

Multilingual Electronic Newsletter

多言語メールマガジン

かごしま南の風便り



Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings

VOL.172

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The A-Z of Kagoshima's International Relations

● Arrival of Kagoshima Prefectural Overseas Technical Trainees to Kagoshima ●

Kagoshima Prefecture has been accepting overseas technical trainees to learn specialized skills within the prefecture since 1985. To date, 243 people from 27 countries have come to Kagoshima via this program and has been learning specialized skills in various fields.

Even though we had been unable to accept new applicants due to the influence of COVID-19 in 2020 and 2021, in 2022 we are able to welcome trainees on this program for the first time in 3 years.

As a result, one trainee each from Brazil and Peru arrived in Kagoshima on 5 September this year. They are respectively studying in the fields of dentistry and animation production.



Both trainees attended Japanese language classes till end October at the Kagoshima Asia Pacific Intercultural Countryside Center (KAPIC) in Kanoya City. Thereafter, they are scheduled to received specialized training in each of their fields at their respective training institutes within Kagoshima City, from November to February of next year.

Here, they each shared about their own goals and enthusiasm as an overseas technical trainee.

Uezono Alessandra Tiemi (Brazil·Kagoshima University, School of Dentistry)

Hello, it's nice to meet you.
My name is Uezono
Alessandra Tiemi, age 27
years old, and I am from
Brazil.

My grandfather came from
Kasada (now Minamisatsuma
City). I graduated from a
dental college six years ago
and has been working at a
dental clinic in São Paulo
since then. This year, I am a
trainee of Kagoshima University School of Dentistry.



The scenery from Kanoya City

It is a great honor to receive this opportunity to come to Japan, and I am
delighted to have the chance to be able to learn both Japanese language and
Japanese technology.

Thank you very much.

Kitazono Ascuna Luis Angel (Peru·Kagoshima Career Design College)

It's nice to meet you.

My name is Kitazono Luis, age 26 years
old, and I am from Lima, the capital of
Peru.

My grandfather came from Kawabe in
Kagoshima (now Minamikyushu City). I am
a 3D animator, and from November
onwards I will be studying in the
Department of Graphics within Kagoshima
Career Design College.

I wish to study Japanese animation and
Japanese language, and I also want to learn
more about the culture of Japan.

Thank you very much.



Sakurajima as seen from
Tarumizu ferry

● Dispatch of a member of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers from Kagoshima ●

A member of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers who was dispatched to Ghana from Kagoshima Prefecture, paid a courtesy visit to Vice Governor Fujimoto at the Kagoshima Prefectural Office on 12 September 2022.

He was assigned the role of a PC instructor and spoke passionately about topics such as his aspirations for the upcoming support activities that he would be undertaking.

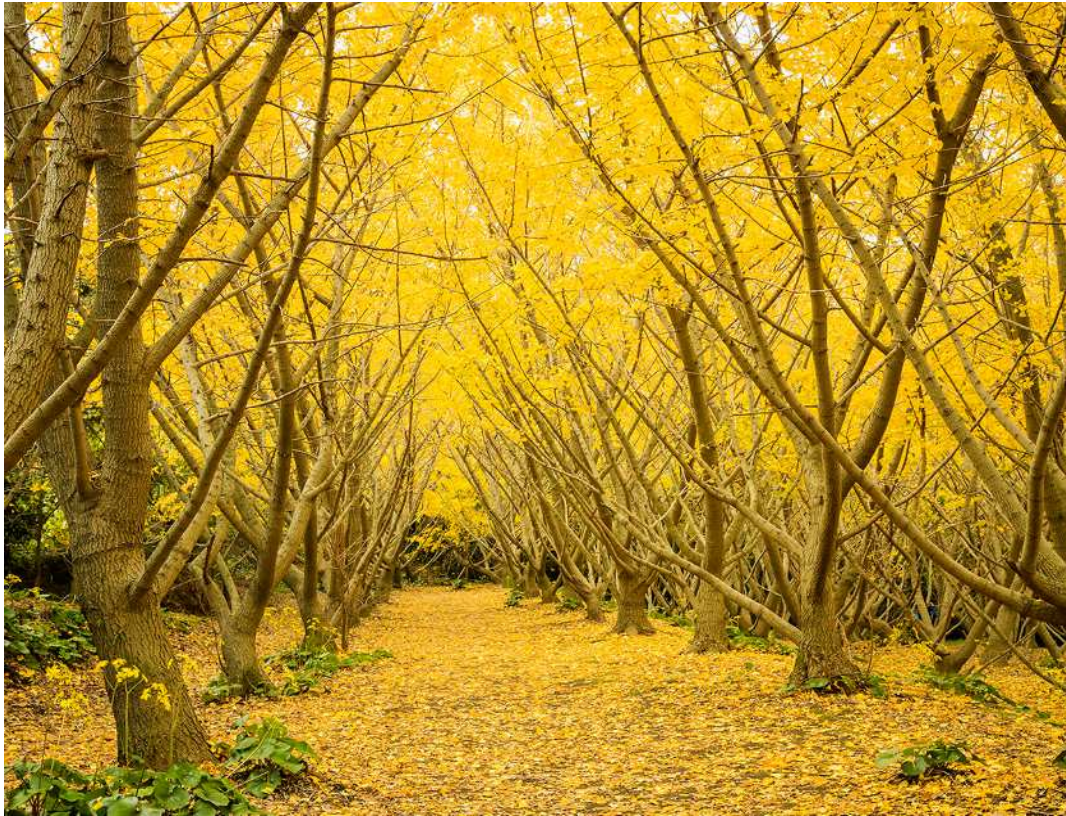
According to Vice Governor Fujimoto, 'Kagoshima Prefecture ranks first in Japan for the number of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers dispatched in terms of population size, and there are many who are actively involved. There will undoubtedly be uncertainties and difficulties at the dispatch destination, but I believe that it would be a good experience. I hope that you can share about the wonders and world natural heritage of your hometown, Amami to the overseas audience. In addition, it is also my hope that upon returning to Japan, you can make use of the experience gained at your dispatch destination to actively engage in future activities.'

The enthusiasm and aspirations of the volunteers are truly deserving of respect, and I look forward to their activities in future.



Seasonal Tourism Information

●Senbon Ichou (Thousand Gingkos)●



(Photo credits to Kagoshima Prefectural Visitors Bureau)

This is an iconic park in Tatumizu, where over 1,200 ginkgo trees are planted. When the seasons change, the entire area is dyed in brilliant shades of gold. It is a 「Golden Paradise」 jointly cultivated by the owner and his wife from desolate mountain lands, and it took them over 30 years to achieve it.

Do pay a visit to this winner of the first series of the 「Best of Kagoshima Landscape Award」, and the best season to view would be from late November to early December.

※ Please note that this is on private land and proper etiquette should be observed when visiting.

Address: 114 Kamimachi, Tatumizu City, Kagoshima 〒891-2111
Tel: 0994-32-1111 (Fisheries and Commerce, Industry and Tourism
Department)

Recommended Season: late November ~ early December

Access: About 12 minutes by car from Tarumizu Port (about 6.9km)

About 10 minutes by car from Tarumizu City Hall, via Prefectural
Highway 71 towards the east (about 4.7km)

Parking: Available (including 2 lots for handicapped users)

Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) Column

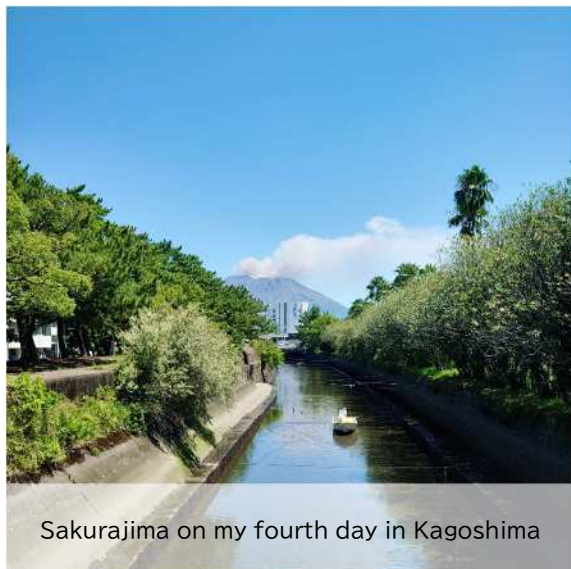
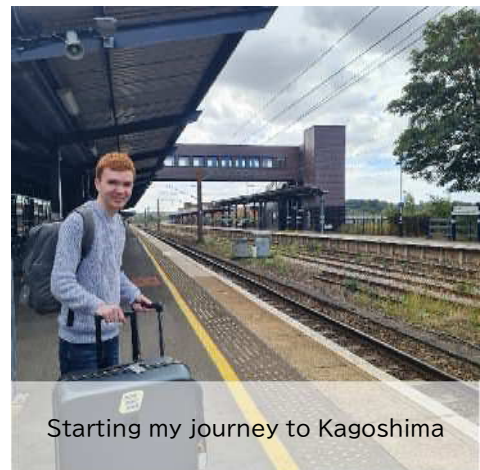
●First Impressions of Kagoshima●

– Joseph Snowden (United Kingdom), Kagoshima Prefectural CIR

“We’re going to Kagoshima!”

Even now, I can vividly recall the moment I found out I had been assigned to Kagoshima. As a Coordinator for International Relations (CIR), the location of my assignment within Japan was not my decision to make, but my wife and I were both hoping for somewhere in Kyushu. I was over the moon to hear that I would be working in Kagoshima.

Four months later, filled with both nervousness and anticipation, I finally touched down in Kagoshima. While it’s barely been two months since I arrived here, I already feel like Kagoshima is a perfect fit for me. In my first CIR column, I’ll describe my initial impressions of life here.



From the moment I stepped off the plane, the very first thing I noticed was the weather. In the UK, almost every day the sky is grey with clouds. But in Kagoshima, the clear skies make for beautiful scenery, and I don’t know if I’m just imagining it, but here the sky seems a lighter shade of blue, the grass a deeper shade of green.

With that azure sky behind it, Sakurajima is a particularly impressive sight, and one that is constantly changing thanks to the variation in volcanic activity. On 1st October, I finally had the chance to board the Sakurajima Ferry and set foot on the volcano itself for the Island of Fire Festival. As well as taking the time to unwind at the volcanic footbath, I was able to soak up the unique atmosphere of a Japanese festival for the first time, from food stalls to

taiko performances. Then, as night fell, I couldn't help but feel moved gazing up at the fireworks above me.

In the short time I've been here, I've also had many chances to taste a range of Kagoshima specialties. On the day I arrived, I tried keihan (a classic dish from the Amami region), which reaffirmed that I really had come to a great place! Since then, I've sampled all sorts of classic Kagoshima cuisine, from shirokuma (shaved ice with fruit and condensed milk) to kurobuta (black pork). I was also lucky enough to be able to try a number of different types of shochu (a spirit made from sweet potatoes), all produced at a brewery in Aira.



Fireworks at Sakurajima's Island of Fire Festival

Of course, it hasn't all been smooth sailing. It certainly took some time to get used to the humidity and the heat, and as someone with skin that burns very easily, I've had to be careful to apply sun cream every day! On top of that, just three weeks after arriving here I was faced with the record-breaking Typhoon Nanmadol, and recently I experienced an earthquake too. In the UK these sorts of natural disasters simply don't happen, so they were quite frightening experiences!

Regardless, my time so far in Kagoshima has been fantastic, and I can't wait for what's still to come. Even more than the breathtaking scenery and delicious food, the warmth and welcoming spirit of the people of Kagoshima is what really stands out to me about this place. To the stranger I met at the Shiroyama Observation Deck, who spent thirty minutes teaching me about the detailed history of Kagoshima; to the city tram driver who forgave my clumsy IC card mistake with a smile; to my new colleagues and friends who have shown me the warmest of welcomes: I am truly and sincerely grateful.

I'll keep doing my best as a CIR to show the charms of Kagoshima to people all over the world. Thank you for your continued support!



Editor's Note (International Affairs Division, Kagoshima Prefectural Government)

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How did you find this month's edition of Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings?
We as editors will continue to strive to have this prefectural multilingual newsletter be a bridge of information that connects Kagoshima with everyone.



「Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings' s bulletin board」is looking for the following content!

☆Kagoshima Photo Gallery

We would like to invite you to send us photos that remind you of Kagoshima, or photos of Kagoshima that you might have seen overseas.
Please also attach a brief description along with the photo. (e.g. a mountain of volcanic-ash bags)

☆Knowledge about living in Kagoshima

Please share with us information related to life in Kagoshima. (e.g. delicious ways to enjoy fried fish cakes, or how to deal with volcanic ash.)

We also welcome any other information that you would like to share with our readers.

▲▽▲▽ Inquiries ▲▽▲▽

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