

K O B E

Kobe City PR Paper English February 2023

The new Kobekko Land facility opens!



2月11日(土・祝)、

こべっこランド
リニューアルオープン



If you have any questions about ward office procedures, financial support for raising children, etc.

Call the Kobe International Community Center (KICC)!

☎ 078-742-8721 (11 languages)



↑ Tap here to visit the website!



Community Childcare Centers

At community childcare centers, kids can play on large playground equipment regardless of the weather, and parents can get advice from childcare workers - both for free!

Kobekko Land (こべっこランド)

Details (JP) ↓

- ◆ Ages 0-18 ◆ 9:30 am - 5:00 pm
 - ☑ Children of all ages can play indoors and outdoors as much as they want
 - ☑ Free classes on cooking and more
- A 5-min. walk from Wadamisaki Station
(Kobe City Subway, Kaigan Line)



Kobekko Play Areas (こべっこあそびひろば)

- ◆ Ages 0-6 (not yet enrolled in school)
- ◆ 9:30 am - 5:00 pm *Closed Thursdays
- ☑ Includes full playground equipment
- ☑ Open on weekends



Locations in Rokko Island (Higashinada Ward) and Okaba (Kita Ward)

*Seishin-chuo location coming soon in 2023

Parent & Child "Pop In" Play Areas

(おやこふらっとひろば)

- ◆ Ages 0-2 ◆ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm *Closed weekends
- ☑ Full of toys and picture books for infants to enjoy

One in every ward office
(Tarumi Ward location coming soon in 2023)



Community children's centers (児童館)

- ◆ Ages 0-18 ◆ 9:30 am - 5:00 pm *Closed Sundays
- ☑ Infants to high school students welcome
- ☑ Can exchange information at friendly gatherings for fathers and mothers

One in every school zone



This is What's Great About Kobekko Land!

① All free!? A playground for children of all ages

Kobekko Land has a wide variety of playground equipment, including a netted play area suspended above the "Dandan Hiroba" mezzanine and bouldering walls next to the stairs. In the outdoor playground area, kids can enjoy a giant water fountain in the summer. There is also a Baby Room where infants can play.

② Exploring the facility is an adventure!

Different kinds of playground equipment can be found all over the facility grounds, so it's fun to go upstairs, downstairs, indoors and outdoors!

③ Free classes for parents and kids to enjoy together

Free cooking classes, music class, and more to pique curiosity

Child Counseling Center also relocated (From Feb. 6)

Located next to Kobekko Land, this center offers consultations for children under 18 and households. Child welfare officers, child psychologists, and other professional specialists are available.

Mon. - Fri. 8:45 am - 5:30 pm



Recycling Collection Stations: New hubs to connect with people

We are working to establish more recycling hubs to collect recyclables, which are sorted by item, such as plastic bottle caps and toothbrushes.

- ◆ You can bring in recyclables for free at any time the facility is open
- ◆ No need to use designated garbage bags
- ◆ Learn what the collected recyclables will turn into
- ◆ Comfortable space for socializing



Locations: Comista Kobe, Recycle Workshop HOKUSHIN, Futaba Community Learning Center, Maitamon ".com Kan"



Addresses & details, etc. (JP) →

COVID-19 Information

◎If you have a sore throat, fever or other symptoms

①The elderly, people with underlying medical conditions, pregnant women, and children in elementary school or younger should visit an outpatient clinic for fever as soon as possible if they have symptoms.

②The **Online Confirmation Center** distributes **free COVID-19 qualitative antigen test kits** to those with symptoms. Please use this kit to test yourself. Depending on the timing of the test, the result may be negative even if you are infected, so please recuperate at home if you have symptoms.

Online Confirmation Center (JP)→



◎Evening vaccinations, no appointment needed

Eligibility: 12 y.o. & up (only 3rd & subsequent doses)

Location: Center Plaza, 9F (1-9-1 Sannomiya-cho, Chuo-ku)

Days: Thursdays & Fridays (excluding national holidays), the day before a national holiday

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

What to bring: Vaccination voucher, personal ID

*Youths aged 12 - 15 y.o. must be accompanied by a parent/guardian (who must bring personal ID)

◎Prevent secondary consequences to your health

There are concerns about the negative consequences to physical and mental health caused by self-quarantining due to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as ① insufficient exercise, ② increased stress, ③ and refraining from making doctor and hospital visits.

In particular, middle-aged and elderly adults who shut themselves at home and stop talking to people increase their risk of developing lifestyle-related diseases, dementia, and declining motor functions.

Kobe City is working to provide more opportunities to get health checkups, health and nutritional counseling, and exercise, so please use these services to improve your health.

Details of health services (JP)→



Get a head start on spring! Go see the plum blossoms!

Suma Rikyu Park

About 160 plum trees from 25 varieties are in full bloom, welcoming you alongside the canola blossoms and Japanese narcissus at your feet. Ranging from the early-blooming magenta *yaekanko* and white *tama-botan* varieties to the late-blooming light pink *bungo*, the different plum blossom trees will flower one after another throughout the month.



Admission: Adult 400 yen, ES/JHS student 200 yen

Okamoto Park (Okamoto Plum Blossom Grove) *Free admission

In the past, this plum blossom grove was famous: "Go to Okamoto for plum blossoms, Yoshino for cherry blossoms, Ki-no-Kuni for mandarin oranges, and Tamba for chestnuts." Although many of the original trees were lost due to floods and residential development, the grove was opened as a park in 1982 in efforts to restore that view. There are 200 trees from about 40 varieties that bloom at different times from late January to early April, so you can enjoy different colors and fragrances one after another.

Location: 6-6 Okamoto, Higashinada-ku

*No public restrooms or parking available

Enjoy food and sake from the Nada region +SAKE Campaign



Kobe is one of Japan's leading sake producers and a treasure trove of international and diverse cuisines. During this campaign, you can enjoy Nada sake with a variety of foods such as Japanese, French, and Italian cuisine.

At participating restaurants and bars in the city, you can enjoy limited-edition menus that combine Nada sake and food, as well as sake flights (tasting sets). People who order from the limited menu can enter a lottery to receive Nada sake. Whether you are a Nada sake fan or a newbie, this is an excellent opportunity to find new ways to enjoy it.

Period: February 11 - March

Locations: Participating restaurants and bars in Kobe →



The Japan Fine Arts Exhibition in Kobe & Rokko Island Art Fair

◆**Japan Fine Arts Exhibition:** For the first time in 54 years, the largest public fine arts exhibition in Japan will be held in Kobe. It consists of five sections: Japanese-style painting, Western-style painting, sculpture, craft as art, and calligraphy. Visitors can view about 500 works in total, including those being exhibited throughout Japan and selected works by Kansai artists.

Date & Time: February 18 - March 26

10:00 am - 5:00 pm (Closed Mondays)

Locations: Kobe Artists' Museum & Kobe Fashion Museum

Fee: Yes (Free for high school students & under)

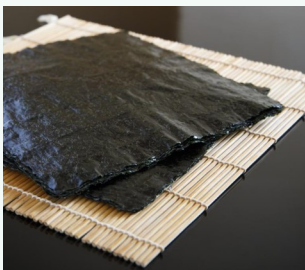


◆**Rokko Island Art Fair:** The 48th Kobe Citizens' Art Exhibition featuring citizens' works will be held at the same time as the Rokko Island Art Exhibition, which features works by local residents. Visitors will receive discount coupons for the **Japan Fine Arts Exhibition**. In addition, a street piano will be set up for a limited period, and there will be many kinds of events in the area.



Suma Nori

In Kobe, *nori* (laver) is produced in the waters of Higashi-Suma, Sumaura, Shioya, and Higashi-Tarumi. Because it grows in the rich nutrients of Osaka Bay and the tidal currents of the Akashi Strait, it is rich in amino acids, calcium, and other nutrients, and it is thick and dark in color. The first harvested *nori* is the first of about a dozen or so harvests and is particularly characterized by its rich flavor. Please give this thick and crunchy *nori* a try!



Buy it direct! (JP)

Sumaura Shop
Kobe City Fisheries Beach Side Cooperative Association

