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以外の方は神輿



Experiencing traditional
Japanese festivals

林栄煙

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1
January**Hachioji** **Geikosai** 1 Jan. / Takaosan Yakuoin Temple

An event for welcoming the first sunrise of the year at the top of Mt. Takao. People visit to see the first light and pray for the year's safety as the priest recites a prayer.

2
February**Hino** **Setsubun Bean Throwing Event** 3 Feb. / Takahata-Fuduson

Beans are cast in this event to cast away bad luck and pray for good health.

3
March**Chofu** **Daruma Doll Market** 3,4 Mar. / Jindaiji Temple

One of the "three great Daruma doll markets in Japan". There are around 300 stalls in the precinct selling bright red Daruma dolls.

4
April**Fuchu** **Kurayami Matsuri** 30 Apr. - 6 May / Ōkunitama Shrine

A festival held every year that attracts roughly 700,000 people. The carrying of the mikoshi (portable shrine), large taiko drums, and pulling of the decorative floats are a must-see.

5
May**Ome** **Hinode Festival**

7,8 May / Musashi Mitake Shrine

This is an annual spring festival at Musashi-Mitake Shrine. On the main day, people gather to carry the Mikoshi (portable shrine) and climb 300 stone steps to reach the main building of the shrine at the top of the mountain.

6
June**Fussa** **Fussa Tanabata Festival**

mid-July / Around JR Fussa Station

Over 400,000 people visit this lively summer festival each year. Brilliant bamboo ornaments decorate the shopping streets.

7
July**Hachioji** **Hachioji Festival**

the 1st Fri, Sat, Sun of Aug. / Around Koshu Ave, etc.

This festival is known for the "Buttsuke", where 19 ornate floats gather and perform together. There are also many other performances worth seeing.

8
August**Mitaka** **Mitaka Awa-Odori Dance**

mid-Aug. / Around JR Mitaka Station

Mitaka's summer traditional event since 1968. Many dancers from the local area as well as other Awa-Odori dance groups take part to display their passionate performances.

9
September**Musashimurayama****Murayama Dedara Matsuri**

Oct. / Shinnyoen project site

The highlight of this festival is the parading of the float that represents the legendary giant, "Dedara Bocchi".

10
October**Fuchu** **Tori-no-Ichi** 'cock' days of Nov. / Ōkunitama Shrine

The Tori-no-Ichi is a traditional festival held on the day of the rooster in November. Three of these festivals exist in the Kanto region. Many people come to get a "kumade", a brightly decorated bamboo rake and fortuitous item.

11
November12
December

The word "matsuri" comes from a Japanese word that refers to the consolation and thanksgiving to spirits and ancestors alongside wishes for rich harvests and family safety. Back when gods were enshrined all over Japan, folklore and methods of worship differed from region to region, as did their matsuri. Matsuri have developed to this day in accordance with local folklore: some locales may carry a mikoshi (portable shrines) or pull floats.

Links

