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Kyushu University
Foreign Students
Association



COVER MODEL

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Tanja

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TRADITIONAL CUSTOMS IN JAPANESE NEW YEAR

EATING SOBA WITH FAMILY (としこしそば)

It is almost that time of the year where fireworks are heard throughout the world, while some spend this time enjoying the night out, others enjoy staying at home with their loved ones. Different countries have different ways to celebrate their new years and of course Japan has its own customs. After a year of hard work, Japanese people would return to their hometown to spend their new years with their families. One of the new year customs in Japan is to eat some soba on the 31st of December with the family at home, either by cooking it themselves or ordering it. The history of this custom stems from the idea that soba is long and therefore by eating the soba their life will become longer and healthier like the soba noodle.



EATING TRADITIONAL MEAL OSECHI (おせち)

On the 1st of January, another custom that Japanese people follow is eating a traditional meal called “おせち” which looks similar to a bento. However, the difference between おせち and bento is that the former contains a lot of different types of food and all these foods have their own meanings. One of the first おせち was made to thank god for a good harvest of that time of the year, however, as time passes by the tradition becomes more generic, and slowly people decided to eat the traditional meal on the most important day of the year which was decided to be on the 1st of January.



VISITING SHRINE (はつもうで)

After welcoming the New Year, another common tradition for Japanese people is to visit the shrine. Praying for happiness for the upcoming year is the reason to go the shrine and while being there, people usually visit the fortune telling area where they would pick out a “おみくじ”, which is basically a fortune telling paper that is provided by the shrine. If you are already living in Japan, then why not experiencing this unique culture of the Japanese by doing the activities listed above in the upcoming new year.



GERMANY - A MIDDLE EUROPEAN COUNTRY

SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO KNOW



General Information

Germany is located in the very Center of Europe, surrounded by (going from the west to the east): Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg, France, Swiss, Austria, Tschech Republic and Poland. As Germany consist of 16 states, it's officially called Federal Republic of Germany. Germany also has two coasts divided by the very north state Schleswig-Holstein and Denmark. The Western Part of the German coast borders to the North Sea with its famous riptides and wattenmeer and in the east to the east sea. In the North Sea there are several islands, belonging to Germany as well. The biggest of the islands are called Sylt and Norderney.

The total area of Germany is about 340,000 km², with a population of about 82 million (2017). The capital is Berlin, located in the east and first third of the country. The largest 4 Cities of Germany are (from north to south, 2015): Hamburg, Berlin, Cologne and Munich.



History

Germany has a vivid history from the old tribes to Roman Empire consisting of many small kingdoms, which then became todays states after WW II, several Wars, Weimar Republic, dictatorship under Hitler, Division of East and West and its reunion. Germany is most famous for its bread culture, beer brewed after the Reinheitsgebot, soccer, cars and no speed limit on its highways. And yes, we also eat potatoes and many varieties of sausages, but not as much as you might think.

Culture

It's important to know, that Germany has a quite different culture looking from the north to the south. Moreover, every city has its own vibes. But especially Berlin is worth to be visited. Furthermore, there is the North Sea with its wattenmeer being a national park under nature conservation (best in summer), woods in the south and the alps, the Oktoberfest held in September!! and the Cologne Cathedral and Karneval of Cologne in February. When you are in Germany, you definitely have to eat a Berlin Currywurst and a Döner. Around Christmas time you should visit a Christmas Market and drink there some hot wine/Glühwein or Feuerzangenbowle.



KYUSHU UNIVERSITY

EAST ZONE AND THE NEW CENTRAL ZONE

In Sept 2018, Kyushu University has announced the completion of East zone and the new Central Zone, which in together, make up the new integrated Ito campus.

DID YOU KNOW?!

After 30 years of its decision of relocation of campuses, the moving process of 2 campuses and 1 university farm has finally accomplished.

With the completed relocation, Ito Campus is now one of the largest university campuses in Japan with 2.5km long and 3km wide, covering an area of over 272 hectares, with shuttles buses available to take users to each area of the campus.

THE NEW EAST ZONE

The East Zone not only accommodates Kyushu University's faculties of humanities, and social sciences or the Central Library but it is also home to some interesting places available for students. Its completion marks the final stage of the university's relocation to Ito campus.

INTERESTING PLACES IN EAST ZONE

1. THE EXHIBITION AND OBSERVATION ROOM OF ISHIGAHARA TUMULUS

Ishigahara Tumulus as well as information on ruins and ancient tombs located in Ito campus are exhibited here. From the observation deck, you can also enjoy the panoramic view of the Center and West Zones and sometimes the ocean and Fukuoka Tower!



2. THE EAST ZONE EXTERIOR DESIGN

The colorful carpet-like exterior of East Zone resembles the 5 beautiful colours of the traditional Hakata-Ori textile patterns and it might become the next photogenic spot of the campus!!



3. THE ESCALATORS CONNECTING THE CENTRAL LIBRARY TO EAST-1 AND EAST-2 BUILDINGS

Owning the only escalators in the whole campus, the escalators bring you from the ground floor to the rooftop of the Central Library in no time (4 levels). Do take note that the escalators are always ascending; which means you have to climb down by yourself!!



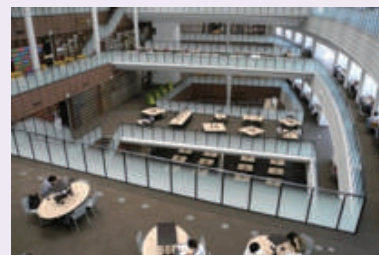
THE NEW KYUSHU UNIVERSITY CENTRAL LIBRARY

The central library has made its grand opening on 1 Oct 2018. Having a collection of more than 2.6 million books, it becomes the largest university library in Japan!!

DID YOU KNOW!?

1. ADJUSTABLE TABLES

With more than 1400 seats in the library, the new Central Library is meant to make every user feel comfortable, and this includes table in which its height can be adjusted according to its user's preference with just one button.



2. AUTOMATED STORAGE RETRIEVAL SYSTEM (ASRS)

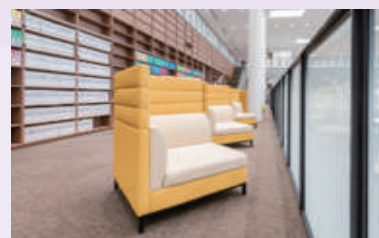
The ASRS service helps librarians to locate your requested books at their fingertips as the system will auto-detect the location of the book, retrieve it and bring it to the designated spot. So, do not hesitate to request the book that you want on the library database and let the system does the searching for you!!



3. COLOR CODING FOR EACH FLOOR

Some frequent users of the library might have actually found out but the color marked on the shelves and sofas tells you the floor where you are right now.

4F: Red; 3F: Yellow; 2F: Green; 1F: Blue



KUFSA
2019-2020
TENURE
KUFSA
RECRUITMENT
WE WANT YOU!
WITH YOU, ALWAYS
Dec 26th, 2018 ~ Feb 4th, 2019

OUR ASSOCIATION
KUFSA (Kyushu University Foreign Students Association) is an organization that represents all foreign students at Kyushu University, with more than 2000 international students and up to 30 nations. Established in 1955, always with the young culture and students from all around the world of Kyushu students.

OUR GOAL
"The purpose is to help of international students at Kyushu University, supporting the interaction and understanding between international and Japanese students."

JOIN US #
Scan the QR code to apply

QR CODE

CONTACT
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KUFSA 2019-2020 TENURE RECRUITMENT

KUFSA invites International and Japanese students in Kyushu University to build the dynamic Executive Committee for the next tenure 2019-2020 together! This is your stage! Scan the QR code to apply and join us! Lets make an amazing new year together!



EMBRACE AUTUMN

ENJOY THE AUTUMN MEMEORY

Autumn is one of the best seasons to explore Japan. KUFSA did not miss the chance to bring joy to its members. Therefore, on the 4th of November 2018, we organized the trip with the theme "Embrace Autumn". Saga prefecture was the destination as we visited Saga city and Karatsu.

1. Kankyo Geijutsu No Mori Park



This park is located at the bottom of Mt. Sarai (887 meters tall) in Kyuragi-machi, which is surrounded by a rich natural environment. Here you can enjoy walking and viewing red and yellow colored autumn leaves around mid-November.

Access 15 minutes from JR Kyuragi Station

2. Karatsu Castle



Karatsu Castle was built in 1608. This castle is located facing the sea, in the northern part of Karatsu City. It is also known as Maizuru (Dancing Crane) Castle. It stands beside Karatsu Bay, and is unusual since the stonework rises directly out of the water, using the ocean as a natural moat. It is a medium-size castle surrounded by cherry trees and Wisteria flowers that bloom in spring.

Access 20 minutes walk or 5 minutes taxi ride from JR Chikuhi Line Karatsu Station

3. Karatsu Kunchi Festival

Karatsu Kunchi is an autumn festival held every year in autumn between the 2nd and 4th of November. On the evening of the 2nd the festival begins from the Yoiyama, continuing on the 3rd with the Otabishoshinko before the festival takes to the streets of Karatsu on the 4th. During this festival, heroic men carry around a hikiyama (types of float) each of them is unique and holds its own meaning.



Access 5 minutes' walk from JR Chikuhi Line Karatsu Station

4. Saga Balloon Fiesta Night Mooring

The Saga International Balloon Fiesta is an international hot air balloon competition held in Saga City in autumn every year. The event takes place in extensive areas throughout the mid-western part of the Saga Plain, centering on the Kase Riverside. It is the largest of its kind in Asia.

Access 5 minutes via the JR Nagasaki Main Line from Saga Station, or a 10 minutes' walk from the Balloon Saga Station.



Do you know that according to Japan Seismic Hazard Information Station (J-SHIS), Fukuoka has around 7% chance of major earthquake within 30 years? This number seems small compared to Tokyo area (70% chance in 30 years), however, it does not necessarily mean that Fukuoka is a safer place. Be prepared and don't panic when an earthquake occurs! Here are some tips of what to do during an earthquake.

EARTHQUAKE PREVENTION

THINGS TO PREPARE AND DO

1) Prepare yourselves! It's recommended to gather everything you need in case of emergency into an emergency bag. Here is a list of things you should prepare:



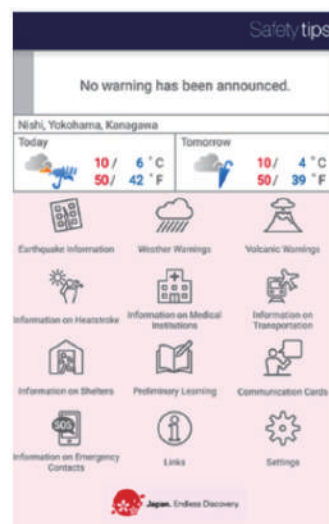
2) If you're inside a room when an earthquake occurs, do not run outside! Most buildings in Japan are earthquake-resistant and falling debris during earthquake are some common causes of injury. Instead, try to avoid anything that may fall (bookcase, ceiling light, etc.), take cover under a table or a desk, and wait until the vibration stops. After the earthquake stops, turn off all electricity and gas and head to the evacuation area.



3) Stay alerted! There is an app called "safety tips" that gives you early notifications of disasters and the evacuation instruction as well. This app is available in English and can be downloaded in both Apple store and Android playstore.

EXTRA TIPS

You can visit a disaster prevention center to experience many types of disasters such as earthquake and tsunami, as well as to learn more about things to do in such events. KUFSA is going to have a trip to Fukuoka Disaster Prevention Center by the beginning of next year, so stay tuned and make sure you don't miss it!



KUFSA TENURE 2018-2019 MEMBERS

From top-left
Clockwise

Ghazian, Yoshi, Jihed,
Hazim(Previous Presi-
dent), Steven(President),
Shota, Thierry (Vice
President), Son, Inggird,
Rory, Tomoyo, Yuki,
Tracy, Simon, Satomi,
Raad, Oybek, Duc,
Jihyun, Natanael,
Houda, Fang

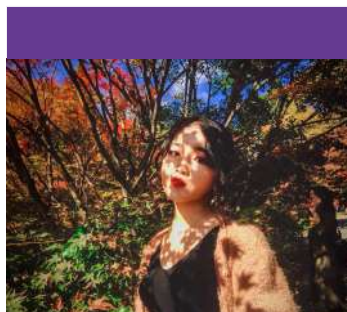


KUFSA MONTHLY PHOTO CONTEST WINNER NOV. 2018



"When the whole world thinks that only spring is the best time to visit Japan, we explored Japanese autumn. And actually I found it even more attractive with brilliant autumn colors and incredibly pleasant weather."

@Bookwormdi, Instagram



Very glad to win the prize for the second time lol. It's not my first time in Saga but it was really the best experience I had there not only for maples but also because of the balloon festival. Looking forward to next events from KUFSA!!

@Isabellawuu1997, Twitter



"A pose like a popular hero at Karatsu Castle" @Nay-
een Al Amin, Facebook

@Nehlah Rosli, Instagram



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