

2017 Nagasaki Lantern Festival

January 28 (Sat.) ~ February 11 (Sat.) 2017
Bathed in Rich Colors, an Exotic Dream World

The Nagasaki Lantern Festival first began as a Chinese New Year celebration held by residents of the Shinchi Chinatown as a means to revitalize the area. Since 1994, the size of the festival continued to grow, and it is now a major seasonal tradition and the main highlight of winter in Nagasaki. The 2017 Nagasaki Lantern Festival will take place from January 28 (Chinese New Year) until February 11 (Chinese Lantern Festival). Be entranced by the over 15,000 beautifully colored lanterns that light up the city center and the numerous performances rich in Chinese traditions and culture during this 15 day celebration.

Main Events



Chinese Lantern Ornaments

During the event, Nagasaki's Shinchi Chinatown and surrounding parts of the city center, including Hama-ichi and Kankodori, are decorated with around 15,000 Chinese lanterns, painting Nagasaki in the glorious colors of China. In addition, both large and small lantern displays can be enjoyed, with some of the zodiac animal displays reaching around 10 meters in size.

[Lantern Lighting Ceremony]
January 28 (Sat.) 17:30~18:00
Locations: Shinchi Chinatown Venue, Chuo Koen Venue
[Display Period]
January 28 (Sat.) ~ February 11 (Sat.)
[Lit Between]
17:00 ~ 22:00



Mazu Procession

Mazu was the god of safe seafaring. During the Edo Period, the Mazu Procession was conducted by crews of Chinese ships that ported in Nagasaki. They would travel to Kofukuji or Tenko-do Temple and enshrine Mazu there during their stay. The Lantern Festival's Mazu Procession showcases this unique Chinese custom.

[Time/Date]
January 29 (Sun.) 14:00~17:15
[Course] Confucian Shrine → Former Chinese Settlement → Shinchi Chinatown → Douza Kankodori → Berunado Kankodori → Arukoa Nakadori → Spectacles Bridge → Kofukuji Temple

[Time/Date]
February 5 (Sun.) 14:00~17:00
[Course] Kofukuji Temple → Spectacles Bridge → Arukoa Nakadori → Berunado Kankodori → Douza Kankodori → Shinchi Chinatown → Former Chinese Settlement → Confucian Shrine



Emperor's Parade

This parade provides a unique look at what New Year parades during the Qing Dynasty would have looked like if the Emperor and Empress celebrated among their people in the city. With the sacred palanquin of the Emperor and Empress in the center, around 150 flag bearers and other participants parade about in gorgeous Chinese traditional costumes.

[Time/Date]
February 4 (Sat.) / February 11 (Sat.) 14:00~16:30

[Course] Chuo Koen → Meruka Tsuki-machi → Tetsubashi → Hama-ichi Arcade → Kaji-ichi Shopping District → Arukoa Nakadori → Suwa Elementary School → Berunado Kankodori → Douza Kankodori → Shinchi Chinatown



Dragon Dance

This dance is thought to have originated from China as a rain-making ritual to ensure a good harvest. Wearing traditional Chinese clothing, participants call out to the clouds, attempting to make it rain, as they manipulate the 20 meter long dragon trying to swallow up the moon.

[Daily Performances During the Festival]



Chinese Lion Dance

These Lion Dances are characterized by the use of richly colored Chinese costumes and uniquely Chinese percussion instruments. Acrobatic dancing and energy-filled rhythms make this a must-see event.

[Dates]
Janua 28 (Sat.), 29 (Sun.), 30 (Mon.)
February 2 (Thu.), 4 (Sat.), 5 (Sun.), 6 (Mon.), 8 (Wed.), 9 (Thu.), 10 (Fri.), 11 (Sat.)



Chinese Acrobatics

This traditional Chinese show boasts Bian Lian (Chinese mask changing show) and acrobats. Depending on the venue, it is possible see before your very eyes unique, worthwhile performances with tricks performed consecutively that will excite and bewilder you.

[Daily Performances During the Festival]



Erhu Chinese Violin Performances

Blessed with the ability to dance and sing, Chinese Violin expert Sissi-ji performs on stage. You will be fascinated from the wide arrangement of genres ranging from jazz to pop.

[Daily Performances During the Festival]



2017 Nagasaki Lantern Festival

Legend

Emperor's Parade Route
Feb. 4 (Sat.) / Feb. 11 (Sat.) 14:00~16:30

Mazu Procession Route
Confucian Shrine → Kofukuji Temple
Jan. 28 (Sun.) 14:00~17:15

Kofukuji Temple → Confucian Shrine
Feb. 5 (Sun.) 14:00~17:00

Decorated Areas

Lantern Art Displays
Guides between Minato Koen and Chuo Koen

Dragon Dance Parade Area

Koushi hyou (Confucian Shrine)
To Shinchi Chinatown ~ 10 min. walk
Admission is free after 5:00pm
Note: Admission is charged for entrance to the historical site.
Open 3:30pm to 9:00pm

Holander Slope
To Chuo Koen ~ 20 min. walk

Glover's House
To Chuo Koen ~ 10 min. walk

Shinchi Chinatown
To Chuo Koen ~ 10 min. walk

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[Inquires]
Nagasaki Tourist Information Center (Aijisi Call)
TEL 095-823-3631
Nagasaki City Call
TEL 095-825-5175

Information
.....Hotel
.....Bathroom (Not Wheelchair Accessible)
.....Bathroom (Wheelchair Accessible)
.....Bank
.....Convenience Store
.....Bathroom (Wheelchair Accessible) (Ostomate)

Site Tour Stamp Rally (Free of Charge)
While out enjoying the different sites at the festival, why not join in on the stamp rally? (Free of Charge) Please refer to the map for the location of the Check-points (A). A small gift will be given at either the Shinchi Chinatown or Chuo Koen venue to those who collect 6 out of 8 stamps (limited supply).

Matsugae Int'l 1
Nagasaki Harbort
Cruise Ship Terminal
Police Station
Oura Police Station
Glover's Garden
Glover's House
Shinchi Chinatown
Chuo Koen
Kankodori
Berunado Kankodori
Douza Kankodori
Shinchi Chinatown
Former Chinese Settlement
Confucian Shrine
Kofukuji Temple
Spectacles Bridge
Arukoa Nakadori
Berunado Kankodori
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