



Multilingual Newsletter

For foreign residents of Kagoshima City

Published by the Kagoshima International Exchange Center
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CIR Report

■ I rode the Magma Yakiimo Train 🍌



Did you know that there's an event held once a year where you can go around Kagoshima City in a city tram car designed after the Magma City logo, decorated with sparkling LED lights?

I participated this year and had the chance to eat a course of four types of yakiimo (baked sweet potatoes) – annou-imo, beni-haruka, silksweet, and Tanegashima gold – all while enjoying the city scenery through the tram windows. Inside the tram, a popular entertainer from Kagoshima acted as our guide, giving us explanations about the sweet potatoes and a quiz about Kagoshima. Depending on the number of answers we got right, we could get stickers with different designs!

The participation fee is ¥2000 for adults (junior high and above) and ¥1000 for children (ages 3 to elementary students). The fee includes the ride, four types of yakiimo, and for this year, a cutlery set featuring Magnions, Kagoshima City's PR character! The set includes a spoon, fork, and even chopsticks – surely an exciting addition to lunchboxes!

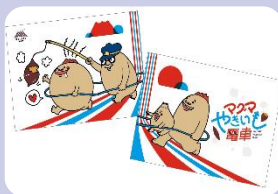
Besides the Magma Yakiimo Train, this year there was also a Magma Sakurajima Daikon Train, a Magma Deep-Sea Fish Train, and a Magma Music Train. I'm already excited to see what kind of Magma Trains there will be next year! Be sure to add the Magma Yakiimo Train on LINE for more information! 🎵



← Magma Yakiimo Train official LINE



Commemorative quiz stickers



Paired place mats



Taste-testing yakiimo



Magnion cutlery

Event Information!

◆ Spring Tree Market ('Haru no Kiichi')

- ▶ Dates/times: Fri, Mar. 15–Sun, May 6, 10 AM–5 PM
- ▶ Place: Greenbelt on the left bank of Kotsuki River (civic plaza)
- ▶ Items sold: Garden trees, green trees, houseplants, seedlings, fruit tree seedlings, small birds, etc.
- ▶ Check the city website for updates <https://www.city.kagoshima.lg.jp/seisanryutu/harunokiiti.html>
- ▶ Contact: Sun–Sun Call Kagoshima (foreign language support available)
TEL808–3333
Tree Market Management Office
TEL090–6291–5316 (during event only)

◆ Kagoshima City Agriculture Center "Four Seasons Flower Garden"

- ▶ About 230,000 rapeseed flowers reach peak blossom in mid March–early April
- ▶ Contact: Kagoshima City Agriculture Center
TEL238-2666 FAX238-2682

◆ Rent out a Sakurajima Ferry!

- ▶ The ferry can be used for gatherings, studying, classes, and more!
(Not including PM hours on weekends and holiday afternoons)
- ▶ Cost: Starting from ¥440,000 for 2 hours
- ▶ Contact: Maritime Bureau Business Division
TEL293-4785 FAX293-2972

○Riding the city tram and buses with your credit card

Do any of you living in Kagoshima City still not use Rapica, Kagoshima's IC Card? I've been here for almost 2 years, and I still don't have one. Today I'm going to share some useful information for those without a Rapica card. Did you know that since last year, you can pay the city tram fare by tapping your credit card? I've been using my credit card to pay since then. It's super easy, since there's no need to add more money to your card and you don't need exact change. Starting this March, you can also use credit cards on city buses! Let's take a look at the details.

Where and how to use



Card reader

All general city bus lines

City View bus
Island View Bus
(Cannot be used on Ai-bus)

Tap when getting on

Keep close to the reader for at least one second!

The credit card reader is different from the Rapica reader.

Tap again when getting off

When paying for multiple people, a child, or disabled person, tell the driver before tapping

Payment methods available



You can use the cards listed

Credit card



Debit card



Prepaid card



Use prepaid cards after adding value

Cards that can be used when registered to smartphones and wearable devices



(Some card types are unavailable)

Monthly upper-limit discount!

A monthly upper limit is established when you use your credit card to pay, and when you pay more than the limit, you get a full-price discount **without having to apply!** (Must use a card with the same number)

Begins Friday, March 1st, 2024
Upper-limit ¥9,660 for adults
(same price as city bus commuter pass)

Available on All city trams and buses
(Excluding Ai-bus)

Period available Every month from the 1st to the end of the month

No need to designate a particular period

←Please note

Card and smartphone payments are calculated separately

You must use the same card number via the same medium.
Even with the same number, **plastic card and smartphone payments are a different medium, so they are not added up together.**

Different devices are calculated separately

Different devices (smartphones, smartwatches, etc.) are also calculated separately. Be aware of this when buying a new phone.

Only one person per ride is eligible

Even when paying for multiple riders with the same card, only one rider's fare is calculated towards the discount.

Contact: Kagoshima City Transportation Bureau General Planning Division ☎890-0055
Kagoshima City Uearata-cho 37-20 TEL.099-257-2111(Rep) FAX.099-258-6741

♡Kagoshima tonkatsu special

When it comes to Kagoshima, you can't forget about Kurobuta pork, and when it comes to Kurobuta, you can't forget tonkatsu... We went to tonkatsu places to discover the deliciousness of Kagoshima Kurobuta! They were both very delicious, so be sure to check them out when you get a chance!

♡ Katsujyu Amyu Plaza Kagoshima



I went to Katsujyu, located in the basement level of Amyu Plaza, and had the hirekatsu teishoku. The meat was very soft and delicious. There was a sweet sauce and a spicy sauce, so you can match it to your liking. I went with the sweet sauce! You can also choose between a small, medium, and large serving of rice, so you can match that to your liking as well.

-Soyeon-

♡Kurobuta



I went to Kurobuta in Tenmonkan for the first time! This restaurant offers many tonkatsu dishes, and I ordered the hirekatsu lunch. The meat was very soft, and the homemade tonkatsu sauce and natural salt from Yakushima made it even more delicious! There were many foreigners there and there were menus in English, Korean, and Chinese (traditional), so you don't have to worry when ordering!

-Rebecca-



Have you heard of Kagoshima City's official app, KagoTips? The app guides you to official links with tons of info about life, events, transportation, and more in Kagoshima! There is also info about a variety of consultation services, so give the app a download if you find yourself in need of help. Of course, the app is available in multiple languages – as of now, Japanese, simple Japanese, English, Mandarin (Simplified and Traditional), Korean, and Vietnamese are included. You might be surprised at just how much there is in Kagoshima. Feel free to use KagoTips to enjoy your life in Kagoshima to the fullest!

♡Stay tuned until next time for even more new discoveries!