



EVENTS 

Biwako makes us more exciting!

There are many events that are held on the shores of Biwako. Biwako makes the events more exciting and makes them practicable.

At the Biwako Fireworks Festival (usually on August 8th), the fireworks reflect on Biwako making a spectacular display. In the Hot Air Balloon Race Across Lake Biwa (at the end of November), many hot air balloons race across Biwako from

Takashima to Hikone. At the Japan International Birdman Rally (at the end of July), many unique man-made airplanes compete over Biwako.

At these events, you can see all the beauty that Biwako has to offer. How lucky we are to be able to enjoy events and Biwako!



How odd are the Festivals there!

Many strange and amazing festivals are found in Shiga Prefecture. Fire Festivals, which use fire to pray for good luck, are held in many parts of Shiga.

Sagichou Matsuri Festival (around the middle of March) is one of these. This festival signals the coming of spring. At the festival, Sagichous parade around the town and finally the Sagichous are burned.

There is also a festival named "Nabekamura Matsuri Festival" at the

Chikuma Jinja Shrine (May 3rd). It is a festival in which eight girls around the age of eight parade to the shrine with black pots on their heads. Chikuma Jinja Shrine is said to house a god that is fond of food, so special pots are given to the god with crops, fishery products, and the like.

There are also other many strange festivals in Shiga. Step into one of these festivals and you might have a culture shock.

The Big Three Festivals of the Lake Country

Nagahama Hikiyama Matsuri Festival

The Nagahama Hikiyama Matsuri Festival is held from April 13th to 16th. It has a history of more than 400 years. The biggest attraction about this festival is the boy's kabuki theater performed on four magnificent floats (Hikiyama) paraded around Nagahama.



Sannousai Festival

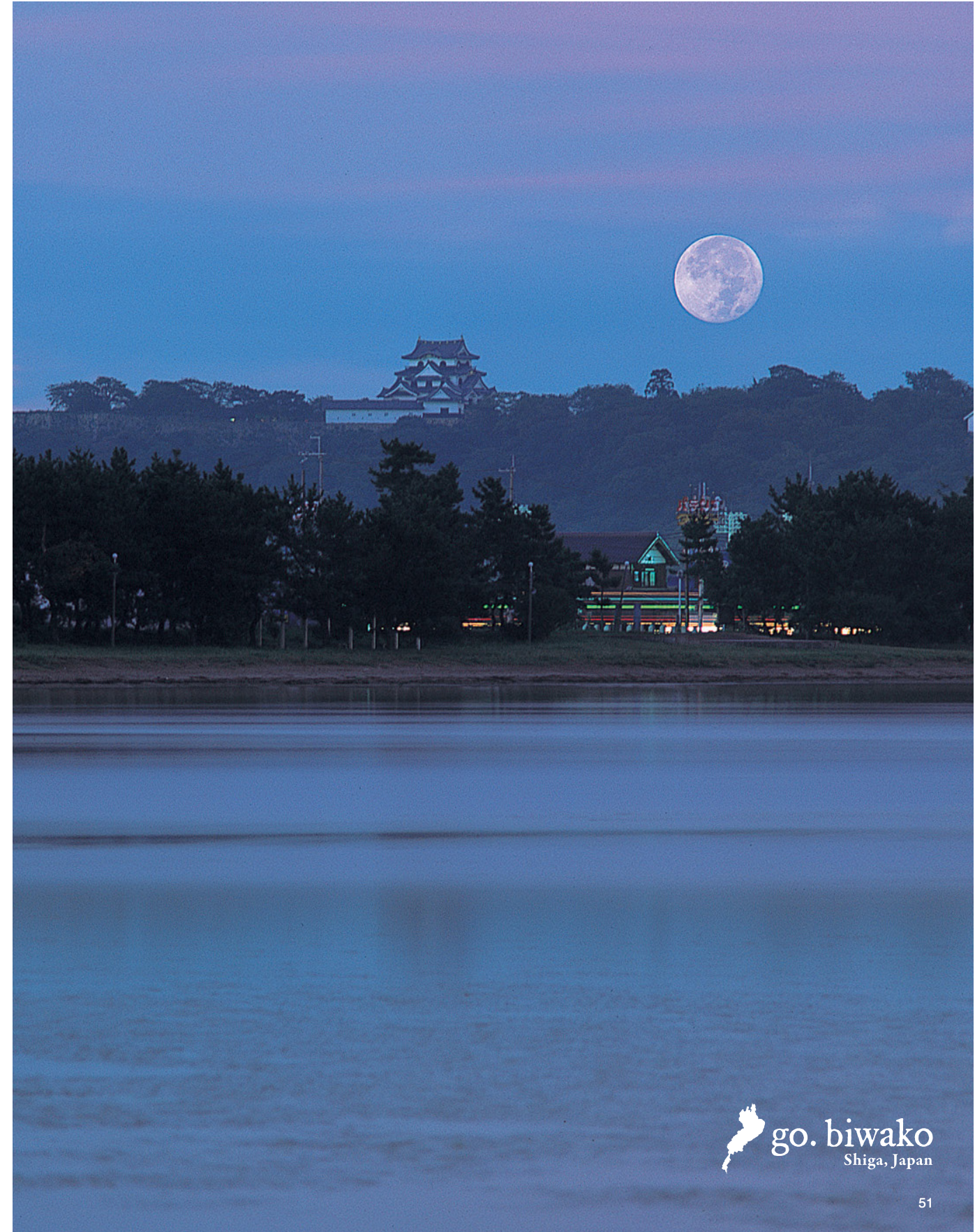
The Sannousai Festival is held from April 12th to 15th at Hiyoshi Taisha Shrine. The purpose of the festival is to pray for a good harvest. It has a history of more than 1200 years. On the 14th, seven Mikoshi will cross Biwako to a shrine in Karasaki and then go back to the Hiyoshi Taisha Shrine.



Otsu Matsuri Festival

The Otsu Matsuri Festival is held early in October. Thirteen magnificent floats made during the Edo period are paraded through the streets of Otsu. Each of them has a different windup doll on it. Traditional festival music is also played and makes the festival more delightful.





Otsu Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 1-3 Kasuga-cho, Otsu City
ACCESS: In JR Otsu Sta.
PHONE: 077-522-3830

Ishiyama Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 2-28 Awazu-cho, Otsu City
ACCESS: In Keihan Railway Keihan-ishiyama Sta.
PHONE: 077-534-0706

Ishiyama Tourist Association

ADDRESS: 3-2-28 Ishiyamadera, Otsu City
ACCESS: From Keihan Railway Ishiyamadera Sta., 12min on foot
PHONE: 077-537-1105

Sakamoto Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 6-1-13 Sakamoto, Otsu City
ACCESS: From JR Heizan-Sakamoto Sta., 11min on foot
PHONE: 077-578-6565

Ogoto Onsen Kanko Park (Tourist Information Center)

ADDRESS: 1-2-17 Ogoto, Otsu City
ACCESS: From JR Ogoto-Onsen Sta., 20min on foot
PHONE: 077-578-3750

Katata Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 1-1-76 Mano, Otsu City
ACCESS: A short walk from JR Katata Sta.
PHONE: 077-573-1000

Shiga Tourist Association

ADDRESS: 130-3 Kido, Otsu City
ACCESS: A short walk from JR Shiga Sta.
PHONE: 077-592-0378

Kusatsu Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 1-1-16 Shibukawa, Kusatsu City
ACCESS: In JR Kusatsu Sta.
PHONE: 077-563-6303

Moriyama Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 1-9 Umeda-cho, Moriyama City
ACCESS: In JR Moriyama Sta.
PHONE: 077-514-3765

Shigaraki Tourist Association

ADDRESS: 1142 Nagano, Shigaraki-cho, Koka City
ACCESS: From Shigaraki Kougen Railway Shigaraki Sta., 7min on foot
PHONE: 0748-82-2345

Omihachiman Station Tourist Information Center (North Gate)

ADDRESS: Takakai-cho, Omihachiman City
ACCESS: In JR Omi-Hachiman Sta.
PHONE: 0748-33-6061

Hakuunkan (Omihachiman) Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 9 Ishinchomoto, Omihachiman City
ACCESS: From JR Omi-Hachiman Sta., 12min by bus (get off at "Osugicho")
PHONE: 0748-32-7003

Azuchi Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 1714 Kamitoyoura, Azuchi-cho, Omihachiman City
ACCESS: A short walk from JR Azuchi Sta.
PHONE: 0748-46-4234

Youkaichi Machikado Joho-kan (Tourist Information Center)

ADDRESS: 13-6 Youkaichi-Honmachi, Higashiomi City
ACCESS: From Ohmi Railway Yokaichi Sta., 4min on foot
PHONE: 0748-23-4528

Michishirube (Notogawa Station Tourist Information Center)

ADDRESS: 766 Kakimi-cho, Higashiomi City
ACCESS: A short walk from JR Notogawa Sta.
PHONE: 0748-42-7744

Plaza Sanpou Yoshi (Higashiomi Tourist Information Center)

ADDRESS: 279 Gokasho Tsukamoto-cho, Higashiomi City
ACCESS: From JR Notogawa Sta., 10min by bus (get off at "Plaza Sanpo Yoshi")
PHONE: 0748-48-2100

Hino Machikado Kanno-kan (Tourist Information Center)

ADDRESS: 1284 Murai, Hino-cho, Gamo-gun
ACCESS: From Ohmi Railway Hino Sta., 8min by bus (get off at "Nishinomiya")
PHONE: 0748-52-6577

Hikone Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 40-7 Furusawa-cho, Hikone City
ACCESS: A short walk from JR Hikone Sta.
PHONE: 0749-22-2954

Hikone Tourist Association

ADDRESS: 1-51 Osue-cho, Hikone City
ACCESS: From JR Hikone Sta., 9min on foot
PHONE: 0749-23-0001

Taga Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 389-1 Taga, Taga-cho, Inukami-gun
ACCESS: From Ohmi Railway's Tagataishamae Sta., 11min on foot
PHONE: 0749-48-1553

Toyosato Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 518 Ishibatake, Toyosato-cho, Inukami-gun
ACCESS: From Ohmi Railway's Toyosato Sta., 10min on foot
PHONE: 0749-35-3737

Louvre Echigawa (Tourist Information Center)

ADDRESS: 895-3 Ichi, Aisho-cho, Echi-gun
ACCESS: A short walk from Ohmi Railway's Echigawa Sta.
PHONE: 0749-42-8444

Nagahama Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 1-5 Kitafuna-cho, Nagahama City
ACCESS: In JR Nagahama Sta.
PHONE: 0749-63-7055

Yotsuie (Kohoku Tourist Information Center)

ADDRESS: 14-12 Motohama-cho, Nagahama City
ACCESS: From JR Nagahama Sta., 8min on foot
PHONE: 0749-65-0370

Takatsuki Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 35-2 Ochikawa, Takatsuki-cho, Nagahama City
ACCESS: In JR Takatsuki Sta.
PHONE: 0749-85-6565

Kinomoto Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 1472 Kinomoto, Kinomoto-cho, Nagahama City
ACCESS: In JR Kinomoto Sta.
PHONE: 0749-82-5135

Omi-Takashima Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 2245-5 Katsunodaimon, Takashima City
ACCESS: In JR Omi-Takashima Sta.
PHONE: 0740-36-1314

Adogawa Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 601-2 Nishiyurugi, Adogawa-cho, Takashima City
ACCESS: In JR Adogawa Sta.
PHONE: 0740-32-2464

Omi-Imazu Station Tourist Information Center

ADDRESS: 1-9 Nakoji, Imazu-cho, Takashima City
ACCESS: In JR Omi-Imazu Sta.
PHONE: 0740-22-4201

Lake Biwa-ko Cruise

ADDRESS: 5-1-1 Hamaotsu, Otsu City
ACCESS: From JR Otsu Sta., 15min on foot
PHONE: 077-522-4115
URL: <http://www.biwakokisen.co.jp/english/>

Seta River Cruise

ADDRESS: 1-3, Ishiyamadera, Otsu City
ACCESS: From Keihan Railway Ishiyamadera Sta., 8min on foot
PHONE: 077-572-2114
URL: <http://www.lakewest.jp/>

Lake Biwa Canal (Biwako Sosui)

ADDRESS: Kannonji, Otsu City
ACCESS: From Keihan Railway Miidera Sta., 5min on foot
PHONE: 077-522-3830

Sakamoto Cable Railway

ADDRESS: 4244 Sakamoto-Honmachi, Otsu City
ACCESS: From JR Hieizan-Sakamoto Sta., 25min on foot
PHONE: 077-578-0531
URL: http://www.sakamoto-cable.jp/pdf/2011_en_pamp.pdf

Hieizan Driveway

ADDRESS: 776-30 Nagarayama, Yamagami-cho, Otsu City
ACCESS: From JR Kyoto Sta., 60min by bus (get off at "Tanotanitoge")
PHONE: 077-529-2216
URL: <http://www.hieizan-way.com/>

Okuhiei Driveway

ADDRESS: 4220 Sakamoto-Honmachi, Otsu City
ACCESS: From JR Kyoto Sta., 70min by bus (get off at "Enryakuji Bus Center")
PHONE: 077-578-2139
URL: <http://www.hieizan.co.jp/>

Suigou Meguri (Canal Tour, Omihachiman Japanese Boat Association)

ADDRESS: 880 Kitanosho-cho, Omihachiman City
ACCESS: From JR Omi-Hachiman Sta., 12min by bus (get off at "Honenbashi wasen noribaguchi")
PHONE: 0748-32-2564
URL: <http://www.suigou-meguri.com/>

Suigou Meguri (Canal Tour, Maruyama Canal Tour)

ADDRESS: 1467-3 Maruyama-cho, Omihachiman City
ACCESS: From JR Omi-Hachiman Sta., 12min by bus (get off at "Maruyama")
PHONE: 0748-32-2333
URL: <http://www.za.ztv.ne.jp/tekogi.maruyama/eng.html>

Suigou Meguri (Canal Tour, Shima Pearl Canal Boat)

ADDRESS: 224 Maruyama-cho, Omihachiman City
ACCESS: From JR Omi-Hachiman Sta., 12min by bus (get off at "Shiraouguchi")
PHONE: 0748-32-3527
URL: <http://homepage2.nifty.com/oumi8/suigou.htm>

Hikone Rin-Tak (velotaxi)

ADDRESS: 1-4 Ginza-cho, Hikone City
ACCESS: From JR Hikone Sta., 18min on foot
PHONE: 090-6552-2215
URL: <http://gokan-seikatsu.jp/rintak/>

Takeshima Island Tour

ADDRESS: Yasaka-cho, Hikone City
ACCESS: From Hikone harbor, tourist ships are available
PHONE: 0749-23-0001

Chikubushima Island Tour

ADDRESS: Chikubushima Island, Hayazaki-cho, Nagahama City
ACCESS: From Nagahama harbor, Imazu harbor or Hikone harbor, tourist ships are heading to Chikubushima Island
PHONE: 0749-62-4111
URL: <http://www.nagahamashi.org/chikubushima/>

Kohokucho Waterfowl Park

ADDRESS: Imanishi, Kohoku-cho, Nagahama City
ACCESS: From JR Kawake Sta., 15min by bus (get off at "Kohokucho Town Bus Yacho Center")
PHONE: 0749-79-1289
URL: http://www.biwa.ne.jp/~kohoku-s/chiiki/kank_kouen.htm

Kohoku Wild-Bird Center

ADDRESS: Imanishi, Kohoku-cho, Nagahama City
ACCESS: From JR Kawake Sta., 15min by bus (get off at "Kohokucho Town Bus Yacho Center")
PHONE: 0749-79-1289
URL: http://www.biwa.ne.jp/~nio/eng/index_e.html

Harie Shozu no Sato

ADDRESS: 372 Harie, Shinasahi-cho, Takashima City
ACCESS: From JR Shin-Asahi Sta., 20min on foot
PHONE: 0740-25-6566
URL: <http://www.geocities.jp/syouzu2007/>

Kaizu Osaki

ADDRESS: Kaizu, Makino-cho, Takashima City
ACCESS: From JR Makino Sta., 3min by bus (get off at "Kaizu Osakiguchi")
URL: <http://www.takashima-kanko.jp/sakura/>

