

Rainbow

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Fukuoka Prefecture has 10 inhabited islands. Many people have visited *Nokonoshima* for its beautiful flowers in different seasons throughout the year, and *Shikanoshima*, known for a *Kinin* (golden seal) of great historical value unearthed there. However, the rest of the islands are still relatively unknown. Each has its own unique attractions, and recently some have won the attention of travelers from around the world. This summer holiday, why not take a break from urban hassles and put yourself in contact with something completely different—slow island culture and nature. In this issue of Rainbow Magazine we introduce a number of island spots in Fukuoka Prefecture that have recently gained attention.

(1) *Ainoshima*

This island has become famous in recent years as an island that is a haven for cats. The island is about eight kilometers off the coast of *Shingu* in the *Kasuya* District. Fishing is the primary occupation among the population of 270. Plus, there are about 100 cats living on the island, noted in 2013 by CNN as one of the top six cat spots in the world. Since that time the island has been visited by many tourists who come to see the cats.

Ainoshima has a long history, especially in hosting the “Joseon missions to Japan,” which were diplomatic missions from Korea of 300–500 people at a time starting in the 14th century on, when Japan was still isolated from the rest of the world. Eleven times these missions were hosted at *Ainoshima*.

A road goes around the island that can be walked in about two to three hours, or bicycled in about 40 minutes. A stroll might be enjoyable so you can also meet the cats.

Hanagurise Rock (Spectacles Rock)

About 300 meters off the east coast of the island stands this

large rock 100 meters in circumference and about 20 meters high, made of basalt. Erosion from the waves has opened a hole in the center, from which its nickname is derived.

Ainoshima Stone Tumuli

Rare burial mounds that date to the mid-to-late Tumulus period of Japanese history (ca. 250-600 CE) made of a mixture of rock and soil. In total, 254 of these “stone tumuli” have been discovered. (National Historic Site)

Access

From Nishitetsu Shingu Station: Take a community bus and get off at Shingu Port (*Ainoshima* ferry landing) (100 yen)

From Fukkōdai-mae Station: Take a community bus and get off at Shingu Port (*Ainoshima* ferry landing) (100 yen)

From Shingu Port, take the passenger ferry Shingu (approx. 17 min.) (460 yen)

April 1 – September 30

Six round trips daily



Dr. Nishiyama's Column Vol. 37
Heavy Facial Trauma due to Dog Bite



Human life is mentally enriched by the company of pets and children will be raised full of sentiment. Nevertheless pet dogs are sometimes synonymous with ferocious beasts for infants, causing incredibly serious bite wounds.

The following topic is somehow only rarely brought up in Japanese society. In occidental countries, citizens are more aware of this grim reality than us in Japan. Even as pets, dogs sometimes attack and bite their masters. The bite-wound is as vicious as is caused by wild animals. In this chapter, bite-wounds on a child were caused by ordinary pet dogs and not those with untamable characters.

No matter how cute the dogs may be, they are in no way stuffed toy-puppies, but they are carnivorous animals with a hidden instinct to kill other animals. Even dogs naturally have their emotions: joy, anger, sympathy or even jealousy. Sometimes the dog just wants to stay alone. However, the infant is eager to play with the dog so the dog tries to avoid further contact with the infant. Forced to play with the child, and getting out of patience, the dog finally attacks the child as a defensive action.

Children have a complete belief in pets, and have no intention or means to fight with an enraged animal. And the consequence is disastrous. The infant may possibly be seriously wounded by dog-bites. The most dangerous conduct is to tease the animals when they are enjoying

their meals. Children approach the pets in a low posture, and their faces come close to the animal's mouth. The dog misunderstands that his food will be snatched away, and bites the face of the child. The dog shakes its head instinctively, and the nose or lip of the child can easily be torn away.

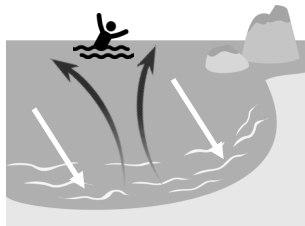
In such a case, massive bleeding or subsequent infection, of course, matter greatly. But, more difficult problems will come thereafter; how to restore the normal positioning of facial parts and beauty in normal balance. Even sophisticated techniques of today's plastic or cosmetic surgery cannot assure the long-term success. Because, the infants grow up day by day. Once completely positioned facial parts will readily be distorted again. Even by repeated cosmetic surgeries, the child will hardly regain his or her beautiful face. What a deep sorrow the patient and family feels.

The pets should be kept in a best-cared condition. Their frustration or stress should be minimal. And pets should be trained to obey their master. At the same time, however, we humans, especially infants, should be taught what is good or bad for pets. It should always be kept in mind that a moment of carelessness may end the happy life with pets, may leave life-long agony, and that we humans can be made helpless to these carnivorous animals.

Beware of Accidents at Sea

Rip Currents

A rip current is a strong current that moves directly away from the shore and that occurs near beaches with breaking waves. Incoming waves break upon the shore and when the water builds up on the shoreline it has to return to sea from some point.



When the return flow is fast, localized and narrow, flowing like a river out to sea, that is a rip current.

A rip current can flow at a speed of up to two meters per second (almost 4.5 mph/7.2 kph), and if you get caught in one, you will be swept out to sea in no time at all. Rip currents are said to form easily along shorelines that are shallow out to a considerable distance from the shore or that have a manmade shoreline, but it is often difficult to know there is a rip current. You can be swept out to sea before you know it, so be careful. If you do get caught in a rip current, stay calm and do not panic. You can signal for help by waving your arms, which is a universal signal. Don't try to swim against the current. Instead, swim parallel to the shore and you will be able to get out of the current.

Dangerous Sea Creatures

Some creatures that are dangerous to human beings inhabit the ocean. After the middle of August in Japan the population of jellyfish in



the ocean greatly increases and people sometimes get stung in the ocean. If you are stung by a jellyfish, do not rub it or try to rinse it with fresh water or scrub it with sand. Lightly rinse in seawater, removing any tentacles. If there is pain, cool the area with ice or the like.



Also, the blue-ringed octopus, which has the same deadly poison as the blowfish, has been spotted off the coast in the Fukuoka City vicinity. The blue-ringed octopus is about 10 cm (4 inches) in length with a blue rings all over its body. If you see this type of octopus, do not touch it.

If You See Someone in Danger of Drowning

If you see someone in danger of drowning, do not go into the water to try to save them. Many people who try to save others from drowning also drown. First, shout to people around you and alert them to the drowning person, then have them call 119 (river accident) or 118 (ocean accident). The best thing for a person to do when in danger of drowning is not to swim hard but to grab onto something that floats, and wait for a rescue, so if you see a person in trouble in the water, throw something to them that will float. Use a 1.5-liter plastic bottle or plastic bag and put some water in it for weight, and throw it to the person in trouble. If you have a rope or belt, extend it to them so that you can pull them to shore.



Fukuoka Municipal “Partnership Certificate” System

Starting in 2018, the city of Fukuoka introduced a system that issues a “partnership certificate” to recognize the status of LGBT couples based on a signed oath. Full details are available in this Japanese-language guide:

http://www.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/data/open/cnt/3/62792/1/pss_toriatsukai.pdf

Who is Eligible

Any couple with one or both individuals belonging to a sexual minority and to whom all of the following apply:

- Both 20 years of age or older
- The couple has an address within city limits, or plans to move to the city
- Neither person has a spouse or is in any other partnership
- The relationship is not one of close blood relatives (excluding an adoption based on the partnership)

Procedures

1. Please call in advance to arrange a date for the oath signing (Human Rights Promotion Section, Civic Affairs Bureau

Tel: 092-711-4338)

2. Prepare the required documents and come to the municipal office on the scheduled date together (Fukuoka City Hall 7F, Human Rights Promotion Section, Human Rights Department, Civic Affairs Bureau)

3. Sign the oath in the presence of a civil servant

4. Receive a “Copy of the Oath” and two “Partnership Certificates”

Required Documents for Each Person

- 1 certificate of residence (*juminhyo*) (not necessary to indicate permanent domicile or relationship to head of household)

- 1 identification document that proves you are single

All documents must have been produced within the last three months. When coming to the municipal office, please bring with you an identification document such as your My Number card, passport, driver’s license, or other photo ID issued by a government or public agency.



Hakata Gion Yamakasa Festival

This year will be another fantastic festival! Hakata Gion Yamakasa will be held from July 1 to July 15 (both Sundays). This is the festival of Kushida Shrine, the grand tutelary shrine of Hakata, with a history of over 770 years. It has been designated an intangible cultural property by the Japanese government. The decorative floats, known as *kazari yamakasa*, are displayed for public viewing on the streets during the festival. Each float has a front and a back end, featuring different themed decorations. The front (*omote*), which faces the shrine, often features warriors or ancient nobility, and the back (*miokuri*) features popular characters, often from folk tales or anime. Various events are held during the two-week period, but the biggest event to see is the race through the streets on the final day, starting at 4:59 a.m. You will surely be swept up by the atmosphere and energy of the men who carry these magnificent floats.

Rugby World Cup Japan 2019

First round of regular tickets to go on sale (by lottery)

The Rugby World Cup is held once every four years to determine the best national rugby team in the world. In 2019, the tournament will be held for the first time in Japan. Fukuoka’s Level5 Stadium is one of 12 venues where matches will be held.

Application period:

Sept. 19 (Wed.) 10:00 a.m. – Nov. 12 (Mon.) 11:59 p.m.

Lottery results announcement: Nov. 26, 2018

Tickets must be paid for between

Nov. 26 (Mon.) and Dec. 5 (Tue.), 2018.

<https://www.rugbyworldcup.com/tickets>

Rugby World Cup Japan 2019

Schedule for matches at the Fukuoka venue

Sep. 26 (Thu.): Italy vs. Repechage winner

Oct. 2 (Wed.): France vs. USA

Oct. 12 (Sat.): Ireland vs. Europe/Oceania Play-off winner



Specialized Counseling

	Legal Counseling	Immigration, Residency, and Nationality	Personal (Psychological) Counseling
	1st Saturday 3rd Wednesday	2nd Sunday of every month	Mon., Tue., Thur.
Dates	July. 7th, 18th	July. 8th	Monday: 8:45~17:45 Tuesday: 8:45~11:45 Thursday: 8:45~12:45
	August. 4th, 15th	August. 12th	
Time	Saturday 10:30~13:30 Wednesday 13:00~16:00	13:00~16:00	
Appointment	Required	Not Required (Reception until 3:30)	Required
Language	An interpreter is available upon request.	English & Chinese interpreters are available.	An English speaking professional is available.

(2) Himeshima

About 16 minutes by boat from *Itoshima*, this small island whose name means “Princess Island” is the farthest part of *Itoshima* from Fukuoka. The island has about 200 inhabitants and lots of cats. From the shores one has a panoramic view of *Karatsu Bay*, *Itoshima Peninsula*, and *Iki Island* off in the distance. Near the fishing port is an old wooden schoolhouse and other scenes of yesteryear that create an old-time ambiance. The island has no cars or motorbikes, so you can enjoy the sound of the surf and the beautiful flowers in bloom, or quietly read a book or even take a nap.

Four boats daily from the *Kishi* ferry landing (about 16 minutes; 470 yen for adults, 240 yen for children)

Cautions

- Please do not feed the cats.
- The ferry may not run when the seas are rough. Please watch the weather and plan your return trip accordingly.

(3) Oshima (Chikuzen Oshima/Munakata Oshima)

The largest island in Fukuoka Prefecture, located in the Genkai-nada Sea, Oshima is rich in nature and has recently gained a lot of interest as a tourist spot. The island’s Munakata Taisha Nakatsu-miya and Okitsu-miya Yohaisho became part of the “Sacred Island of Okinoshima and Associated Sites in the Munakata Region” inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2017. The island also has a great beach, lookout points, and walking paths for enjoyable sightseeing.

**Umi-ing Oshima**

A marine sport facility that features a 300-meter-long, 12-meter-wide pier for fishing (with rental equipment) to a depth of 4–7 meters. Reservations are required. Also you can rent a pleasure boat or sea kayaks.

**Kyushu Olle Munakata/Oshima Course**

Oshima has an 11.4-kilometer trekking course that offers a magnificent experience of nature and history. Along the trail is Okitsu-miya Yohaisho, a worshipping spot where one can bow in the direction of Okitsu-miya, one of the three holy shrines on Okinoshima, an island no women are allowed to set foot on. Trekking Course: Oshima Port Ferry Terminal → Munakata Taisha Nakatsu-miya → Top of Mt. Mitake → Windmill observation deck/gun battery ruins → Okitsu-miya Yohaisho → Kansu Beach

Time required 4–5 hours Intermediate/Advanced hikers

Mt. Mitake Observation Deck

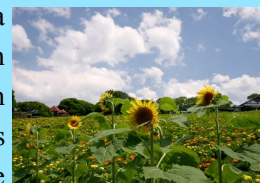
Mt. Mitake is 224 meters above sea level on Oshima Island. From the top on a clear day one can see Okinoshima, Jinoshima and other islands, including Ainoshima and Nagasaki’s Iki Island, as well as the Fukuoka Dome and Fukuoka Tower.

**(4) Shikanoshima**

Shikanoshima stands at the entrance to Hakata Bay and is connected by a land bridge, so it is accessible by car from downtown Fukuoka. A boat also travels across the bay from Hakata Futo (Wharf) in about 30 minutes.

(5) Nokonoshima

A small island in the center of Hakata Bay that is 12 kilometers around, with a 195-meter peak. The ferry from Meinohama Port in Nishi-ku takes about 10 minutes to get there. The population is about 800.

**Fukuoka City Museum Exhibition Harunobu from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

Suzuki Harunobu was an 18th-century ukiyo-e master, known for his invention of nishiki-e —vivid polychrome woodblock prints. He was an innovator of the craft who often portrayed beautiful women. Over eighty percent of his works are housed outside of Japan, so he is considered the most difficult ukiyo-e artist to exhibit in Japan. For this exhibition, masterpieces that have been carefully preserved in collections at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, will return to Japan for the first time in 130 years. After this exhibition, the works will not be displayed at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston for several years to preserve them properly. So, this is a rare chance to see Harunobu works in Fukuoka!

At the Fukuoka City Museum, “A World of Ghosts and Goblins” is another exhibition



that will be held at the same time as the Harunobu exhibition. It features an outstanding collection of about 50 works of Japanese art depicting eerie and odd apparitions. (Some will have explanations in four languages.) Come see this world of scary but cute figures of the Japanese imagination.

Exhibition dates: July 7 (Sat.) to August 26 (Sun.), 2018

Museum closed on Mondays (Except July 16 and August 13; the museum is closed instead on July 17 and August 16)

Admission:

Adults: 1300 yen

High school/university/seniors 65 and up/foreign visitors: 800 yen

Elementary/junior high school: 500 yen

Persons with disabilities and caretakers: Free

Museum closes at 8:00 p.m. on Fri/Sat/Sun between July 21 and August 26, and on August 13, 14 and 15.

Twilight time admission (5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) is 200-yen off. (Cannot be used with other discounts.) The permanent exhibitions can be viewed at no additional charge!