

K O B E

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Interculturalism starts with the community



If you have any questions about ward office procedures, financial support for raising children, etc.



↑ Tap here to visit the website!

Call the Kobe International Community Center (KICC)!

☎ 078-742-8705 (11 languages)



Edited by: Kobe City International Division

Local Venues for International Exchange

There are about 50,000 foreign nationals living in Kobe. It is important to ensure that everyone can understand each other's different languages and cultures, so that we can live comfortably as members of the same community. There are several places in the city where you can take Japanese language classes and experience other cultures.

◆ KICC (Kobe International Community Center)

This center provides consultations about daily life in 11 different languages, as well as Japanese language classes, to help foreign residents live in Kobe more easily. The exchange space on the 1st floor serves as a venue for many events that introduce the cultures of different countries.



Address: Asta Kunizuka 1-Bankan, South Bldg. 1F & 4F
5-3-1 Udezuka-cho, Nagata-ku
☎ 078-742-8721

◆ Futaba International Center

This center is a venue for events that promote mutual understanding, such as cultural experience activities.



Address: Futaba Community Learning Center 1F
7-1-18, Futaba-cho, Nagata-ku
☎ 078-747-0280

(JP)



◆ Chuo Library, Kids' Corner

There are over 1,200 picture books in various foreign languages including Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese.



Address: 7-2-1 Kusunoki-cho, Chuo-ku

◆ Shin-Nagata Library, Asia Corner

The collection includes folk tales written in Chinese and Vietnamese, Japanese picture books translated into different languages, and many Korean children's books.



Address: 2F, 7-1-27 Hosoda-cho, Nagata-ku

What is "simple Japanese"?

Called "*yasashii nihongo*", it is a style of Japanese that is designed to be easier for non-native speakers to understand, by using simple words and grammar forms. During the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, information and support were not sufficiently provided to foreign residents at the time, so simple Japanese is now being used more and more to ensure that as many people can be helped as possible in the future.

Key points:

- ◆ Do not omit subject & object ("who" "what" etc.)
- ◆ Keep sentences short, and speak slowly
- ◆ Be clear and direct (avoid "cushioning" language)

Ex: ご出身はどちらですか?

→ あなたはどこの国から来ましたか?

Be Considerate of Others When Smoking

If you smoke near the train station, school walking routes, parks, squares, and other locations with many people, it exposes others to secondhand smoke and unpleasant smells. Some smokers also litter the street when they toss their cigarette butts on the ground.

Smoke nuisance is prohibited in Kobe.



To ensure that everyone can enjoy living in and visiting Kobe, please smoke in designated locations.

*You can smoke in officially established smoking areas.

◆ Can I smoke while using a portable ashtray?

Although the use of portable ashtrays decreases littering, you can still expose others to secondhand smoke, so please do not smoke outside of designated areas.

◆ What about heated tobacco products?

Smoke-like vapor can still cause health problems. Please use designated smoking areas.

Helpers Can Be Dispatched to Assist “Young Carers”

“Young carers” refers to children under the age of 18 who take care of the household and nursing care instead of an adult on a daily basis. Many young carers cannot go to school or join club activities because they are doing housework and taking care of their siblings. To help ease their burden, Kobe City can dispatch a helper.

Eligibility: Households with a young carer

(Requires consultation & approval from Kobe City)

Content: Assistance with housework and childrearing

Period: 3 months

Cost: Free

Inquiries: The Public Health and Welfare Division at your ward office



Tap here for details! (JP)→

Enjoy seasonal sweets! Kobe Figs



Rich in fiber and minerals, Kobe figs are melt-in-your-mouth soft, with an irresistible sweetness. In Kobe, you can eat fresh, ripe figs that were just picked that morning from local fig groves. Nishi Ward’s Kande and Iwaoka areas are the city’s greatest producers of figs.

Figs come in season from mid-August. You can buy Kobe-grown figs from farmers outlet shops like Rokko no Megumi and FARMSTAND. (JP)→



Stay cool in the summer heat Hang out near these “Cool Spots”!

Summer is expected to be an extremely hot one this year, which means a greater risk of developing heatstroke. Children are especially susceptible, since they are less accustomed to regulating their body temperature. To help you beat the heat, Kobe City has set up “Cool Spots” in inner-city areas and major parks. In addition to misting systems, some areas feature “cool benches”, which feel refreshingly cool when you sit on them. Be sure to make use of these Cool Spots when you’re out and about this summer.



Tap here for an interactive map! (JP)→



Symbol Guide

Flower: Water misting & flowers

Droplets: Water misting (regular or fine)

Fountain: Decorative fountain

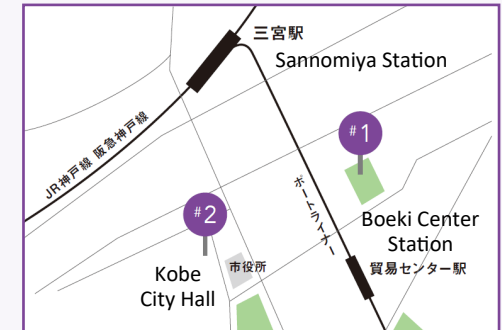
Bench: “cool bench”

Cool Spots in parks that make you feel cooler just by looking at them

Shiwase-no-mura, Kobe Sports Park, and other major parks in the city have “Flower Cool Spots”, which let you enjoy both cooling mist and beautiful flowers. Kobe Oji Zoo features an adorable panda-themed “cool bench”.

#TransformationofKobe Sannomiya City Center

New facilities have opened in tandem with the new Chuo Ward Office building. Sannomiya is changing into a bustling, people-focused district.



#1: Isogami Gymnasium

Located in Isogami Park, this brand new gymnasium has a training room, a multipurpose room, and a 1,000-square-meter ball court. You can enjoy many fun sports and forms of exercise including basketball, badminton, table tennis, and dance. On weekdays, the training room can be used between 7 am - 11 pm.



#2: Chuo Ward Cultural Center

The Chuo Ward Cultural Center opened as part of the new Chuo Ward Office building. The center has many different rooms that are ideal for various cultural activities such as cooking, music, and pottery.

