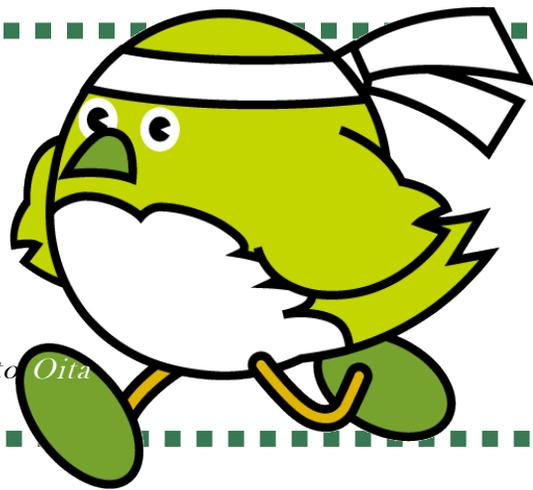


What's up,

OITA!

 2019 June
No. 37

Bringing the latest from Oita, Japan to all those connected to Oita thriving all across the globe.



Rugby World Cup 2019™ Tickets Now On Sale

The upcoming Rugby World Cup 2019, convening in Oita from September 20, will feature New Zealand, which will compete for its third straight victory, Australia, placed runner-up in the last World Cup, and Wales, which came out on top in the previous Six Nations Championships held in Europe.

Tickets to matches are now on sale exclusively on RWC 2019's official website (tickets.rugbyworldcup.com). Participate in this once in a lifetime experience, here home in Oita.

Official App 'O!TA'

The 'O!TA' application, offering information on rugby, tourism, dining-related information and much more at the swipe of a finger, has just been released. Try it out by downloading the app via scanning the QR code.



Additionally, the giant lounging lucky cat 'Fukuneko Fuku-nyan' has made its appearance in the heart of Oita City. Fukuneko Fuku-nyan, with a total length of 10.4m, was a big hit in last year's National Cultural Festival and the Art and Culture Festival for Persons with Disabilities.

The giant cat has been transported from Bungo-ono City and will be on display for a limited time in Oita City.



Holding a clap-banner with 'TRY' written on it, Fukuneko Fuku-nyan is doing its bit to support Oita in the rugby events. We're confident that Fuku-nyan will beckon over a lot overseas guests in the days to come.



Oita Sports Park, designated venue for upcoming matches in Oita.

Schedule for the RWC 2019 matches in Oita :

- Wed, 2 Oct, kickoff from 19:15 - Pool B. New Zealand v Canada.
- Sat, 5 Oct, kickoff from 14:15 - Pool D. Australia v Uruguay.
- Wed, 9 Oct, kick-off from 18:45 - Pool D. Wales v Fiji.
- Sat, 19 Oct, kick-off from 16:15. Quarter-final 1. Winner Pool C v Runner up Pool D.
- Sun, 20 Oct, kick-off from 16:15 - Quarter-final 3.

Rose to the Occasion

Rose Hill Amagase

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Xin Lan, Xie, CIR from Australia

In Australia, where I am from, the flower for Mother's Day is the chrysanthemum since Australians consider it humorous and endearing to give mums "mums" on the day. While nice in their own ways, chrysanthemums are often the flower of choice for funerals and graves in Japanese culture, and are perhaps not the optimal gift for Mother's Day. I thought that it would only be fitting to search for a better alternative, and it was so that I ended up in the Rose Hill Amagase (Amagase Agriculture Park) on a warm day in May.

Rose Hill Amagase lies in Hita City, and boasts more than 2,500 rose bushes of around 300 varieties. Some varieties, like the 'Masayuki' and 'Kousai', had names with a Japanese touch, while others like 'Henry Fonda' and 'Pinocchio' had a more foreign air about them. A hardy variety called 'Mother's Day', which bloomed in great numbers near the entrance, was particularly memorable. The air in the greenhouse was perfumed by the scent of flowers, as numerous fans were turning dutifully to keep the roses from contracting diseases from excess humidity. To admire these gorgeous flowers from another perspective, visitors can stand on a raised viewing platform that gives a sweeping view of a sea of colours.

The outdoor section of Rose Hill Amagase was equally endearing. Since the weather was warm, couples and groups of friends alike were strolling the lovingly tended garden. The sight of a climbing rose twirling around the trunk of Japanese maple made me smile, as the juxtaposition of East and West was so strangely harmonious and picturesque, it was hard to resist. My camera soon ran out of memory, since there was a photo opportunity in every corner that I looked at.



Aside from May, where the hues and fragrance of the roses are at their most vibrant and intense, the flowers can also be enjoyed in autumn from mid October to late November. Whether you're looking for an activity in celebration for Mother's Day, or simply a leisurely day out with family and friends, the Rose Hill Amagase is the place to visit.



Rose Hill Amagase

2384-3 Itsumaichi, Amagase-machi, Hita City, 877-0011
TEL 0973-57-8187

Business hours: 09:00~17:00
Facility closes every Tuesday and Dec 29~Jan 3
**If the Tuesday falls on a public holiday, the garden will open on the day and close on the following day instead)

Entrance fee: Adults (Snr high schoolers and older) – JPY300, Children – JPY100