

Nara City Information for Residents

December 2024 Issued by Nara City Hall (No. 1249)

(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 Kaikan, 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



Photo: Bus Terminal at Kintetsu Takanohara Station

Public Transportation for Tomorrow

These days, especially after the pandemic, there are fewer buses and trains, and even worse, some of their lines and routes have been discontinued due to declining ridership and other reasons. Based on this situation, Nara City has implemented some measures in order to ensure people have access to transportation.

With the help of subsidies provided from the city, some stations along the Kintetsu and JR West lines have installed elevators, benches and family bathrooms, making them more passenger-friendly.

In addition, the city provides “taxi tickets” for pregnant women, which makes it easier for them to visit medical facilities, etc. It also supports introducing large low-floor buses that makes getting on and off easier.

The tickets are available this year.

For more information about who is eligible to use the tickets, etc. ⇒



Inquiries: Accessible Transportation Promotion Section Tel. 0742-34-4969



Emergency Medical Clinics Open during Year-End and New Year Holidays

Emergency Medical Care

Nara City will provide emergency medical services during the end of the year and the beginning of the New Year in cooperation with Nara City Medical Association, Nara City Dental Association, and Nara City Pharmaceutical Association. Please bring your health insurance card (MAINA Health Insurance Card, also known as My Number ID Card) and any necessary certificates of qualification to receive emergency medical care.

Consultation Hours	Internal Medicine & Pediatric Department	Dentistry
6:00 – 10:00	Designated Hospital: Dec.31 (Tues.)– Jan.3 (Fri.)	Holiday Emergency Dental Clinic Dec. 30 (Mon.)– Jan. 3 (Fri.) Consultation Hours: 10:00 – 16:00
10:00 – 19:00	Holiday and Night-Time Emergency Medical Clinic Dec. 30 (Mon.) – Jan.3 (Fri.)	
19:00 – 22:00	Designated Hospital: Dec. 31 (Tues.) – Jan. 3 (Fri.)	
22:00 – 6:00	Holiday and Night-Time Emergency Medical Clinic Dec.30 (Mon.) – Jan.3 (Fri.)	

The Holiday and Night-Time Emergency Medical Clinic Tel. 0742-34-1228

Place: 519-28 Kashiwagi-cho

Reception Date: Dec. 30 (Mon.) – Jan. 3 (Fri.)

Reception Times: 9:30 – 18:00, (Antigen testing: 9:30 – 17:00)
21:30 – 5:30, (Antigen testing: 21:30 – 24:00)

The Holiday Emergency Dental Clinic Tel. 0742-33-4182

Place: 519-28 Kashiwagi-cho

Reception Date: Dec. 30 (Mon.) – Jan. 3 (Fri.)

Reception Times: 9:30 – 11:30, 13:00 – 15:30

The Designated Hospitals Listed Below Will Be Open between Dec. 31 (Tues.) and Jan. 3 (Fri.)

(Only Internal Medicine and Pediatric departments, including care for infants)

Consultation Hours: 6:00 – 10:00, 19:00 – 22:00

Please make sure to call each designated hospital before visiting.

Dec. 31 (Tues.)	Okatani Hospital Place: 25-1 Minami-kyobate-cho Tel. 0742-63-7700
Jan. 1 (Holiday)	Nishi-Nara Chuo Hospital Place: 1-15 Tsurumai-nishi-machi Tel. 0742-43-3333
Jan. 2 (Thurs.)	Nishinokyo Hospital Place: 102-1 Rokujo-cho Tel. 0742-35-1121
Jan. 3 (Fri.)	Nara Seibu Hospital Place: 143-1 Mitsugarasu-cho Tel. 0742-51-8700

Garbage Collection and Waste Brought in During the New Year's Holiday

A large amount of garbage is produced during the New Year's season.

Please cooperate in reducing and recycling garbage.

Garbage Collection

Date	Burnable Garbage	Plastic Packages & Containers	Unburnable Garbage
Normal collection schedule until Dec. 27 (Fri.)			
Dec. 29 (Sun.)	-	-	Areas CDGH
Dec. 30 (Mon.)	Areas ABEF	Areas CH	-
Dec. 31 (Tues.)	Areas CDGH	Areas AF	-
No collection until Jan. 3 (Fri.)			
Jan. 4 (Sat.)	-	Areas ABDEFG	-
Jan. 5 (Sun.)	-	-	-
Jan. 6 (Mon.)	Areas ABEF	-	-
Jan. 7 (Tues.)	Areas CDGH	-	-
Jan. 8 (Wed.)	-	Areas CH	Areas ABEF
Normal collection schedule after Jan. 9 (Thurs.)			

* The garbage collection times on Jan. 6 (Mon.) and 7 (Tues.) may be delayed until after 16:00 in some areas due to the larger amount of garbage than usual.

* Unburnable garbage collection starts from Jan. 8 (Wed.) for areas ABEF and Jan. 15 (Wed.) for areas CDGH.

Inquiries: Shushu-ka (Collection Department) Tel. 0742-71-3012,
City Seibi-Kosha Co., Ltd. Tel. 0742-33-8782
Takeda Kankyo / Yamato Seiso Tel. 0742-63-2552

Collection of Recyclable Resources

Date	District Number
Dec. 29 (Sun.)	District 16
Dec. 30 (Mon.)	District 17
Dec. 31 (Tues.)	District 18
Jan. 7 (Tues.)	District 19 Containers and net bags will be distributed on Jan. 6 (Mon.) morning.

* The collection schedule for the areas covered by City Seibi-Kosha & Co., Ltd. during the New Year's holidays is as on the distributed collection calendar.

Inquiries: Haikibutsu-Taisaku-Ka (Waste Management Section) Tel. 0742-71-3001
City Seibi-Kosha & Co., Ltd. Tel. 0742-33-8782

Application for Bulky Household Waste Pickup and Carry-in Waste

You need to apply through the Internet or by phone.

You may not be able to get through to us because of a flood of application phone calls in December.

Please cooperate with us in alleviating phone call congestion.

Internet Application: (Available 24 hours)

Please read the instructions carefully before you apply. For bulky household waste, you must apply at least four days before the collection day, and for the carry-in waste, you must apply at least a day before you carry in the waste (Saturdays, Sundays, and the end of the year and the beginning of the year holidays are excluded).

QR Code

Bulky Household Waste ▶



Carry-in Waste ▶



Application by Phone

Year-end	Until Dec. 27 (Fri.)	Beginning of the year	From Jan. 6 (Mon.)
Application Phone Line: Tel. 0742-71-9011 From 8:00 till 15:00 (Excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and end of the year and beginning of the year holidays) * Application prior to one day before the scheduled carry-in date (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and end of the year and beginning of the holidays) is a must.			

City Seibi-Kosha Collection Area

Year-end	Until Dec. 27 (Fri.)	Beginning of the year	From Jan. 6 (Mon.)
Application: From 8:30 till 17:00 from Monday through Friday (Until 16:00 on Jan. 6 (Mon.))			

Application and Inquiries: City Seibi-Kosha & Co., Ltd. Tel. 0742-33-8782

***** Instructions *****

[Bulky Household Waste]

We may not be able to collect bulky waste within this year due to the large demand for disposal.

Changes and additions to your application in December cannot be accepted.

Bulky waste will be collected until Dec. 31 (Tues.).

[Carry-in Waste] Advance reservations are required for both businesses and homes

Application period

Year-end	Until Dec. 31 (Tues.)	Beginning of the year	From Jan. 6 (Mon.)
From 9:00 till 16:30		* Until 13:00 on Dec. 31 (Tues.)	

- Please separate the waste after referring to the “*Gomi-Jiteri*” (Instructions on how to separate garbage).

- Pruned branches should be cut into pieces less than 5cm in diameter and 30cm in length.

* Applications will be accepted for waste which is brought in until up to the end of next month.

* One phone application for waste is only for one day. If you wish to bring in more than one lot of waste per day, please make an appropriate number of applications for that day. Your application may not be accepted depending on the application situation.

* Applications from Dec. 29 (Sun.) through 31 (Tues.) and Jan. 6 must be done by Dec. 27 (Fri.)

Inquiries:

About the contents of carry-in garbage:

Kankyo-Seibi Kojo (Environment Sanitation Plant)

Tel. 0742-71-3000

Inquiries regarding applications:

Machi Bika Suishin-Ka (Town Clean Up Promotion Section)

Tel. 0742-71-3220

The internet application consultation center

Tel. 0742-71-9202



Starting February, Business Hours and Phone Hours will Change

Current
Until Jan. 31 (Fri.)
From 8:30 till 17:15

New Hours
Starting Feb. 3 (Mon.)
From 9:00 till 17:00

Facilities and institutions affected by the change.

City Hall, the Public Enterprise Bureau, Liaison Offices, the Administration Center, Higashi Terabayashi Liaison Office, Hagukumi Center, Children's Center, etc.

- * Telephone answering hours at the city's call centers will also change to the above hours.
- * Hours of operations at cultural and sports facilities, libraries, *Kominkan* (Community Centers) will not change.
- * Opening hours on Sundays for the citizen service department and *Seibu Shutcho-sho* (West Liaison Office) will not change.



Garbage Collection

Please cooperate in separating and disposing of your garbage appropriately to prevent fires.

Dispose of insecticide, spray paint and hair mousse cans as unburnable garbage. Dispose of cartridge-type gas cylinders and body spray cans as recyclable resources. (Please use up the contents of spray cans and make several holes in them.)

Batteries can be collected as noxious garbage or taken to a hub collection site. (Button batteries can be put in recovery boxes located within shops.)

Bring rechargeable batteries, such as mobile batteries and lithium ion batteries, to the recycle boxes placed inside electronics retail stores. The location of recycle boxes are shown on the JBRC web site.

Use up all the gas in disposable lighters and put them out as burnable garbage.

Garbage Collection Dates & Areas in December

Area	Burnable	Unburnable
A / F	Every Mon. & Thurs.	Dec. 11, 25 (Wed.)
B / E		
C / H	Every Tues. & Fri.	Dec. 4, 18 (Wed.)
D / G		

*Areas A – D are covered by Nara City, and areas E – H are covered by City Seibi-Kosha & Co. Ltd. or Takeda Environment Co. Ltd. and Yamato Seiso JV. The garbage collection dates may be different in some areas.

Please see Nara City website.

Inquiries: Shushu-Ka (Collection Section) Tel. 0742-71-3012
City Seibi-Kosha (Public Corp.) Tel. 0742-33-8782
Takeda Environment Co. Ltd. and Yamato Seiso JV Tel. 0742-63-2552

The Road Traffic Act Was Partially Revised on November 1th

1. Driving and abetting a bicycle under the influence of alcohol

Imprisonment of up to 3 years or a fine of up to 500,000 yen both the violator and the bicycle provider.

Those who provide alcohol and passengers are subject to imprisonment of up to 2 years or a fine of up to 300,000 yen.

2. Using a smartphone while riding a bicycle

Violators are subject to imprisonment of up to 6 months or a fine of up to 100,000 yen.

If violators create a danger, they are subject to imprisonment of up to 1 year or a fine of up to 300,000 yen.

*Not applicable while parked

Inquiries: Kikikanri-Ka (Crisis Management Section) Tel. 0742-34-4930

Vaccination Notices

Japanese encephalitis vaccinations to start (for those born in December 2021)

**Preliminary Examination Leaflets for Vaccinations Were Sent
in Late November to Those Born in October 2024**

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

Medical Checkups for Babies & Children

Checkup Name (Eligibility)	Date	Place
4-month-old Babies Checkup (Born in September 2024)	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 March 2024)	From 10-month birthday until the day before turning 11 months old.	
19-month-old Babies Checkup (Born in May 2023)	January 9, 16, 23, 30 (Thurs.) Date and time are indicated on the questionnaire.	Chuo Hoken Center (Central Health Center) (Hagukumi Center 2F)
3-1/2-year-old Children's Checkup (Born in June 2021)	January 14, 21, 28 (Tues.) Date and time are indicated on the questionnaire.	

Things to bring: The questionnaire and *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*. The questionnaire will be sent in the middle of December. People who moved to Nara City after December 1 and have not received the questionnaire 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

Workshops for Pregnant Women, Parents & Babies and Dental Checkups

Ha-Pika Class for One-Year-Old Babies (Tooth Decay Prevention Class)

Date & Time: December 17 (Tues.) 10:00-11:00

Place: Hagukumi Center 2F

Capacity: 24 pairs of a first-born child born in December 2023* and their guardian. (* Children born between September and December 2023 and their guardian may also participate)

Things to bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook* and the currently used toothbrush or some gauze for wiping the baby's mouth

Deadline for application: December 12 (Thurs.)

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

Date & Time: December 18 (Wed.) 10:00-11:15

Place: Hagukumi Center 2F

Capacity: 32 pairs of a first-born child born in July 2024, and his or her guardian

Things to bring: *Mother's and Child's Health Handbook*, the baby food leaflet, and so on.

Deadline for application: December 13 (Fri.)

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

Date & Time: December 19 (Thurs.) 9:30-11:30

Place: Hagukumi Center 2F

Capacity: 28 pregnant women between 16 and 32 weeks of gestation on the day

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

Deadline for application: December 12 (Thurs.)

Fluoride Coating for Tooth Decay Prevention for Children Born in December 2022

Date & Time: December 20 (Fri.) 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00 (30 minutes each)

Place: Central Health Center

Capacity: 25 babies each time

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

Deadline for application: December 17 (Tues.)

Papa & Mama Salon

Date & Time: January 17 (Fri.) 9:30-12:00

Place: Hagukumi Center 2F

Capacity: 16 pairs of a first-time pregnant woman between 22 and 32 weeks of gestation on the day and her partner. (Only pregnant women can participate.)

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

Deadline for application: January 10 (Fri.)

Application: Call Boshi-Hoken-Ka (Mother & Child Health Section) by each deadline. Tel. 0742-34-1978

Foster Parent Briefing Session

Date & Time: December 20 (Fri.) 10:00

Place: Hagukumi Center 1F

Capacity: 20 people

Application: Call Foster Parent Center or apply by an exclusive form. Tel. 0743-85-5567

Inquiries: Kodomo-Shien-Ka (Children Support Section) Tel. 0742-93-6595

Maternal and Infant Health Care Consultation

Hagukumi Center 3F

Consultations by phone or face to face (with public health nurses or midwives)

*** Appointment required**

Date & Time: 8:30-17:15 on weekdays (9:00-16:00 on weekdays with midwives)

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

Tsuge Hoken Center

Consultations by phone or face to face (with public health nurses or nutritionists)

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

Traveling consultations with public health nurses

Date & Time	Place
Dec. 12 (Thurs.) 9:30-11:00	Yagyū Kodomo-En (Yagyū Shimo-cho)

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

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

Tsukigase Health Consultation Room

Consultations by phone or face to face (with public health nurses)

*** Appointment required.**

Date & Time: 9:00 - 16:30 on weekdays

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

Cancer Examinations (January)

Please apply to Kenko-Zoshin-Ka (Health Care Section) by phone, or fax, or on the Nara 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: December 2 (Mon.) - 20 (Fri.)

* January and February are relatively free for applications.

Stomach and Lung Cancer Examinations

Date	Reception Time	Place	Capacity
Jan. 8 (Wed.)	9:45 - 10:15	Seibu Toshokan (Library)	10 each
Jan. 24 (Fri.)	10:15 - 10:45		
Jan. 9 (Thurs.)	9:15 - 10:15	Tomio-Minami Kominkan	27
Jan. 10 (Fri.) Jan. 17 (Fri.) Jan. 30 (Thurs.)	8:45 - 9:45	Hagukumi Center	33 each
Jan. 14 (Tue.)	9:15 - 10:15	Seibu Shogai Sports Center Club House	27
Jan. 15 (Wed.)	9:15 - 10:15	Co-op Oshikuma	27
Jan. 16 (Thurs.)	9:15 - 10:15	Eastern Fureai Kaikan	27
Jan. 20 (Mon.)	9:15 - 9:45 9:45 - 10:15	Hokubu Shutchosho	10 each
Jan. 22 (Wed.)	9:15-10:15	Tomio Kominkan	27

Lung Cancer Examination

Date	Reception Time	Place	Capacity
Jan. 14 (Tue.)	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: People over 40 years old

The following people are excluded;

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 or the previous fiscal year
(stomach cancer examination is possible);

and those who had a lung cancer low dose CT scan by Nara City in this fiscal year.

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, please click here.

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Hello, Visiting Babies (under four months old)

For those who are worried about rearing babies

(a midwife or a public health nurse will visit your home)

Those eligible: Those who want to consult about breast-feeding or those whose baby's birth weight was under 2,500g

Application: Apply to Boshi-Hoken-Ka (Mother and Child Health Section) by phone (Tel. 0742-34-1978).

A dedicated application form is also available.

For those who have no particular worries

A city-commissioned counselor will call you and visit your home

Inquiries: Kosodate-Sodan-Ka (Child Consultation Section) Tel. 0742-34-4804

Upcoming Events

Nara City Traffic Safety Mothers' Association Christmas Charity Concert

Date & Time: Dec. 10 (Tues.) 12:00-13:00

Place: Entrance Hall, 1st floor of City Hall

Performance: Hapifuru

Inquiries: Kiki-Kanri-Ka (Crisis Management Section) Tel. 0742-34-4930

Tableware Reuse Event

Date & Time: Dec. 14 (Sat.), 15 (Sun.) 10:00-16:00

Place: Roadside Station "Crossway Nakamachi"

Others: Wooden and plastic tableware, lacquerware, and earthenware pots are not accepted.

Inquiries: Haikibutsu-Taisaku-Ka (Waste Management Section) Tel. 0742-71-3001

Hagukumi Christmas Concert

Date & Time: Dec. 25 (Wed.) 12:20-12:50

Place: Hagukumi Center, 1st floor

Performance: Nara IMEC Ensemble

Inquiries: Hagukumi Center Management Office Tel. 0742-34-2303

Shiryo Hozon Kan (Historical Materials Preservation House)

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

Time Travel in Naramachi: Red Northern Lights Seen from Naramachi!

Date & Time: Dec. 14 (Sat.) 14:00-16:00

Place: Naramachi Nigiwai-no-Ie (Nakanoshin'ya-cho)

Special Exhibition "Naramachi-Saijiki (Annual Events): New Year's Event in Naramachi, "Kasugakou"

Date: Dec. 24 (Tues.) through Jan. 26 (Sun.) *

Special Exhibition of the Museum Collections: *Hikifuda* (Japanese Old Advertising Flyers)

Date: Dec. 24 (Tues.) through Jan. 26 (Sun.) *

* Closed: Mondays (except holidays), Dec. 29 (Sun.) – Jan. 3 (Fri.), January 14 (Tues.)

Nara Art Space “Christmas wreath collections by *Sharara Circus*”

Date & Time: December 16 (Mon.) - 19 (Thurs.) 10:00-16:00

Place: Entrance Hall of Nara City Hall 1F

Inquiries: Bunka-Shinko-Ka (Cultural Promotion Section) Tel. 0742-34-4942

City Hall *Fureai* Concert

Date & Time: December 20 (Fri.) 12:20-12:50

Place: Entrance Hall of Nara City Hall 1F

Performers: Performance by Tsugaru-Shamisen (a three-stringed musical instrument) *Yamabiko*,

Inquiries: Bunka-Shinko-Ka (Cultural Promotion Section) Tel. 0742-34-4942

Irie Taikichi Memorial Nara City Museum of Photography

600-1 Takabatake-cho 630-8301 Tel. 0742-22-9811

Irie Taikichi Photo Exhibition: “Nara in the 1960s”

Date: December 7 (Sat.) - January 26 (Sun.)

Nara National University Organization: Accelerating Vision “Ah cubed”

Date: December 7 (Sat.) - January 26 (Sun.)

Fee: 100 yen for elementary and junior high school students

200 yen for high school and college students

500 yen for adults

Free admission for elementary, junior high and high school students every Saturday

Free admission for persons 70 years old and over, physically challenged persons (certificate required) and their caregivers.

Nara City Museum of Calligraphy in Honor of Kason Sugioka

3 Wakido-cho 630-8337 Tel. 0742-24-4111

Brush Writing Experience Corner

Date & Time: December 21 (Sat) - 25 (Wed.) 9:00-17:00

“Calligraphy and Painting in the Edo Period: The Work of Copying1” Exhibition

Date: January 7 (Tues.) - February 24 (Holiday)

Fee: 300 yen for adults

240 yen for groups (20 people or more)

Free admission for persons 16 years old and under, high school students

Free admission for persons 70 years old and over, physically challenged persons (certificate required) and their caregivers living in Nara City.

Nara City Museum of Art (on the fifth floor of Mi-Nara)

3-1 Nijo-oji Minami 1-chome 630-8012 Tel. 0742-30-1510 Fax. 0742-35-7160

New Year Art Festival “City Children’s Art Exhibition”

Date & Time: Jan. 4 (Sat.) – 6 (Mon.), 10:00 – 17:30 (Last admission at 17:00)

*Closed at 13:00 on Jan.6 (Sat.)

Notification: The museum will be opened on Jan. 6 (Mon.), and closed on 7 (Tues.).

Naramachi Center

38 Higashi Terabayashi-cho 630-8362 Tel. 0742-27-1151

Entrance Concert

NHK’s Historical Epic Series “Hikaru-Kimi-e (The Tale of Genji)” Amethyst Concert

Date & Time: Dec. 14 (Sat.), 17:00-

Performers: Noriko Naruse (Piano), Yuki Fukui (Violin), Mizuho Sakisato (Viola), Miyuki Kitajima (Flute)

Special Concert

Date & Time: Dec. 15 (Sun.) 14:00-

Performers: Team Kawai [Setsuko Kawai (Piano), Noriko Maekawa (Marimba),
Taro Matsumoto (Shakuhachi / Bamboo flute)]

Christmas Handbell Concert

Date & Time: Dec. 24 (Tues.) 16:00-

Performers: Bell Quartet Artica, Mayuko Kisa

Nara Collective Group Exhibition “BOUNDARY” (Exhibition of works)

Date & Time: Dec. 14 (Sat.), 15 (Sun.) 11:00 – 17:00

Place: SPACE DEPARTMENT (Hiramatsu 1-chome)

Inquiries: Shigeko Soler (E-mail: spacedepartment.nara@gmail.com)



KOMINKAN

Nimyo Kominkan

3684, Gakuen Akamatsu-cho 631-0027 Tel. & Fax 0742-46-9113

Event Name	Date & Contents	Application
<i>Sawayaka Festival</i> 2024 (free entry)	Making emergency rations, serving pork miso soup, bazaar, etc. December 14 (Sat.) 10:00- 14:30 * There is a hands-on experience that requires a materials fee.	Not necessary

Heijo-Higashi Kominkan

9-1, Suzaku 6-chome 631-0806 Tel. & Fax. 0742-71-9677

Event Name	Date & Contents	Application
Christmas Fun for Parents and Children (free entry)	Concert and Christmas ornament making December 15 (Sun.) 13:30- 15:30 Those eligible: From kindergarten children to elementary school students, and their guardians	Not necessary

Mikasa Kominkan

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

Event Name	Date & Contents	Application
Let's make and play Christmas (free entry)	Making a paper cup Christmas tree, and crafts, etc. December 22 (Sun.) 10:00- 12:00 Those eligible: Elementary school students and their guardians Only elementary school students may participate. (Those who study in Nara City may also be admitted)	Not necessary

Wakakusa Kominkan

575, Kawakami-cho 630-8202 Tel. & Fax. 0742-26-0130

Event Name	Date & Contents	Application
On Your Lap (free entry)	Concert by "Four-leaf Clover" December 12 (Thurs.) 10:30- 11:30 Those eligible: Prekindergarten children and their guardians	Not necessary

Lifelong Learning Center

23, Surugamachi 630-8357 Tel. 0742-26-8811, Fax. 0742-26-8813

Event Name	Date & Contents	Application
Salon Concert (free entry)	* In the key of the flute Concert by "Flute Ensemble Utamahi" December 14 (Sat.) 14:00- 15:30 * Herman Herb Trio Concert by "Amore ♪ ♪ ♪" December 21 (Sat.) 14:00- 15:00	Not necessary

Seibu Kominkan

1-5, Gakuen-minami 3-chome 631-0034 Tel. 0742-44-0101 Fax. 0742-44-0103

Event Name	Date & Contents	Application
Volunteer Group Activity Experiences and Exchanges	Experience Junior Table Tennis December 14 (Sat.) 18:00- 20:00 Those eligible: Elementary school and junior high school students	Not necessary
Seibu Children's Film Festival (free entry)	Picture-story reading and piano performance Movie screening "Sumikko Gurashi Aoi Tsuki-yo no Mahou-no-ko" December 21 (Sat.) 13:30- 15:30 Those eligible: From one-year-old children to elementary school students, and their guardians	

For Future Fire Fighters

Let's Play and Learn about Fire Fighting at Kono-ike

Date & Time: December 15 (Sun.) 13:00-15:00 (Cancelled in case of rain)_

*If cancelled, it will be posted on official X of City Fire Department.

Place: Rohto Field (Horen Sahoyama 4 cho-me)

Programs

You can be a firefighter! Please wear a fireproof clothing, and try rope-bridge and hose extension.

You can get on a ladder truck! Reservation is needed in advance.

*If ladder trucks are dispatched, they can't be displayed.



For reservation ⇒



Disaster Prevention Experience

You can try to use "Water Fire Extinguisher" and you can experience simulated earthquake, and smoke- evacuation. You can also learn how to do first aid and how to use an AED.

Stamp Rally (Collection stamps on a card) only for elementary school children.

Elementary school children will be given a sweet- bag if they collect stamps prepared in each event corner.

Sweet *pon gashi* (puffy rice kernel) bags are prepared for children who answer the survey.

Inquiries: General Affairs Section in Nara City Fire Department

Tel. 0742-35-1199

For details ⇒



The event "Eco- Kids, Come and study together!" at Naramachi Center

Date & Time: December 14 (Sat.) 11:00- 15:00

Place: Naramachi Center (Higashi Terabayashi-Cho)

Programs

- Exhibition of works for "Eco-Contest"
- Exhibition of crafts, using reused materials or natural material
- Let's study with fun about ecology and nature!
- Let's try to generate electricity by bicycle!
- Reuse – corner: Please bring in picture books you have finished reading.
- Food Drive (only on the day): Please bring in foods left unused at your home for donation.

Foods of unopened and more than one month until expiration date.

Foods that can be stored at room temperature.

Alcoholic beverages are not accepted.

Inquiries: Association of "Stop Global Warming" in Nara Tel.0742-49-6730

e-mail: otoiawase@naso.jp

For details ⇒



Education Center Kids Learning Floor

Class Name	Date & Time		Application Deadline
Planetarium: "Nijiro and Seasonal Constellations -The Story of Gemini-" Capacity: 40 seats each time	Dec. 1 (Sun.), 7 (Sat.), 8 (Sun.), 14 (Sat.), 21 (Sat.), 22 (Sun.) * Only (1) 10:30-10:50 on 14 (Sat.)	(1) 10:30-10:50 (2) 13:30-14:00	On the day
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.)	Dec. 20 (Fri.)	18:30-19:10	
Petit-Petit Craft Class: "Let's Make a New Year's Card with Kissho Stamps!" Capacity: 12 children each time	Dec. 21 (Sat.)	(1) 10:00-10:20 (2) 11:00-11:20 (3) 14:10-14:30	
Movie Screening: "Manga World Folktales: The Ant and the Grasshopper / The Pheasant Who Rang the Bell / The Gift of Christmas / The Traveler Who Became a Donkey" Capacity: 200 seats each	Dec. 25 (Wed.)	(1) 11:00-12:00 (2) 13:00-14:00	No need for application
Movie Screening: "Manga World Folktales: The Seven Stars / William Tell / The Twelve Months / The Tablecloth The North Wind Gave Me" Capacity: 200 seats each	Dec. 26 (Thurs.)	(1) 11:00-12:00 (2) 13:00-14:00	
Craft Experience Class: "Let's Draw with Sumi Ink and Pigments!" Capacity: 15 children each time (age 5 and over)	Jan. 12 (Sun.)	(1) 10:00-11:00 (2) 13:30-14:30	Dec. 16 (Mon.)
Science Experiment Class: "Let's Make a Kaleidoscope with a Polyethylene Pipe -Thinking Class for Disaster Prevention" Capacity: 18 students each time (1 st graders and over)	Jan. 13 (Holiday)	(1) 9:30-10:30 (2) 11:00-12:00	
Space Science Class: "Let's Build an ALMA Telescope!" Capacity: 18 students (1 st graders and over)	Jan. 18 (Sat.)	10:00-11:30	Dec. 23 (Mon.)
Science Experiment Class: "Miracle! Science! -Floating and sinking, how floaters work-" Capacity: 15 children each time (age 5 and over)	Jan. 25 (Sat.)	(1) 11:00-11:40 (2) 14:20-15:00	Jan. 6 (Mon.)

Place: Hagukumi Center 9th floor

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



Nara City Website

Others: Participants must be accompanied by guardians. Registration on the day starts 15 minutes prior to the start of the class and will be closed when capacity is reached. In addition to the above, other courses may also be held. The planetarium is available for group use (an application is required). The Center will be closed from Dec. 28 (Sat.) to Jan. 6 (Mon.). For the latest information, please check the Nara City website or contact us directly.

Inquiries: Kyouiku-Shien-Soudan-Ka (Education Support and Consultation Section) Tel. 0742-36-0401

About Deer in Nara Park

Deer in Nara are wild animals that have inhabited the area for more than 1300 years. The history of the wild deer's coexistence with humans has been evaluated, and the deer have been designated as a national natural monument.

Be cautious when you are near deer

Take good care of deer: The deer are a national natural monument. Don't hit or chase them.

* Can be penalized by law

Watch out for injuries: As deer are wild animals, they may rush forward to strike with their antlers. Don't touch them carelessly or let children approach them alone. In addition, in the spring, the female deer after giving birth are nervous about protecting their fawns. In autumn, the male deer become aggressive and may attack people due to the mating season.

Pay attention to your belongings: Deer may eat your belongings such as plastic bags, maps, and pamphlets in your hands. Please be careful because deer antlers may catch hold of your bag, etc.

Inquiries: Kanko-Senryaku-Ka Tel. 0742-34-5135

On-Matsuri Festival of Kasuga Wakamiya Shrine

The *On-Matsuri* Festival is a festival of Wakamiya Shrine, which is inside Kasuga Taisha Shrine. This is a representative festival of Nara: starting with *Owatari shiki*, many Shinto rites and events are held, and many people visit Nara to see it. The origin of the festival dates back to 1136. Since then, the festival has been held every year without interruption. It will be held for the 889th time this year. The *On-Matsuri* Festival's ritual entertainments are designated as an Important Intangible Folk Cultural Heritage as part of traditional Japanese culture and customs handed down from the past.

Date	Events
Dec. 15 (Sun.)	14:30- <i>Miyutate</i> (Special purification ritual for participants) 17:00 <i>Oh-shukusho-sai</i>
Dec. 17 (Tues)	0:00 <i>Senko-no-gi</i> 1:00 <i>Akatsuki-sai</i> 11:30 <i>Tameshi-no-gi</i> (Ritual for trial) 12:00 <i>Owatari-shiki</i> 12:50 <i>Nandaimon-Komyo-no-gi</i> (Performance modeling the confirmation of a proper procession) 13:00 <i>Matsu-no-shita-shiki</i> (Traditional performing arts performed under a divine pine tree) 13:00 <i>Kurabe-uma</i> (Two-horse races) 14:30 <i>Chigo-yabusame</i> (Horseback archery by children) 14:30 <i>Otabisho-sai</i> 23:00 <i>Kanko-no-gi</i>
Dec. 18 (Wed.)	13:00 <i>Hono-zumo</i> (Dedicatory sumo wrestling) 14:00 <i>Goen-noh</i> (post-festival <i>noh</i> performance)



* The rituals of *Senko-no-gi* and *Kanko-no-gi* are performed in complete darkness without any light. No photography is allowed.

* Rituals, events, and the schedule may be partially changed.

Oh-shukusho-sai: *Oh-shukusho* is the place where *Yamato zamurai*, who are dedicated to the festival, lived in seclusion and prayed in rituals for the successful completion of the festival.

Senko-no-gi/Akatsuki-sai: At midnight on Dec. 17 (Sun.), the soul of the god travels from Wakamiya Shrine in Kasuga Taisha Shrine to the *Otabi-sho* temporary shrine. In darkness, *gagaku* is played. With torches and incense in front, the procession along the approach feels otherworldly. Arriving at *Otabisho*, *Akatsukisai* begins, offering the morning food while mediums dance *kagura*.

Owatari-shiki: The parade is full of traditional costumes and customs from the Heian era to the Edo era. The groups perform various entertainments dedicated to the god in front of “*Yogou no matsu*” (beyond the first *Torii*) and then go ahead to *Otabisho*.

Otabisho-sai: On Dec. 17 (Sun.) from 14:30 to around 22:30 on the stage in the *Otabisho* site, *Kagura*, *Dengaku*, *Sarugaku* and *Bugaku* are performed one after another. These arts came to Japan through the Silk Road and then matured as traditional arts.

Kanko-no-gi: After finishing *Otabisho sai*, by midnight on Dec. 18 (Mon.), the god's soul again returns to Wakamiya Shrine.

Inquiries about On-Matsuri Festival: *On-Matsuri* Preservation Society (c/o Kasuga Taisha Shrine):
Tel. 0742-22-7788

Tobu *Kogen* (Eastern Highlands Area) Marché 2024

Nara City *Satoyama* (countryside) fresh ingredients

In the eastern part of Nara City, where the *satoyama* (countryside) is rich, there are farm stands that sell fresh local produce.

This Marché will be held at Hokubu Kaikan(Ukyo 1-chome).

Fresh produce and processed products from the east will be sold.

Please come to the Marché where you can find seasonal agricultural products and local specialties.

Date	Marché
Dec. 12 (Thurs.)	Tsukigase Onsen Fureai Market
Dec. 13 (Fri.)	<i>Tsuge-no-hatake</i> Kogenya
Dec. 19 (Thurs.)	Tawara-Yamazato Market
Dec. 20 (Fri.)	Sakahara Market Cosmos

Time: 10:00-2:00

What has been scheduled will go on, rain or shine, except in case of stormy weather.

* Closing time may vary depending on sales.

Inquiries: City Hall Branch Office Tel. 0742-93-0001

Check here for further details →

