or Fireworks Display over Atami Bay, Atami, Shizuoka Pref., is scheduled from 8:20 pm to 8:45 pm (about 3,000 fireworks) on each day.

Access The JR Tokaido Shinkansen Line or the JR Tokaido Honsen Line to Atami Sta., and then walk 15min.

URL <http://www.ataminews.gr.jp/hanabi/>

所在地 静岡県 熱海市 熱海湾

熱海海上花火大会

最寄駅 JR東海道新幹線又はJR東海道本線熱海駅より徒歩15分

KINKI 近畿

Date Dec. 1 ~ Mar. 8

Gion Corner Winter Tokubetsu Koen, or Winter Special Performance at Gion Corner, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto. The demonstration of several kinds of traditional Japanese entertainments and arts is staged twice a day from 6 pm and from 7 pm, every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and national holidays during the period (except from Dec. 29th to Jan. 3rd). Admission is ¥3,150, (¥2,500 for foreigners until Feb. 28). For further information, call 075-561-1119 (in English).

Access 25 min. by municipal bus No. 100 or No. 206 from Kyoto Sta. to Gion Bus Stop, and then walk 5 min.

URL <http://www.kyoto-gioncorner.com/performance/index.html>

所在地 京都市 東山区 祇園 ヤサカ会館内 京都ギオンコーナー

ギオンコーナー冬季特別公演

最寄駅 京都駅より市バスNo. 100、No. 206で25分の祇園下車、徒歩5分

Date Dec. 4 ~ Dec. 15

Kobe Luminarie, Kobe, Hyogo Pref., is an event featuring grand electric decoration which started in 1995, to console the spirit of the victims of Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. The electric decoration is illuminated along the street about 300 meters long, through which people are allowed to go on foot. The venues are Kyu-Gaikokujin Kyoryuchi (the former residential area exclusively for foreign residents), and Higashi Yuenchi (playground). Hours are as follows: Monday to Thursday (6 pm-9:30 pm), Friday (6 pm-10 pm), Saturday (5 pm-10 pm) and Sunday (5 pm-9:30 pm), but hours will be subject to change due to overcrowding.

Access The JR Kobe Line to Motomachi Sta., and then walk 5 min. to Kyu-Gaikokujin Kyoryuchi, which leads to Higashi Yuenchi.

URL <http://www.kobe-luminarie.jp/>

所在地 兵庫県神戸市 旧外国人居留地 及び 東遊園地

神戸ルミナリエ

最寄駅 JR神戸線元町駅から徒歩5分で旧外国人居留地へ、そこから東遊園地へと続いている。

Date Dec. 8



Hari-kuyo, or the solemn rite of respect and thanksgiving for broken needles and pins at Horinji Temple, Nishikyo-ku, Kyoto, is held from 1 pm to 2 pm. During the "Hari-kuyo" ritual, *Orihime-no-mai* dance by four ladies dressed like *Orihime* (Vega) is performed to the tune of *Gagaku* (court music) for about 10 min.

Access (1) The JR Sagano Line to Saga-Arashiyama Sta., and then walk 15 min.

(2) 30 min. by bus for Arashiyama from Kyoto Sta. to Arashiyama Bus Stop, and then walk 5 min.

URL http://kanko.city.kyoto.lg.jp/eventdetail.php?event_tab=tradition&eventid=141208100&year=2014&month=12&date=

所在地 京都市 西京区 嵐山虚空蔵山町 虚空蔵法輪寺

針供養

最寄駅 (1) JR嵯峨野線嵯峨嵐山駅より徒歩15分

(2) 京都駅より嵐山方面行バスで30分、嵐山下車、徒歩5分

E. KINKI 近畿

Date Dec. 9 & Dec. 10



Narutaki-no-Daikon Daki, or Japanese radish cooking at Ryotokuji Temple, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto. Japanese radishes are cooked in a big pan and served to the visitors at the temple from 9 am to 4 pm on both days (¥1,000). This festival has its origin in a historical fact: Villagers served boiled radishes to *Shinran*, the founder of the *Jodo Shinshu* sect of Pure Land Buddhism, when he visited Ryotokuji Temple. It is said that this radish is efficacious against palsy.

Access 40 min. by municipal bus No. 26 from Kyoto Sta. to Narutaki-Honmachi Bus Stop, and then walk 3 min.

URL <http://kanko.city.kyoto.lg.jp/detail.php?InforKindCode=2&ManageCode=1000094>

所在地 京都市 右京区 了徳寺

鳴滝の大根だき

最寄駅 京都駅より市バスNo. 26で40分、鳴滝本町下車、徒歩3分

Date Dec. 14



Ako Gishi-sai or memorial celebrations popularly known as the "Vendetta of the 47 *Ronin*, or masterless *Samurai*" is held in Ako, Hyogo Pref. A parade of "47 *Ronin*" accompanied by feudal lords, following a drum & fife band, folk dancers and floats, starts from Otemon Gate of Ako Castle at 10 am, passing through the city's busiest streets and reaches the final destination Ikitsugi-Hiroba Square around 3 pm. Many more events are scheduled at Ako Castle, Kagakuji Temple and Oishi Shrine.

Access The JR Sanyo Shinkansen Line or Sanyo Honsen Line to Aioi Sta. From there, change for the JR Ako Line to Banshu-Ako Sta., and then walk 15 min. to Ako Castle.

URL http://www.ako-kankou.jp/event/winter_detail.html?id=938

所在地 兵庫県 赤穂市内 赤穂城 花岳寺 大石神社

赤穂義士祭

最寄駅 JR山陽新幹線又は山陽本線相生駅より JR赤穂線に乗り換えて播州赤穂駅下車、徒歩15分で赤穂城

Date Dec. 15 ~ Dec. 18



Kasuga Wakamiya On-Matsuri Festival of Kasuga Wakamiya Shrine, Nara, Nara Pref., designated as one of the National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Assets. It features a long procession of priests, warriors clad in armor, people in costumes of local traditional arts and of the *Heian* period (12th century) and the like, daily during the period. On the 17th, *Owatari* or the main procession starts from Kencho (Prefectural Office) at 12 noon and arrives at *Otabisho* (portable shrine resting place) around 3 pm, and there *Kagura* (*Shinto* dance), *Bugaku* (court dance and music) and various local performing arts are dedicated to the Shrine continually from 3:30 pm to around 10:30 pm. Eventually the procession returns to Wakamiya Shrine before midnight. Many more events are held on the main streets of the city and at the Shrine during the festival period.

Access By Nara Kotsu Bus from Kintetsu Nara Sta. or JR Nara Sta. to Kasuga Taisha Honden Bus Stop..

URL <http://www.kasugataisha.or.jp/onmatsuri/index.html>

所在地 奈良市 奈良県庁 春日若宮神社(春日大社) 一の鳥居内

春日若宮おん祭

最寄駅 近鉄奈良駅、又はJR奈良駅より奈良交通バスで春日大社本殿下車

Date Dec. 21



Shimai Kobo or Year-end Fair at Toji Temple, Minami-ku, Kyoto. The fair is held on the 21st every month, but the last fair of the year draws especially large crowds. Open-air stalls selling used *Kimono*, potted plants, used books, New Year's decorations and the like are set up from 8 am until around 4 pm.

Access (1) The JR Tokaido Shinkansen Line to Kyoto Sta., and then walk 15 min.

(2) The Kintetsu Line to Toji Sta., and then walk 10 min.

URL <http://www.toji.or.jp/>

所在地 京都市 南区 東寺

終い弘法

最寄駅 (1) JR東海道新幹線京都駅より徒歩15分
(2) 近鉄東寺駅より徒歩10分

Date Dec. 25



Shimai Tenjin or Year-end Fair at Kitano Tenmangu Shrine, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto, features open-air stalls selling New Year's decorations and plum berries which have ripened in this Shrine, from dawn till dusk. The fair is as large in scale as the one at Toji Temple on Dec. 21st.

Access 30 min. by municipal bus No. 50 or 101 from Kyoto Sta., and then get off at Kitano Tenmangu-mae Bus Stop.

URL http://kanko.city.kyoto.lg.jp/eventdetail.php?event_tab=tradition&eventid=141225100&year=2014&month=12&date=23

所在地 京都市 上京区 北野天満宮

終い天神

最寄駅 京都駅より市バスNo. 50 又は 101で30分、北野天満宮前下車

Date Dec. 31



Okera-mairi, or the traditional year-end festival at Yasaka Shrine, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto, is held from about 7 pm through 5 am of Jan. 1st. The climax of this festival comes around 11 pm to 1 am on Jan. 1st, when a large number of worshipers visit the Shrine to bring home the sacred fire with rope kindled there with which they cook the first meal of the year. This custom is believed to help ward off illness in the coming year.

Access (1) 15 min. by municipal bus No. 206 from Kyoto Sta., and then get off at Gion Bus Stop.

(2) The Keihan Dentetsu to Gion Shijo Sta., and then walk about 5 min.

URL <http://kyoto-design.jp/event/11908>

所在地 京都市 東山区 八坂神社

おけら詣り

最寄駅 (1) 京都駅より市バスNo. 206で15分、祇園下車

(2) 京阪電鉄祇園四条駅より徒歩約5分

CHUGOKU & SHIKOKU 中国・四国

Date Dec. 31



Chinka-sai or Fire Festival at Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima, Hatsukaichi, Hiroshima Pref. A priest brings a fragment of sacred fire from the Shrine to the Mikasa-hama beach and lights a big torch placed on the beach. Then young men race to be the first to kindle their torches with the sacred fire, and jostle each other on the beach between the stone *Torii* and the entrance of the Shrine, from 6 pm to around 6:40 pm.

Access (1) The JR Sanyo Honsen Line to Miyajima-guchi Sta., and then walk 5 min. to Miyajima-guchi Pier. From there, 10 min. by ferryboat to Miyajima, and then walk 20 min.

(2) 30 min. by streetcar or by bus from Hiroshima Sta. to Hiroshima Ujina Port. From there, 22 min. by hydrofoil to Miyajima, and then walk 20 min.

URL http://www.miyajima.or.jp/english/event/event_chinka.html

所在地 広島県 廿日市市 宮島町 厳島神社 御笠浜

鎮火祭

最寄駅

(1) JR山陽本線宮島口駅より徒歩5分の宮島口棧橋からフェリーで宮島下船(10分)、徒歩20分

(2) 広島駅より市電又はバスで広島宇品港下車(30分)、高速船で宮島下船(22分)、徒歩20分

KYUSHU & OKINAWA 九州 沖縄

Date Dec. 6 & Dec. 13



Takaharu-no-Kanme or Sacred Shinto Dance, Takaharu, Miyazaki Pref., is the generic name of *Sano Kagura* and *Haraigawa Kagura*, each with a 500-year tradition, and is designated as the National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Asset. *Sano Kagura* is performed in front of the second *Torii* gate of Sano Shrine on the 6th, and *Haraigawa Kagura* is performed at Kaguraden Hall of Kirishima Higashi Shrine on the 13th, both starting from around 7 pm through until around 7 am of the following day.

Access The JR Kitto Line (Ebino-Kogen Line) to Takaharu Sta. From there take the Miyazaki Kotsu Bus to Haraigawa Bus Stop, and then walk 5 min.

URL <http://matsuri.kanko-miyazaki.jp/search/search.php?key=44&kbn=evn>

所在地 宮崎県高原町

高原の神舞(狭野神楽・祓川神楽)

最寄駅 JR吉都線(えびの高原線)高原駅より宮崎交通バス「祓川行き」で祓川下車、徒歩5分

Closing dates for the New Year's holidays 年末年始休館日

The following **Museums** are closed during the period mentioned below in () for the New Year's holidays:

【NAGOYA】

The Tokugawa Art Museum (12/15-1/3)

【KYOTO】

Kyoto National Museum (12/24-1/1)

The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto (12/1-3/26; due to renovation)

Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art (12/28-1/2)

【NARA】

Nara National Museum (12/22, 1/1, 1/5 & 1/13)

Nara Prefectural Museum of Art (12/28-1/4)

【HIROSHIMA】

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum (12/29-1/1)

The following **Gardens** and **Amusement Parks** are closed during the period mentioned below in () for the New Year's holidays:

【AICHI】

Meiji-mura (12/31, 1/13-16)

【KYOTO】

Kyoto Imperial Palace (12/27-1/4)

Imperial Villas (12/27-1/4)

Nijo Castle (12/26-1/4)

(Nijo Castle Garden is open daily 10 am-4 pm, closed 12/29-31.)

Please enter by 3 pm.

【OSAKA】

Osaka Castle (12/28-12/31), open 11 am-5 pm on Jan. 1, 2015.

Please enter by 4:30 pm.

【HIMEJI】

Himeji Castle (12/29 & 30), open 9 am-5 pm on 12/31.

Please enter by 4 pm.

Note : Sapporo Snow Festival is scheduled for the seven days from Feb. 5 to Feb. 11, 2015.