

Nara City Information for Residents

January 2024 Issued by Nara City Hall (No. 1238)
(All events, classes and lectures are conducted in Japanese.)

Translation by Nara SGG Club (Systematized Goodwill Guide Club)

For some local government section names, the Nara SGG Club uses those decided upon by our translation team. As the city's English website uses machine translation, some names and terms may differ between our translation and the website. We ask for your understanding.

Copies available on request at:

Nara City Hall Information Counter, Nara City Hall Shimin-Ka Counter,
Nara-shi Shimin Service Center (Nara Family 5F), Nara City Tourist Center,
Public Health Center (4F, Hagukumi Center), Chubu Kominkan, Seibu Kominkan,
Hokubu Kominkan, Chuo Library, Seibu Library, Kintetsu Nara Station,
Nara City Tourist Information Center (by JR Nara Station), Nara Chuo Post Office
and Nara-Nishi Post Office.

[Inquiries in English] Phone: 0742-22-5595 (9:00-17:00) E-mail: nsgghyk@gmail.com

特集

pick up!

令和5年
奈良市の出来事かるた



Snow covered Ukimido, the floating wooden pavilion.

Events in Nara City in 2023

January 25: A huge iron sword with a total length of more than 2 meters and a copper mirror in the shape of a shield were discovered.

March 3: “Nara Digital City Hall” opened, where you can carry out procedures from your smartphone.

April 1: The maintenance in front of Yamato Saidaiji Station was completed, and making the front of the station spacious.

April 1: A “fire brigade information gathering unit” using drones was established to enhance disaster prevention capabilities.

July 30: The English slogan “Old History, New Discovery” was established to convey the charm of Nara overseas.

August 5th -14th: “Nara Flower Ceremony” was held for the first time in four years.

September 29: The “Uneme Festival” was held at Sarusawa Pond for the first time in four years.

October 4: Kids Park was completed in Kashiwagi Park.

October 26: Canberra and Nara City celebrated their 30th anniversary as sister cities.

December 2: The 25th anniversary of the registration of “Cultural Properties of the Ancient City of Nara” as a World Heritage Site was celebrated.

2024 “Dezome-shiki” Ceremony, or New Year Fire Brigades’ Parade

Date & Time: January 13 (Sat.) 10:00-11:45

Place: Rohto Nara Konoike Park (Horen Sahoyama 4-chome)

Contents: Besides the parade and fire extinguishing practices, *Butajiru*, (miso soup with pork and vegetables) will be served and a fair will be held in the Citizens’ Participation zone.

For more information, including cancellations, please visit the Nara City website. --->



Let’s Have Fun and Learn! Exciting Firefighting (A Hands-on Event with Firefighters)

Date & Time: February 11 (Sun.) 13:00-15:00

* In case of rain, the event will be postponed to February 12 (Holiday)

Place: Daiwa House Industry Co., Ltd. Nara Plant (Saikujo-cho 4-chome)

* Parking available

Contents: Opening performance by the Tonan junior high school brass band and the color guard of the Nara City fire brigade

Activities such as riding on a pumper, wearing a firefighter suit, and spraying water, and evacuation drills in the midst of earthquakes and smoke

Free snacks (“Pon-gashi” (rice puffs) and sweet red bean soup, quantity limited)

Other attractions such as frankfurter stalls and stamp collecting with giveaway gifts

For more details, please refer here. --->



Inquiries: Shobo-Somu-Ka (General Affairs Section, Fire Department) Tel. 0742-35-1199

Garbage Collection

Garbage Collection Schedule at The Beginning of The Year

Please bring garbage to the collection site before 7:30 on the day.

Date	Burnable Garbage	Plastic Packages & Containers
Jan.4(Thurs.)	A, B, E, F	No collection
Jan.5 (Fri.)	C, D, G, H	
Jan.6 (Sat.)		A, B, D, E, F, G
From Jan. 8 (Holiday)	Normal schedule	

The garbage collection time may be past 16:00 in some areas between Jan. 4 (Thurs.) and 6 (Sat.) due to the larger amount of garbage than usual.

*Garbage collection for the areas covered by City Seibi-Kosha & Co., Ltd. is scheduled according to the distributed garbage collection calendar.

Collection of Dead Animals

Collection of dead animals will begin on Jan. 4 (Thurs).

The collection on Saturdays is available only on Jan. 6 (Sat.)

Collection Dates & Area after Jan. 8 (Holiday)

Area	Burnable	Unburnable
A, F	Every Mon. & Thurs.	Jan. 10 (Wed.) & 24 (Wed.)
B, E		
C, H	Every Tues. & Fri.	Jan. 17 (Wed.) & 31 (Wed.)
D, G		

* Areas A•B•C•D are covered by Nara City and Areas E•F•G•H are covered by City Seibi-Kosha & Co., Ltd. or Takeda-Kankyo & Yamato-Seiso J.V.

The collection days are different from the above schedule in some areas, so please check the Nara City website.

Inquiries: Shushu-Ka (Collection Section) Tel. 0742-71-3012

City Seibi-Kosha & Co., Ltd. Tel. 0742-33-8782

Takeda-Kankyo & Yamato-Seiso J.V. Tel. 0742-63-2552

The library will be temporarily closed for inspection of the library's collections.

Seibu Seijin-shitsu	Jan. 30 (Tues.) - Feb. 11 (Holiday)
Hokubu Library	Feb. 13 (Tues.) - 25 (Sun.)
Chuo Jido-shitsu	Feb. 20 (Tues.) - March 3 (Sun.)
Seibu Jido-shitsu	Feb.27 (Tues.) - March 10 (Sun.)
Chuo Seijin-shitsu	March 5 (Tues.) - 17 (Sun.)

*It will be possible to pick up books that have been reserved.

Inquiries: Chuo Library Tel. 0742-26-6101

Cancer Examinations (February)

Please apply to Kenko-Zoshin-Ka (Health Care Section) by phone, fax or on the city website.

Free of charge for those who are on social welfare or belong to households receiving residential tax exemption.

Please notify us of such when you apply.

Application Period

From January 4 (Thurs.) 8:30 to 19 (Fri.) 17:15

Stomach and Lung Cancer Examinations

Date	Reception Time	Place	Capacity
Feb.6 (Tues.)	9:45-10:15	Seibu Library	10 each
	10:15-10:45		
Feb.7 (Wed.)	9:15-10:15	Miato Kominkan	27
Feb.9 (Fri.)	9:15-10:15	Co-op-Oshikuma	27
Feb.13 (Tues.) Feb.16 (Fri.)	8:45- 9:45	Hagukumi Center	33 each
Feb.21 (Wed.) Feb.26 (Mon.)	9:00- 10:00		
Feb.14 (Wed.)	9:15-10:15		
Feb.15 (Thurs.)	9:15-10:15	Tomio-Minami Kominkan	27
Feb.19 (Mon.)	9:15- 9:45	Hokubu Shutchocho	10 each
	9:45-10:15		
Feb.20 (Tues.)	9:30-10:30	Tomigaoka Kominkan	26
Feb.22 (Thurs.)	9:15-10:15	Seibu Shogai Sports Center Club House	27

Lung Cancer Examination

Date	Reception Time	Place	Capacity
Feb.7 (Thurs.)	14:00-15:00	Hagukumi Center	60

Stomach Cancer Examination: X-Ray (involving drinking barium on that day)

Lung Cancer Examination: Chest-X-Ray (including tuberculosis test)

Fee: 1,500 yen (1,000 yen for stomach cancer examination only and 500 yen for lung cancer examination only), 600 yen as an additional fee for sputum test based on a general check-up for lung cancer (Postage might need to be paid.)

Those eligible:

40 years old and over; those who will be registered as Nara City residence on the examination day.
Pregnant women; those who had stomach, lung, or intestine surgery or are in treatment; those who have barium sensitivity or had aspiration (lung cancer examination is possible); those who had an endoscope stomach cancer check by Nara City in this and previous fiscal years (lung cancer examination is possible) and those who had a low-dose CT lung cancer check by Nara City in this fiscal year (stomach cancer examination is possible) are excluded.

Others: For those who are breastfeeding, please notify us of such when you apply. The examination interval is once a year. There might be cases when you may not be able to take the examination depending on your health or questionnaire.

Inquiries: Kenko-Zoshin-Ka (Health Care Section) Tel. 0742-34-5129 Fax. 0742-34-3145

For more information →



Medical Checkups for Babies & Children

Checkup Name (Eligibility)	Date	Place
4-month-old Babies Checkup (Born in Oct. 2023)	From 4-month birthday until the day before turning 5 months old.	Designated medical facilities in Nara City.
10-month-old Babies Checkup (Born in April 2023)	From 10-month birthday until the day before turning 11 months old	
19-month-old Babies Checkup (Born in June 2022)	Feb. 8, 15, 259 (Thurs.) (Please check the questionnaire for date & time)	Chuo Hoken Center (Central Health Center) (Hagukumi Center 2F)
3-1/2-year-old Babies Checkup (Born in July 2020)	Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27 (Tues.) (Please check the questionnaire for date & time)	

Things to bring: The questionnaire and *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*

* The questionnaire will be sent in the middle of January. People who moved to Nara City after January 1 and have not received it by the checkup day should contact Boshi-Hoken-Ka (Mother and Child Health Section).

Inquiries: Boshi-Hoken-Ka (Mother and Child Health Section) Tel. 0742-34-1978

Preliminary Examination Leaflets Were Sent in Late December (to those born in November 2023)

If you bring the preliminary examination leaflet, *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*, and Health Insurance Card or other ID, babies can receive vaccinations. If you have not received the preliminary examination leaflet due to moving into the city, etc., call Kenko-Zoshin-Ka (Health Care Section)

Inquiries: Kenko-Zoshin-Ka (Health Care Section) Tel. 0742-34-5129

Japanese Encephalitis Vaccinations to Start (for those born in Jan. 2021)

Those Eligible: From age 3 to one day before the 7-1/2-year birthday

Method: The first two vaccinations are 1 to 4 weeks apart, and an additional vaccination is given one year after the second shot.

Things to Bring: Preliminary examination leaflet, *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*, and health insurance card. * Those who are not registered as a citizen of Nara City are not eligible.

Application: Make an appointment at one of the registered medical facilities listed on the city website.

Inquiries: Kenko-Zoshin-Ka (Health Care Section) Tel. 0742-34-5129

Maternal and Infant Health Care Consultation

Hagukumi Center 3F

Consultation by phone or face-to-face with public health nurses or midwives (appointment required)

Date & Time: 8:30-17:15 on weekdays, 9:00-15:00 with midwives.

Seibu Kaikan 2F Counseling Room (Gakuen-Minami 3-chome)

Face-to-face consultations with midwives (appointment required)

Date & Time: 10:00-14:00 on Mon., Wed., and Fri. (accepted until 13:30) except on holidays.

In some cases, consultations may be carried out by public health nurses.

Things to bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook* and a bath towel.

Application: Call Boshi-Hoken-Ka (Mother's and Child's Health Section) Tel. 0742-34-1978

Tsuge Hoken Center

Consultation by phone or face-to-face with public health nurses or nutritionists

Date & Time: 8:30-17:15 on weekdays

Traveling consultation with public health nurses

Date & Time:	Place
Jan. 23 (Tues.) 10:00-11:30	Koutou Kominkan (Oyagu-cho)
Jan. 26 (Fri.) 10:00-12:00	Tsukigase Fukusi Center (Tsukigase Oyama)
Jan. 30 (Tues.) 10:00-11:30	Tawara Dongoga-oka Community Plaza (Yokota-cho, Former Tawara kindergarten)

Things to bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*

Inquiries: Tsuge Hoken Center Tel. 0743-82-0341

Tsukigase Health Consultation Room

Phone or face-to-face consultation with public health nurses (appointment required)

Data & Time: 9:00-16:30 on weekdays.

Inquiries: Tsukigase Health Consultation Room Tel. 0743-92-0480

Classes for Pregnant Women & Babies and Dental Checkup

Hajimete-no Mama & Papa Salon

Date & Time: 1) Jan. 12 (Fri.) 2) Feb. 9 (Fri.) 10:00-12:00

Place: Hagukumi Center 2F

Contents: lecture about baby and child rearing by a public health nurse and a midwife, and interaction with other people.

Capacity: 16 people who will be between the 22nd and 31st week of the first pregnancy.

Things to Bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*

Deadline for Application: 1) Jan. 10 (Mon.) 2) Feb. 2 (Tues.)

Ha-Pika Class for One-year-old Babies (Tooth Decay Prevention Class)

Date & Time: Jan. 16 (Tues.) 10:00-11:00

Place: Hagukumi Center 2F

Contents: Lecture and training about dental care for new teeth

Capacity: 21 pairs of a first-born child born between Oct. and 2022 and Jan. 2023 and his or her guardian

Things to Bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*, and some gauze for wiping the baby's mouth

Deadline for Application: Jan. 12 (Fri.)

Paku-Paku Class for Five-month-old Babies (Baby Food Class)

Date & Time: Jan. 17 (Wed.) 10:00-11:15

Place: Hagukumi Center 2F

Capacity: 32 pairs of a first-born child born in Aug. 2023 and his or her guardian

Things to Bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*, the baby food leaflet included in the checkup questionnaire for four-month-old babies.

Deadline for Application: Jan. 12 (Fri.)

Fluoride Coating for Tooth Decay Prevention for Children Born in Jan. 2021

Date & Time: Jan. 19 (Fri.) 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00

Place: Chuo Hoken Center (Central Health Center), Hagukumi Center 2F

Capacity: 25 babies each

Things to Bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*, a toothbrush which is not worn out, and towels

Deadline for Application: Jan. 16 (Tues.)

Maternity "Happy" Check (Dental Checkup for Pregnant Women)

Date & Time: 1) Jan. 25 (Thurs.) 2) Feb. 15 (Thurs.) 9:30-11:00

Place: Hagukumi Center 2F

Capacity: 28 women in the approximately 16th to 31st week of pregnancy

Things to Bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*, and towels

Deadline for Application: 1) Jan. 18 (Thurs.) 2) Feb. 8 (Thurs.)

Application: Call Boshi-Hoken-Ka (Mother and Child Health Section) by each deadline. Close as soon as capacity is reached. Tel. 0742-34-1978

<< Event Pages >>

Higashi Fukushi Center

1702-1 Horen-cho 630-8113 Tel.0742-24-3151 Fax.0742-27-9028

New Year Concert Classical Concert Enjoyable for Anyone

Date & Time: Jan. 17 (Wed.) 11:40-12:40

Those Eligible: People 60 years old and over, and their family members

Children approximately under 5 years old, and their family members

Shiryō-Hozonkan (Historical Materials Museum)

1-1 Wakido-cho 630-8337 Tel. 0742-27-0169

Closed on Mondays (except holidays) and Feb. 13 (Tue.)

Special Exhibition “*Masakaki-Houno* (Dedication of *Masakaki* to a Shinto God) during *Setsubun*

Records of this event remain in the historical documents “*Naramachi-Sajiki*”

Date & Time: Jan.23 (Tues.) - Feb. 25 (Sun.)

Contents: Picture postcards and so on documenting how since the early Showa period, the *Geisha* of *Ganrin-in-cho* dedicated *Masakaki* (branches of the sacred *sakaki* tree with colored streamers) to the God around *Setsubun* (Feb. 3rd)

Special Exhibition “*Sumi* (Ink sticks) of Nara”

Date & Time: Jan.23 (Tues.) -Feb. 25 (Sun.)

Contents: Historical documents and so on introducing how *Sumi* was produced in the early modern period

Naramachi Nigiwai-no-Ie

5, Nakanoshinya-cho, 630-8333 Tel. 0742-20-1917

New Year's *Kura* Exhibition, “*Tako de Tsunagaru Oshogatsu*” (New Year connected with kites)

* *Kura*: traditional Japanese storehouse

Date & Time: Jan. 4 (Thurs.) -16 (Tues.), 9:00-17:00

Contents: Exhibition of kites we draw ourselves

Temporary closed from Jan. 18 (Thurs.) to 31 (Wed.) for renovation

Nara Kogeikan (The Nara Crafts Museum)

1-1, Azemame-cho, 630-8346 Tel. 0742-27-0033

Special Exhibition, “*Nara-no Dentokogei to Jisha*”(Traditional crafts, temples, and shrines of Nara)

Date: Through Jan. 21 (Sun.)

Special Exhibition, “*Komorebi An, Tsujii Collection Vol.6, Akahada-yaki*” (Akahada Ware)

* *An*: hermitage

Date: Jan. 30 (Tues.) - Feb. 25 (Sun.)

* For more information, visit the museum's website

Nara City Museum of Art

Minara 5F, 1-3-1 Nijo-Oji-Minami 630-8012 Tel. 0742-30-1510 Fax 0742-35-7160

25th Anniversary of World Heritage Registration “Watch Nara: 100 Views of Nara”

Date & Time: Jan. 12 (Fri.) - Jan. 21 (Sun.), 10:00-17:30 (Admission until 17:00)

Nara City Museum of Calligraphy in Honor of Kason Sugioka

3 Wakido-cho 630-8337 Tel. 0742-24-4111 Fax 0742-20-6677

Learning from Kason's Calligraphy: Write Observing Kana Works (1) Focusing on Fine Characters

Date & Time: Jan. 13 (Sat.) - April 14 (Sun.), 9:00-17:00

Naramachi New Year's Card Contest Exhibition

Date & Time: Jan. 31 (Wed.) - Feb. 12 (Holiday), 10:00-17:00, 10:00-16:00 on the last day

Place: Nara Crafts Museum (Azemame-cho)

Contents: Exhibition of entry works, collection series of stamps and experience of calligraphy

New year Japanese classic music mini-concert * only on Feb. 8 (Thurs.)

Brush-Writing Experience Corner

Date & Time: Jan. 27 (Sat.) - Jan. 28 (Sun.), 9:00-17:00

Fee: General 300 yen

Group (20 or more people) 240 yen

Free for children 16 years old and under, high school students, Nara City residents 70 years old and over, physically challenged persons (certificate required) and their caregivers

<< Kominkan Activities >>

Chubu Kominkan

23-4 Kamisanjo-cho 630-8228

Tel: 0742-26-6506 Fax: 0742-26-3263

Event Name	Date & Contents	Application
"Melody Alisa" is coming!	Parents and children let's enjoy music care therapy! Feb. 6 (Sat.) 10:30-11:30 Children before entering kindergarten with their guardians.	Not necessary

Miato Kominkan

204-1 Gojo-cho 630-8032

Tel. & Fax. 0742-34-5954

Event Name	Date & Contents	Application
<i>Yamayaki</i> -viewing from Miato	Jan. 27 (Sat.) 9:00-16:00 Exhibition of Works, Tea Ceremony Experience, etc. 17:00-19:00 Dusk Traditional Japanese Music Concert and <i>Yamayaki</i> Viewing (Mountain Burning) Preschool children must be accompanied by guardians. *Free entry	Not necessary

Mikasa Kominkan

313-3 Omiya-cho 4-chome 630-8115 Tel. & Fax. 0742-33-0515

Event Name	Date & Time and Contents	Application
Let's experience! Introduction to the groups ---February--- Trial classes by the voluntary groups usually carrying out activities at Mikasa Kouminkan are held. Why don't you join in to learn more?	Movie appreciation "The Seven Year Itch" Feb. 3 (Sat.) 9:30-11:30 * General public (Free entry)	Not necessary
	Women's chorus Feb. 6 (Tues.) 14:00-15:00 * Adult females (Free entry)	Not necessary

Tomigaoka-Minami Kominkan

921-1 Nakayama-cho-nishi 2-chome, 631-0013 Tel. & Fax. 0742-47-6375

Event Name	Date & Time and Contents	Application
Exhibition of works by Youth in the Community	Exhibition of pictures and photographs created by young members in the community. Jan. 16 (Tues.) - Jan. 23 (Tues.) 9:00-17:00 (Except Jan. 22 (Mon.)) * Free entry	Not necessary

Education Center KIDS LEARNING FLOOR

Class Name	Date & Time	Application Deadline
Planetarium: "Nijiro and Seasonal Constellations, "The Story of Orion" Capacity: 40 seats each time	Every Saturday, Sunday and holiday (except New Year's Day) in January 1. 10:30-10:50 2. 13:30-14:00	Reception on the day
Story Telling: "A Cat and A Chick."	January 13 (Sat.) 11:00-11:30	
"Petit-Petit" Craft: "Let's make balloons animals." Capacity: 10 children (age 4 and over) each time	January 20 (Sat.) 1) 11:00-11:20 2) 14:10-14:30	
Movie Screening: "Aika's Globe (Secret of the Earth)" Capacity: 200 seats	January 21 (Sun.) 13:00-13:30	
Night Planetarium: "Kimagure Planetarium, we will deliver the seasonal starry sky." Capacity: 40 seats (From elementary school upper graders to adults. Adults by themselves can also apply.)	January 26 (Fri.) 18:30-19:10	

Programming Class: “Programming Class by Senior High School Students” Capacity: 10 children in the 3rd to 6th grades in elementary school each time	February 3 (Sat.) 1. 10:30-12:00 2. 13:30-15:00	January 15 (Mon.)
Robot Class: “Robot Class by Senior High School Students” Capacity: 10 children in the 1st to 6th grades in elementary school each time	February 4 (Sun.) 1. 10:30-12:00 2. 13:30-15:00	
Science Experiment Class: “What is Electricity?” Capacity: 12 children in the 1st grade and over in elementary school	February 11 (Holiday) 10:00-11:30	January 22 (Mon.)
Space Class: “Let’s launch a plastic bottle rocket!” Capacity: 12 children in the 1st grade and over in elementary school each time Things to bring: plastic bottles for fizzy drinks, without indentations	February 17 (Sat.) 1. 10:00-11:30 2. 13:30-15:00	January 29 (Mon.)
Craft Experiment Class “Let’s draw with Japanese style solid watercolors” Capacity: 15 children age 5 and over each time	February 18 (Sun.) 1. 9:30-10:30 2. 11:00-12:00 3. 13:30-14:30	
Science Experiment Class: “Stained glass? Using a polarizing sheet” Capacity: 12 children age 5 and over each time	February 24 (Sat.) 1. 9:40-10:20 2. 11:00-11:40 3. 14:10-14:50	February 5 (Mon.)

Place: Hagukumi Center 9 F

Application: Apply online from the Nara City Website. In case of excess applications, a lottery will be held.

Others: Reception on the day of the class will start 15 minutes before the starting time of each class and will be closed when the prescribed number of applications is reached. In addition to the above, other classes may also be held. The planetarium can be used by groups. (An application is needed.) Children must be accompanied by guardians. For the latest information, please check the city website or contact us directly.

Nara City Website →



Inquiries: Kids Learning Floor (Education Support and Consultation Section)

Tel. 0742-36-0401

***Wakakusa-yama* Hill Grass Burning Festival on January 27 (Sat.)**

This traditional event is called a harbinger of early spring in Nara. Please enjoy watching the beautiful fireworks in the dark sky and the vigorously spreading flames along the hillside.

Place: At the foot of Wakakusa-yama Hill

Schedule & Time: *Nogami Jinja Saiten* (Nogami Shrine Festival) will start at 17:40.

Fireworks will begin at 18:15.

All the grass will be set on fire at 18:30.

*The event schedule is subject to change, depending on the circumstances.

*Traffic restrictions will be enforced on the day. Please use public transportation.

Inquiries on the day: Tel. 050-3626-2211

(IP-Phone service. It may not be accessible from some IP-Phones or pre-paid cell phones.)

Inquiries: Wakakusa Yamayaki Gyoji Jikko Iinkai (Wakakusa-yama Hill Burning Event Executive Committee) c/o Nara Park Office Tel. 0742-27-8677

***O-Tondo* (A Big Bonfire) at Kasuga**

A three-meter-high bonfire will be built on Tobihino field. Old talismans, lucky charms, and *shimenawa* (straw ornaments for New Year's Day) decorations are burnt and people pray for good fortune and a huge harvest of grains.

* Used *shimenawa* and other items will be accepted until 16:30.

In case of rain, the event will be postponed to Jan. 28 (Sun.)

Date & Time: Jan. 27 (Sat.) 13:00-18:00

Place: Tobihino field (in Kasuga Taisha Shrine, Noborioji-cho)

Inquiries: Nara City Tourism Association Tel. 0742-30-0230