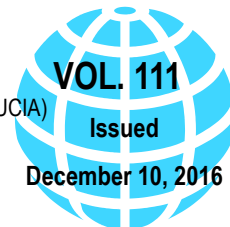




# Oh-i!



英語



Issued by Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP)  
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## Learn Japanese Manners!

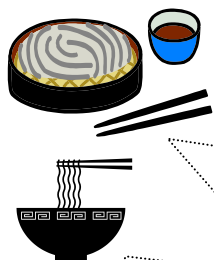


There sure are many opportunities to experience Japanese culture at the year-end and start of the new year. But, I'm not familiar with Japanese manners, so I'm a little worried.



If you know the manners, then you'll be able to enjoy life in Japan more. Let's learn about Japanese manners together!

①



In Japan on Omisoka (December 31), there is a custom to eat "soba" (buckwheat noodles). Soba noodles are thin and long so they are eaten with the desire of "living a long life in good health with good fortune."

When noodles are eaten, noise is made as they are slurped up. In other countries this may be impolite, but in Japan making noise while slurping noodles allows the noodles and soup broth to combine well together, so it is a delicious way to eat.

②

The following uses of chopsticks when eating are considered to be poor etiquette, so be careful!



**Tate-bashi (Vertical placement):**  
Placing your chopsticks vertically in rice. This is a use only for arranging rice at the bedside of a dead person at a funeral.

**Hashi-watashi (Food passing):**  
Transferring food with your chopsticks and another's. This is a use only for passing the bones of dead person who has been cremated.



**Jika-bashi (Common dish usage):**  
It is not good to take the food of a common dish using chopsticks which you have put in your mouth. Please use Tori-bashi (serving chopsticks) instead.



③

At the year-end and start of the new year it is possible to have a long vacation, so I am planning to go on a trip to a hot spring with my family.



You can really relax in a hot spring! But, be sure to wash off your body before getting in the bathtub! Please make sure you don't put your towel in the bathtub!

④

I am going to go to my friend's wedding! Is there anything I should be careful about?



Be careful about the envelope you put the "goshugi" (celebratory money) in. There are "musubikiri" and "chomusubi" types.

< Musubikiri >



This is used for things that you hope will not reoccur numerous times, such as the celebration of marriage and recovery from an illness.

< Chomusubi >



This is used to celebrate things you hope will occur numerous times, such as the birth of a child or entrance to a school.

I really learned a lot. With an understanding of Japanese customs and manners I hope it will be possible to have a good relationship with others.



⑤

## Daily life information

個人番号カードイメージ



※マイナンバー = 個人番号

## Please take note of your My Number (individual no.) card expiration date!

People who are a mid to long term resident who have the **same** expiration date for their residence card and "My Number card"

### 1. Where is the expiration date notated?

- It is notated to the right of your date of birth on the front of your "My Number card" (the side with your picture).

### 2. What should I do when it gets near the expiration date?

- In addition to extending your period of residence at the immigration office, please extend the expiration date of your "My Number card" at the City Hall's Citizen's Division, a local self-government center, local citizen's center, or branch office.

### 3. What kinds of people can have the expiration date extended?

- People who are in the process of renewing their residency period and have a stamp on the back of their residence card stating "being updated."
- People who have permission to extend their residency period and have a new residence card.

### 4. What is necessary for the procedure to extend the expiration date?

- My Number card (that hasn't passed the expiration date)
  - Residence card (must indicate that it is being updated or stating the date of the new residency period)
- ※If your residence card is being renewed, the My Number card can only have its expiration date extended for two months, so when you receive your new residence card, please complete the procedures to extend your My Number card expiration date again.

### 5. What should I do if it is past the expiration date?

- If the expiration date has passed then it will no longer be usable, so please return it to the Citizen's Division.
  - You have to complete the procedures to apply for a My Number card again.
- ※It requires a new picture and a service charge of 1,000yen for reissuance of the card.

- Inquiries: Citizen's Division (Shimin-ka)  
☎028-632-2271



## Multilingual daily life information app

Always have essential information for  
living in Japan at your fingertips



### ○ iOS/Android app

The Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) provides a free iOS/Android app called "Multilingual Living Information" with information for foreigners living in Japan in 14 languages.

Languages: English, Chinese, Korean & North Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Thai, German, French, Russian, Japanese (with furigana), and simple Japanese

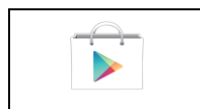
### ○ App functions

Information on 17 topics such as "Status of residence," "Housing," "Education," "Medical," etc. is clearly explained.

It displays emergency earthquake bulletin sent when an earthquake of magnitude 5 or higher occurs in Japan.

### ○ How to install

Search for "Multilingual Living Information" or "Japan Life Guide" on:



or



※You can access it from the CLAIR website:  
<http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengo/>

- Inquiries: CLAIR ☎03-5213-1725



## Earth Stage Concert

- 🕒 January 8 (Sun) 1:30PM – 3:30PM  
1:00PM doors open
- 😊 Concert stage with a performance of films and music of international cooperation sites synchronized by psychologist Norihiko Kuwayama

**Max** First 300 people  
**For** Elementary school children and above  
**Sign up** TEL, FAX, or e-mail by January 7  
**@** Higashi Shimin Katsudo Center  
 (East Citizen's Activity Center)  
 ☎ Utsunomiya City International Association  
 028-616-1870  
 FAX 028-616-1871 ✉ ucia@ucia.or.jp



## See the First Sunrise of the New Year

- 🕒 January 1 (Sun/holiday) 6:00AM – 7:15AM
- 😊 See the first sunrise of the new year from Utsunomiya Tower
- Sign up** Send a reply-paid postcard to:  
 Hachimanyama Koen Kanri Jimukyoku  
 5-5-1 Hanawada, Utsunomiya-shi, 320-0027  
 On the message side write:  
 The names, addresses, ages, and telephone numbers of everyone who wants to participate  
 On the return side write:  
 The representative's name and address  
 Deadline: December 13 (must arrive by that day)
- Max** 1 person cannot submit multiple postcards, and up to 5 people's information can be submitted on 1 postcard. 80 people will be selected by a drawing.
- @** Hachimanyama Koen Utsunomiya Tower  
 Tenbodai (Hachimanyama Park Utsunomiya Tower Observatory)
- ☎ Hachimanyama Koen Office 028-624-0642



## New Year Rice Cake Pounding Event!

- 🕒 January 6 (Fri) 11:30AM – 1:00PM
- 😊 Experience pounding rice cakes the traditional way using a mortar and pestle  
 100 servings only provided.
- For** People living, working, or attending school in Utsunomiya City
- Cost** 100yen (Material cost)
- @** Seishonen Katsudo Center  
 (Youth Activity Center)
- ☎ Seishonen Katsudo Center 028-663-3155



## Make and eat!

## Forest Restaurant!

- 🕒 January 8 (Sun) 9:30AM – 1:00PM
- 😊 Outdoor cooking with local ingredients using a "kamado" cooking stove.
- For** Families and groups living or working in Utsunomiya City
- Max** First 12 groups
- Sign up** December 3 – 15 by TEL/FAX
- Cost** About 1,000yen/person (Food cost, etc.)
- @** Boken Katsudo Center  
 (Adventure Activity Center)
- ☎ Boken Katsudo Center 028-669-2441  
 FAX 028-669-2240



## Spanish Cooking Class

- 🕒 January 29 (Sun) 10:00AM – 1:00PM
- 😊 Spain cooking class by a Spanish instructor
- Bring** Apron and hair covering kerchief
- Cost** About 1,000yen/person
- Sign up** By January 14 (Sat) through UCIA
- Max** First 30 people to sign up
- @** Utsunomiya-shi Sogo Fukushi Center  
 (Utsunomiya City General Welfare Center)  
 7F Cooking Room
- ☎ Utsunomiya City International Association  
 (UCIA) 028-616-1870



## ♪ International Exchange Salon

- 🕒 4th Sunday of every month 4:00 – 6:00PM  
 December 25, January 22,  
 February 26, March 26
- 😊 An event at which you can talk with people from various countries
- Cost** Free
- @** Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP)
- ☎ UIP 028-616-1563

## Information

# Utsunomiya City Skate Center



Every winter you can use a spacious indoor skate rink.

Please enjoy winter sports with your friends or family!

Period	October 1 – May 15
Open	< Mon - Fri > 1:00PM - 7:00PM < Sat, Sun, holidays, weekdays during winter vacation > 9:00AM – 5:00PM
Closed	Every Wed. in October, November, April, and May (Thursdays if it is a national holiday) December 30 – January 1
Admission fee	750yen per time ※370yen for junior high school students and younger
Ice skate rental fee	310yen per pair ※150yen for junior high school students and younger
Inquiries	Utsunomiya City Skate Center 3-15-32 Jonan, Utsunomiya-shi ☎ 028-655-6817
Website	<a href="http://www.miya-sp.jp/">http://www.miya-sp.jp/</a>



Students high school age and younger who live in or are attending school in Utsunomiya City can use the facility free of charge (skate rental fee is excluded) by showing their student ID or "Miyako no Chikai Card."

## Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services



### Consultation for Foreign Residents

		Spanish Portuguese	Chinese	Thai	English
<b>UIP</b> ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM-6:00PM	Mon	Tues	Wed	Fri
		4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month (appointment needed)			
<b>City Hall</b> ☎028-632-2834 (during office hours)	9:00AM-12:00PM	Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	—	—
	2:00PM-5:00PM	Thurs	—	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs
<b>Administrative Scrivener</b> ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM-5:00PM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday (appointment needed)			

Clip art on page 1 provided by: Yurika Usui & Natsuki Nemoto

### Interpreter Volunteer Service

Go with someone needing language assistance to such places as national and prefectural facilities and the city hall and interpret for them.

- ▶ Monday – Saturday  
9:00AM - 5:00PM
- ▶ 1 time (2 hrs) 2,000 yen
- ▶ Please fill out an application form at UIP, pay the fee, and apply.

"Oh-i!" is published in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, and Thai, and is also available on the UCIA website. <http://www.ucia.or.jp>

There you can enjoy reading past issues of the "Oh-i!" too.

There was a mistake in the October issue of "Oh-i" on the first page.  
We apologize for this. Mistake: Nakagawarakuseki  
Correct: Nakagawaochiishi