

## Culture: Hawaiian Summers

*For most, July is the start of their summer. A chance to relax in the sun and explore the vast outdoors while it's warm! For Elaine, our CIR from Hawaii, USA, summer after Hokkaido's long winter is a favorite time of year. In this month's Obihiro Pioneer, let's learn about America and their summer traditions.*

For most parts of the world, when it gets hot they like to get out! Japan and the US are no different, with their wide array of outdoor activities. From the land of all-year summer to “the country of the north” (Hokkaido) this Hawaii girl does summer differently!

### Get your tan on!

Generally, many Asian cultures find pure light skin to be attractive. Hawaii (and most of the US) find golden bodies to be desirable! Even back in Wisconsin, once the temperatures over 20 degrees Celsius, there

would be half-naked (or more) students lying around campus trying to get a tan!



College Elaine getting a tan before Japanese class!

### BBQ? Time fo' go beach!

If you've been invited to a BBQ in Obihiro, chances are it happened at Midorigaoka Park. Back in Hawaii, in most parks, BBQs and open



consumption of alcohol is illegal. My childhood is filled with weekend trips to the beach where adults

would cook up on the grassy areas, while kids played in the water. More recently alcohol has been banned on beaches as well.

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## Obihiro CIR Blog

Enjoy learning about different cultures? Visit the Obihiro CIR Blog! At least once a month, each CIR writes about their experiences living in Japan, traditions from their home countries



and more! Posts are written in Japanese, but in a more casual style. Come along on this journey as the CIRs of Obihiro try and navigate life in Japan as a foreigner!

<https://obihirocir.wordpress.com/>

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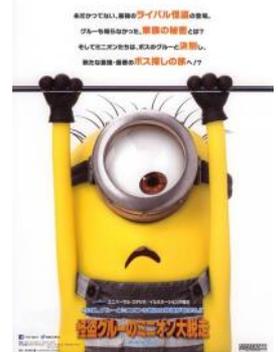
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# Events at TIRC and in Tokachi and Obihiro

When	What	Where/Contact
7/2 (Sun) 10:30-15:00	<b>Friends of the World 2017</b> Come and join one of the biggest international exchange events in Tokachi. Events: International food stands, stage performances, kids corner, special rally, NGO booths, and more.	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihoro.hokkaido.jp
7/12 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	<b>International Mini-Volleyball Night</b> Meet new friends from around the world while enjoying a fun and easy sport.	
7/8, 7/22 (Sat) 16:00-18:00	<b>Japanese Conversation and Learning Table</b> Improve your Japanese language skills in a friendly environment.	
7/15 (Sat) 18:30-20:00	<b>62nd International Talk (Philippines: Tips to learn foreign languages)</b> Learn more about the countries of the world and exchange ideas with other participants. This month, a trilingual international student from the Philippines will give some advices about learning languages as well as introducing	
7/22 (Sat) 10:00-11:30	<b>42nd Kids Playground (Viet Nam)</b> Come with your children to learn and play while meeting local families. This month you can enjoy Vietnamese hand play, crafts, storytelling and much more. Come and interact with a guest from Vietnam!	
7/1 (Sat)	<b>11th Shibare Rock Festival</b> 第11回しばれロックフェスティバル Rock out in Japan's coldest town, Rikubetsu Town!	Rikubetsu Town Event Square 陸別町イベント広場
7/1 (Sat) 15:00-21:00	<b>37th Shihorocchi Summer Festival and Firework Show</b> 第37回しほろっち夏祭り, 花火大会 Enjoy a variety of events and activities for kids rhen watch the earliest firework show in Tokachi.	Shihoro Town Town Plaza 士幌町タウンプラザ周辺 しほろ夏祭り実行委員会
7/2 (Sun)	<b>46th Pyoutan Waterfalls Fishing</b> 第46回ピョウタンの滝やまべ放流祭 A festival to mark the start of trout fishing season. There will also be stage shows and a food market.	Satsunai River Park 札内川園地 中札内村観光協会 0155-68-3390
7/8 (Sat)	<b>9th Rikubetsu Starlight Festival</b> 第9回陸別スターライトフェスティバル Enjoy the night sky while enjoying a mini-concert, astronomical observation and a lecture at the observatory.	Ginga no Mori Observatory 銀河の森天文台 0156-27-8100 <a href="https://www.rikubetsu.jp/tenmon/topics/1260/">https://www.rikubetsu.jp/tenmon/topics/1260/</a>
7/8 (Sat)	<b>38th Komaba Summer Festival Beer Garden</b> 第38回こまば夏祭りビアガーデン Enjoy a beer garden with live performances, games, a raffle, and more.	Komaba Kaikan Parking Lot 駒場会館駐車場 音更町商工会 0155-42-2246

## Events Continued

When	What	Where/Contact
7/8 (Sat) 12:00-20:30	<b>GANKE FES 2017</b> Come to Shintoku's power spot "Ganke" to enjoy a festival of art, music, food, activities and even a market!	Guttari Lakeinn Hot Springs 湯宿くったり温泉レイクイン <a href="http://www.ganke-fes.com/#info">http://www.ganke-fes.com/#info</a>
7/9 (Sun)	<b>15th International Tractor BAMBA</b> 第15回国際トラクターBAMBA Come and watch a new sport using tractors. Races will be held using actual tractors used for field work.	Parade: Sarabetsu Downtown Main Location: Sarabetsu Furusatokan パレード: 更別村市街 会場: 更別村 ふるさと館 0155-52-2010
7/9 (Sun)	<b>Kids' Festival 2017</b> こどもまつり2017 Enjoy a variety of activities just for kids.	Urahoro Town Health Park 浦幌町健康公園 015-576-2186
7/22 (Sat)	<b>25th Star Festival</b> 第25回スターフェスティバル Part of Ginga Road will be closed off and open only to pedestrians. Various food and drink stalls will line the road as the festival attractions go on.	Makubetsu Sports Park 幕別運動公園 幕別町役場商工観光課 0155-54-6606
7/22 (Sat)	<b>Wine Barrel Rolling Competition in Ikeda 2017 World Cup</b> ワイン樽ころがし競争inいけだ~2017わーるトカップ杯~ Using wine barrels used when fermenting the wine, teams of 3 will roll barrels in 3 different timed events. The winning team will receive a special set of Tokachi Wines.	Ikeda Wine Castle ワイン城下特設会場 0155-72-3218
7/22-23 (Sat-Sun)	<b>9th Furusato Ginga Line Rikubetsu Festival</b> 第9回ふるさと銀河線りくべつ鉄道まつり Ride the Ginga line and try the raffle! There will be a stage show along with various festival booths. Have fun for free on the fuwa fuwa dome and firework show!	22nd: Midorimachi Soccer Field 23rd: Train Station Square 22日: 緑町サッカー場 23日: 駅前多目的広場 陸別町観光協会
7/23 (Sun) 9:00-16:00	<b>2017 All Japan Mama Chari 7-hour Race</b> 2017全日本ママチャリ7時間耐久レース Mama Charis will run on a real circuit course. This year's race will run from 9 am to 4 pm for 7 hours.	Tokachi Speedway 十勝スピードウェイ 0155-52-3910 <a href="http://tokachi.msf.ne.jp/">http://tokachi.msf.ne.jp/</a>
7/29	<b>39th Seiryu Festival</b> 第39回清流まつり Enjoy brass bands, Yosakoi Soran, and baton twirling performances by the students of Shimizu town. There will be also games, food stands, and more.	Event Square in front of Shimizu Station 十勝清水駅前イベント広場 清水町商工会 0156-62-2208
7/29-7/30 (Sat-Sun)	<b>Ainu Culture Exchange Event</b> アイヌ文化交流会 ~世界の先住民の国際デー~ Learn about Ainu culture with interactive activities and more.	Tokachi Plaza 1st Floor Atrium とかちプラザ1階アトリウム 帯広市アイヌ生活文化等実行委員会 0155-65-4146
7/30 (Sun)	<b>24th Shitoku Soba no Sato Festival</b> 第24回新得そばの里まつり Enjoy buckwheat noodles or, soba, in the town made famous by it! This festival will be happening in time for visitors to enjoy fields of "soba" plants and their white flowers in full bloom.	Shintoka Soba no Sato Park 新得そばの里公園 (株)新得物産

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
Logan (R15+)	Eng Subtitles R15+	Until 7th
King Arthur : Legend of the Sword	2D Eng Subtitles	Until 21th
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell no Tales	Dubbed and Subtitles	All Month
Despicable Me 3	Dubbed Jpn	From 21st

## Culture: Hawaiian Summers

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### 50th State Fair

Much like Japan's summer festivals, America has its own share of state fairs. Each state fair has games and rides as well



Deep-fried Oreos!

as an array of "fair food." Anything that you can eat with just your hands can be "fair food!"

From standard hot dogs and

hamburgers to

deep-fried Oreos and funnel cake, fair food is a heart-attack waiting to happen! Many state fairs, including Hawaii's, generally take place during the summer for 1~3 weeks. Similar to Japan's summer festival, most booths and rides are operated and set-up by a group of traveling fair workers.



This ride is a little bigger than the Obihiro Zoo chair ride!

Since Hawaii is an ocean away from the rest of the US, the 50th State Fair is a chance for us to enjoy "American culture."

With Hokkaido summers being especially short, make sure to make the most of it! Going to the beach might be out of the question, but with the Tokachi sun, you can sure get your tan on (if you want to!).

**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")

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