

FESTIVALS

Nov. 3 BUNKA -NO- HI 文化の日 (Culture Day) National Holiday

Culture Day is held to celebrate the development of culture in Japan. It was established in 1948. Many cultural festivals and events are held in many places around this day.

Nov. NINOMARU HIKARI-NO-TEIEN (Light-up Ninomaru Garden) 二の丸光の庭園 17:00-21:00 Matsuyama castle Ninomaru Historic Garden

Maple trees are lit up, and beautiful LED illuminations decorate the garden.

Admission: Adult ¥200 Child ¥100

(Tel. 089-921-2000)

The garden is usually open in the daytime (9:00-17:00)

Nov. 1 - Nov. 30 NIIYA MOMIJI MATSURI (maple festival)

At Inari-yama Park 稲荷山公園

Niiya, Ozu City 大洲市新谷

At Niiya Inari-yama Park you can enjoy 3,000 maple trees in their autumn colors. During the festival many street stalls sell local products. (Tel. 0893-24-2664)

Transportation: Take the JR local train from Matsuyama and get off at Niiya. It is a one-hour and 15-minute ride and it takes 20 minutes on foot from the station.

Nov. 1 - Nov. 30 SHIRATAKI MOMIJI MATSURI at Shirataki Park 白滝公園

Shirataki, Nagahama-cho, Ozu City 大洲市長浜町白滝

You can enjoy beautiful, autumn leaves about this time. During the festival the Shirataki park area is lit up from 17:00 till 22:00. (Tel. 0893-52-1111)

Nov. 23 SHIRATAKI RURI HIME MATSURI (Princess Ruri festival) 14:00 - 17:00

This festival is related to the tragedy of Princess Ruri. Ruri, the wife of the lord of Takino-jo castle, after telling her two daughters to save themselves, hurled herself and her baby boy from the top of Shirataki waterfall to avoid capture when her castle fell to the enemy in the *Sengoku* (Warring States) era (1477-1573). She is called princess because she was so young. Girls dressed as Princess Ruri in colorful kimono parade from Sairyu-ji temple up to Shirataki falls. And boys follow them, carrying a *hana-mikoshi* (flower portable shrine) decorated with many flowers, accompanied by women singing a pilgrim's hymn.

11:00 Parade starts.

12:00 Memorial service for Princess Ruri at the waterfall

The *mikoshi* is thrown down to the bottom of the waterfall from 60 meters above. Near the place called Princess Ruri Mound, *Honen-odori* (harvest dances) and folk songs are performed. There are many street stalls and *mochitsuki* from 13:00 to 15:00.

Transportation: Take the JR local train from Matsuyama and get off at Shirataki. It is a one-hour and 40-minute ride and it takes ten-minutes on foot from the station.

Oct.1 - Dec. 14 EHIMEKENMIN-SOGO BUNKASAI (Ehime Pref. Cultural Festival)

愛媛県民総合文化祭

The purpose of this festival is to promote the culture of Ehime from art to industry. Various events are held in many cities and towns all over Ehime.

THEME: *Tsunagaro Bunka wa Egao no Kakehashi* 繋がろう 文化は 愛顔の架け橋

(Let's connect each other Culture is a bridge between faces of love)

(Tel. 089-912-2972)

October-Feb.28th next year Art & Culture festival of disabled persons

Tobemori & neighboring area in Tobe-cho

1st, 24th Art & Culture festival of disabled persons

Tobe zoo & Ehime prefectural art museum

In Tobe zoo

Live art event: Ishimura Yoshinari 石村嘉成, an animal painter and printmaker
from Ehime prefecture & promising artists

- 2nd 10:00-20:00 *Shogi* tournament Admission: ¥1,000 Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Annex
(Tel. 089-933-7856)
- 3rd 10:00-20:00 *Igo* tournament Admission: Free Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Shinju-no-ma
12:00-17:00 *Hogaku-hobu* 邦楽邦舞 (Traditional Japanese dance and music)
Admission: Free Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Sub hall
- 8th 12:00-16:30 *Haiku* Admission: Free Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Shinju-no-ma
- 9th 10:00-15:00 *Tanka* Admission: Free Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Shinju-no-ma B
10:00-15:40 *Senryu* Admission: ¥2,000 Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Shinju-no-ma A
14:00-16:30 Brass band concert Admission: Free Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Sub hall
13:00-15:30 Ballet Admission: Free Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Main hall
13:00-16:00 Drama Admission: Free Hojo Hurusatoken
- 9th-, 15th-, 16th 10:00-15:00 Tea ceremony Fare: ¥500
Prefectural Seikatsu-bunka center near the Kamiichiman tram station
- 13th Ehime High school cultural festival Kenmin-bunka-kaikan, etc
- 15th-16th 10:00-16:00 (16th -15:30) Ehime・Matsuyama Industrial festival
--Display and sale of local products, etc. Castle park Horinouchi
- 29th-30th 10:00-16:00 (30th -15:00) Kenmin-bunka-kaikan
Shogai-gakushu Yume-matsuri 生涯学習 夢まつり (Lifetime learning dream festival)
- 23rd 10:00-16:00 Children's traditional cultural festival Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Sub hall
14:00-16:00 Modern dance Admission: Free Iyo Yumemirai-kan, in Iyo city
- 30th 14:30-17:00 Jazz concert Admission: Free Kenmin-bunka-kaikan Sub hall

Nov. 8-9 MATSUYAMA SHINONOME WOMEN'S COLLEGE & SHINONOME JUNIOR COLLEGE
松山東雲女子大学・東雲短期大学 SHINONOMESAI 東雲祭 10:30-16:30
THEME: You only live once (Tel. 089-931-6211)

Nov. 8-9 EHIME UNIVERSITY 愛媛大学 STUDENT FESTIVAL 10:00-18:00
THEME: *Irodori* 彩 (color) (Tel. 089-927-9000)

Nov. 22-23 MATSUYAMA UNIVERSITY 松山大学 NIGITATSUSAI 熟田津祭 (にぎたつさい)
10:00-17:00
THEME: *Mai* 舞 (dance) (Tel. 089-925-1565)

Nov. 15 SHICHI-GO-SAN 七・五・三 (7-5-3 Day)

This is a celebration for children who have reached the ages of seven, five and three. On this day parents and children go to neighboring shrines and pray for their good health. For three-year-old girls, the day is also celebrated as the day they wear kimono with *obi* for the first time. For five-year-old boys it is the day when they can wear *hakama*, a kind of divided skirt. This celebration began in the 17th century in Edo (present-day Tokyo).

Nov. 23 KINRO-KANSHA-NO-HI 勤労感謝の日 (Labor Thanksgiving Day) National Holiday
This day was established to thank working people and celebrate local products.

Nov. 25-26 OTOI OZUMO 乙亥大相撲 (Otoi Grand Sumo Wrestling)
At Otoi-Kaikan Nomura-cho, Seiyō City 西予市野村町 (Tel. 0894-72-1115)

In 1852 a big fire broke out in Nomura-cho. After that the god of fire prevention was enshrined in Atago-jinja shrine and *Otoi Ozumo* started at the shrine to pray for preventing fires. It has become a very popular annual event and is held at Otoi-kaikan hall near the Nomura-cho office. During the festival sumo bouts of amateur and professional *Ozumo* wrestlers are held. Guest *Ozumo* wrestlers this year are Atamifuji 熱海富士, Fukeno 風賢央, and Katanami *Oyakata* 片波親方, and several *Makushita* 幕下 wrestlers and top-class amateur wrestlers also appear.

Advance ticket: ¥1,500 at Otoi-kaikan, Nomura-cho office, Fuji Gran Matsuyama,

Emiful Masaki, Lawson, and EBC ticket center. Day ticket: ¥2,000

Younger than junior high school students are free.

Masu-seki (box seat for three persons): ¥15,000 including box lunches and souvenirs.

You need to make a reservation.

(Tel. 0894-72-1111)

Sumo bouts

25th 8:00-18:15 Local young men

Amateur guest wrestlers

Amateur and professional wrestlers

26th 7:45-17:45 Elementary & junior high school students in the city

Professional and amateur wrestlers

25th, 26th 14:30 **Chigo Dohyoiri** 稚児土俵入り (Baby ring entering ceremony)

The guest wrestlers do *shiko* (a kind of wrestler's dance before fighting) on the *dohyo* (wrestling ring), holding in their arms, babies born between March last year and August this year to pray for their healthy growth. ¥35,000

You need to make a reservation by Nov. 2nd.

Many various events are held during the festival.

Transportation: Take the JR train bound for Uwajima and get off at Unomachi.

There is a free bus service between JR Unomachi station and Otoikaikan.

JR Unomachi	→	Otoikaikan	Otoikaikan	→	JR Nomura
9:20		10:00	17:30		18:00

July 20 - January 12 next year NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF KAMABOKO-ITA -NO-E

9:00-17:00 Closed on Tuesdays & from Dec. 28-January 3

At GALLERY SHIROKAWA Shirokawa-cho, Seiyō City 西予市城川町

The national exhibition of paintings on *kamaboko* (fish-paste) boards started about thirty years ago. This year 6,331 paintings were sent from all over the country and abroad. The painting which won the first prize this year is the one titled "*Banban hagukumu yoni* (the world where all living things are given loving care) 万万育む世こ". It was painted by Shimizu Hiroyuki 清水宏志 (78 years old) from Ehime prefecture, showing a mother woodpecker feeding her baby in the hole of the tree trunk.

Admission: Adults - ¥500 High school & University students - ¥300

Children younger than junior high school students - free

<https://www.city.seiyo.ehime.jp/miryoku/galleryshirokawa/> (0894-82-1001)