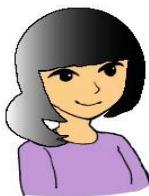


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Don't Smoke While Walking!

Why is smoking while walking prohibited?



Smoking while walking can cause people around you and/or their clothing, etc. to become burned as well as other dangerous situations. What can be done to prevent this kind of danger?

- ▼ Don't smoke while walking.
- ▼ Use a portable ashtray or a place with an ashtray to smoke.
- ▼ Properly manage the lit cigarettes to ensure the safety of the people around you.



▼ In smoking prohibited areas on the road with the following sign posted, it is illegal to smoke or have a lit cigarette.

※ If you smoke in a smoking prohibited area on the road, you will need to pay a fine (2,000 yen). You will not be fined for using heated cigarettes, but you should use them in a designated smoking area.



This sign on the left indicates an area where you should not smoke or throw away trash.

Please follow the rules!





Municipal and prefectural tax is calculated based on your income from the prior year. Persons living in Utsunomiya City on January 1, 2026 are to make their declaration at the Utsunomiya City Hall.

■ Tax declaration in Utsunomiya City

Venue: Municipal Tax Division (*Shiminzei-ka*) (Utsunomiya City Hall 2F)

Period: February 16 (Mon) - March 16 (Mon) ☺ : 8:30AM - 5:15PM

※Closed Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays

※Also open March 1 (Sun) for declaration ☺ : 9:00AM - 4:00PM

【Inquiries】 Municipal Tax Division (*Shiminzei-ka*) ☎ 028-632-2221, 2214, 2217, 2233

Q. Is it mandatory to make declaration even if I don't have any income?

A. It is mandatory to make a declaration even if you have no income.

In addition, tax and tax certificates necessary for residence status procedures, which cannot be issued unless you have filed a report, so please file it during the declaration period.

Q. What do I need to make a tax declaration?

A. Please bring the following items with you.

- ① Document showing your income for the prior year, such as a withholding slip, etc.
- ② Document showing the amount you paid for social insurance, such as national health insurance tax, etc.
- ③ Deduction certificates, such as life insurance premiums, etc.
- ④ Medical statements (If receiving medical expense deductions)
- ⑤ Document proving the amount of money sent and showing the relationship with a person you sent money to (If receiving a dependent deduction for relatives living outside Japan the original document(s) as well as a Japanese translation are required)
- ⑥ My Number card or notification card
(A form of personal ID, such as your residence card, etc. is also required for using a notification card)

※Tax declaration to tax bureau

A “tax declaration” refers to declaring your income for the past year to the tax bureau and completing the procedures that determine the amount of income tax you owe. If your company does not do year-end adjustments or if you worked at 2 or more companies in the past year, then please make a tax declaration.

Venue: Maronie Plaza (6-1-37 Motoimaizumi)

Period: February 16 (Mon) – March 16 (Mon)

※Closed Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays

※Open on March 1 (Sun)

【National Tax Agency official LINE account ↑】

☺ : 8:30AM – 4:00PM

※You need a numbered ticket to enter the venue. You can have one issued to you in advance on LINE. Entrance numbered tickets will also be distributed at the venue, but if they are already all passed out on the day you go, you cannot enter that day.

【Inquiries】 Utsunomiya Tax Bureau (*Utsunomiya Zeimusho*) ☎ 028-621-2151



◆ Daily Life Orientation Video Information ◆

In the “Daily Life Orientation Video” created by the Immigration Services Agency of Japan, you can learn important things, such as basic information and rules for daily life in Japan to enable you to live and/or work in Japan with peace of mind. Click on “Language” to view the video in 17 languages for free. Be sure to take a look!



Access video here →

Fun events ♪♪

International Exchange Salon ♪

- ⌚ February 28 (Sat) 4:00PM - 6:00PM
- ⌚ Every 4th Saturday
- ⌚ An opportunity to enjoy interacting with people from various countries.
- Cost** Free
- @ Utsunomiya International Plaza (4-1-1 Baba-dori)
- ☎ 028-616-1563



City Hall Community Concert ♪

- ⌚ February 19 (Thurs) 12:15PM - 12:50PM
- ⌚ Concert by pianist Sayaka Kato ♪
- @ Citizen's Hall (*Shimin Hall*)
City Hall 1st Floor
(1-1-5 Asahi)
Cultural City Promotion Division
(*Bunka Toshi Suishin-ka*)
- ☎ 028-632-2763



Enjoy Training

- ⌚ February 12, 19, 26 (Thurs)
1:30PM - 3:00PM
- ⌚ Aerobic and muscle-building exercises
- Cost** 500 yen each
- For** 16 years or older
- Limit** First 40 people
- @ Brex Arena Utsunomiya (City gym)
(5-6-18 Motoimaiizumi)
Utsunomiya City Sports Promotion Foundation (*Shi Sports Shinko Zaidan*)
- ☎ 028-663-1611

Japanese Cultural Experience Workshop

- ⌚ March 1 (Sun) 10:00AM - 2:00PM
- ⌚ Try various Japanese cultural activities, such as the tea ceremony, flower arranging, and mini straw sandal making. Also enjoy stage performances, such as taiko drumming. ♪
- Cost** 300 yen (Elementary school students 100 yen)
- Sign up** Go directly to the venue on the event day.
- @ Utsunomiya City Hall 14th floor Large Meeting Room (1-1-5 Asahi)
Please enter from the 1st basement floor.
Utsunomiya City International Association (UCIA) 028-616-1870



Kamikawachi Library Festival ♪

- ⌚ March 1 (Sun) 9:30AM - 12:00PM
- ⌚ • Yuzu moist potpourri
• Felt bookmark making
• Balloon art
• Food truck vendors, etc.
- @ Kamikawachi Library
(*Kamikawachi Toshokan*)
(182-1 Nakazato-machi)
- ☎ 028-674-1123

Japanese Film Theater

- ⌚ ① February 20 (Fri) 10:00AM
② February 21 (Sat) 2:00PM
- ⌚ "Departures": A moving film of a mortician growing up
- Cost** Free
- Limit** First 50 people
- Sign up** Not required
- @ Admission ticket distribution starts 30 minutes before the film
Audiovisual Library in the East Library (*Higashi Toshokan 2F Shichoukaku Library*) (3-5-1 Nakaimaiizumi)
028-638-5704



Interview

Santosh of Nepal

We asked Santosh of Nepal about his hometown of Baglung, festivals, his occupation, difficulties in everyday life, and what he hopes to do in the future.

Santosh and his wife, Sujata



नमस्ते Namaste! ("Hello" In Nepalese)

Ghimire Santosh came to Japan 15 years ago with his family after graduating from high school.

UCIA: What kind of place is your hometown, Baglung?

Santosh: There are the high mountains of the Himalayas, rivers flowing, and the nature is beautiful. Buckwheat and rice are produced. I walked eight hours to reach a place where cars are driven.

UCIA: We've heard that there are many festivals in Nepal. What kind of festivals are there in February?

Santosh: According to Nepal's Vikram history, when it is February in Japan, it is October in Nepal. On the day we begin our studies in October, we honor Saraswati, the goddess of learning, and as a family, we pray for our studies to progress smoothly and for good results.

UCIA: Did you know about Japan before coming here?

Santosh: Japanese dramas, "Doraemon," and "Crayon Shin-chan" were broadcast in Nepal, so I often watched them and imagined Japanese culture and society were like.

UCIA: What kind of work are you doing?

Santosh: I run two restaurants and one seasonings shop. We named the shop "Todoroki 8848" with the meaning of Utsunomiya's thunder and the high Himalayans. I interpret for a lawyer. I was a consultant at TIA for six years and was the former chairman of the Non-Resident Nepali Association.

UCIA: Have you ever had difficulties in daily life?

Santosh: When I couldn't yet speak Japanese and got on the bus, I put money in the money exchange machine and thought I received change, so got off the bus without paying the fare. Various services are automated in Japan, so I wasn't sure how to operate them.

UCIA: Is there something you want to do in the future?

Santosh: I love Utsunomiya and think of it as my second hometown. While expanding my business, I would like to volunteer to support Nepalese people and teach them Japanese customs.

UCIA: Santosh, धन्यवाद! Dhan'yavāda! (Thank you!)

Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services

General consultation in various languages

※Assistance in other languages is possible using a tablet that can interpret and translate multiple languages.



UCIA's official LINE account

We send out information on fun exchange events and everyday life information. Please register as a "Friend" to use it as an information gathering tool.



"Oh-i!" is available in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Thai, and Vietnamese. You can also read it on the Utsunomiya International Exchange Association's (UCIA's) website at <https://www.ucia.or.jp>



Clipart provision: Kaneko Saya, Yurika Usui, and Natsuki Nemoto