



# Consulate Updates

**September 2022**

**Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane**

## Contact Us

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Brisbane

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## Office Opening Hours

Monday to Friday

9:00am – 12:30pm

1:30pm – 5:00pm

Consular Section

(Reception – visa / passports)

9:00am – 12:00pm

1:30pm – 4:00pm

## Recent Events



August was a huge month for Japan events in Queensland. We were delighted to see the return of two **Japanese festivals** for the first time since 2019 – **Japan Cultural Day** at the Mount Coot-tha Botanic Gardens, the biggest event of **Japan Month**, on 28 August and **Matsuri Brisbane** on 3 September. These events showcased **local talent** and provided visitors the chance to enjoy a huge range of Japanese **cultural activities**. Moreover, these events are an important opportunity for the **Japanese community** to maintain connections and keep our culture alive and active in Queensland.

The **Australia-Japan Society of Queensland** celebrated its **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary** with a business forum and an evening at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. The Consul-General was delighted to share in the **celebrations**, meeting with members of the Japan-Queensland community and being transported back to Japan as part of a relaxing evening in the **Japanese garden**.

Consul-General ONO also attended the **2022 Gold Coast Languages Speech Contest**. This important annual event allows students to utilise their language skills and challenge themselves, and the Consul-General was very impressed with the high standard of Japanese learners, thanks to the decades of hard work by **MLTAQ** and **Japanese teachers** around the state.

## Recommended Websites

Embassy of Japan, Canberra  
<http://www.au.emb-japan.go.jp>

The Japan Foundation,  
Sydney  
<http://www.jpf.org.au/>

Japan National Tourism  
Organization  
<http://www.jnto.org.au/>

Japan External Trade  
Organization  
<http://www.jetro.go.jp/>

Japan Exchange Teaching  
(JET) Programme  
<http://www.jetprogramme.org/>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of Japan (MOFA)  
<http://www.mofa.go.jp/>

## Foreign Minister's Commendation



We would like to send our warmest congratulations to NATSUME Misae, President of the Ohara School of Ikebana Brisbane Study Group, who has been awarded the Foreign Minister's Commendation by MOFA in recognition of her tireless efforts promoting Japanese culture in Australia.

Ms NATSUME has spent many decades sharing ikebana in Queensland, including performing an ikebana demonstration at the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of Australia's first Japanese Consulate, held in Townsville in 2021 (pictured). She is also regularly involved in the ikebana display at Japan Cultural Day at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.

The Ohara school of Ikebana, which Ms NATSUME practises, was founded by Unshin Ohara in 1895 when Japan opened up its economy to the West and began to import European flowers, and incorporates European flowers and features. The Ohara school is well known for its *moribana* style, which utilises wide, shallow containers.

## 2022 Office Closure Dates

### SEPTEMBER

*Monday 19  
(Respect for the Aged Day)*

### OCTOBER

*Monday 3  
(Queen's Birthday)*

### NOVEMBER

*Wednesday 23  
(Labor Appreciation Day)*

*For the full list,  
please click [here](#).*

## Obon in Far North Queensland



Consul-General Ono recently visited Far North Queensland with His Excellency, Ambassador YAMAGAMI Shingo, to attend Obon festivities and connect with the local Japanese community. Australia's 150-year history with Japan originated here, with thousands of Japanese immigrating to work in the sugar cane and pearl shell diving industries, particularly in the Torres Strait. More than 700 are buried on Thursday Island, where the Ambassador and the Consul-General attended an Obon ceremony commemorating the dead. They then travelled to Kazu Pearls on Friday Island to meet with owner and pearl cultivator TAKAMI Kazuyoshi, who is keeping the long tradition alive.

The Ambassador and the Consul-General were also delighted to take part in the Cairns Bon Dance Festival, which featured traditional dancing, fireworks, and authentic food stalls. Thank you to the Cairns and Torres Strait communities and local councils for your kind hospitality, and for helping maintain the region's important historical and modern ties with Japan.



# What's on in Queensland

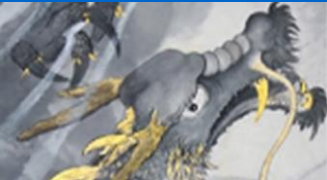


## **Takashi Wakasugi | Stay Home Stay [Japanese Boy Stuck In Oz]**

Sat 17 September | Performance

Japanese comedian WAKASUGI Takashi debuts his stand-up show about living with an Aussie family together during COVID at Good Chat Comedy Festival!

[Find out more](#)



## **Sumi-E Exhibition by International Ink Artist KIGOSHI Yumiko**

16 - 27 September | Exhibition

Enjoy Sumi-E (Japanese black ink art) by artist KIGOSHI Yumiko at the Brisbane Institute of Art! Sumi-E uses black ink and carefully curated white space to create stunning artworks of traditional landscapes and imagery.

[Discover more](#)



## **UQJX Speech Contest**

Sat 1 October | Contest

Tertiary students around Brisbane are invited to take part in this speech contest at the University of Queensland and put their Japanese skills to the test!

[Sign up here](#)



## **Japanese internment in Australia during WWII [Rescheduled]**

Sun 30 October | Seminar

Learn about Japanese civilian internment in Australia during WWII from esteemed researcher Dr NAGATA Yuriko, honorary senior research fellow with the School of Languages and Cultures at University of Queensland.

[Register now](#)

## Current Requirements for Entry into Japan



As of September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 entry requirements for Japan have changed. Those who have received three valid COVID-19 vaccinations are no longer required to submit a negative PCR test within 72 hours prior to departure. Japan has also begun granting entry to foreign visitors visiting Japan on a package tour without a tour guide. Please visit the [Japan Tourism Agency](#) for further information. All Australian citizens currently require a valid visa to enter Japan.

Entry requirements into Japan may be subject to change. For more information and the latest requirements on entering Japan, please make sure to [visit our website](#).

We are currently experiencing a high volume of enquiries. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

[View requirements](#)

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The Consulate-General of Japan newsletter features people-to-people exchanges and friendships between Japan and Australia. If you are involved in sister school friendships, exchanges or Japan-Australia related programs such as the JET Programme and would like to submit an article to be published in our newsletter, please email us at:

[culture@bb.mofa.go.jp](mailto:culture@bb.mofa.go.jp)

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### **Consulate Updates – Past Issues**

Past issues of “Consulate Updates” (PDF) can also be accessed via the Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane Website at:

[https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/jicc\\_newsletters.html](https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/jicc_newsletters.html)

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### **Consulate-General of Japan – Cultural Loans Program**

The Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane offers a Cultural Loans Program!

We have a wide range of Japanese cultural items available for teachers or persons/organisations in Queensland promoting or teaching Japanese culture. Items include DVDs on a wide range of Japanese subjects, toys, CDs, games, calligraphy sets, plastic food, traditional clothing, musical instruments and more! The items are free to borrow; the visual and tactile experience of a cultural prop contributes to a richer classroom experience.

For further information, please visit the link below to access catalogues and forms or call our office on

(07) 3221 5188: <http://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/en/jicc/resources.html>

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### **Like Our Facebook Page!**

For the latest news and updates on Japanese culture related events, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/JapanCons.Brisbane>

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*We respect your privacy. We will not disclose your personal details to any third party.*

*The Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane is not affiliated with the above events unless stated, and is not responsible for these events or the content of linked websites. For further details on any of the above events, please contact the event organisers directly.*

*If you know of any upcoming Japan-related events and would like to publicise them in our e-newsletter, please e-mail the details through to us at: [culture@bb.mofa.go.jp](mailto:culture@bb.mofa.go.jp)*

*The final choice of articles will be at the discretion of the Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane.*