

## Introduction to Niigata Prefecture

Mountains, rivers, villages, the sea; Niigata is the proud home of abundant natural scenery, and overflows with a variety of different attractions each season. Known as an area of heavy snowfall with many ski resorts, Niigata will be the location of the Alpine Skiing World Cup in February, 2020. It is also famous as one of Japan's prominent rice and sake producers.



Niigata Snow Resorts



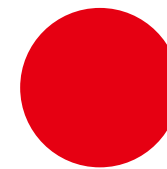
Local cuisine unique to Niigata



The most breweries in Japan



More tourist information can be found at the QR code above:



# Japan's Greatest Cultural Festival

The 34th National Cultural Festival - Niigata 2019  
The 19th Niigata National Arts and Culture Festival  
for Persons with Disabilities

2019.9.15 Sun — 11.30 Sat

### ■ National Cultural Festival ■

Japan's largest cultural festival provides an opportunity for people to create art and culture by taking part in many different cultural activities.

### ■ National Arts and Culture Festival for Persons with Disabilities ■

This festival attempts to give people with disabilities an enhanced quality of life by enabling them to take part in artistic and cultural activities. It also seeks to deepen the understanding and awareness of disabilities among the general population, and to encourage the independence and social participation of disabled people.



The 34th National Cultural Festival – Niigata 2019  
The 19th Niigata National Arts and Culture Festival for Persons with Disabilities  
Niigata Cultural Festival Executive Committee

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### National Cultural Assets

9/14 (Sat) – 11/4 (Mon/holiday)  
Niigata Prefectural Museum  
of History (Nagaoka City)

An exhibition that looks back on the archeological events of the Showa and the Heisei periods. On show are many of the flame-motif ceramics that have come to symbolize Niigata Prefecture, including the flame-motif pot from the Umataka ruins and the deep fukabachi jar, which is a national treasure, found in the Sasayama ruins. Clay figures and haniwa, designated national treasures or important cultural assets, have also been brought from the Tokyo National Museum and other museums for the exhibition.

National Treasure: Fukabachi jar of the Jomon Era; deep, pot-shaped pottery from the ruins of Sasayama in Niigata Prefecture – Tokamachi City Museum



# Main Events

Over 170 events (some paid) will be held throughout Niigata Prefecture during the festival period. Please see our homepage for details.



## 1 Traditional Japanese Dance Festival

Event Period	11/10 (Sun)
Venue	Niigata Prefectural Civic Center (Niigata City)



Many traditional Japanese dance groups come from all over Japan to perform. Enjoy the charm and traditional beauty of Japanese dancing during this gorgeous spectacle.

## 3 Echigo Tsumari Art Triennial, Autumn 2019

Event Period	10/12(Sat)~14(Mon/holiday), 19(Sat), 20(Sun), 26(Sat), 27(Sun), 11/2(Sat)~4(Mon/holiday)
Venue	Echigo Tsumari Region (Tsunan-machi, Tokamachi City)



A major international arts festival held in the Echigo Tsumari region. Artists and local people collaborate to create works of art using local natural and historical construction materials.

For Lots of Lost Windows  
by Akiko Utsumi  
Photographed by H. Kuratani

## 2 Special Noh Performance: A Journey to Discover Zeami

Event Period	10/14 (Mon/holiday)
Venue	(Sado City)



A Special Noh performance by Kiyokazu Kanze, the 26th Grand Master of the Kanze school. Now, come to Sado and enjoy the experience of watching the Grand Master dance, over 580 years since the school's founder, Zeami, was exiled to the very same island.



## 4 Meet a Living National Treasure

Event Period	10/14 (Mon/holiday)
Venue	Toki Messe (Niigata City)



Two of Niigata Prefecture's "Living National Treasures," Messrs. Ito Sekisui and Tamagawa Norio, present their artworks along with video footage, centered around a children's workshop and talk-show, in this multifaceted introduction of the skills and character of a Living National Treasure.

## 5 Nationwide Exhibition of Artwork by Persons with Disabilities

Event Period	10/16 (Wed)~10/25 (Fri)
Venue	Niigata Prefectural Civic Center (Niigata City)



An art exhibition of works from all over Japan created by people with disabilities as well as groups that include people with disabilities.

## 7 All-Japan Folk Song Contest

Event Period	10/27 (Sun)
Venue	Kamo Cultural Center (Kamo City)



A singing contest in which folk singers from all over Japan gather to convey the charm of folk songs handed down from long ago. Make the most of this chance to appreciate truly traditional Japanese music.

## 9 Kimono Festival in Tokamachi

Event Period	11/23 (Sat/holiday)
Venue	Echigo Tsumari Cultural Hall "Danjuro" (Tokamachi City)



Includes a kimono show organized by the Kimono Project with kimonos from twenty different countries, a demonstration of how to put on a juuni-hitoe, or twelve-layered ceremonial kimono, and a kimono exhibition. Tokamachi is a major kimono production area, and during this event, it will share the charm of kimono with the world.

## 6 Taiko Drum Festival

Event Period	10/13 (Sun)
Venue	Joetsu Cultural Center (Joetsu City)



Taiko drum troupes from around the nation gather together to deepen exchanges and convey the joy of drums. You will be treated to a majestic, electrifying spectacle.

## 8 Tour of Agakita Manors and Gardens

Event Period	Venue
9/29 (Sun)	Former Prefectural Governor's Official Residence, Ijimoto Tea Ceremony House (Shibata City) *Will feature a "Tea Ceremony for Beginners" class
11/9 (Sat), 10 (Sun)	Sekisen-so Villa, Taiko-so Villa (Shibata City)
11/16 (Sat), 17 (Sun)	Ninomiya-tei House (Seiro-machi)
11/23 (Sat/holiday)	Watanabe-tei House, Tsuno-tei House, Sato-tei House, Tokei-en House (Sekikawa-mura)



This tour will feature not only residences and gardens which are usually closed to the public, but will also include a "Tea Ceremony for Beginners" class (in Japanese), which will allow participants to experience a model tea ceremony and to learn about the tea ceremony ritual and how to enjoy it.

## 10 Autumn Performing Arts Spectacle: Floodlit autumn leaves at Sho-un Sanso Villa

Event Period	11/2 (Sat), 11/3 (Sun/holiday), 11/9 (Sat), 11/10 (Sun) (tentative)
Venue	A special outdoor stage held on the grounds of the Sho-un Sanso Villa (Kashiwazaki City)



The Autumn Performing Arts Spectacle is held amid the floodlit autumn leaves at the Sho-un Sanso Villa. The spectacle offers the opportunity to see traditional performing arts from various districts in Kashiwazaki, including "Ayako-mai," a type of dance that has been designated an important intangible folk culture asset.