

What is about OITA?

おおいた県

Oita Prefecture is located in the eastern area of the Kyushu island (located in the south-west of the Japanese archipelago). The region has a mild climate, and is blessed with rich nature as it is close to both the mountains and the sea. For these reasons, we think you will greatly enjoy Oita's fresh delicacies from the sea, as well as its meat and vegetables, not to mention the countless famous dishes made here using those ingredients.

What is more, Oita has a rich history and cultural heritage that is unmissable for those who wish to learn about Japan, and in Oita you can enjoy visiting shrines, Buddhist temples and Buddhist statues.

Finally, there is Oita's pride and joy: its onsen (hot springs). Places in Oita Prefecture such as Beppu and Yufuin are full of onsen, and in terms of the amount of onsen sources and the amount of onsen water rushing from the earth, not to mention the fact that Oita boasts ten of the eleven types of onsen known world-wide, Oita Prefecture is known as the "Onsen Capital of Japan." For this reason, Oita is known throughout Japan and it also receives many visitors from abroad. Oita is truly a fascinating place.

Welcome to OITA!

Oita Grassroots Summit
Executive Committee

Yufuin Mountains

Hot Spring

Old Samurai Residence


Usuki Stone Buddhas

Japanese
Monkeys

Jigoku Mushi
(Food steamed by hot spring)



Planned Itinerary

July 6 (Mon.)	Depart United States	
July 7 (Tue.)	Arrive in Oita via Narita and Haneda airports (Bus ride from Narita to Haneda) [Overnight at Beppu Suginoi Hotel]	
July 8 (Wed.)	Optional Local Tours Opening Ceremony & Welcome Reception [Overnight at Beppu Suginoi Hotel]	
July 9 (Thu.)	Move to Local Session	[Home-stay]
July 10 (Fri.)	Local Session	[Home-stay]
July 11 (Sat.)	Local Session	[Home-stay]
July 12 (Sun.)	Depart local area for Oita City Visit Oita Prefectural Art Museum (OPAM) Closing Ceremony and Farewell Reception [Overnight at Oita Oasis Tower Hotel]	
July 13 (Mon.)	Depart Oita for Haneda / Narita, and for the United States or Depart for Post Summit Optional Program	

* There may be changes in the schedule and program due to unforeseen circumstances.

* To reach Oita airport from the U.S., you will have to travel from the Tokyo area to Oita on a domestic flight. Most international flights to Tokyo land at Narita Airport, and domestic flights to Oita leave from Haneda Airport. The minimum connecting time from Narita to Haneda airport is 3 hours. (Package participation price of the back cover includes the airfare between Haneda and Oita.)

OPAM will open in spring of 2015, and is designed by the world-renowned architect, Shigeru Ban, the recipient of the Pritzker Architecture Prize (the Nobel Prize of the architectural world).



Hotel Information

Beppu Suginoi Hotel

Stay on July 7 and 8

Beppu Suginoi is a spa resort hotel located on the hill top called Kankaiji, one of the 8 hot spring areas of Beppu city. It offers stunning view of nature as far as Shikoku Island over the Beppu bay on a sunny day on one side, and Mt. Tsurumi on the other.

Suginoi consists of 3 buildings, which are Hon-kan (Main Wing), Hana-kan (Hana Wing), and Naka-kan (Middle Wing), hot springs, restaurants, banquet halls, meeting rooms, Karaoke rooms, and spa salon, "Spa the Ceada". Suginoi also offers many other amusement facilities, such as an open air hot spring, "Tanayu", an open air swimsuit hot spring facility, "The Aqua Garden", the bowling alley, amusement swimming pool, "Aquaheat", the game center, and souvenir shops.

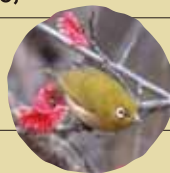


Kankaiji 1, Beppu City, Oita, Japan 874-0822
Phone: +81-977-24-1141 Fax: +81-977-21-0010

Oita Prefecture Overview



- Location of the Prefectural Office: Oita City
- Prefectural Flower and Tree: Bungo Prunus Mume
- Prefectural Bird: Japanese White-Eye
- Population: 1,171,702 (As of October 1, 2013)
- Area: 6,339.82km² (As of October 1, 2013)
- Climate in July:
Average highest temperature 87.0°F (30.6°C)
Average lowest temperature 73.8°F (23.2°C)
- Sister Cities:
Austin, Texas and Oita City
Beaumont, Texas and Beppu City



Japanese White-Eye
with Bungo Prunus Mume

Tourist Information

Oita Prefecture's Official Tourism Site
<http://www.pref.oita.jp/site/tourism/>

Oita Prefecture's Official Sightseeing Information Site
<http://www.visit-oita.jp/index.e.html>

Oita Oasis Tower Hotel

Stay on July 12

Oita Oasis Tower Hotel is a modern hotel in Oita City. It is located in the "Oita Oasis Tower," the highest building in the city, which houses the cultural center and shopping mall. The tower will be connected with the Oita Prefectural Art Museum (OPAM) to be opened in April 2015.

It also houses the prefectural musical theater and the NHK broadcast station. The hotel is only one kilometer from JR Oita railway station and 60 kilometers from Oita airport.



2-48 Takasago-machi, Oita City, Oita, Japan 870-0029
Phone: +81-97-533-4411 E-mail: info@oasistower.co.jp



Opening and Closing Ceremonies & Receptions

Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception

Evening of July 8, Wednesday

The Opening Ceremony will be held in a banquet room, "Pearl", of Beppu Suginoi Hotel.

This is the true start of the Grassroots Summit with the American participants, distinguished guests, Summit organizers, volunteers, Japanese Summit alumni members, etc. It will be followed by Welcome Reception in a room, "Amber", in Beppu Suginoi.



Contents

- The welcome addresses by distinguished guests of Oita
- Local attraction
- Welcome dinner

Closing Ceremony and Farewell Reception

Late afternoon of July 12th, Sunday

After the local session and the visit to Oita Prefectural Art Museum have finished, a Closing Ceremony and Farewell Reception will be held to give everybody the opportunity to say goodbye to those who have made so many memories with. It will be planned in a banquet room of Oita Oasis Tower Hotel which is located in the midst of Oita City.



Contents

- Farewell speeches from organizers
- Introduction of the next Grassroots Summit in 2016
- Farewell dinner



Local Tour Choice on July 8

The second day in Oita will begin with 5 optional local tours. Each tour will take 5 to 6 hours, and includes the sightseeing of three famous hot springs, Chinoike-Jigoku (Blood Pond Hell), Umi-Jigoku (Sea Hell), Oniishi-Bozu Jigoku (Monk Head Hell), and lunch. Some Japanese Grassroots Summit alumni will join the tour, too.

***Please choose a tour of different area from the preferred Local Session city**

A Beppu Nature Course \$45

Lunch will be served at Hyotan Onsen, the Michelin 3 starred hot spring, and then the bus will go to the mountain top to give you the magnificent view of the whole Beppu city. The visits to Myoban Onsen, and to Lake Shidaka are also included.



Lake Shidaka

B Unique Oita Course \$65

Mt. Takasaki in Oita City is very famous for Japanese monkeys. July is the season to be able to see their cute babies. After the encounter with the monkeys, lunch is planned at Umitamago Aquarium where attractive sea animals are waiting for you. "Oita Toillennare" will amaze you, showing how the toilets can be the artworks.

Youth Admission Discount
15 and under **-\$12**
6 and under **-\$18**
3 and under **-\$23**



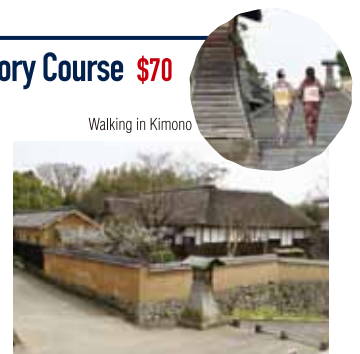
Monkeys of Mt. Takasaki



Umitamago Aquarium

C Kitsuki Beautiful History Course \$70

Kitsuki will show you the vivid history of Oita with its unique cityscape. Changing the western clothes to Kimono and walking along the street with wooden clogs are just fun! Visits to Kitsuki Castle and to old samurai residences are included.



Old Samurai Residence

D Yufuin Relax Course \$45

Yufuin is another well-known Onsen (hot spring) resort, and several high-end ryokans (Japanese style inn) are located. Unique shops, museums, cafes, etc., are lined along the streets, and they are always busy with many tourists. Lake Kinrin is a beautiful and calm spot to relax and good place for the photographers.



Lake Kinrin



Street with Tourists

E Beppu Learning Course \$40

Beppu is also famous with "Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU)" and "Japan Sun Industries". APU was established in 2000, and now 5,700 students from about 80 different countries are studying. "Japan Sun Industries" is a Social Welfare Organization which is providing jobs to handicapped people, collaborating with major Japanese companies. Their motto is "No charity, but the chance!"



Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU)



People of Japan Sun Industries