

A Challenging Day Hike: The Route From Fujiidera to Shosanji By David C. Moreton



Temple 11, Fujiidera 1934 (Photo Collection of David C. Moreton)

The first two days along the Shikoku pilgrimage from Ryōzenji (Temple 1) to Fujiidera (Temple 11) are easy because the path is on flat paved roads. However, on your third day you will face a strenuous twelve kilometer hike up and down mountains on a dirt path though the forests to reach Shōsanji (Temple 12). It is said that the journey from Fujiidera and Shōsanji takes between five to eight hours depending on your physical state. In March 2005, I wrote an article about this hike (see

A Challenging Day Hike...continued on page 3

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**awa life** is a monthly publication of the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA)

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Download a PDF file of awa life or view the online version by going to TOPIA's website!

### **Show Tokushima Some Love: Awaglot**

The literary corner of AwaLife, Awaglot, is a combination of the words "awa" and "polyglot", which means multilingual. Be it fiction, nonfiction, prose or poetry; funny, sad, long or short, we want your submissions! If you like to write, then express yourself!

There is also a classifieds section for you, our readers, to post ads in, but a few rules do apply! The following will not be posted: Religious, political, or commercial activities, businesses searching for clients or employees, things the Awa Life editors deem inappropriate.

**BUT, you can totally submit this stuff:** concerts, lectures, and other event information, cultural, sporting, and other community group information, etcetera. If you have something you would like to share with the Tokushima community, email the editors at: awalife@gmail.com!





Arasowa-ren gracing the streets of Tokushima (Brandon Bollom)

## A Challenging Day Hike

(Con't from Page 1)

TOPIA website) but some information is out-of-date and I did not describe the two temples or other notable sites along the route. Here is a revised article based on doing this challenging hike in a day and by starting and finishing at Tokushima train station.

#### Getting there

Take a local train on the JR Tokushima line to Kamojima (鴨島) station. It will take about 35 minutes and cost 450 yen. (Schedule: www.hyperdia.com) Exit the station and walk down the street with the covered sidewalks. From there either ask for directions to Fujiidera or use the guidebook, Shikoku Japan 88 Route Guide. It is about 3km to Fujiidera. Make sure you have enough food and drink to get you through the trip. I know someone who was not prepared and did this hike with only a pack of Calorie Mate. He nearly died. You can fill up a bottle with spring water at Ryūsuian, buy a drink from a vending machine at Temple 12, or perhaps buy something at the foot of the mountain after Temple 12.

#### Fujiidera (藤井寺)(temple of wisteria) (elev. 0m)

It is believed that when Kōbō Daishi in 815 visited

here, he carved the 93cm seated statue of Yakushi Nyorai and enshrined it as the main deity in a hut that he built. He also planted the five-coloured wisteria in front of the main hall. During the 16th century, all of the buildings and temple treasures were destroyed by fire. In the 17th century, the main hall was rebuilt and the temple changed to the Rinzai sect, but in the early 19th century, fire again ruined everything except for the statue of Yakushi. The present buildings were rebuilt around 1860.

#### The journey

The path is a like a roller coaster - up and down, up and down. Some parts are so steep that they are called henro korogashi or "pilgrim fall down," so take your time and be extra careful. Along the way there are several places where you can take a break. The first one is Chōdoan (長戸庵) (elev. 440m, 3.2km from Fujiidera), which is a small

TOPIA

hut with a statue of Kobo Daishi. The next place Ryūsuian (柳水庵) (elev. 500m, 6.6km), which consists of several buildings of which one used to be an inn for pilgrims. There is a place that has fresh water. It is believed that when Kobo Daishi came here, he struck the ground with his staff and water came gushing up. Travelers can use the toilet here or stay for free at a large hut just past this place.

Here is an old tale about Ryūsuian: Along the way between Temples 11 and 12 there is a hut in honor of Kōbō Daishi called Ryūsuian, but other than this there are no homes in the vicinity. However, there was an evil person who, while pretending to be a pilgrim, deceived many people, stole their clothing, and sometimes killed them. In the winter of 1817 there was a couple from Kumamoto who were making the pilgrimage around Shikoku and as they climbed



Temple 12, Shosanji 1920s (Photo Collection of David C. Moreton)



towards Shōsanii a man approached them from the opposite direction and said, "This is the miracle water of Kōbō Daishi. Please drink it" and gave them the water. The couple was very grateful, but right after drinking the water, they suddenly both went mad. The husband ran recklessly around, fell off a high rock and died. The wife did not realize that the water had caused her husband to go mad, but she then glared into space, went mad, and without caring what people would think burst into people's homes. People thought she might be a mountain witch spoken of in society. Everyone was afraid and ran away from her shaking in fear. She eventually returned to a sane state, told others of this story, and found the bones of her husband. The lord of this land sent a message to Kumamoto about what happened, which caused a lot of commotion among the people.

The next place along the journey is Jōrenan (浄蓮庵) (elev. 745m, 8.8km) also called Ipponsugian (一本 杉庵, one-cedar-hut). The huge cedar is believed to have been planted by Kōbō Daishi. And in front of the cedar is a statue of Kōbō Daishi at the top of forty-two concrete stairs both donated by someone from Kyoto in 1926. It is also said that while Kōbō Daishi was taking a nap here the deity Amida Nyorai appeared in his dream, so he carved a statue of Nyorai when he woke up and enshrined it at this spot. From here you descend to about 480m before you make the ascent to Shōsanji.

## Shōsanji (焼山寺) (burning mountain temple) (elev. 700m)

During the 8th century, a Buddhist priest, En no Gyoja visited here for ascetic training, then in 815 Kōbō Daishi came and carved the 1.4-meter seated statue of Kokuzo Bosatsu. He also fought with a snake and banished it to a nearby cave. The path up leading up to the gate has several amazing statues and the numerous gigantic cedar trees past the main gate are amazing. There are toilets and vending machines here. In the past up to 100 people could stay at Temple 12, but nowadays only about six can stay, so the best options for lodging are Nabeiwa-so (088-677-0181) or Sudachi-kan (088-677-1180) at the foot of the mountain below Shōsanji. There are other places to stay in Kamiyama town. On the descent from Temple 12 you will pass by another interesting site, Joshinan

## A Challenging Day Hike

(Con't from Page 3) (杖杉庵) (elev. 500m). There is a statue that marks the spot where a greedy, evil-hearted man

called Emon Saburo met Kōbō Daishi and begged for forgiveness for bad deeds that he had committed.

#### Coming back

If you have made it down to the small village and still have energy, then you are doing great, but the journey is not quite over. You must keep walking to the Yorii-naka bus stop (寄井 中バス亭) in Kamiyama town about 4-5km away and get the No. 56, 57 or 58 local bus back to Tokushima. The bus takes about 75 minutes and costs 1,000yen. There seems to be a bus leaving at 16:00 and 16:48. Or perhaps you might want to relax at the Kamiyama onsen (hot springs) before heading back. When you get home please make sure to tell others about this challenging, but unforgettable hike.

#### Information:

Bus Route (Japan): www.tokushima-tdm.jp/bus/ bus/rosennzu/p027.htm Bus timetable: www.tokubus.co.jp/rosen/t imetable/kamiyama.pdf

# A Reminder About the New Cycling Law **Tokushima Prefectural Police**

In order to help alleviate the number of bicycle related accidents, as of December 1st 2013, a new cycling law has been added to the Road Traffic Law. Cyclists must now keep to the left-hand side of the road. Cyclists found cycling on the right-hand side of the road, may face up to 3 months in prison or a fine of up to 50,000 yen.

Previously, cyclists were allowed to ride on either side of narrow side lanes also used by pedestrians in the absence of sidewalks, however, now they must stay on the left side of the road at all times. You may only cycle on either side of the sidewalk if there are marked sidewalks for both pedestrians and cyclists

(there will be a sign or a marking on the road to indicate this).

## Greetings From Germany

#### By Till Dumke

Hey, everybody! I'm the new CIR from Germany in the prefecture of Tokushima. I was born in Berlin, where I also grew up and graduated from Humboldt University with a degree in area studies. I tried to mainly focus on film classes, meaning classes in which we tried to learn about the Japanese culture through films. I really like the movies of Ozu Yasujiro, Ichikawa Kon and Matsumoto Toshio. As far as newer movies go I really like the works of Koreeda Hirokazu who's movie "Dare mo Shiranai" (Nobody Knows) was also the topic of my graduation thesis.

While I was studying I used to work in restaurants or as a bike courier to earn an extra buck in order to be able to go to Japan during spring and summer break. Also I've already lived in Japan before when I was given the opportunity to study at Tokai University in Kanagawa Prefecture for a year. Studying there was a great experience so I decided to apply for the JET Programme for the position of the Coordinator for International Relations. I graduated this July so I basically went straight to Japan after I finished university.

I'm really looking forward to cycling around Tokushima and possibly doing the 88 temple pilgrimage on my bike. Since I love cycling I think this would be an awesome opportunity to experience Tokushima's beautiful nature and combine it one of my hobbies. I'm also looking forward to eating all the delicious regional specialties like Tokushima Ramen.

I hope I can help foster a more international thinking among the people of the prefecture and maybe aside from strengthening the



already close ties between Niedersachsen (state of Germany) and Tokushima, let people around here know about my home town Berlin.

Tokushima with its warm hearted people, tasty food and beautiful nature is sure to become a second home to me. Right now I'm looking forward to dancing the Awa dance and not making too big of a fool out of myself dancing in front of everyone.

5





It was three years ago that I started my journey here in Tokushima as a participant of the JET Programme. And that journey started off on a very unique note as I found myself participating in the prefectural orientation (English Camp) and by the second week I was dancing in one of the world's biggest dance festivals, the Awa Odori, There is a well-known Awa Odori dance chant that goes. "dancing fools and watching fools. If we're all fools, why not enjoy dancing!" This chant to me meant, "Live for the moment and always challenge yourself to new things!" This phrase is the epitome of my life in Tokushima.

I was able to experience a wide array of work during my three years here. To promote international relations, I had the opportunity to talk about various topics through presentations in school and

#### 3 Years in Tokushima: Life is But a Dance By Martin Rathmann

through my weekly radio appearance (FM Tokushima). In regards to the Japanese-German exchange, I was able to take the visiting German delegations around Tokushima and even had the opportunity to meet the President of Germany. I gained many valuable experiences, met many people and was able to visit many places through work. Of the many experiences, there are three experiences that were particularly memorable.

After interpreting for a marathon runner from Lower Saxony, I was inspired to participate myself. And so in 2014, I decided to take part in the Tokushima Marathon as a runner. The day of the marathon coincided with my 30th birthday, making for an even more memorable experience!

A delegation from Lower Saxony was visiting during the time of the FIFA World Cup when the Germany vs. Brazil semi finals game was going on so, the staff at the Prefectural Office held a live viewing in one of the meeting rooms in the Prefectural Office. The game ended amazingly with Germany winning with a score of 7-1, but most of all, I was left speechless at the amazing hospitality that the Governor the staff and at the

prefectural office showed.

As well, right before I left Tokushima, I was able to visit 23 temples located in Tokushima Prefecture of the Shikoku 88 Temple Pilgrimage in four days. The beautiful Tokushima landscape, the warm people and the unique characteristics of each temple inspired me to want to continue the rest of the pilgrimage.

My time in Tokushima began with the Awa Odori and ended with the Awa Odori. I danced my way in and now I will dance my way out. Before I came to Tokushima, I knew nothing about it. But, as they say "home is where you make it," Tokushima is now my second home. All the friendship that I have formed here will continue to connect me to Tokushima. To all of the amazing people that have made my time here in Tokushima unforgettable and special, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Thank you very much.



Martin in the henro outfit

#### Aparna's Recipe Corner By Aparna Matale



VEGETABLE RICE

#### Ingredients

Olive oil 1tsp Cumin seed 1/2 tsp Chopped garlic 1 clove Diced carrot 1tbsp Green peas 1tbsp Corns 1tbsp Chopped onion 1tbsp Salt as per taste Long Grain Rice 1 small cup

#### Directions

1) Warm up olive oil in a pan. When it's heated up, put cumin seeds and



chopped garlic and stir for 30 sec.
2) Add chopped onion and stir for 1 min.
3) Add salt then add all vegetables and stir for 1 min then add rice.
4) Add water and when it starts to boil, cover the pan and cook for 10min on slow flame. The cumin seed and garlic combination with olive oil goes very well.

Wash the rice 2 times and keep aside at least for 30min to get good results. Easy and simple but delicious rice.

# Connecting the World Through Awa Dance 34 Years of Arasowa-ren



Walking between stages (Brandon Bollom) For the 34th year, the (Awa Odori). First established Arasowa-ren dance troupe in 1981, Arasowa-ren has took to the streets of been providing people from Tokushima, dancing in one of around the world with a the biggest dance festivals in the Awa Odori Festival, and this year, 250 people from about 17 countries joined the ren (dance troupe). As well, Arasowa-ren was joined by 37 members of the Tokushima Summer School by H-LAB team, all university students from both inside and outside of Japan. For the past 34 years, Arasowa-ren, whose name means "we will not wage war" in the Awa dialect. has been working hard towards harmony and fostering mutual understanding and international exchange and their outreach has continued to grow.



#### Japanese Lesson By Takako Yamada

September 1<sup>st</sup> is Disaster Prevention Day (防災の日). This day was established to mark the Great Kanto Earthquake (関東大震災), which took place on this day in 1923. Disaster drills (防災訓練) are conducted by national and local governments to enhance people's awareness of the danger of natural disasters and preparedness for such situations. September is also the typhoon season. This month's Japanese lesson deals with various expressions related to natural disasters such as typhoons, earthquakes and tsunami that you often see on TV and in the newspapers.

<sup>てんきょほう</sup> 天気予報	weather forecast	びなんし じ 避難指示	evacuation order	ほうふう 暴風	storm wind
<sup>けいほう</sup> 警報	warning	ひなんかんこく 避難勧告	evacuation advisory	おおあめ 大雨	heavy rain
<sup>ちゅういほう</sup> 注意報	advisory	ひなんじゅんび 避難準備	evacuation preparation	こうずい 洪水	flooding
<sup>はつれい</sup> 発令する	issue	<sup>ひなんばしょ</sup> 避難場所	shelter	<sup>はろう</sup> 波浪	high wave
がいじょ 解除する	lift	どしゃくず 土砂崩れ	mudslide/landslide	じしん地震	earthquake
<sup>ひなん</sup> 避難する	evacuate	っうこうど 通行止め	road closure	っ <sup>なみ</sup> 津波	tsunami
<sup>はっせい</sup> 発生する	hit, occur	しんど 震度	seismic intensity	たつまき 竜巻	tornado
<sup>こううりょう</sup> 降雨量	precipitation	ふうそく 風速	wind speed (kph)	たかしお 高潮	storm surge
断水	water outage	でいでん 停電	electricity outage	はんらん	overflow
<sup>しんすい</sup> 浸水	submerged	ゆくえふめい 行方不明	missing	けが	injury

Please match the Japanese sentence to the English sentence.

 たいふう ちか

 台風が近づいています

 おまめめけいほう はつれい だ

 大雨警報を発令し(出し)ました

 かか はんらん みず だ

 川が氾濫しました(水があふれ出しました)

 しんど

 こしる

 変もの

 こした

 たか はんらん みず た

 がり はんらん みず た

 ごしん

 たか はんらん みず た

 高い 所 へ避難して(逃げて)ください

 ガスの火を消してください

 たが ていてん みず てんき つか

 断水・停電です (水や電気が使えません)

 ひなんばしょ に しょうがっこう

 避難場所(逃げるところ): 〇〇小学校

 たす

 助けてください

 けがをしました

 しがす はい

 浸水して(水が入ってきて)います

- ① A A heavy rain warning was issued.
- 2 B A magnitude 5 earthquake occurred.
- 3 C No electricity/water supply.
- (4) D A typhoon is approaching.
- 5 E The river has overflowed.
- 6 F Please evacuate to higher ground.
- ⑦ G Please turn off the gas.
- (8) H Evacuation Site: OO elementary school
- 9 I I got injured.
- 1 J Water is coming into my house.
- 1 K Help!!

 $\mathsf{Answers}: (1), (2), (3)E, (4)E, (5)E, (6)E, (3)C, (8)H, (3)K, (10), (11)$ 

Next month, we will study how to call the police or an ambulance ( in case of emergency.



#### Letter From Suketo Hoikuen By Kazue Inoue

Once the Bon Festival comes and goes, the dragonflies will be flying about in our nursery school courtyard and you will find fully grown grasshoppers lurking behind the shadows of the grasses. As if signaling the arrival of autumn, these changes come about just as the hot humid summer air slowly begins to cool off and a nice cool breeze begins to blow. As the weather becomes more pleasant, why not get into reading with your children?

## How to choose a good picture book

Children aged...

1-2: Choose books with pictures featuring things they see on a day to day basis, such as fruits or animals. Also, books that have words or phrases that are repeated in a rhythmical fashion. 3 and over: Books with interesting storylines or classic stories (such as folktales and fables) that can be read over and over again.

#### How to encourage reading

 As you, the guardian, will be reading the book, you must start by liking reading
 When your child asks you to read a book, don't miss out on that opportunity
 Sit them on your lap as you read to them

4) Even if they choose the same book over and over again, read to them with much enthusiasm

5) Make books accessible to your children

Not only does reading foster creativity and imagination, it will also help foster a better relationship with your children. Memories of your parents reading books to you as a child tend to stick in their minds even when they are much older. We hope you'll be able to find a book that you and your children can enjoy.

#### This Month's Craft Colored Glasses

\* \* \*

 Cut out two glasses frames from a 1000ml milk carton.
 Place colored cellophane or colored plastic between the frames to create the lens and tape the two frames together with double-sided tape.

\*With these glasses, you will see the world through different colors. It's also fun using bubble wraps and nets to add a different view.



#### lihara Kazuo's Digital Museum By Shinobu Watari

Our social history and material culture is in constant danger of becoming extinct or forgotten in an ever changing world. Recent technical innovation has made it possible to digitally store certain aspects of our local culture.

This digital archive will retain Professor Kazuo lihara's artwork, which give an invaluable insight into the history and culture of Tokushima Prefecture, for generations to come.

Professor lihara is an artist who has used his distinctive style to give an insight into the world around him. There are over 170 images and these artworks reveal what life was like in Tokushima in days gone by and show how the prefecture has changed over the years. These scenes of Tokushima are important cultural assets that should be preserved and should be made accessible to a wider audience.

www.tbuni-u.ac.jp/human/museum/ To view the pictures, click 画廊 (garou, second from the right) then choose an area then click the picture. Under the each picture, you will find both a Japanese and English explanation. Events & Memoranda

#### Free Henro Walk (For Foreign Residents) 四国八十八ヶ所遍路無料ウォーキングツアー

Celebrate 1200 years of the Shikoku pilgrimage and participate in a walk from Temples 13 to 17 in Tokushima.

When: October 19 (Sun) 8:00-15:00

Application: First 25 applicants wil be chosen

Submit appications via fax to 088-623-0960 or email to zs100@mf.pikara.ne.jp For more information or to apply visit: www.topia.ne.jp/english/

Tokushima Prefecture Disaster Prevention Center Study Tour 防災センター・スタディ・ツアー

The Tokushima Prefectural Government, in conjunction with the Tokushima Prefecture International Exchange Association (TOPIA) is proud to announce a study tour for foreign residents at the Tokushima Prefecture Disaster Prevention Center to provide information on what to do in case of a natural disaster.

Date:	September 28 (Sun), 10:30-13:00
Location:	Tokushima Prefecture Disaster Prevention Center
Target:	Foreign Residents in Tokushima Prefecture
Details:	Disaster prevention guidance via video, simulation of strong winds /earthquakes,
	fire fighting and disaster control exercises (English and Chinese Interpreting)
Cost:	Free
Deadline:	September 22 (Mon)
	Send applications via email (coordinator1@topia.ne.jp) or FAX (088-652-0616).
Contact:	TOPIA (Kimura) TEL (088) 656-3303
Eor moro info	rmation visit: www.tonia.no.in/onalish/

For more information visit: www.topia.ne.jp/english/

Japanese Seminar for Parents or Guardians 保護者のための日本語講座

When:	September 3 (Wed)-March 4(Wed)	
	13:30~15:00 Every Wednesday	
Where:	Work Pia Tokushima 2F Tokushima City, Showa-cho 3-35-1	
Info:	Tokushima Prefecture Labor and Welfare Council	
	www.tokushima-rofuku.net or www.topia.ne.jp/english/	
	088 625 8387	

TEL: 088-625-8387

Japanese Seminar for Caretakers 介護の日本語講座

介護現場で必要とされる日本語の会話力と現場の状況を報告できる能力を身につけよう!

期間:	9月 2日(火)~10月 30日(木)
時間:	9:30~12:30 週 5回(月曜日~金曜日)
場所:	わーくぴあ徳島2階 徳島市昭和町3丁目 35-1
問合せ:	公益社団法人徳島県労働者福祉協議会
	www.tokushima-rofuku.net/info/713/ or www.topia.ne.jp/english/
TEL:	088–625–8387

# Events & Memoranda

JLPT Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) 日本語能力試験

#### **Test Information**

Test Date: December 7 (Sun) Start Time: 12:30 Test Sites: Tests will be administered in 45 prefectures, including Tokushima

#### **Application Information**

Application period: September 1 (Mon) -October 1 (Wed) Online application: Please submit by 17:00 Mailed application: Postmarked by October 1 Test Fee: 5,500 yen

\*Application Guide is available for 500 yen at bookstores nationwide. For more information visit: info.jees-jlpt.jp

J. TEST Test of Practical Japanese 実用日本語検定 Test Date: November 16 (Sun) Application Deadline: October 22 (Wed)

For more information visit: http://j-test.jp/

Autumn Awa Odori 秋の阿波おどり When: October 4-5 (Sat-Sun) 10:00-16:00 Where: ASTY Tokushima Info: Tokushima Tourism Association TEL: 088-624-5111

Protocol Seminar プロトコールセミナー

The lecturer, Chiyoko Teranishi, will be speaking on topics such as "rules shared among the international society" and "how to get along with foreigners."

When: October 9 (Thu) 13:30-15:00 (Doors open at 13:00) Where: ASTY Tokushima Cost: Free For more information: www.our-think.or.jp/?p=289103 試験について 試験日: 12月 7日(日) 試験開始時間: 12時 30分 開催地:日本全国 45都道府県で開催さ れる予定です(徳島も含む)

申込み手続きについて 申込期間:9月1日(月)-10月1日(水) インターネットの場合:17:00まで提出 郵便の場合:10月1日付け消印有効 受験料:5,500円

\*受験案内は1部500円で全国主要書店に て販売中。 詳しくは: info.jees-jlpt.jp

試験日: 11月 16日(日) 申込み締切日: 10月 22日(水)

詳しくは: http://j-test.jp/

開催期間: 10月 4日・5日(土・日) 10:00-16:00 場所: アスティとくしま 問合せ: 徳島県観光協会 TEL: 088-624-5111

本セミナーでは、長年、外交の舞台で活 躍された講師が、「国際社会の共通ルー ル」や「外国人との付き合い方」につい てお話しします。

開催期間: 10月9日(木) 13時半~15時(開場13時) 場所: アスティとくしま 参加料:入場無料 詳しくは: www.our-think.or.jp/?p=289103 Events & Memoranda

### **TOPIA Japanese Classes Term 2 Schedule**

\*To students and instructors: Each class has 20 sessions, and will be using the "Minna no Nihongo I" or the Minna no Nihongo II" textbooks (The textbooks are not required for the General Group Lessons unless students wish to use them). As well, there will be themed lessons on various topics such as seasons and life in Tokushima.

DAY	TIME	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	
TUE	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Beginner Ms. Motoki	We will take the first step towards learning basic expressions. Text: Minna no Nihongo I – from Chapter 1	From 10/7
WED	10:30 ↓ 12:00	General Group Lesson	Students will be split into groups and can freely study according to their needs. *For parents of young children, a childcare worker will be on hand to look after your child during the lesson (please inquire in advance).	From 10/1
THU	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Elementary 2 Ms. Yamada	We will study various verb forms and complex expressions. Text: Minna no Nihongo II – from Chapter 26	From 10/2
FRI	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Elementary 3 Ms. Aoki	We will study reasoning, causative, passive voice, and honorific expressions. Text: Minna no Nihongo II – from Chapter 38	From 10/3
SAT	10:30 ↓ 12:00	General Group Lesson	Groups that fit the student's levels and needs will be created and they can freely study according to their needs.	From 10/4
SUN	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Elementary 1 JTM	We will study various verb forms and sentence patterns using those verb forms. Text: Minna no Nihongo I – from Chapter 14	From 9/28
		General Group Lesson	Groups that fit the student's levels and needs will be created and they can freely study according to their needs.	From 9/28
			1	

1. Eligibility	All non-Japanese	residents of	Tokushima
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Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA) 2. Location

6F Clement Plaza, 1-61 Terashima Honcho Nishi, Tokushima City 770-0831

TEL: 088-656-3303 FAX: 088-652-0616 3. Fee

1,500 yen for all 20 sessions; however, if there are fewer than 10 sessions left in the term, the fee is 750 yen (There are no refunds for leaving class early, but it is possible to switch to a class that suits your level better without paying extra). 4. Notes

- The textbook "Minna no Nihongo I" or "II" (second edition) is required (2,625 yen).
- Please register at TOPIA.
  - ③ It is possible to register in more than one class if required fees are paid.
  - ④ If you wish to change classes after registration, please contact a TOPIA staff.

THU (Free Class)	10:30 ↓ 12:00	Beginner Ms. Kimura Ms. Morimoto	This class helps you prepare for the elementary classes by increasing vocabulary while teaching you to read and write hiragana and katakana. We will also talk about information to help you in your daily life in Japan.	Year- Round	
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\*Instructors may be different from those listed above due to unforeseen circumstances.

\*Classes may be cancelled due to inclement weather such as typhoons, heavy rain, or snow. Please confirm by calling TOPIA at 088-656-3303 (Open from 10:00).

\*As the number of groups for the group lessons will be limited, you may not always be able to find a group that fits your level. Please call ahead to arrange a group in advance.

### Counselling Service at TOPIA トピアの相談窓口

TOPIA offers a counselling and advisory service to all foreign residents to help with issues involving accidents, working conditions, housing, visas, international marriage, and more. Counselling is available in English and Japanese. Please note that although every effort will be made, we may not be able to deal with all cases.

Everyday, 10:00 - 18:00 (closed during the New Year's holidays) Tel: 088-656-3303 or 088-656-3320 (allows three-way conversations with an interpreter)

正しい知識で差別解消