

■FESTIVALS

Canceled Events

SAIJO AKI MATSURI in Saijo City

NIIHAMA TAIKO (Drum) MATSURI in Niihama City

KIKUMA MATSURI Otomouma no Hashirikomi in Kikuma-cho, Imabari City

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)

Details of the festival have not been announced yet.

Sep. 11–Next Year Feb. 13

The 26th NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF KAMABOKO-ITA -NO-E

9:00–17:00 (closed on Tuesday)

At **GALLERY SHIROKAWA** in Shirokawa-cho, Seiyo City

The national exhibition of paintings on kamaboko (fish-paste) boards started more than twenty years ago. The exhibition was canceled last year to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus infection. 12,493 paintings, including last years', were sent from all over the country and abroad. The painting which won the first prize is titled "Ippo mae e (one step forward)". It was painted by Hino Tsutomu from Imabari city, Ehime, representing a muscular and powerful foot of a Nio statue which stands in Zenko-ji temple in Nagano Prefecture.

(Tel. 0894-82-1001)

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. 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).

MATSUYAMA AKI MATSURI (Oct. 5–7) HOJO AKIMATSURI (Mid Oct.)

Matsuyama City

As last year, most shrines in Matsuyama city will hold the autumn festival on a smaller scale than usual to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus infection.

Late Oct. UWAJIMA AKI MATSURI

Uwajima City

Details of the festival have not been announced yet.

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.

NOTES: Events might be canceled or postponed to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus infection. Please check the latest information.