



SHIBUKAWA CURRENT

Shibukawa International Association
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Hi Everyone!

According to the Japanese traditional calendar, winter begins on **Ritto**, around the 7th of November. Although the weather turns gradually colder, it is a wonderful time for **Momiji-gari**, the viewing of autumn's changing colors.

Shibukawa City is blessed with beautiful mountains where entire slopes turn orange, yellow and red, and provide some of the most amazing seasonal scenery. If you pass the mountain road in Ikaho, Onogami, Komochi, Akagi or Hokkitsu area in Shibukawa walking, cycling, driving your car, or riding on a motorcycle you'll be quite amazed by the autumn colors around you. Hiking is another rewarding way to see the colorful leaves in the mountains.

November 3 is **Bunka no Hi** (Culture Day), a Japanese national holiday to celebrate arts and culture. November 15 is **Shichi-Go-San**, a festival that celebrates the health and well-being of young children. Boys who are five years old and girls who are three or seven years old, are dressed in traditional kimonos or in their best clothes and brought to the nearby shrines in order to pray for the child's continued health and safety.

November 23 is **Kinro Kansha no Hi** (Labor Thanksgiving Day), a national holiday for honoring labor.

The 29th National Creative Kokeshi Doll Exhibition in Shibukawa

だい かいせんこくそうさく びじゅつてん しぶかわ
(第29回全国創作こけし美術展 in 渋川)

This exhibition is held annually with the purpose of increasing the artistic evaluation of the works of the kokeshi doll artisans from Shibukawa and its vicinity. The exhibit also features Kokeshi dolls with elaborated designs and high artistic value by creators across Japan and other countries.

During this period, works from the 29th Project Exhibition "Creative Kokeshi Doll Painting Contest: Your Kokeshi" will also be on display. Admission to the exhibition is free!

Place: Shibukawa Shimin Kaikan Small Hall

When: November 1 - November 7, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm (last admission at 4:30 pm).

(On November 7, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (last admission at 3:30 pm).

The World of Creative Kokeshi Painting Workshop: You can experience painting your own Kokeshi doll while visiting on Sunday, November 5, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am, and from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm. The workshop is limited to no more than 20 people each time, taken on a first-come first-served basis. Application on the day of the event. Numbered tickets will be distributed from 9:30 am and from 1:00 pm. It's free! Please bring a pencil, an eraser and a dust cloth.

Fall Foliage Illumination

(河鹿橋イルミネーション)



Kajika Bridge over the Yuzawa River near the source of Ikaho Onsen is a very popular spot for viewing fall leaves. The bridge is beautifully lit up after sunset, creating a magical atmosphere and giving visitors a completely different experience from the daytime.

Light-up: from 4:30 pm to 10:00 pm, until November 12
A free shuttle bus will operate from Ishidangai to Kajika Bridge on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, from 3:00 pm to 8:30 pm, when congestion is expected.

Fall Colors in Mt. Iwaido-yama

(紅葉が見ごろ「岩井堂」)

Iwaido was an important fort of Takeda in the Sengoku period. From the mountaintop you can enjoy a superb view of Mt. Haruna to the south and Mt. Asama, Mt. Azumaya and Mt. Shirane to the west. Mt. Iwaido is a popular destination for hikers during the all foliage season. The best time to see the fall colors in Mt. Iwaido is around the middle of November.

Citizens' Cultural Festival

(市民総合文化祭)

The festival offers a series of events and activities that are free of charge.

Nihon Buyou and Hogaku performances: traditional Japanese dance and traditional Japanese music at Hokkitsu Kominkan on Friday, November 3.

Instrumental music recital: at Kanashima Kominkan on Sunday, November 5, from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Shigin performances: Japanese poem reciting at Kanashima Kominkan on Sunday, November 12, from 9:20 am to 4:30 pm.

General Art Exhibition: Exhibition of artworks created by people from across the city, including: literary works, calligraphy, handicrafts, artworks, photography, flower arrangement, bonsai, gardening, tea ceremony, kimono dressing, etc., at Komochi Shakai Taikukan on Saturday, November 11, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday, November 12, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

There will also be a consultation desk for persons with disabilities.

Local entertainment performances: Gion Hayashi, Daidai Kagura, Taiko Japanese drums and other performances at Komochi Community Gymnasium on Sunday, November 12, from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Kabuki performances: local kabuki troupe performances at Akagi Kominkan on Sunday, November 19, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Minyo Minbu: Japanese folk songs and dance performances at Shibukawa Shimin Kaikan Civic Hall, Main Hall, on Sunday, November 26, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

The 2023 Kami Miharada Kabuki Stage

(上三原田の歌舞伎舞台 2023)

The devices and stage settings of the Kami Miharada collapsible kabuki stage, dating from 1819 in Akagi Kami-Miharada, will be installed and raised for operation. You can watch popular plays performed by local kabuki troupes and also a performance by Miharada Elementary School children, on Saturday, November 3, from 8:50 am to 12:30 pm. It's free!

(Free parking is available.)

Murakami Daidaikagura

(村上太々神楽)



It is said that Murakami Daidaikagura was first performed at the celebration of the newly rebuilt Sakuma-jinja in 1719, having been performed since then by villagers in its precincts. Now its activities center around the City Preservation Association and is performed at the Sakuma-jinja Fall Festival every year on November 23.

The 32nd Kuroimine Iseki Marathon (第32回黒井峯遺跡マラソン)

The Marathon is held on Sunday, December 10. There are four different courses to choose from - 2km, 4km and 10km jogging, and 5km walking course, all starting at the Komochi Junior High School's ground. People of all ages, and living, working or studying in Gunma prefecture can participate.

Applications: ① by a postal money transfer form which can be found at Komochi Kominkan and ② from the RUNNET website. The deadline for payment is Friday, November 10.

For details, please check the official Kuroimine Iseki Marathon 2023 website before registering.

Tel: 0279-22-7780 (Komochi Kominkan)

Kimetsu no Yaiba & Yu Meguri no Tabi in Yugawara and Ikaho

(鬼滅の刃 x 湯河原 & 伊香保温泉 湯めぐりの旅)

"Kimetsu no Yaiba Yu Meguri no Tabi" event will be held simultaneously in Ikaho Onsen and Yugawara Onsen, in Kanagawa Prefecture, between November 11, 2023 and February 12, 2024.

This event, in collaboration with the very popular manga and anime series Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba, offers a number of interactive experiences that let visitors immerse themselves in the world of "Demon Slayer" while enjoying a hot spring trip.

Throughout the hot spring town, visitors can collect stamps for a free hot spring bathing ticket, there are audio and photo spots, collaboration menus with local restaurant, and sales of original merchandise.

Improve your health while having fun with the Shibukawa Walking Map

(渋川ウォーキングマップで楽しみながら健康づくり)

The map features 17 walking courses through the most popular places in Shibukawa. Two of the courses are especially captivating during the fall foliage season:

The "Tree-lined course" is a 3.4 Km and about a one-hour walk starting and ending at the Komochi Undojo parking lot, along a tree lined road towards the Komochi shrine Torii Gate.

The "Overlooking a large panorama course" is a 7 Km and about a three-hour walk, starting and ending at the Shibukawa Sogo Koen parking lot, leading to the Ikaho Forest Park Tsutsujigaoka Rest Area and then to the Uenoyama Park Miharashi Observation Deck. Maps are available at several locations throughout the city, including City Hall, all administrative centers, and community centers. It is also published on the city's homepage.

Bamboo Craft Workshop (竹工芸教室のお知らせ)

The workshop will be held at Hokkitsu Shiryokan on November 25 and 26, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. You will learn how to split or bend bamboo strips, and make your own bamboo item.

Please bring a bamboo splitting nata (if you have), a small knife, and your own lunch.

Limit: 5 people, randomly selected if the number of applicants exceeds 5

Fee: 500 yen for materials, collected on the spot.

Application: by phone at Cultural Properties Protection Division until November 6

Tel: 0279-52-2102

On-duty Clinics in November (1 1 月の 休 日 当 番 医)

Internal Medicine			Surgery	Dentistry
11/3 (Fri)	Kawashima-naika-clinic (川島内科クリニック) Tel: 23-2001	Sato-iin (佐藤医院) Tel: 54-2756	Arima-clinic (有馬クリニック) Tel: 24-8818	Shimamura-shika-iin (しまむら歯科医院) Tel: 20-1182
11/5 (Sun)	Shibukawa-chuo-byoin (渋川中央病院) Tel: 25-1711	Harasawa-iin (原沢医院) Tel: 72-2503	Adachi-seikei-geka (あだち整形外科) Tel: 30-1170	Yamakawa-shika-iin (山川歯科医院) Tel: 22-0260
11/12 (Sun)	Honzawa-iin (本沢医院) Tel: 23-6411	Okamoto-naika-clinic (岡本内科クリニック) Tel: 20-5353	Shibukawa-iryo-center (渋川医療センター) Tel: 23-1010	Komayose-shika-clinic (駒寄歯科クリニック) Tel: 30-5500
11/19 (Sun)	Aoitōri-family-clinic (青い鳥ファミリークリニック) Tel: 26-2681	Nara-naika-iin (奈良内科医院) Tel: 25-1155	Hokumo-byoin (北毛病院) Tel: 24-1234	Hoshino-shika-clinic (星野歯科クリニック) Tel: 22-0232
11/23 (Thu)	Iguchi-iin (井口医院) Tel: 25-1100	Itamino-clinic -Hasegawa-iin (痛みのクリニック長谷川医院) Tel: 30-5055	Sekiguchi-byoin (関口病院) Tel: 22-2378	Sakura-shika (さくら歯科) Tel: 30-6333
11/26 (Sun)	Kamiyama-naika-iin (神山内科医院) Tel: 22-2181	Komayose-kodomo -shinryojo (駒寄こども診療所) Tel: 55-5252	Shibukawa-iryo-center (渋川医療センター) Tel: 23-1010	Takizawa-shika-iin (たきざわ歯科医院) Tel:55-6480

Night Emergency Clinic (夜 間 急 患 診 療 所)

The Night Emergency Clinic provides medical services in cases of sudden illnesses or injuries between the hours of 7:00 - 10:00 pm daily, for conditions and issues related to internal medicine, surgery, and pediatrics, depending on the doctor in charge. The emergency clinic will introduce patients to another medical institution that is more suitable if specialized treatment is necessary.

Address: 1760-1 Nagatsuka-cho, Shibukawa

Tel: 0279-23-8899 (Please contact the clinic before going if you are not sure if you can be treated)

Free Counselling Service (外 国 人 生 活 相 談 窓 口 の 案 内)

The Shibukawa International Association is providing a free counselling service for foreign residents at Shibukawa City Hall every Thursday from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. **(Tel: 0279-22-2396)**

Information (お 問 い 合 わ せ)

Shibukawa City Office DX & Administrative Management Division, 80 Ishihara, Shibukawa

Tel: 0279-22-2396 Fax: 0279-24-6541 Email: sia-shibukawa@city.shibukawa.gunma.jp

URL: <http://www.city.shibukawa.lg.jp/kurashi/community/kokusaikouryukyukai/p001414.html>

