

## 8th Multicultural Festival (第8回国際文化祭)

The Committee for Improvement of the City is holding the 8th Multicultural Festival on November 29, Saturday, from 4:00 PM at the Tokachi International Relations Center. As usual, we are looking for people who can dance, sing, play a musical instrument, or other performance that showcases the culture of other countries. It doesn't have to be a professional-level performance, and everyone is welcome to perform. We can also provide support for any materials you may need.



We are expecting around 200 people to come and see the event. Audience members will be able to vote for their favorite performance, and the most popular performers will receive fabulous prizes.

There will also be a fashion show, and we are looking for international residents who can wear their countries' traditional costumes. Changing rooms will be available at the venue.

For registrations or inquiries, please contact TIRC Coordinator Hector at [tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp). This is a great opportunity to be a star while sharing your culture with the people of Obihiro. We look forward to your support and participation!

「第8回国際文化祭」は11月29日(土)16:00から森の交流館・十勝で開催する予定です。今年も、世界各国の踊りや歌、楽器演奏等のパフォーマンスをステージで披露していただける方を募集しております。ご応募・お問い合わせ等は、森の交流館・十勝にご連絡ください。電話:0155-34-0122 メール:tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp

## Autumn Tea Ceremony (森の茶会～秋～)

Come experience the way of the Tea at the Tokachi International Relations Center. We will be holding our annual fall tea ceremony on 9/28. There will be 4 tea ceremonies, and 2 tea preparation classes between 10:00 and 14:30. Advanced signup is required, so if you are interested please contact the Tokachi International Relations Center at 0155-34-0122 or [tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp). The tea ceremony is open to everyone, so we invite you to signup and take part in this traditional piece of Japanese culture.



今年第二回目の「森の茶会」は、森の交流館・十勝内ウインターガーデンにて、茶室以外の場所で開催する茶会「野点」を立礼式で行います。

館内の緑に囲まれながら、椅子に座っての野点でJICA研修員や留学生などの外国人も参加し国際色豊かなイベントになっております。

期間 2014/09/28(日)

時間 10:00-14:30

会場 森の交流館・十勝 ウインターガーデン

問合せ先 森の交流館・十勝

0155-34-0122 泉 又は [tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp)

## Contents:

Multicultural Festival	1
Tea Ceremony	1
Events in Tokachi	2
Culture & Cuisine Corner	3
Movie Schedule	4
Chinese Corner	4



Events (pg 2)



Culture & Cuisine  
(pg 3)



Movies & Chinese  
Corner (pg 4)

# Events at TIRC and in Tokachi and Obihiro

When	What	Where/Contact
9/10 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	International Mini-Volley Night (国際ミニバレーナイト): Meet friends from all over the world while enjoying a fun and easy sport!	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
9/13 (Sat) 19:00-21:00	45th International Talk (第45回インターナショナル・トーク): Learn more about the world and exchange ideas with other participants. This month's talk will be about Mongolia.	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
9/17 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	Tenipon Meetup (テニポン交流会): Let's play tenipon, a hybrid sport between tennis and pingpong that originated in Hokkaido. Organized by Dandelion.	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
9/20 (Sat) 10:00-11:30	25th Kids Playground (第25回キッズプレイグラウンド): Come with your children to learn and play while meeting local families. This month, you can have fun learning English with the English pre-school Learn-a-Lot.	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
9/28 (Sun) 10:00/10:30/ 11:00/11:30/ 13:00/13:50	Autumn Tea Ceremony (森の茶会～秋～): Experience the traditional Japanese way of serving tea. Sessions 1-4 is for tea ceremony, sessions 5-6 is for tea-serving etiquette. Register by phone or email.	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
9/6-9/7 (Sat-Sun)	Honbetsu Kirameki Town Festival 2014 (本別きらめきタウンフェスティバル 2014): The biggest event in Honbetsu Town, featuring Tokachi's last fireworks of the season, stage shows, and more.	Toshibetsu Riverside Event Ground 利別川河川敷特設会場 0156-22-2141
9/6 (Sat) 10:00-21:00 9/7 (Sun) 10:00-16:00	Tokachi Marche (とがちマルシェ): Enjoy local Tokachi cuisine, fresh local produce, and other packaged foods.	Obihiro Station North Exit Ground 帯広駅北口広場 0155-25-7121
9/7 (Sun) 10:00-15:00	Tokachi Obihiro Airport Aviation Festival (とがち帯広空港航空まつり): Enjoy a guided tour of the airport and tower, various aircraft, and other events.	Tokachi Obihiro Airport とがち帯広空港 0155-64-5320
9/14 (Sun) 9:00-14:50	Toyokoro Industry Festival 2014 (2014とよこ産業まつり): Local produce and salmon will be on sale. There will also be shows, games, and salmon-catching.	JA Toyokoro Event Ground JAとよこ多目的広場 015-574-2216
9/19 (Fri)	34th Yoru Dekake Night (第34回夜でかけナイト): The Honbetsu Town shopping arcade will be open in the night. There will also be a flea market and prize raffle.	Honbetsu Kita 1 to 4-chome 本別町北1～4丁目商店街 0156-22-2529
9/21 (Sun)	39th Hakurin Park Festival (第39回柏林公園まつり): Beef, local produce, and crafts will be on sale. There will also be stage shows and salmon-catching.	Taiki Town Hakurin Park 大樹町柏林公園 01558-6-2114
9/23 (Tue) 9:00-14:00	38th Obihiro Taisho May Queen Festival (第38回帯広大正メークインまつり): There will be pack-all-you-can potatoes, free potato tasting, and stage shows.	Taisho Community Square 大正ふれあい広場 0155-64-4591
9/26-9/28 (Fri-Sun)	Rally Hokkaido (ラリー北海道): The only international rally event in the country. Rally show starts at 15:45, ceremonial start at 16:45 on the 27th.	Kita Aikoku Community Square, etc. 北愛国交流広場ほか 0155-22-8600
9/28 (Sun)	13th Shintoku Shin-Soba Festival (第13回しんとく新そば祭り): Enjoy shin-soba from freshly harvested ingredients. There will be many food stalls and a soba-eating contest.	Shintoku Nagomi Welfare Center 保健福祉センター「なごみ」 0156-64-0522
9/28 (Sun)	39th Urahoro Hometown Festival (第39回うらほろふるさとのみのりまつり): A harvest festival with local produce, rice cake-throwing, salmon-catching, stage shows, and prize raffle.	Urahoro Shinrin Park うらほろ森林公園 015-576-2181
6/22-9/14 (Sun) 11:00-16:00	Obihiro Downtown Street Festival 2014 (オビヒロホコテン2014): Enjoy various events and performances with plenty of local food on sale every Sunday at Downtown Obihiro.	Obihiro West 2 South 8-9/Hirokoji 帯広市西2条南8丁目・9丁目、広小路 0155-23-4510

## Culture & Cuisine Corner (カルチャー&キューズコーナー)

If you like road trips or cycling, you've probably come across places called "michi-no-eki". Usually translated as "roadside stations", michi-no-eki are like rest stops located along major roads all over Japan. But more than just parking areas with toilets, many michi-no-eki also have restaurants, fresh food markets, souvenir shops, tourist information centers, exhibits, and other facilities showcasing the local area, making them tourist attractions in their own right.

There are currently 1,030 officially recognized michi-no-eki all over Japan, 114 of which are in Hokkaido. Here in Tokachi, there are 14 such road stations, each with their own unique character, as introduced below.

<p><b>Aurora Town 93 Rikubetsu:</b> Once a station of the defunct Furusato Ginga railway line, this road station includes a lodging facility, an exhibit, a souvenir shop, and a 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> lawn garden.</p>	
<p><b>Ashoro Ginga Hall 21:</b> Another former railway station, this road station has an observation tower, a restaurant and bakery, and a gallery dedicated to the famous folk singer Chiharu Matsuyama.</p>	
<p><b>Ashoro-ko:</b> This road station was famous for its cheese factory, which unfortunately is now closed. But you can still enjoy a beautiful view of the nearby Lake Ashoro from its dog run park.</p>	
<p><b>Pia 21 Shihoro:</b> The restaurant here is famous for its hamburger and steak made with 100% local beef. The souvenir shop is also popular for its soft serve made from locally produced milk.</p>	
<p><b>Shihoro Onsen:</b> As its name suggests, this road station is famous for its hot springs. There is also a 36-hole park golf course and a souvenir shop that sells a popular haskap sundae.</p>	
<p><b>Urimaku:</b> This place is famous for its horse riding park, and is the venue for many events. You can also enjoy views of the Hidaka mountains while playing through a 36-hole park golf course.</p>	
<p><b>Shikaoi:</b> Situated beside the Kanda Nissho art museum, this road station has a beautiful flower garden and a souvenir shop that is popular for its locally-made soba noodles and cheese.</p>	
<p><b>Stellar Honbetsu:</b> There is a bakery here that sells freshly baked bread and sweets. There is also a Chinese restaurant and a souvenir shop selling locally produced beans and other goods.</p>	
<p><b>Otofuke:</b> There is a popular all-you-can-eat Chinese restaurant here. The souvenir shop sells food and crafts from all over Tokachi. It also holds outdoor markets during the summer season.</p>	
<p><b>Nakasatsunai:</b> There's a souvenir shop that sells fresh produce and flowers, a takeout corner for snacks on-the-go, and a space for art exhibits. There's also a museum about beans nearby.</p>	
<p><b>Sarabetsu:</b> Located at the entrance of the Tokachi International Speedway, this place has a motorsports goods corner, along with a restaurant that is popular for its croquettes and curry.</p>	
<p><b>Urahoro:</b> The Urahoro-tei restaurant here is popular for its cutlet spaghetti, beef stew, and ramen. There's also a snack corner that is popular for its hotdogs and caramel soft serve.</p>	
<p><b>Churui:</b> Located beside the Naumann Elephant Museum and Naumann Onsen, this is a popular stopover for south Tokachi travelers. It's also famous for its freshly baked bread and soft serve.</p>	
<p><b>Cosmall Taiki:</b> The shopping center here sells everyday goods as well as souvenirs. There's also a corner selling space and astronomy-related items. Visitors can also use free Wi-Fi.</p>	



There's another fun reason to visit all these road stations. In the Tokachi Michi-no-Eki Stamp Rally, 28 lucky winners who submit completed stamp sheets will receive a special set of Tokachi products. To join, just get a free stamp sheet from any of the 14 road stations, then visit each one of them to stamp their seals on your sheet. After stamping all locations, write your personal info on the sheet, then submit it to the staff of any of the 14 road stations. Deadline is on November 14th, so hurry and go get your stamps!

For more information on the 14 road stations of Tokachi, you can visit [http://visit-tokachi.jp/en\\_activity\\_shp/en\\_activity\\_14](http://visit-tokachi.jp/en_activity_shp/en_activity_14).

Times and movies are subject to change! (for space reasons not all movies are listed)  
To confirm, call or check online at: [http://www.taiyogroup.jp/cinema/theater/\\_obihiro/movie.shtml](http://www.taiyogroup.jp/cinema/theater/_obihiro/movie.shtml)



Title	Language	Dates
Godzilla	2D English / 3D Japanese	Ends 19th
Transformers: Age of Extinction	Undecided	Ends 19th
Into the Storm	English	Ends 26th
Guardians of the Galaxy	Undecided	Starts 13th
Dawn of the Planet of the Apes	2D English	Starts 19th
Ruroni Kenshin: Kyoto Inferno	Japanese	Ends 19th
Ruroni Kenshin: The Legend Ends	Japanese	Starts 13th

## Chinese Corner (中国語コーナー)

8月大概是带广一年里最热闹的月份了吧——胜每花火大会、平原祭。说起平原祭，我不仅作为观众观看了梦降夜、阿波舞；也作为参加者和由JICA研修人员、畜产大学的留学生们以及住在带广的外国人们组成的“世界的朋友”队一起跳了盂兰盆舞，也算是难得的体验吧。我把梦降夜撒面包一事说给朋友听，就连同是住在日本的中国朋友都感到惊讶：“为什么我住的地方没有这么实惠的节日！”，不禁感叹果然是“Food Valley”，住在带广的好处就是不愁吃啊...

盂兰盆节过后，北海道的天气渐渐变得凉爽起来，经历了8月份的忙碌，正是想停下脚步悠闲地享受一下北海道的秋天了。虽然不算是十胜，但是我首先想到了临近带广的TOMAMU。TOMAMU的云海平台开放到十月下旬，清晨早早起来去看一看北海道大自然的另一神奇产物——美丽的云海，更是可以在绝佳的景色中做瑜伽放松身心。此外还有因为梁静茹的一首《崇拜》的MV而被中国人所熟悉的“水之教堂”。教堂除了4月及11月不对外开放以外，其他月份的晚上9点到9点半期间是可以参观的，尤其7月到9月15日的夜晚会有水上蜡烛精心点缀，十分浪漫。大家如果有时间不妨利用假期去TOMAMU放松一下身心吧。

August is probably the most lively month of the year -- there is the Kachimai fireworks and the Heigen festival. Speaking of the Heigen festival: I saw the Yumefuruya and the Awaodori team visiting from Tokushima dance, but I also joined the "Friends of the World" team, which included JICA trainees, the foreign students of the Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, and other foreigners living in Obihiro, and we danced the Bon dance. It was a rare experience for me. I told my friends about Yumefuruya, where they throw bread from the Mikoshi, and my friends all thought it was interesting.

After Obon it becomes a little cooler, and after a busy August it is the time to take a rest. So this time, I chose the Tomamu. The Unkai Terrace in Tomamu is open in October, you can get up early and see the Unkai (sea of clouds), or do yoga there to relax yourself. You can also find the chapel on the water there, which has become famous in China, after the singer Fish Leong, made a music video there. The Unkai Terrace is closed in April and November, but is open the rest of the year everyday for free viewing from 21:00~21:30. In particular from July to mid-September, there is a romantic water candle night. Please visit Tomamu and relax.

**Obihiro Pioneer** can be found at the following locations: Obihiro City Hall, Tokachi International Relations Center, Obihiro University International Center, Obihiro Tourism and Convention Center inside the Obihiro JR Station, Obihiro Public Library, Tokachi Plaza, Cinema Taiyo, Joy English Academy and online at [www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](http://www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp) (click on "Information for Foreigners")

"Obihiro Pioneer" is a newsletter published monthly by the Obihiro International and Domestic Relations Section for residents of the Tokachi District and related parties. The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily represent the official views or opinions of the International and Domestic Relations Section or the City of Obihiro. Questions? Tel (0155) 65-4133 or send e-mail to the Editing Team at [international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp](mailto:international@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp).