



Vol. 314  
July  
2017

Konnichiwa!

# NAGAOKA

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地球広場 (International Affairs Center) → Konnichiwa Nagaoka



## A Dream-Like World of Candles

On Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, nearly 10,000 candles shed a soft glow around the Seibei Nakagawa Memorial Barbecue Beer Garden tent set up at Tachibana Park in the Yoita District. Locals organized this brilliant event with candle-lights and flowers made of wood shavings, drawing over 3,000 visitors. Yoita is the birthplace of Mr. Seibei Nakagawa, who is known as the father of Japanese beer and who promoted the basic technology of brewing beer in Japan. This barbecue and beer garden is open until Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> of this year.

For on-site updates of the Nagaoka Festival (Aug. 1 – 3), please register: [長岡市Facebook](#) & [Line@](#)

## Enjoy Various Swimming Pools at Echigo Kawaguchi Hot Spring Hotel Sun Rolla



From Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, visitors can enjoy seven different types of indoor swimming pools at Hotel Sun Rolla, including one with a 25-meter-long and 3.7-meter-high water slide and another with waves.

**Hotel Sun Rolla**  
2515-4 Kawaguchi Nakayama  
Phone: 0258-89-3000 <http://www.hotel-sunrolla.jp>

**Hours:** 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (swimming pools)  
**Fees for Swimming Pools and Onsen Hot Spring:**  
General - ¥1,400  
Elementary School Children - ¥1,000  
3-year olds - Pre-school aged children - ¥550  
Add on ¥600 for a meal  
**Closed:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays



Population and Households  
As of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
(compared to the previous month)

|                   |                  |                  |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                   |                  |                  |                  |
| 273,881<br>(-125) | 133,699<br>(-35) | 140,182<br>(-90) | 106,321<br>(+63) |

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# The 2017 Nagaoka Festival

## Tuesday, August 1

**Nagaoka City Peace Prayer Ceremony: 9:00 a.m.**  
Aôre Nagaoka

**Nagaoka Peace Forum: 2:00 p.m.**  
Aôre Nagaoka

**Zenyasai (the celebration on the first night)**  
**6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

Ote Street, Suzuran Street, Central Street, and Aôre Nagaoka

**1<sup>st</sup> Program 6:00 p.m. – 6:10 p.m.**

- Harley-Davidson

**2<sup>nd</sup> Program 6:10 p.m. – 6:55 p.m.**

- Taiko Drumming
- Parade
- Mini-Live
- Baton Twirling



**3<sup>rd</sup> Program 6:55 p.m. – 7:25 p.m.**

- Parade
- Harley-Davidson
- Fire Department Band

**4<sup>th</sup> Program 7:25 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.**

- *Dai Minyô Nagashi* (Grand Folk Dance Parade)  
Everyone is welcome to join *dai minyô nagashi*.  
Just come and join us.

**5<sup>th</sup> Program 8:50 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**

- *Mikoshi* (portable shrines)
- *Ohayashi* (festival music bands)
- Taiko Drumming



**Tôrô Nagashi (Releasing Memorial Paper Lanterns):**  
**7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

On the Kaki River from Oimawashi Bridge to Ichinohashi Bridge



**White Chrysanthemum Fireworks in Memory of the Nagaoka Air-Raid Victims: 10:30 p.m.**



## Wednesday, August 2

**Fureai Friendship Plaza**

**Daytime Programs**

**11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Ote Street, Suzuran Street, and Central Street

**11:30 a.m. – 4:10 p.m. Aôre Nagaoka**

- Parade
- Fire Department Band 11:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
- Summer Music Festival 11:45 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.
- Many shows, fun programs, and food stalls 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m./4:10 p.m.  
Ote Street intersection, in front of Carnation Plaza, and *Nakadoma* (roofed open plaza) in Aôre Nagaoka, City Hall Complex



**Ôhanabi Taikai (Grand Fireworks Show)**  
**7:20 p.m. – 9:10 p.m.**

On the Shinano Riverbanks between Chosei Bridge and Ote Ohashi Bridge

## Thursday, August 3

**Wampaku Omatsuri Hiroba (Romping Kids' Festival Plaza)**

**Daytime Programs**

**11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Ote Street, Suzuran Street, and Central Street  
Aôre Nagaoka

- Many shows, fun programs, and food stalls
- Flea Market 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Suzuran Street Area

Fee: ¥500/3m x1.8m

Registration: By July 28 (Fri.)

Ote Dôri Shôten Gai Shinkô-Kumiai Jimukyoku  
(Ote St. Shopping Mall Office)

Phone: 0258-34-5373

(9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m./weekdays)



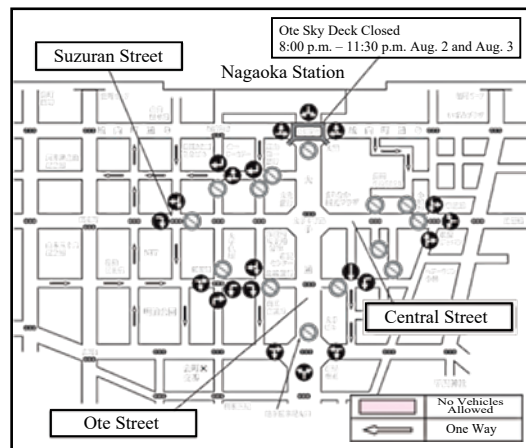
**Ôhanabi Taikai (Grand Fireworks Show)**  
**7:20 p.m. – 9:10 p.m.**

On the Shinano Riverbanks between Chosei Bridge and Ote Ohashi Bridge



## Traffic Restriction Hours during the Zenyasai Celebration and Daytime Programs

Aug. 1 (Tuesday) 5:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.  
Aug. 2 (Wednesday) 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Aug. 3 (Thursday) 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



## The Origin of the Nagaoka Festival

The people of Nagaoka celebrate the Nagaoka Festival annually in August with a festive mood. However, its origin goes back to the memory of a sad incident on a miserable summer night, which has been deeply inscribed in the history of Nagaoka.

On August 1, 1945, B29 bombers dropped a massive amount of incendiary shells over Nagaoka, which immediately turned Nagaoka into a deluge of fire. Starting at 10:30 p.m., the air raid lasted until 12:10 a.m. of August 2. The bombing burned down nearly 80% of the downtown area and claimed 1,486 lives (confirmed as of August 1, 2016).

With indescribable sorrow and anger, the people of Nagaoka trembled and shuddered at the nightmarish sight of misery

extending throughout the town.

Expressing our condolences to the air raid victims and symbolizing the sad day as a significant day for restoration, the City of Nagaoka held the Nagaoka Restoration Festival on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1946, one year after the bombing. The annual Nagaoka Festival has its origin in this 1946 restoration festival. This festival helped comfort the hearts of the war-affected citizens of Nagaoka and encouraged them to restore the war-devastated city by working together with all their indomitable spirit and strength.

In order to convey this history to future generations, the Nagaoka Festival is held annually on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>.



## Special Features of the Nagaoka Fireworks



A total of 20,000 fireworks shells are launched during the two nights of the Nagaoka Festival Grand Fireworks Show. The dynamic event is held against the backdrop of the Shinano River, the longest river in Japan. The most spectacular and magnificent fireworks color the summer night sky of Nagaoka.

### • *Shô-Sanjakudama* (3-foot-diameter shell fireworks) and Niagara Falls

The highlight of the Nagaoka Festival Grand Fireworks Show is the renowned *Shô-Sanjakudama*, which are simultaneously launched with a set of fireworks called Niagara Falls. These fireworks magnificently illuminate the fireworks viewing sites all around the riverbanks. In the image of the true Niagara Falls, the 650-meter-long dynamic fireworks display vigorously flows down into the river, creating a mystical glowing world in a matter of seconds after ignition. Both fireworks, shown exclusively in Nagaoka, are the embodiment of the most sophisticated skills of local pyrotechnicians.

### • Phoenix Fireworks Wishing for a Complete Recovery

Phoenix Fireworks were born in 2005, one year after the Great Chuetsu Earthquake hit. Since then, the fireworks have been launched annually in order to encourage many people in the Chuetsu Region as well as in other areas in Niigata Prefecture to move forward despite the hardships we experienced during the disaster.

### • *Ten Chi Jin* Fireworks

*Ten Chi Jin*, a long-running period TV drama, was broadcast in 2009. These brilliant and spectacular fireworks are accompanied by the magnificent sounds of the theme music from the drama, which depicted the deep affection that Kanetsugu Naoe had for the people. Kanetsugu Naoe was a *samurai* warrior from the civil strife era who had a special connection to old Nagaoka.

### • “*Kono Sora no Hana* (The Flower of This Sky), the Story of Nagaoka Fireworks”

These fireworks have been displayed in commemoration of a film entitled “*Kono Sora no Hana*,” which was created by Mr. Nobuhiko Obayashi, a film director in 2012. The fireworks are displayed annually along with the hopes of Mr. Kiyoshi Yamashita, an artist, who said, “If we could convert all the bombs of the world to fireworks and launch them, there would be no wars.”

### • “*Furusato Wa Hitotsu* (The Earth, Our Only Hometown)”

In 2014 Mr. Ryudo Uzaki, a musician, and Ms. Yoko Aki, a lyricist, created a song to express Nagaokans’ thoughts. The song is entitled, “*Furusato Wa Hitotsu*.” We have only one hometown, the earth.

### • Super Grand Wide Star Mine Fireworks

Star mine fireworks in five different colors are launched simultaneously from five locations in a row. A dynamic pageant is presented with a brilliant glow of lights in crimson, blue, yellow, green, and purple along with the echoing sounds from each roaring mine.

### • Super Grand Miracle Star Mine Fireworks

In 1998, a new type of highly elaborate fireworks were created. “Miracle Star Mine” was chosen from recommendations for the name by the general public. Being launched simultaneously from several locations, the three-dimensional Miracle Star Mine with a stereoscopic effect is one of the most well-known star mine fireworks of Nagaoka.

### • *Kome Hyappyô* (One Hundred Sacks of Rice) Fireworks

For this year’s fireworks show, this musical star mine will be displayed with a song entitled “Look upon the Sky” created by Ms. Chikako Sawada. She wanted this song to be sung to encourage and to convey the Spirit of One Hundred Sacks of Rice to the children, who are our hopes for the future. Ms. Sawada proposed that *Kome Hyappyô* Fireworks be shown accompanied by the Nagaoka Boys’ and Girls’ Choir as a new Nagaoka Fireworks version.

### • White Chrysanthemum Fireworks

The Nagaoka Festival has its origin in the Nagaoka Air Raid that started at 10:30 p.m. on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1945. At this memorial time every year, three shots of purely white fireworks named White Chrysanthemum Fireworks are shot up quietly in expression of our condolences to war victims, in appreciation of our predecessors who helped Nagaoka recover from the war devastation, and with our prayers for everlasting peace.



## Proper Manners at Fireworks Viewing Sites



In order to ensure the safety of fireworks viewing sites, spectators are required to obey the following rules:

- Each person’s space is limited to approximately 100 centimeters long by 80 centimeters wide. Refrain from reserving a larger space than you actually need. Do not use rocks or concrete blocks to hold down the edges of a sheet.
- Smoking is not allowed in fireworks viewing sites.
- Pets are not allowed.
- If you use a tripod, make sure that it is at an appropriate height that does not obstruct the view of other spectators.



- High heels are dangerous for walking on the grassy, sandy, and slanting turf of the riverbanks.
- Tables and chairs are not allowed because they may obstruct the view of other spectators.
- Decide on a meeting location with the people accompanying you so that no one gets lost.
- Small unmanned aircrafts including drones and radio-controlled helicopters are strictly prohibited at the fireworks viewing sites.



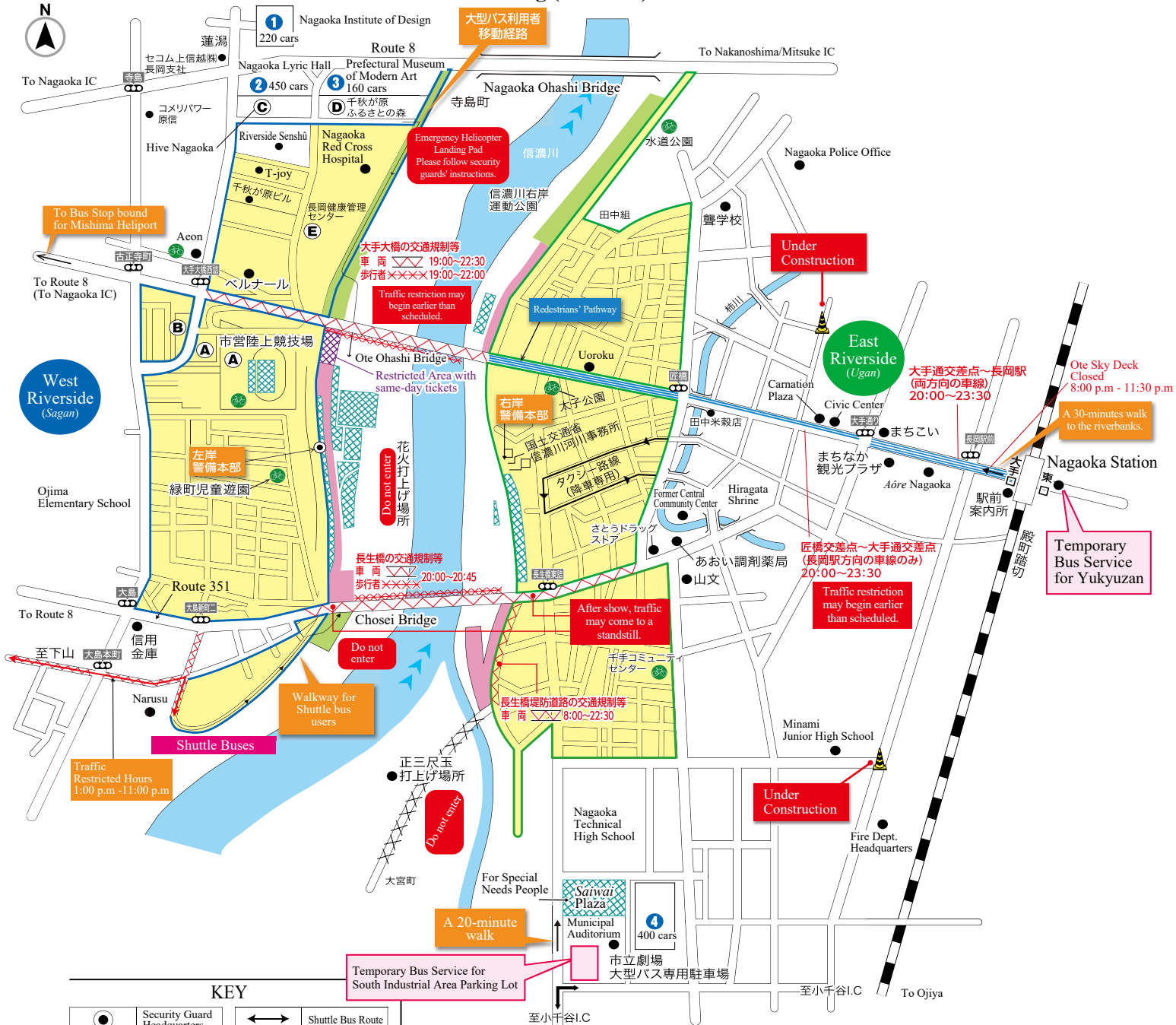
# Nagaoka Festival Grand Fireworks Viewing Sites and Traffic Restriction

## Traffic Restriction Hours:

Wednesday, August 2 and Thursday, August 3 5:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Parking is available at ① - ④ (¥2,000/car) (from 10:00 a.m.)

Bus Parking (reserved) at ⑤ - ⑥



### KEY

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  | Security Guard Headquarters                        |  | Shuttle Bus Route                           |
|  | Prepaid Areas with Reserved Sections               |  | Do Not Enter                                |
|  | Tickets available at the site on the days          |  | No Vehicles Allowed during Restricted Hours |
|  | Non-Prepaid Areas (open tentatively at 12:00 p.m.) |  | No Pedestrians                              |
|  | Free Areas   |  | One-Way                                     |
|  | Temporary Parking Lots (1)~(4) (¥2,000/car)        |  | Pedestrians only                            |
|  | Temporary Bicycle Parking Areas (free)             |  |   |

## Traffic Restriction on the Bridges (Aug. 2 and Aug. 3)

### Chosei Bridge

No Pedestrians 8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.  
No Vehicles 8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.

### Ote Ohashi Bridge

No Pedestrians 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
No Vehicles 7:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

# 2017 Fireworks Schedule <http://nagaokamatsuri.com>

**7:20 p.m. White Chrysanthemum Fireworks (Size 10, 3 shots)  
In Memory of War Victims and For the Pursuit of Peace in the World**

## Wednesday, August 2

1. 7:25 Niagara Falls & Super Grand Star Mine
2. :29 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
3. :32 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
4. :34 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
5. :37 Size 10 (30 shots)
6. :40 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
7. :42 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
8. :45 Size 10 and Size 20 (63 shots)
9. :47 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
10. :50 "Furusato Wa Hitotsu" Fireworks
11. :54 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
12. :56 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
13. :58 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
14. 8:00 Super Grand Wide Star Mine
15. :03 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
16. :06 Size 4,7,10 and 20 (25 shots)
17. :09 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
18. :12 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
19. :15 Phoenix Fireworks Wishing for Recovery
20. :22 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
21. :24 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
22. :27 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
23. :30 Niagara Falls
24. :30 Size 30, *Shō-Sanjakudama* (3-foot-diameter shell)  
3 shots in sequence
25. :34 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
26. :36 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
27. :38 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
28. :40 Super Grand Miracle Star Mine
29. :43 Size 10 (14 shots)
30. :45 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
31. :48 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
32. :50 *Ten Chi Jin* Fireworks
33. :54 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
34. :57 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
35. 9:00 Size 30, *Shō-Sanjakudama* (3-foot-diameter shell)
36. :02 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
37. :05 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
38. :07 *Kome Hyappyō* Fireworks  
1-foot-diameter shell (100 shots in sequence)
39. :10 *Takumi* (Artisan) Fireworks



## Thursday, August 3

1. 7:25 Niagara Falls & Super Grand Star Mine
2. :29 Size 10 (29 shots)
3. :32 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
4. :35 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
5. :37 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
6. :40 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
7. :43 Grand Star Mine
8. :45 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
9. :48 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
10. :50 "Furusato Wa Hitotsu" Fireworks
11. :54 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
12. :56 Size 10 (60 shots)
13. :58 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
14. 8:00 Super Grand Wide Star Mine
15. :03 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
16. :06 Size 10 (15 shots)
17. :09 Twin Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
18. :12 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
19. :15 Phoenix Fireworks Wishing for Recovery
20. :22 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
21. :24 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
22. :27 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
23. :30 Niagara Falls
24. :30 Size 30, *Shō-Sanjakudama* (3-foot-diameter shell)  
3 shots in sequence
25. :34 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
26. :36 Size 10 (24 shots)
27. :38 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
28. :40 Super Grand Miracle Star Mine
29. :43 Star Mine
30. :45 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
31. :48 Vesuvius Grand Star Mine
32. :50 "Kono Sora no Hana" Fireworks
33. :54 Size 7 and Size 10 (16 shots)
34. :57 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
35. 9:00 Size 30, *Shō-Sanjakudama* (3-foot-diameter shell)
36. :02 Vesuvius Super Grand Star Mine
37. :05 Star Mine
38. :07 *Kome Hyappyō* Fireworks,  
1-foot-diameter shell (100 shots in sequence)
39. :10 *Takumi* (Artisan) Fireworks



## Your Cooperation Is Most Appreciated!

- "Park and Ride" is recommended to reduce traffic jams during the Fireworks Show. Park your vehicle at a designated parking lot (e.g. Municipal Auditorium in Saiwai-cho, Echigo Hillside Park, Koshiji and Mishima Branch Offices, etc.) and use a shuttle bus service or a train to get to a fireworks viewing site.
- Park your bicycle at a designated free bicycle parking area. (See p. 4)
- The gates for *muryō seki* (non-prepaid areas) and for *yūryō seki* (prepaid areas) will open at 12:00 p.m. The gates may open earlier than these designated times depending on congestion.
- After 6:00 p.m., both prepaid and non-prepaid areas are very crowded, which can make them dangerous. It will take much longer to get to your seating areas because it is getting dark after 6:00 p.m. Do not rush to enter your area.
- Driving back from the fireworks viewing sites is not easy. After the show, traffic comes to a standstill because everyone starts leaving the sites all at once. Expect heavy traffic congestion around the fireworks viewing sites and the Nagaoka Interchange to continue into the late night.



# The Nagaoka Civic Center

2-2-6 Ote Street, Nagaoka City (Phone: 0258-39-2763)

Hours: Every Day Except for the Year-End and the New Year's Holidays

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, and National Holidays 9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.



## Nagaoka City International Affairs Center (Chikyū Hiroba) (1st Floor)

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays, Sundays, and National Holidays 9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Phone: 0258-39-2714 Fax: 0258-39-2715

E-mail: kouryu-c@city.nagaoka.lg.jp



## Consultations Offered for International Residents

Various services are provided for international residents. The center is a place where international residents can find help and support. The staff are ready to respond to you either in English or easy Japanese. No appointment is necessary for consultations. Feel free to stop by if you have any difficulties, worries, or questions.

## Japanese Learning Programs

### Nihongo Kōza

The 1<sup>st</sup> term of classes for the 2017 fiscal year is being offered from April 2017 to September 2017. A free trial lesson is being offered. Please call ahead.

#### Weekday Classes

(Tuesdays & Fridays)

##### \* Class I

(Lesson 1 – Lesson 12 of *Minna no Nihongo*)

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (60 minutes)

##### \* Class II

(Lesson 13 – Lesson 25 of *Minna no Nihongo*)

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (60 minutes)

|       |                                 |        |
|-------|---------------------------------|--------|
| July  | 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28    | ¥1,600 |
| Aug.  | 4, 8, 18, 22, 25, 29            | ¥1,200 |
| Sept. | 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29 | ¥1,800 |

#### Sunday Classes

\* **Class I** (Lesson 1 – Lesson 12 of *Minna no Nihongo*)

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (120 minutes)

\* **Class II** (Lesson 13 – Lesson 25 of *Minna no Nihongo*)

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (120 minutes)

|       |                  |        |
|-------|------------------|--------|
| July  | 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | ¥2,000 |
| Aug.  | 6, 20, 27        | ¥1,200 |
| Sept. | 3, 10, 17        | ¥1,200 |

### Short-Term Japanese Language Class

Sundays, May 7 – Aug. 27

11:45 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Room 2B Nagaoka Civic Center 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor



An intensive short-term Japanese language class will be offered from Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> so that you can brush up on your Japanese skills. International residents who have completed the Japanese Language Class II at the Civic Center or who have mastered a basic level of the Japanese language are recommended to join this intensive class.

|      |                  |        |
|------|------------------|--------|
| July | 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | ¥2,000 |
| Aug. | 6, 20, 27        | ¥1,200 |

### Nihongo Hiroba

Volunteers help international residents learn Japanese at this free program during the following sessions:

- Sundays 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Mondays 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. (intermediate level)
- Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Fridays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



## A Guide to Swimming Pools

(You can use the Internet to find each location.)

### Yukuzan Swimming Pool 悠久山プール

Phone: 0258-35-6368

336 Yukyu-cho, Nagaoka City

Until Sept. 10 (Sun.)

Closed: Tuesdays

Children's Outdoor Pool: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Indoor Heated Pool: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fees: From ¥150 to ¥400, depending on age groups



### Kibogaoka Swimming Pool 希望が丘プール

Phone: 0258-28-1775

2156-1 Nishizu-machi, Nagaoka City

Until Sept. 10 (Sun.)

Hours: Mostly 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. or

9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Fees: From ¥150 to ¥400, depending on age groups



### Koshiji B&G Kaiyō Center Swimming Pool

越路B&G海洋センタープール

Phone: 0258-92-4594 2281 Fudosawa, Nagaoka City

Until Sept. 3 (Sun.)

Closed on Mondays (except for July 17), July 18 (Tues.)

Hours: July 11 (Tues.) – Sept. 1 (Wed.)

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.,

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

(except for Sundays, Holidays, and Aug 2 and 3)

Fees: From ¥50 to ¥210, depending on hours and age groups

### Washima B&G Kaiyō Center Swimming Pool

和島B&G海洋センタープール

Phone: 0258-74-2257 5402 Shimazaki, Nagaoka City

Until Sept. 3 (Sun.)

July 24 (Mon.) – Aug 31 (Thurs.): 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Other weekdays, Sat., Sun., and Holiday: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Fees: ¥100 for high school students and older

¥50 for elementary and junior high school students

Free for pre-school aged children





## The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Japanese Speech Contest for Non-Native Speakers

~ Hosted by *Mutsumi Kai* (an international student support group) ~

**Sept. 30 (Sat.) 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

*Mutsumi Kai* is looking forward to welcoming you all. The contest will be followed by a party for the speakers and the audience to get together.

Venue: Nagaoka Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hall 2-1-1 Sakanoue-machi  
(A 7-minute walk from West-Side Exit of Nagaoka Station)  
Phone: 0258-32-4500

Eligibility: International residents living in Niigata Prefecture  
Topic: Free (Speech to be no longer than 5 minutes)



Contestant: 12 (narrowing down a field of applicants based on manuscripts, only first contestant)

Prize: Certificate, Plaque, and Prize (¥20,000, ¥30,000, or ¥50,000) ¥10,000 for every speaker

For further information: Ms. Miwako Kobayashi

Application Period: July 1 (Sat.) – Aug. 31 (Thurs.)

Please send your manuscripts to: Ms. Miwako Kobayashi  
1-10-3 Omote-machi, Nagaoka City 940-0071

Phone / Fax: 0258-36-0114 E-mail: miwakowe@nct9.ne.jp

## The Summer Traffic Accident Prevention Campaign

The summer Traffic Accident Prevention Campaign will be held from Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> to Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. Reckless driving at excessive speeds and drunk driving should be strictly avoided.

All drivers and passengers are required by law to wear seat belts. Child seats should also be properly installed and used for the safety of your children.

You are also required to ride a bicycle safely. Some bad and dangerous examples of riding a bicycle are:

- Listening to music while riding.
- Riding while holding an umbrella.
- Riding while using a cell phone.
- Using earphones or headsets.



## A Relaxing World Tour to Thailand, a Land of Smiles July 22 (Sat.) 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Limited to: 30 participants

Registration is required.

Application Deadline: July 20 (Thurs.)



Ms. Suppassara, an international student from Thailand, will share the traditions and culture of her homeland with you.

Nagaoka City International Affairs Center (*Chikyū Hiroba*)  
Phone: 0258-39-2714

## Movies

- *Kamiya Etsuko no Seishun* (Japan 2006)  
Aug. 15 (Tues.) 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- *Camp 14: Total Control Zone* (Germany 2012)  
Aug. 15 (Tues.) 2:00p.m. – 3:55 p.m.
- *Musical Kabenuke Otoko* (Japan 2012 )  
Aug. 26 (Sat.) 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Nagaoka Central Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Gakko-cho  
Phone: 0258-32-0658  
Admission: Free



こめひゃっぴょう

## 米百俵まつり *Kome Hyappyō Matsuri* (One Hundred Sacks of Rice Festival)

**Saturday, October 7**

**Ote Street, Suzuran Street, and Central Street**

Would you like to join the historic procession by playing a role of one of these characters?

- (1) Lord Kenshin Uesugi in his childhood and his mother
- (2) Yataro Onikojima (a lancer)
- (3) Lord Tadanari Makino and Lady Makino
- (4) Princess Makino (Tadakuni's Daughter)
- (5) Kanetsugu Naoe
- (6) Lady Osen (Kanetsugu's wife)

Fee: ¥5,000 for (1)

¥3,000 for (2)(4)(5)(6)

¥6,000 for (3)



Application: By Aug. 24 (Thurs.) Audition: Sept. 3 (Sun.)

*Kankō Jigyō Ka* (Tourism Management Division)

Phone: 0258-39-2221

[http://www.city.nagaoka.niigata.jp/kankou/event/kome\\_maturi.html](http://www.city.nagaoka.niigata.jp/kankou/event/kome_maturi.html)

## Safety Tips for Playing with Sparklers

Playing with sparklers, called *hanabi* in Japanese, is a pleasure for many people in the summer. You are advised to keep in mind the following safety tips when handling sparklers:

- Choose an appropriate location and time that will not annoy other people.
- Children should always be accompanied by adults when handling sparklers.
- Be sure to follow the instructions provided with the packages of sparklers.
- Put out used sparklers in a bucket of water in order to completely extinguish them.
- Do not disentangle or unravel sparklers.
- Avoid lighting sparklers when it is windy.



- Do not light many sparklers all at once.
- Be sure to clean up after playing with sparklers.

## Beach Volleyball Competition

**Aug. 6 (Sun.) 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Venue: Teradomari *Chūō* (Central) Beach,  
Beach Sports Court

Teams: 24 teams (4 adults per team)  
(on a first-come, first-served basis)

Application Period: By July 24 (Mon.) Fee: ¥3,000 per team

For further information: Regional Promotion Division,

Teradomari Branch Office Phone: 0258-86-6719

<http://www.city.nagaoka.niigata.jp/event/event08love-beach.html>



## Kawaguchi Festival

**July 29 (Sat.) 3:10 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

**30 (Sun.) 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Festival Plaza Kawaguchi Branch Office

- *Samurai* Warrior Parade
- *Mikoshi* Portable Shrine Parade by women
- Grand Fireworks Display ( July 29 8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.)
- Many Fun Programs

For further information: *Sangyō Kensetsu Ka* (Industrial Construction Division) Kawaguchi Branch Office

Phone: 0258-89-3113



# Major Emergency Medical Facilities

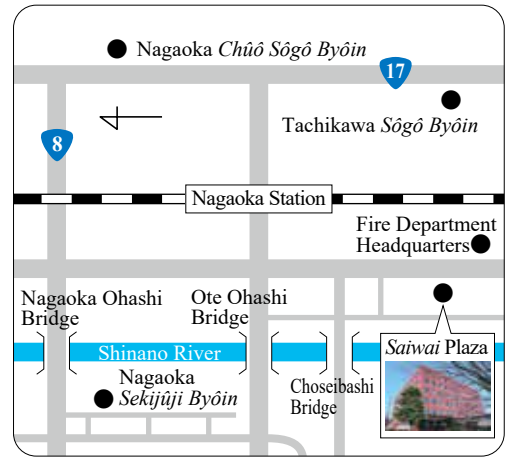


## Major General Hospitals

- Nagaoka Chûô Sôgô Byôin (Central General Hospital)** 0258-35-3700  
**Nagaoka Sekijûji Byôin (Red Cross Hospital)** 0258-28-3600  
**Tachikawa Sôgô Byôin (General Hospital)** 0258-33-3111  
**Civic Health Center (Saiwai Plaza)** 0258-39-7508

### Information about clinics in charge of specific Sundays or holidays:

- Clinic for Sundays, Holidays, and Nights (Phone: 0258-37-1199) (in Saiwai Plaza)
- Nagaoka Medical Society (Phone: 0258-22-5600)
- Nagaoka Fire Department Headquarters (Phone: 0258-36-0119)



## Civic Health Center (Saiwai Plaza - 1F)

| Facilities  | Departments                        | Hours   |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Clinic for Sundays, Holidays, and Nights<br>(0258-37-1199)<br><br>For obstetric and gynecology ( <i>san fujin ka</i> ), the staff at this facility will give information about clinics in charge of specific Sundays or holidays. | Internal Medicine ( <i>Naika</i> ) | (Monday – Friday) 6:45 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.<br>(Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.<br>1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. |
|   | Pediatrics ( <i>Shônika</i> )      | (Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.<br>1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  |
|   | Surgery ( <i>Geka</i> )            | (Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.<br>1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  |
| Dental Clinic for Sundays and Holidays<br>(0258-33-9644)  | Dentistry ( <i>Shika</i> )         | (Sundays and Holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.<br>1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  |
| Chuetsu Center for Children’s Emergency Treatment<br>(0258-86-5099)   | Pediatrics ( <i>Shônika</i> )      | (Monday – Friday) 6:45 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.   |

## Subsidies for Single-Parent Families

In order to support single-parent families, the city provides subsidies for child rearing (*jidô fuyô teate*/児童扶養手当) and medical expenses (*iryôhi jousei*/医療費助成). Detailed information about eligibility and registration is available at the Citizens’ Support Division (Phone: 0258-39-2338) and the Social Welfare Division (Phone: 0258-39-2319) respectively. If you need any assistance for applications, please contact the staff of the International Affairs Center, *Chikyû Hiroba* on Ote Street. (See p.6)



## Hazard Maps



Hazard maps are provided so that you can prepare for natural disasters such as floods, tsunami, or landslides. A hazard map is usually provided to help residents promptly evacuate to safe locations in case of an emergency.

A hazard map gives information about possible locations and levels of damage which can be caused by disasters, as well as locations of evacuation shelters.

The City of Nagaoka published the Flood Warning Hazard Map in Chinese, English, and Japanese. Copies of this multi-lingual booklet are available at the Nagaoka City International Affairs Center, *Chikyû Hiroba* and the *Chikyû Hiroba* Website. Please check the warning map specified for your neighborhood and prepare for emergencies.

<http://www.bousai.city.nagaoka.niigata.jp>

## The National Health Insurance System

The National Health Insurance System is a mutually supporting system in which members share their premiums to cover their medical expenses for injuries or illnesses.

Company employees or organization members can use employees’ health insurance policies. Those who are not members of these insurance policies are required to apply for National Health Insurance.

Registered foreign nationals whose authorized period of stay is three months or more are required to apply for the National Health Insurance Policy.

The notice regarding your premiums for fiscal 2017 will be sent to the head of your household in the middle of July. If your premium is paid by being deducted from your pension or if your premium is transferred from your bank account, you will not receive a notice. Please be sure to make your payment by the due date.

If you have been unemployed due to bankruptcy or displacement, your premium may be reduced. In this case, you are required to apply for premium reduction. If it is difficult for you to pay your premium due to some specific reasons, please contact *Kokuho Nenkin Ka*, the National Health Insurance and Pension Division.

Your new light blue health insurance card, which is to be used from this August, will be sent to you via postal registered mail at the end of July.

For further information: *Kokuho Nenkin Ka* (National Health Insurance and Pension Division)  
 Phone: 0258-39-2220.

