

Seasonal Events

January

Tamaseseri /3rd, start at 1:00pm



Tamaseseri is a festive ritual of the new year holidays. Shrine parishioners compete to get a wooden ball to divine the year's fortune.

Access: It is at Hakozaeki Shrine 筥崎宮

Take a subway from Hakata sta. to Nakasukawabata. Change train to Hakozaeki Miya-mae. 箱崎宮前(12min,250yen From there, It's a 5 min walk to Hakozaeki Shrine.

Oniyo /7th, start at 7:30pm



This is one of Japan's three great fire festivals, held for the last 1600 years. Young men wearing traditional loincloths parade the temple grounds holding massive bamboo made torches. Being touched by the falling sparks brings health and wards off devil.

Access: It is at Daizen Temple 大善寺.

Take a subway form Hakata sta. to Tenjin sta.(5min,200yen)

Toka Ebisu /8th~11th



A popular festival to play to the gods of prosperity and good luck.

Don't miss the Hakata geisha parade on the 9th around noon.

Access: It is at Toka Ebisu shrine 十日恵比須神社

Take a JR from Hakata sta. to Yoshiduzuka sta 吉塚.(2min,160yen). From there it's a 5mins walk to Toka Ebisu shrine.

February

Plum Blossoms / January~February



Dazaifu Tenmangu shrine and Ohori park are famous for its beautiful Plum trees.

Access: See the access for Dazaifu tenmangu and Ohori park.

Setsubun /3rd



The traditional last day of winter. Going through Japan's largest Otafuku face (smiling face of a woman) installed on the shrine gate, you will see not only people throwing beans but also dancing devils and monsters paying visit to the shrine!

Place: Kushida Shrine and Tochoji Temple

March

Cherry Blossoms / March~April



Ohori park, Maizuru park, Dazaifu and Atago shrine have spectacular cherry blossoms.

Access: See the access for each location on other pages.

Hinamatsuri parade ひな祭



Hinamatsuri the Festival of Dolls, also called Girl's day festival.

Access: It is held in Yanagawa area 柳川.

Take a Nishitetsu train from Nishitetsu Fukuoka sta. to Yanagawa 柳川. sta.
(45min, 830yen)

Baseball games / March~September in Yahoo Dome



Our home team SoftBank Hawks play in Yahoo Dome. Let's join and enjoy the atmosphere in the cheering crowd!

Access: Take a bus from Hakata bus terminal stop 6, 1F to Yafuku dome mae ヤフオクドーム前(18Min, 230 Yen)

Kyokusui no En/ First Sunday of March



This is a representation of an old shrine ritual of the Heian era where an attendant makes a poem before a flowing dish of sake passes over. Access: Amid the sight of falling plum blossom petals and sound of the Japanese harp, visitors will feel as if time has stopped at this elegant festival!

Place: Dazaifu

Cherry Blossoms light up at Fukuoka castle ruin



Enjoy cherry blossoms with light up at night. Also food and drink shop in the event.

Access: Take subway from Hakata station and get off at Akasaka station.
(8 Min, 260 Yen)



May

Hakata Dontaku Festival /4th,5th



The brisk Parade goes 1230meters along.

Access: The Parade on Meiji street stretching from Gofuku-machi to Tenjin. Take a subway from Hakata sta. to Gofukumachi sta. (transfer at Nakasukawabata sta.) (7min) it's where the parade starts. Or subway to Tenjin sta. to watch the stage performance.

Okinohata Suitengu Festival/3rd,4th,5th



Enshrine water god, performed some traditional Japan music on the river ferry. This marching festival is hold for three days and three nights.

Access: It is held in Yanagawa area,.

Take a Nishitetsu train from Nishitetsu Fukuoka sta. to Yanagawa sta. (45min,830yen)

Fuji Hachimangu Shrine River Crossing Festival/3rd Sat and Sun



Around 10 massive portable shrine cross the river , that sight is really aggressive!!

Access: this festival is held in Tagawa area

Take JR Hita hikosan line to Tagawa ida sta 田川伊田 from JR Hakata station. (85Min,1,110 Yen)

Wisteria blossoms/Late April- first week of May



Wisteria blossoms at Kawachi Fuji garden Said to be one of the most beautiful flower tunnel in the world.

Access: Take train from JR Hakata sta to Yahata sta 八幡 (56Min,1,110 Yen) then from station take taxi to Kawachi Fuji garden 河内藤園 (around 20 Min,from 2,000 Yen)

Entrance fee: 1,000 Yen (Peak)



July

Yamakasa /15th,start at 4:59am



The Hakata's over 700 years old festival.

Local men are separated into groups by residential area and show off their Yamakasa(floats) and on the final day, they run a race with their Yamakasa to compete with other group.

Access: It starts from Kushida shrine. Take a subway from Hakata sta. to Gion sta..(2min). It's a 5 min walk on Kokutai doro ave to Kushida shrine.

Tanabata Festival /7th



The Star festival with beautiful decorations.

Dazaifu Tenmangu shrine have light up and traditional dance event at night.

August

Ohori Fireworks Festival /1st,start at 8:00pm



6000 fireworks! It's a Big fireworks event in the city.

Access: Take subway to Ohori park.

Chikugogawa Fireworks Festival /5th start at 7:40pm



18000 fireworks! It's the biggest fireworks event in western Japan.

Enjoy the fireworks along the river.

Access: It is at Chikugogawa river. Take bullet train JR from Hakata sta. to Kurume 久留米 (18min,1590yen) OR a local JR(37min,740yen)

It's a 10 min walk to the event.

Kanmonkaikyo Fireworks Festival /13th,start at 7:50pm



13000 fireworks!

Fantastic firewroks at Kanmon Straits on the sea! Enjoy the event either from Shimonoseki side or Mojikou side.Also food and drink shop in the event.

Access: It is at Kanmon Straits.Take a JR from Hakata sta. to Mojikou 門司港 or Shimonoseki 下関(Local JR train 85min,1,470yen) (Express 67 Min,1,980Yen)



September

Asian month Festival



The Festival is a symbolic event of Asian Month which started in 1990. Various events, performances and Asian food stalls fascinate visitors all through 5 days with energy and charms of Asia.

Access: It is in downtown at Fukuoka city hall. Take a subway from Hakata sta. to Tenjin (5min,200yen,) From there it's a 5 min walk to the City hall.

Hojoya /12th~18th



A sacred festival which people show compassion for all living things. 1km long entrance path lined with 700 street stalls.

Access: It is at Hakozaikigu shrine. Take a subway from Hakata sta. to Hakozaikigu (Transfer once at Nakasukawabata. 12min,250yen)

Dazaifu Toumyo Festival /25th start at 8:00pm



Dazaifu tenmangu lights up with one thousand candles as a Shinto ritual. Amazing scenery.

Access: It is at Dazaifu tenmangu shrine. See the access for Dazaifu tenmangu shrine on the other page.

October

Hakata Toumyo Lantern watching



A festival of lanterns lighting up the various area of Hakata (or historic Center of Fukuoka city), uniting a traditional event with modern art.

It is at Hakata station, Gion area such as Kushida shrine, Tochoji temple and more.

Hakata Okunchi /23rd,24th



This festival is the seasonal feature of Hakata. It's held for giving thanks to the rich harvest of autumn / Events and Market, too..

Access: It is at Kushida shrine. See the access for Kushida shrine.

Fukuoka October fest



From famous October fest in Germany.

Fukuoka also have this festival too. Just enjoy good food, beer and music.

Access: From Nakasukawabata station walk to Reisenkoen 冷泉公園 2 Min.

Cosmos blossom



Good weather with beautiful cosmos and sea view on nokono island.

Access: When you on the nokono island just take bus to island park(13Min,230Yen)

Entrance fee: 1,000 Yen

November

Grand Sumo tournament



People all over the country enjoy the tournament through television, but since you are in Fukuoka you can watch it live!!

Access: It is held at Fukuoka Kokusai Center. Take a bus #88 Hakata station Center Building. E (12 mins,230yen) get off at Kokusai Center Sun palace-mae

Hakata Light up walk



Historical temples, shrines and gardens in the Hakata area are beautifully illuminated for this event.

Access: Temple and shrines around gion station.

Ticket from:1,200 Yen

Autumn leave



Leaves turn spectacular shades of red, yellow and brown – depending on species – and before falling to the ground. You can enjoy beautiful autumn leave view in a lot of place over fukuoka such as in Japanese garden, mountain, temple,etc.

Saga International Balloon Fiesta



Watch some of the world's most magnificent hot air balloons float in great flocks above the Kase Riverbank in the nearby city of Saga

Access: From JR Hakata station and get off at Balloonsaga(バルーンさが) station
About 48 Min. Free for JR PASS User.

Illumination



During winter time, in Tenjin and Hakata area will held illumination and also charismas market during christmas time.

