

NAGAOKA



NAGAOKA-HANABI

(Fireworks)

Nagaoka Fireworks Spread Our Messages of Peace to the World

The Fireworks Display of the Nagaoka Festival is unique and the only one of its kind in Japan because the fireworks are launched in expression of our condolences to the war victims and our prayers for the pursuit of peace. Approximately 20,000 fireworks shells are launched against the backdrop of the Shinano River, the longest river in Japan.

THE FLAME-SHAPED POT



The 5,000-year-old history of the Flame-Shaped Pot represents Japan's Heritage. Its energetic and formative beauty charms numerous people around the world.

This ancient pot unearthed at the Umataka Historic Site in Nagaoka is exclusively named the Flame-Shaped Pot.

The projections at the top of the pot are very reminiscent of tongues of flames, which lead us into the world of the Jōmon Culture that flourished along the Shinano River almost 5,000 years ago.

The Flame-Shaped Pot and other flame-style pottery were designated as a Japanese Heritage in April 2016.

NISHIKI-GOI

(Multi-Colored Ornamental Carp)



The City of Nagaoka is known as the birthplace of Nishikigoi. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries certified Nagaoka's Nishikigoi breeding industry as one of Japan's Important Agricultural Systems.

Symbolizing a safe recovery from the damage caused by the 2004 Great Chuetsu Earthquake, Nishikigoi was designated as the city fish on October 23rd, 2014. The city's former 20 Village Community, including present-day Yamakoshi and Kawaguchi, is the birthplace of Nishikigoi. Their history dates back to over 200 years ago. Through the research and development of breeding techniques over the years, an extensive array of nearly 100 different kinds of Nishikigoi has been produced.



Nagaoka City is a host town of the Dolphins, the Australian Swim Team, for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.



I am extremely happy that Swimming Australia Limited and the City of Nagaoka signed the Deed of Cooperation regarding training camps in Nagaoka for Australian swimming teams in preparation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest gratitude to the many people involved for their great effort to complete this agreement.

The Japanese government has officially registered our cooperation project with Australian swimming teams into its Host Town Project for the 2020 Olympics. Therefore, the City of Nagaoka is ready to give its full support to Australian swimming teams. All the citizens of Nagaoka are delighted to have the pleasure of welcoming the teams.

Up until the year 2020, Australian swimmers will occasionally stay to train in Nagaoka in preparation for four international championships. It will be an immeasurably precious opportunity for the citizens of Nagaoka to closely watch world-class swimmers' performances and cheer them on as if they were part of our families.

In commemoration of the 2020 event, we are trying to further develop the City of Nagaoka through promoting various sport programs. This endeavor will allow the people of Nagaoka to witness world-class sport performances, which in turn will help children, who are carrying our hopes for the future, to dream and aim higher. This will also push our citizens to improve their skills in sports and encourage cross-cultural communication. All of which will lead to our ultimate goal of the prosperity of Nagaoka.

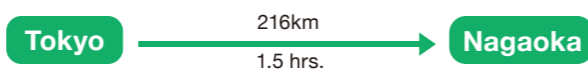
We are determined to firmly commit ourselves to our important role of host for Australian swimmers in the hopes that they achieve successful results and that the 2020 Olympics will also remain deep in the hearts of Nagaokans as a fond unforgettable memory.

Tatsunobu Isoda
Tatsunobu Isoda
Mayor
The City of Nagaoka

a world map to NAGAOKA



Expressways (all times are approximate)



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Interactions between the Australian National Swimming Team and the City of Nagaoka

2016 May 24

General Manager Wayne Lomas and Head Coach Jacco Verhaeren, representatives of Swimming Australia Limited (Dolphin, the Australian National Swimming Team) visited Nagaoka and had an inspection tour of the city's facilities.

August 3

The City of Nagaoka invited Minister Clare Walsh (Deputy Head of Mission of the Australian Embassy) to Nagaoka for the Nagaoka Festival Grand Fireworks Show.

November 11

The city received a letter from Mr. Chris Forbes (Chief Commercial Officer of Swimming Australia Limited), stating that they would like to conduct training camps in Nagaoka City.

2017 March 28

Mr. Mark Anderson (CEO of Swimming Australia Limited) and Mr. Chris Forbes (Chief Commercial Officer of Swimming Australia Limited) visited Nagaoka and signed the Deed of Cooperation regarding training camps for the Australian National Swimming Team.

May 15-18

The City of Nagaoka welcomed the Australia Queensland State Swimming Team (consisting of 22 members) for their training camp in preparation for the 2017 Japan Open, which was held at Tokyo Tatsumi International Swimming Pool from May 19 to 21.

August 3

Ambassador Richard Court from the Australian Embassy in Japan visited Nagaoka and had a tour of the city's swimming facilities.

October 15

The city invited six swimmers from the Australian National Swimming Team to the Niigata Prefecture Sprint Championship, which was hosted by the Niigata Prefecture Swimming Federation and held at Dai-ichi Probiis Phoenix Pool.

November 8-12

The City of Nagaoka welcomed 12 members from the Australian National Swimming Team for their training camp in preparation for the FINA World Cup in Tokyo.

November 19-24

The City of Nagaoka sent the Nagaoka City Delegation to Australia. The delegates paid courtesy visits to representatives of Swimming Australia Limited and some Japanese associated organizations stationed in Australia. The delegates also had a tour of swimming facilities in Australia.

Training Camps Ensured by the Deed of Cooperation signed between Swimming Australia Limited and the City of Nagaoka

2018 July 25 – August 5

The City of Nagaoka will welcome members from the Australian National Swimming Team for their training camp in preparation for the Pan Pacific Championships to be held at the Tokyo Tatsumi International Swimming Pool from August 9 to 13.

2019 July 6-17

The City of Nagaoka will welcome members from the Australian National Swimming Team for their training camp in preparation for the FINA World Championships to be held in Korea from July 21 to 28.

2020 July 8-20

The City of Nagaoka will welcome members from the Australian National Swimming Team for their training camp in preparation for the Tokyo Olympic Games to be held from July 24 to August 9.

August 8-20

The City of Nagaoka will welcome members from the Australian National Swimming Team for their training camp in preparation for the Tokyo Paralympic Games from August 8 to 20.



May 24, 2016



March 28, 2017



May 17, 2017



October 14, 2017



November 22, 2017



We look forward to seeing you in Nagaoka!



Mai Nakamura
Nagaoka City Sport Goodwill Ambassador

(2000 Sydney Olympics 100-meter backstroke silver medalist, 400-meter medley relay bronze medalist)

I am extremely grateful to the Australian National Swimming Team for choosing the City of Nagaoka as their training camp base in preparation for the four international championships scheduled prior to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games and Paralympic Games. My special and sincerest thanks go to all the associated people who have provided this most precious opportunity for children of Nagaoka to get up close and personal with the performance of world-class swimmers.

For me, Australia is a country filled with pleasant memories and glowing love. In 1998, I won my first international competition medal in Perth and two medals in the 2000 Sydney Olympics. I also participated in the 2007 FINA World Cup in Melbourne, which was my final competition as an athlete for the Japanese National Team.

I would be most happy if our interaction with the Australian National Swimming Team opens the door for more Olympic medalists from my hometown Nagaoka to be born, following in my footsteps.

I will work hard and do my best to support various athletic programs in this respect, in the hopes that the bonds of friendship between Australia and Nagaoka, as well as between our two nations, be further promoted.

I sincerely wish the Australian National Swimming Team success in their continuing endeavors. I also wish for the success of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.