



# Oh-i!



英語

Issued by Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP)  
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## The Haga/Utsunomiya LRT (Light Rail Transit) will begin service August 26, 2023

**This month the LRT will finally begin service!**

On August 26, 2023, the Haga/Utsunomiya LRT will begin service! It will run from the "Utsunomiya Station East Exit" to the "Haga/Takanezawa Industrial Park."

Utsunomiya is an area with a lot of thunder and lightning, so it is referred to as a "Lightning Town" and thus that color of "yellow" is mainly used in its design.

The LRT's nickname is "LIGHT LINE."

### Boarding the light line

#### 【How to get on (When using an IC card)】

There are IC card readers (panel to hold up your card against) on both sides of the door.

- ① Hold your card up to the "green" panel when getting on.
- ② Hold your card up to the "yellow" panel when getting off.

#### 【How to get on (When using cash (money))】

- ① Before getting on, get a numbered ticket (paper indicating where you got on) at the LRT stop (LRT station).
- ② Get on the LRT.
- ③ When an announcement is made for the stop you want to get off at, move to the door in the front of the LRT in the direction it is headed.
- ④ Look at the fare chart and confirm the fare.
- ⑤ Put the ticket and money in the fare box. Get off the LRT.



Fare: 150 – 400 yen

Hours: 6:00AM – 11:00PM time frame

Max capacity: Approx. 160 people

#### IC card reader



Getting on (green)



Getting off (yellow)

#### Fare box



▼Inquiries: LRT Maintenance Division Collaborative Public Relations Office ☎028-632-2305

## Please follow the bicycle rules

Bicycles are a convenient way to get around, but if left on the sidewalks, etc., they can interfere not only with pedestrians and bicyclists trying to pass by, but also can cause traffic accidents. Please use bicycle parking lots.

■Please use municipal bicycle parking lots.

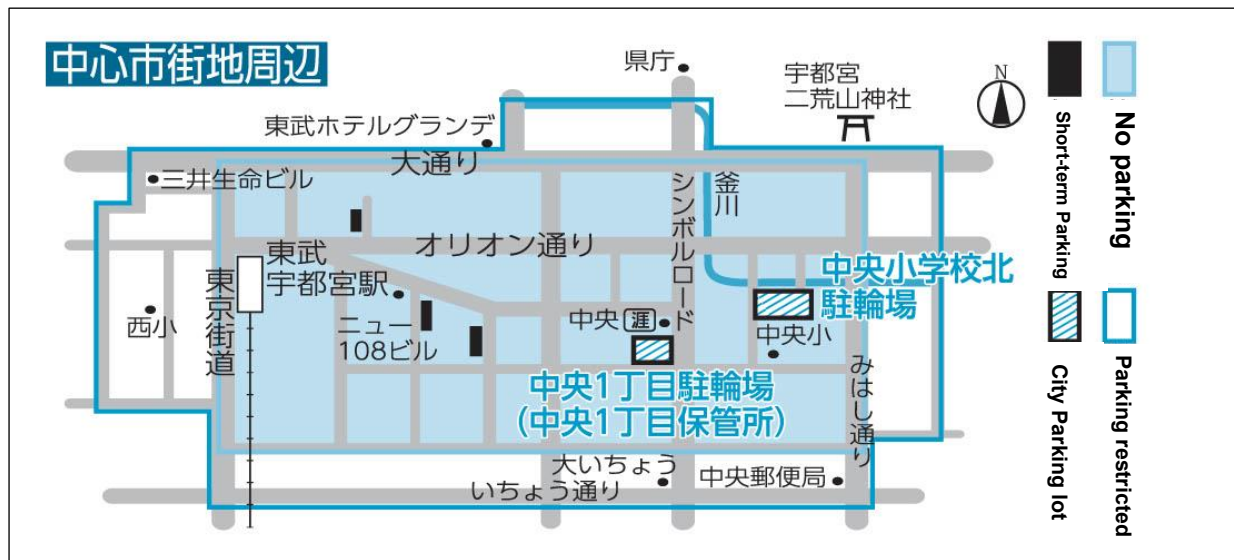
▼Fee: Free up to 4 hours, 100 yen per time per day if over 4 hours.

There is a student discount available for a commuter pass. (Student discounts are available for elementary, junior high, high school, university, vocational school students, etc.)

■Abandoned bicycles will be removed.

According to the city ordinance, the downtown area and area around the train stations is a bicycle parking prohibited/restricted area, so leaving bicycles on the sidewalk, etc. is prohibited. Abandoned bicycles will be confiscated and stored for 90 days at the Chuo 1-chome bicycle parking lot (See diagram below). To have your confiscated bicycle returned to you, you will need to pay the 2,710 yen removal and storage fee.

### Downtown area



### Use rental bicycles

It is also very convenient to use rental bicycles to get around between train stations or downtown.

▼Hours: 8:00AM – 9:00PM (Please return the bicycle the same day you rent it.)

▼Bicycle rental lot names & inquiry information

- ① JR Utsunomiya Station West Exit ☎028-621-7112
- ② JR Utsunomiya Station East Exit No.1 ☎028-635-0859
- ③ JR Utsunomiya Station East Exit No.2 ☎028-635-0859
- ④ Chuo 1-chome ☎028-635-6843
- ⑤ Chuo Elementary School North ☎028-637-7918
- ⑥ JR Tsuruta Station ☎028-636-3725
- ⑦ JR Suzumenomiya Station East Exit ☎028-653-2241
- ⑧ JR Okamoto Station West Exit ☎028-671-0201

(You can return the bicycle you rented to any of the ① - ⑧ locations above.)

▼Rental eligibility: Junior high school students and older

▼Rental fee: 100 yen per time per day for normal bicycles/electric assist bicycles.

Inquiries: Road Maintenance Division (Douro Hozen-ka) ☎028-632-2513

## International Exchange Salon 🎵

- 🕒 Aug. 26 (Sat) 4:00PM – 6:00PM  
Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday
- 😊 An event where you can talk with people from various countries 🎵

**Cost** Free

@ Utsunomiya International Plaza (4-1-1 Baba-dori)

☎ 028-616-1563



## Miya Sunset Jazz 🎵



- 🕒 Aug. 26 (Sat) 4:20PM - 6:50PM
- 😊 Live jazz concert to fill the town with music 🎵.

**Performers** Strawberry Jukebox, Utsunomiya Citizen's Jazz Orchestra, etc.

**Cost** Free

**Sign up** Not necessary

@ Orion Square (On Orion Street)

☎ Utsunomiya Jazz Town Committee  
028-632-2437

## Waste Reduction Challenge 2023 🎵

- 🕒 Aug. 20 (Sun) 10:00AM - 2:00PM
- 😊 Space to make crafts using commonly discarded items!!

**Cost** Free

**Sign up** Not necessary

@ Utsunomiya City Environmental Learning Center  
(777-1 Mobara-cho)

☎ 028-655-6030



## Film Showing

- 🕒 Aug. 26 (Sat) ① 10:00AM ② 1:30PM  
Doors open 30 min prior to each showing
- 😊 "SING: Next Stage"

**Cost** Free

**Limit** First 150 people each time

**Sign up** Not necessary

@ South Library, Southern Cross Hall  
(56-1 Suzumenomiya-cho)

☎ 028-655-6030 Utsunomiya City Environmental Learning Center



## Tochigi Global Seminar 2023

Seminar title	Day/time	Limit & fee	Lecturer & content
<b>Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, Lively catalog</b>	Aug. 26 (Sat) 1:30PM - 3:30PM	High school students & older Limit: 48 people Fee: 200 yen	Lecturers: Four former Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers Symposium with volunteers dispatched to countries such as the Philippines, Bolivia, Ethiopia, etc.
<b>Thai common sense!? Not common sense!?</b>	Sept. 2 (Sat) 1:30PM - 3:30PM	Elementary school students - adults Limit: 40 people Fee: 500 yen	Lecturer: Rutanaporn Thananon Have fun learning about Thai customs and common sense differing from that of Japan in quiz format 🎵

@ Tochigi International Association (TIA) (9-14 Honcho)

☎ 028-621-0777



## Interview

## Dai from Vietnam

We asked Dai about his hometown of Thanh Hoa, Vietnamese customs, and the lifestyles of Vietnamese people living in Japan.



### Xin chào! "Hello" in Vietnamese.

Dai provides support to Vietnamese people as an interpreter, translator, and consultant, as well as job information for technical intern trainees and engineers.

### UCIA: What kind of place is Thanh Hoa?

**Dai:** It is developing as a new industrial area. There is also Sam Son, a crowded beach, and a beautiful mountain as well.

### UCIA: Vietnamese cuisine is healthy, isn't it?

**Dai:** The staple food is rice, and many dishes use a large amount of vegetables. Pho, fresh spring rolls, and banh mi are common examples.

### UCIA: What customs differ from Japan?

**Dai:** Breakfast is usually eaten out. You can eat at restaurants starting at 5:00AM. Parents take their children to school by bicycle, so they often give their children pho or okowa (steamed rice) at a restaurant near the school prior to taking them there.

There is an increasing number of people that go to university, with many people dedicated to education, spending about half of their income on educational expenses.

### UCIA: What is a similarity between Vietnamese and Japanese people?

**Dai:** A similarity is that many people believe in Buddhism and are serious, hardworking people.

### UCIA: About how many Vietnamese are in Japan?

**Dai:** Nearly 500,000 people. There are many technical intern trainees, but recently there is an increase in specialists, intending to live longterm in Japan.

### UCIA: Is there anything you would like to tell everyone?

**Dai:** Since they have come all the way to Japan, I would like them to make a genuine effort to study Japanese. I would also hope they would learn Japanese culture and understand cultural differences.

**UCIA:** Dai, **Cảm ơn!** (Thank you)

## Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services

### Consultation for Foreign Residents

※Communication in other languages is also possible using a tablet capable of multilingual interpretation and translation.



		Spanish Portuguese	Vietnamese	Chinese	Thai	English
UIP ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM - 6:00PM	Mon	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	Tues	Wed	Fri
		4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (Appointment needed)				
City Hall ☎028-632-2834 (During office hours)	9:00AM - 12:00PM	Thurs	—	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	—	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs
	2:00PM - 5:00PM	Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	—	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs

### UCIA's official LINE

We send fun exchange events and life information. "Please register as a friend and use it as an information gathering tool."



"Oh-!" is published in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Thai, and Vietnamese. You can also read it on the UCIA website.

<https://www.ucia.or.jp/>



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