



ASAHIKAWA INFO

November 2026, Volume 359



Friendship Party: Recreational Sports

Move your feet, meet new people, and join us for a day full of fun during our Friendship Party! This will be an opportunity to experience commonly played recreational sports in Japan while connecting with your local community~



When:

11/29 (Sun) 10:00 AM ~ 11:30 AM

Where:

Asahikawa Labor Welfare Gymnasium
(6-jodori 4-chome 2414-18)

Available Seats:

20 People (Kids Welcome!)

Cost:

Only ¥300

NOTE:

Please bring indoor sports shoes, sportswear, a drink to hydrate yourself.



Scan to Register

Nihongo Lounge

Looking to practice speaking Japanese? Make new friends with locals? Or just to even chat with new people? Come join us for our monthly Nihongo lounge!

When: 11/25 (Wed) 6:00 PM~ 7:00 PM

Where: Asahikawa International Center, Lounge

Cost: FREE

NOTE: No registrations needed!



Japanese Study Workshop

From JLPT prep to Japanese conversation, members of AICs Nihongo Support Volunteers are here to help you improve your Japanese!

When: 11/6 (Sat) 6:00 PM~ 7:30 PM

Where: Asahikawa International Center, Lounge

Cost: ¥500

NOTE: Please bring your textbooks if you have any



Scan to Register

Check out our website and social media for information regarding the events above.

For further information or to register for events, contact:

Asahikawa International Committee (AIC)

Address: Asahikawa International Center

Feeeee Asahikawa 7F, 1-jo-dori 8-chome, Asahikawa 070-0031

Tel: (0166) 25-7491 **Fax:** (0166) 23-4924

Email: asahikawainternationalcenter@gmail.com

Website: <https://asahikawaic.jp/en/>



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One Point Japanese

なるはや - As soon as possible (ASAP)
Used casually or colloquially .
(Shortened form of **なるべく早く** (はや) <)

Example Sentence:
今日 (きょう) のお店 (みせ) が決 (き) まったら、**なるはや** で教 (おし) えてね!
Once today's restaurant is decided, let me know **ASAP!**

Asahikawa EATS

Cold weather is no match for hearty appetites! In Asahikawa, you'll find countless delicious restaurants scattered across the city, ready to satisfy your cravings. Here are some carefully curated recommendations to help you discover your next dining destination. Please note, these suggestions are provided for your enjoyment and are not endorsements or sponsored content.

Seoul Terrace

ソウルテラス

Location : Feeeal Asahikawa (1-jodori 8-chome, Asahikawa)

Hours : 10:00 AM ~ 5:00 PM,
Dine-Ins from 11:00 ~ 14:30 (LO 2:00 PM)
*Closed on Wednesdays & holidays

From the vibrant array of colors in lunch sets to the sizzling sounds of stone-roasted dishes, Seoul Terrace delivers an authentic taste of Korea right in the heart of downtown. Treat yourself to a delicious, homemade Korean lunch crafted with care, all at a price that won't break the bank!



Authentic
Stone-Roasted
Bibimbap



Savoury Chicken Curry &
Pumpkin Coconut Curry

Location : 7-jodori 8-chome 39-16, Asahikawa

Hours : 11:00 AM ~ 3:00 PM,
Dine-Ins from 11:00 AM ~ 3:00 PM (LO 2:30 PM)
*Closed on Tuesdays & Wednesdays

At Harunire Café, every dish is crafted with an abundance of fragrant spices and fresh, seasonal vegetables. Indulge in the rich, bold curry flavors and beautifully plated vegetable creations, all while soaking in the stunning greenery of downtown. With its warm atmosphere and attentive service, Harunire Café is the perfect spot for your next brunch escape!

Harunire Café

ハルニレカフェ

Tonkou

敦煌

Location : 5-jodori 8-chome, Asahikawa

Hours : 11:00 AM ~ 8:00 PM

If you're craving classic Chinese cooking, Tonkou is the place to be. Dive into a variety of timeless dishes, from the bold, spicy flavors of Mapo Tofu to the delightful, saucy indulgence of the renowned Japanese-Chinese favorite, Ebi Chili. Complement your meal with a tempting selection of sides, like freshly steamed shumai or perfectly crispy spring rolls. With its diverse menu, Tonkou promises something for everyone to savor!



Saucy and Savory Mabo Tofu
and Other Chinese Cuisine
Classics



Indulgent and Hearty
Coconut Milk-Base Soup
Curry

no-ca-ya Asahikawa Airport Store

農 珈 屋 空 港 店

Location : Soraiichi Food Court 2F, Asahikawa Airport

Hours : 11:00 AM ~ 8:00 PM

If you find yourself at Asahikawa Airport, don't miss no-ca-ya! This cozy soup curry restaurant is a hidden gem, featuring hearty, flavor-packed dishes made with fresh, local seasonal vegetables. Choose from their signature umami-rich shrimp-based broth or a creamy, indulgent coconut milk broth—each simmered to perfection. It's the perfect spot to savor authentic soup curry before you take off!



AIC Event Report

SERBIAN COOKING CLASS

1

This year's cooking class has focused on the homecooked meals of Serbia, a South Eastern European country where diverse cultures intersect. The main dish was **Punjene paprika**, which is a simple yet flavorful meat-stuffed red bell peppers. Though widely enjoyed in Serbia today, this dish is of Turkish origin which was brought over during the reign of the Ottoman empire. While the side **sopska salata**, the colorful and refreshing chopped salad dish, originates from Bulgaria and is often eaten alongside hearty meat dishes.



2

With the cooking class offered in both English and Japanese, the event welcomed participants from diverse backgrounds, making it accessible to a broad audience. Among the attendees were local residents as well as individuals originally from Nepal, Canada, the United States, New Zealand, and South Africa. Together, the group enjoyed learning about Serbian cooking while engaging in lively cultural exchanges. Adding a warm touch to the course, the cooking instructor and her assistant baked fresh homemade bread to share with everyone, creating a sense of community around the table. Ultimately, the cooking class was more than just an opportunity to discover a new cuisine—but also an opportunity to connect with both the local and international communities of Asahikawa.

Japan Living:

A Cultural Guide to Experiencing Onsen



The autumn leaves have fallen, the air has gotten colder, and the world has gotten a little quieter. As winter draws near, many seek warmth wherever they can; for many in Japan it is the perfect season for a dip in the onsen.

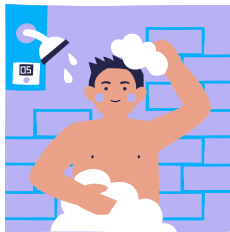
An “onsen” (温泉) is a hot bath is commonly enjoyed around the world. As an island nation with many active volcanoes, Japan is blessed with as much as 27,000 recorded onsens nationwide, making them a common place past time for everyone living here. One of the many perks of living in Japan is that there is so many onsens to enjoy, so take a visit while you can!

Visiting an onsen in Japan offers a unique cultural experience, but did you know there are specific etiquette rules to follow inside? These are vital to ensure everyone enjoys the bath to its fullest. Here are some of the most essential rules to learn for going into the onsen!

How to Onsen

Entering an Onsen

1. **Confirm onsen policies before entering**, especially regarding tattoos, as some onsens may prohibit them or issue fines.
2. **Store all your clothing and belongings**, as patrons must be fully nude to bathe.
3. **Drink water before entering the hot baths** to prevent dehydration caused by sweating.



Before Bathing, Wash Yourself

1. Before entering the onsen, **wash your body thoroughly** at the washing station to ensure you are completely clean.
2. Take care **not to splash water or soap onto others** nearby.
3. After use, **rinse the washing station and return all items to their original place**.

How to Bathe Like a Pro

1. Before soaking, **use a scoop to rinse yourself**—this helps remove sweat and lets your body adjust to the bath's temperature. This is also to help ensure that you are nice and clean before entering the bath.
2. When entering, sit at the far end to **make space for others**. Use the bath in a timely manner so that other people have a chance to enjoy the bath.
3. **If you have long hair, tie it up or wrap it** in a towel to keep it out of the water (**ensure the towel doesn't touch the water**).
4. **Do not move around too much** as it disrupts the atmosphere and hightens the water temperature.
5. **Speak softly and be mindful of others** to maintain a relaxing atmosphere.



Visiting an onsen is one of the most unique and memorable experiences you can enjoy while living in Japan. For first-timers, the cultural differences and etiquette may feel a bit overwhelming, but once you get accustomed to it, an onsen becomes more than just a relaxing escape—it's an opportunity to unwind, let go of stress, and create unforgettable memories during your time here.