# Kinko Bay Tidings ~ Autumn 2019 Edition

### Springboks management expresses gratitude to Kagoshima City

Upon Kagoshima City hosting the Springboks` pre-tournament training camp for the Rugby World Cup 2019 in Japan from September 7 to 12 this year, head of Operations for the Springboks team, Charles Wessels offered his deepest gratitude to the Mayor, staff and citizens of Kagoshima City. "On behalf of the South African Rugby Union, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the wonderful hospitality we received in Kagoshima for our pre-rugby World Cup Camp. The open training sessions and school visits inspirational for our players and one of the many highlights of our stay. The quality of the training pitch was exceptional, and the generosity and kindness we experienced from the citizens of Kagoshima was very humbling."





Mr Wessels would also go on to express his satisfaction with the Sun Royal Hotel, who hosted the team throughout the training camp. "The level of service and "can-do" attitude among the staff was exceptional. We really could not have asked for better service and were humbled by the patience and good humour with which your staff put up with what can be the heavy demands of a professional sports team. We have only the highest praise for

your hotel and will carry very happy memories of our stay for many years to come"

Taking place once every 4 years, the 2019 Rugby World Cup is the ninth Rugby World Cup and is being held in Japan from 20 September to 2 November, and is the first time the tournament has been held in Asia.

#### 68th Ohara Festival

Kagoshima will once again bring colour to autumn for the 68<sup>th</sup> Festival, which will take place during the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kagoshima City.

In the biggest festival in Southern Kyushu, over 20,000 dancers will dance throughout the Tenmonkan business district over the 2-day festival period.



In addition to dancing to native folk songs "Ohara Bushi," Kagoshima`s "Han'ya Bushi" and "Shibuya Ondo," Kagoshima will also display other forms of traditional public entertainment.

There will also be many festival stalls, games to try and plenty of local sake on offer to try and buy. The festival will be held over a two-day period from Saturday, November  $2^{nd}$  until Sunday  $3^{rd}$ .

The 3<sup>rd</sup> of November also signifies Japan's national holiday "Culture Day", so what better way to celebrate than to witness the historic festival first hand and the best dancers Kyushu has to offer? Anyone is welcome to participate at any time, so come and enjoy the experience!



Saturday 2<sup>nd ·</sup> Night festival (group dance etc.) Sunday 3<sup>rd ·</sup> group dance Ohara 21, parade, matching and traditional public entertainment.

Inquiries: Ohara Festival Promotion Office (Kagoshima Tourism Promotion Division)

Tel: 099-216-1327

### Shochu Street 2019 (Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd)

Three days you can drink as much as you want in Kagoshima with the arrival of the authentic shochu day "Shochu Street" in Tenmonkan, Kagoshima from November 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>. With a massive gathering of 114 shochu breweries from around the prefecture on the day, you can expect to feel the love of shochu in its homeland of Kagoshima.

- Enjoy 5 drinks for only 500 yen from a selection of 114 breweries! Tickets for enjoying 5 cups of shochu with one coin (500 yen) will be sold at the Shochu Street venue.
- W who come in a Japanese Kimono on Friday November
  1st can enjoy 5 drinks valued at 500 yen for free!
- A special guest to sing along with and famous talk show guest will also make an appearance!



## The 14th Kagoshima Asia Youth Arts Festival

The Kagoshima Youth Arts Festival was once again be held in Kagoshima City for the 14<sup>th</sup> year, bringing together youth from countries and regions throughout Asia and youth from Kagoshima



City with the aim of fostering the international and culture pride of young people, as well as raising the citizen's awareness of internationalisation through the medium of music and arts.

The festival took place over the 19th and 20th of October 2019. This year marking the 130th anniversary of Kagoshima City and the first year of the Reiwa era brought more significance to the event. Eight groups from 7 countries arrived in Japan within days of the weekend festival. On the Friday afternoon of October 18th, all the groups (including two Japanese groups) came together at the main building of the City Hall to meet with the Deputy Mayor of Kagoshima City, Noriyoshi Matsunaga. Later that evening a Welcome reception was held at the Sun Royal Hotel.

The beginning of the Art Festival began on Saturday November 19th at the Houzan Hall.

There, a total of 231 participants from 10 groups gathered together to display their choral and instrumental ensembles, traditional music, dance performances and more.

The festivities continued on Sunday 20th at the Chuo Park with the "Asian Festival". People enjoyed Asian Experience Booths, enjoying cuisine from Asian food stands and much more.



#### **About Kinko Bay Tidings**

Produced by: Kagoshima International Exchange Foundation

Editors: Nathan Talbot (English), Songhui Lee (Korean), Xingmin Ji (Chinese) (Coordinators for International Relations, Kagoshima City)

Kagoshima International Exchange Foundation

15-1 Yamashita-chō Kagoshima City 892-0816 JAPAN

Tel: +81 (0)99 226 5931 Fax: +81 (0)99 239 9258 kokusai@kiex.jp http://www.kiex.jp/

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