

■FESTIVALS

AKI MATSURI (Autumn Festival)

Autumn festivals are held all over Japan and people thank the gods for the harvest and their health. Visitors often wonder why the gods are treated so roughly in many of the festivals listed below. It is a way of showing one's determination and bravery for the benefit of the gods. One's sincerity is reflected in the vigorous handling of mikoshi (portable shrines).

Most shrines will hold only a Shinto ceremony without an audience to prevent spread of the novel coronavirus infection. Please check the latest information.

Imotaki in Ehime

In Ehime prefecture about this time of the year we have a tradition of eating imotaki, a kind of stew with taro, chicken and various ingredients. We enjoy tasting and chatting with our families, fellow workers, and friends outdoors, usually by the riverside.

-Oct.10 17:00-21:00 **Goshikihama Kangetsu (moon viewing) imotaki-kai**
(Goshikihime Seaside Park in Iyo city) (Tel. 089-982-0360)
Fare 1,700 yen (Reserved) 1,900 yen (Day)

-Mid Oct Sunset-21:00 **Ganso (original) Ozu no imotaki**
(Nyohoji-temple river side in Ozu city)
Fare 2,700 yen ~ (Reserved)

Near here you can see Garyu Sanso, which is designated as a National Important Cultural Property. You need to make a reservation as a group of five or more members. Further information: Ozu City Kanko-Kyokai (Tel. 0893-24-2664)

Oct.1-Dec.31 KENMIN-SOGO-BUNKASAI (Ehime Pref. Cultural Festival)

The purpose of this festival is to promote the culture of Ehime from art to industry. Various events are held in many cities and towns all over Ehime during this time. (Tel. 089-912-2972)

THEME: IMAKOSO BUNKA NO CHIKARA KOKORO WO HITOTSU NI
(Now / Power of Culture / Let's Bring our Hearts Together)

Oct.20-27 / Oct.30-Nov.6 9:40-18:00 Prefectural autumn art exhibition

Prefectural Art

Museum

Oct.31 16:00-18:30 SOGO (general) FESTIVAL Kenminbunka-kaikan (Main hall)
Performances : songs, piano, dance, drum etc.
Special guest is Takekawa Yukihide (a member of Godaigo). You need to get an order ticket in advance. Admission: Free
Further information: Tel. 089-947-5581

Oct.31-Nov.1 10:00-17:00 Flower arrangement exhibition Kenminbunka-kaikan

Many more events will be held in November and December.

Nov. 3 BUNKA NO HI (Culture Day) National Holiday

Culture Day is meant to celebrate the development of culture in Japan. It was established in 1948. Many cultural events are held on or near this day.