

WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS

「KIZUNA –絆– News letter」

“Kizuna” is the Japanese word for “bond.”

Issued October 2, 2024, Vol.23



I was appointed Minister for the World Expo 2025 on October 1.

With only six months to go until the opening of the Expo, I am deeply honored to assume this important role and committed to fulfilling my duties.

Hosted by Japan, the Osaka-Kansai Expo will bring together 161 countries and regions and nine international organizations. I will do my utmost to ensure that we are prepared to welcome visitors from abroad and to make it an Expo that gives dreams and inspiration to everyone around the world.

To this end, I first intend to visit Yumeshima as soon as possible to see the venue for myself and talk with both domestic and overseas stakeholders. We will carry out preparations prior to and operations following the Expo's opening as one under the “All Japan” spirit.

ITO Yoshitaka,
Minister for the World Expo 2025

Following the Cabinet reshuffling, I stepped down from the position of Minister for the World Expo 2025, which I had held for 384 days since September 13, 2023 until yesterday. Over the past year, significant progress has been made in preparations for the Expo: venue construction, launch of an OSS for assisting participating countries in an integrated manner, creation of a foundation for business matching and tourism promotion, and a series of announcements regarding pavilion overviews. I would like to express my gratitude to everyone for their cooperation.

Through my discussions with stakeholders from various countries as well as the producers, I have gained the conviction that the Expo starting next April will serve as a global festival that embodies the theme of “Designing Future Society for Our Lives.” Furthermore, I firmly believe the Expo will successfully fulfill its mission of overcoming fragmentation, conflict, and other global challenges and creating a global society that is both sustainable and spiritually prosperous.

To make it a successful Expo, it is essential that stakeholders from Japan and overseas work as one during preparations for the Expo's opening and in subsequent operations. I sincerely hope that the *kizuna* (bonds) between Expo stakeholders become even stronger under the leadership of Mr. Ito, the new minister.

JIMI Hanako,
Former Minister for the World Expo 2025

【Contents of this week's report】

1. Movements of Participating Countries
September 25: International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement announces its pavilion's exterior and exhibition contents
2. This week /last week's main events
September 24: Announced details of two events, Physical Twin Symphony and EXPO SAUNA 'TAIYO's TSUBOMI,' organized by the Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition
September 24: Announced to hold a special live performance by four groups of the dance unit EXILE TRIBE
September 24: Released a revised edition of the Event Calendar
September 24: Announced the exhibition contents of the Mitsubishi Pavilion
September 25: Opened applications for the Super Early Bird Special Lottery
September 25: Released the Theme Weeks programme calendar
September 25: Kansai Electric Power chosen as the contract awardee for venue electric power
September 26: Announced acquisition of an international certification for the event's sustainability
September 25: Kansai Electric Power announces adoption of

- MYAKU-MYAKU building wrapping for its office building's exterior walls
September 26: Launched a healthcare programme campaign
September 26–29: Ran an Expo booth at Tourism EXPO Japan
September 27: Announced the launch of in-stores ticket sales on October 13
September 30: Singer and TV personality HARUNA Ai appointed as a Special Supporter
3. Ticket Sales Update
Tickets sold: 5,309,921 (as of September 27)



Six months to go!
Let's step it up!

Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (September 24- September 30) ~ 194 days to go!~



1. Official Participants

- September 25; The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which will participate as an international organisation, has released an image of the exterior of the pavilion and the contents of the exhibition. The theme will be The Power of Humanity. The pavilion will showcase stories of people confronting the world's humanitarian crises, making use of a highly immersive hemispherical dome theatre.



<https://expo2025.jrc.or.jp/en/>



Status of official participants as of September 26

- Of 161 countries and 9 international organisations participations:

Those with official participation agreements:

131 countries and 6 international organisations

Countries where construction has not yet started: 4 countries

Countries with no construction contractor: 2 countries

Countries participating in the Commons: 92 countries

2. Reports from the past week and plans for the upcoming week

- September 27; The Association announced that Expo admission tickets/exchange vouchers will be sold at convenience stores nationwide and at various travel agencies from October 13.

The following are the operators handling the tickets as of September 27, more to be added:

Convenience stores: Seven-Eleven, Lawson, FamilyMart

Ticketing sites: Pia, Lawson Ticket, eplus

Travel agencies: Japan Travel , JTB

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240927-04/>

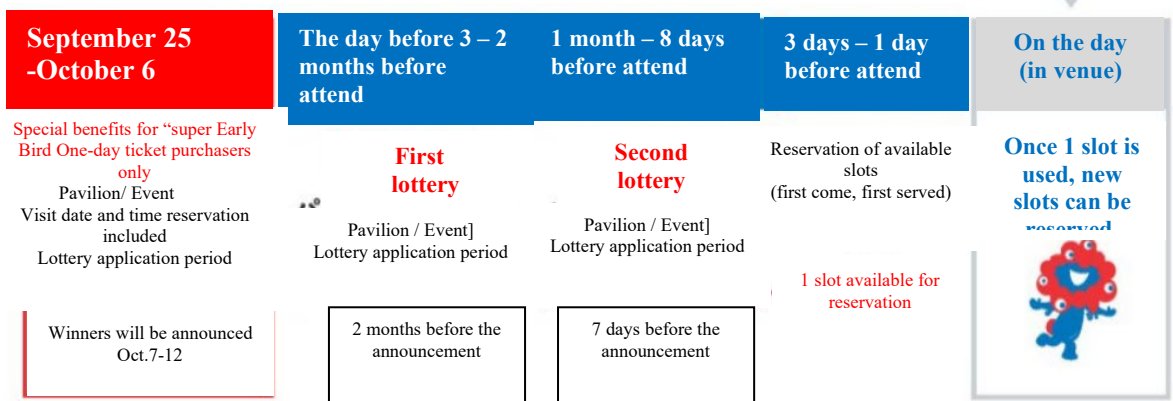


- September 25; For purchasers of the Super Early Bird One-Day Ticket, applications for the Super Early Bird Special Lottery to reserve Pavilion visits will begin to be accepted. While standard ticket holders can apply for the pavilion event viewing lottery from 3 months to 2 months before the planned visit date, the Super Early Bird Special Lottery allows visitors to apply for the pavilion event viewing lottery as soon as possible. The period is from September 25 to October 6, 2024.

Application of Pavilion/event attendance for slot lottery application / empty slot

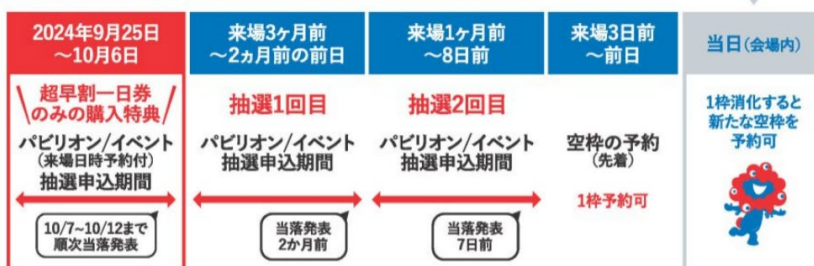
Attendees can apply for up to 5 choices for each lottery.

*Only win up to 1 slot per lottery.



パビリオン・イベント来場枠の抽選申込/空枠申込

各抽選では第5希望まで申込可 ※当選は各回最大1枠



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240925-05/>

- September 24; The Association released a revised version of the event calendar that outlines the events to be held within the Expo, to be updated as new events are set.



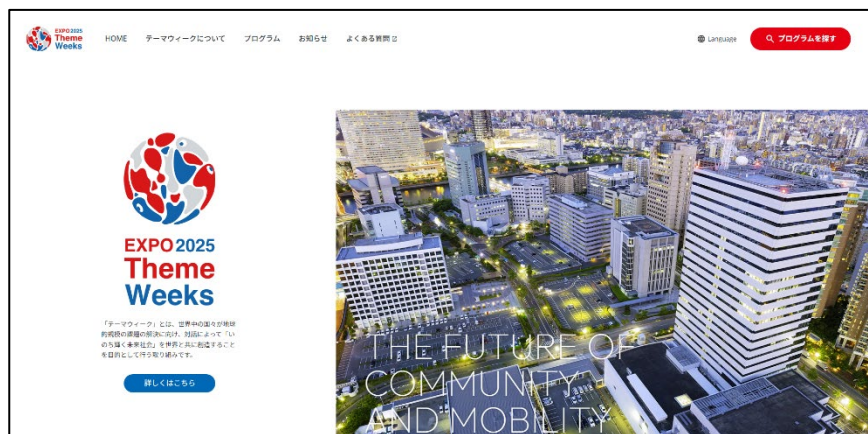
4	NO	SD	EXPOアンテナルテール	EXPOホール	EXPOアリーナ	EXPOスペース (WASSE)		キヤタリー-EAST	キヤタリー-WEST	4
			「ハイガーデン」	「シャインハット」	「Matsuri」	(North)	(South)			
13			シブタネ・フジのイベント		キョウコウ・カクキョウ・キョウキョウ					13
14			シブタネ・フジのイベント							14
15			シブタネ・フジのイベント							15
16			シブタネ・フジのイベント	Physical Twin Symphony						16
17			シブタネ・フジのイベント	「シブタネ・フジ」の音楽						17
18			シブタネ・フジのイベント							18
19			シブタネ・フジのイベント							19
20			シブタネ・フジのイベント							20
21			シブタネ・フジのイベント							21
22			シブタネ・フジのイベント	【イイ】 2025年ワールド						22
23			シブタネ・フジのイベント	EXPO ANTIC MUSIC (EM)						23
24			シブタネ・フジのイベント	シブタネ・フジ						24
25			シブタネ・フジのイベント	シブタネ・フジ						25
26			シブタネ・フジのイベント							26
27			シブタネ・フジのイベント							27
28			シブタネ・フジのイベント							28
29			シブタネ・フジのイベント							29
30			シブタネ・フジのイベント							30

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240620-13/>



- September 25; The Association has announced the schedule for the Theme Weeks, including events held both inside and outside the Expo site. A new website has been set up for the Theme Weeks, and new programmes along with their details announced in due course. Participation in the Theme Week programme will generally require reservation, with a few exceptions.

NO	種別	プログラム名	実施場所	実施日時	詳細
1	会場内	「その一歩が、未来を動かす。」	大阪夢洲	2025年4月25日(金)～5月9日(木)	「その一歩が、未来を動かす。」というテーマを掲げ、会場内外で様々なイベントを開催します。
2	会場外	「その一歩が、未来を動かす。」	大阪府内	2025年4月25日(金)～5月9日(木)	大阪府内各地で開催されるイベントのスケジュールを掲載します。
3	会場内	「その一歩が、未来を動かす。」	大阪夢洲	2025年4月25日(金)～5月9日(木)	会場内で行われるイベントのスケジュールを掲載します。
4	会場外	「その一歩が、未来を動かす。」	大阪府内	2025年4月25日(金)～5月9日(木)	大阪府内各地で開催されるイベントのスケジュールを掲載します。
5	会場内	「その一歩が、未来を動かす。」	大阪夢洲	2025年4月25日(金)～5月9日(木)	会場内で行われるイベントのスケジュールを掲載します。



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240925-09/>



- September 24; EXILE TRIBE, a grouping of popular dance units, announced that four of their units (The Rampage, Fantastics, Ballistick Boyz, Psychic Fever) will be holding a special live performance, EXPO 2025 LDH DAY SPECIAL "Jr. EXILE LIVE", at the venue.

<Outline of the event>

-Date: April 29, 2025 (time undecided)

-Venue: EXPO Arena "Matsuri"

-Cast : The Rampage

Fantastics

Ballistik Boyz

Psychic Fever

-Contents: live performance by 4 units

from EXILE TRIBE, as special supporters of the Expo

-Reservations: Scheduled to be announced in due course after this winter

-Official website: <https://www.ldh.co.jp>



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240924-03/>



- September 24; Expo producer Kenji Kobashi, in charge of event planning, will present the world's first experimental live entertainment, Physical Twin Symphony, using latest technology to reveal "another body that is not oneself". He also announced specific details of a sponsored Association event, Expo Sauna and Sun Bud.

Physical Twin Symphony, formerly known as the Human Orchestra, will be one of the opening events of the Expo and will be held throughout the first week of the Expo.



<Physical Twin Symphony overview>

-Venue: EXPO Hall Shine Hat

-Organiser: The Association

-Period: April 13 - 20, 2025

-Number of performances: 3 performances per Day; 1 performance on April 13

-Reservation: Advance / same-day reservation





< Expo Sauna Sun Bud overview >

- Venue: Green World in the Expo venue
- Organizer: The Association
- Sponsor: Taiyo Kogyo Co., Ltd.
- Period: April 13 - October 13, 2025
 - * Closed due to maintenance
- Number of operations: Scheduled 5 times a day
- Advance reservation required
- Scale (building area): 179.43sq m
(Total area): 160.83 sq m
- Facilities: Sauna, water bath, relax lounge
- Construction: TSP Taiyo Co., Ltd.
 - *ETFE structure :Taiyo Kogyo Co., Ltd.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240924-05/>



- September 25; The Association announced that Kansai Electric Power Co., Ltd. has been selected as the winning bidder for electric power provision at the venue for FY2025. By procuring zero-carbon electricity, the Association aims to achieve carbon neutrality at the Expo.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240719-09/>



- September 26; The Association was certified for ISO 20121, an international certification for event sustainability, and an award ceremony was held in Osaka. Dubai Expo 2020 Dubai and Paris Olympics and Paralympics had also been certified for ISO 20121, which certifies that the Expo is being implemented in consideration of environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability.



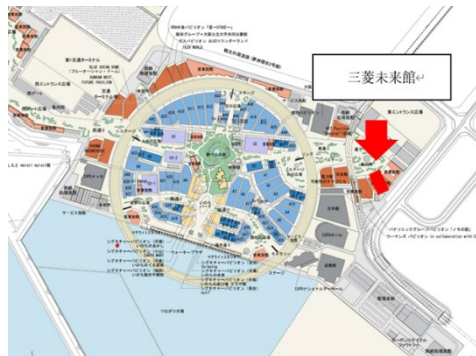
<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20240926-04/>



- September 24; The Mitsubishi Group announced the contents of the exhibition at the Mitsubishi Miraikan pavilion. The pavilion will be a two-story structure with an underground space. In the main theater on the second floor, with a capacity of 100 people, visitors will be able to experience the journey of life from deep sea to space through an immersive video experience. The Pavilion Day is scheduled for July 31, 2025.



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パビリオン展示内容

テーマ:「いのちの始まり、いのちの未来。」
Journey to Life
 ~未知なる深海から遙かなる宇宙へ、いのちを巡る壮大な旅~


生命 × 科学 × エンターテインメント
 最新の学術研究を背景に、エンターテインメント的な演出表現を駆使し、地球と生命に迫ります。

※パビリオン詳細については、公式サイト、Journey to Life プロモーションサイトを参考ください。



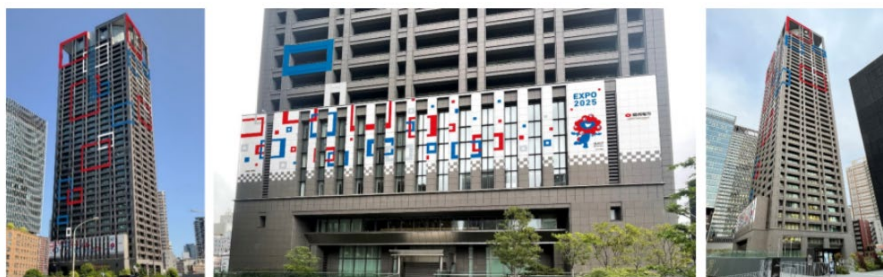


MITSUBISHI PAVILION
三菱未来館

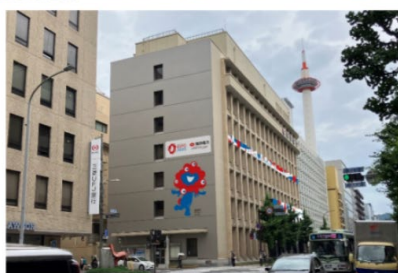


<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240925-02/>

- September 25; Kansai Electric Power Co., Ltd. announced that it will carry out facades with designs with Myaku-Myaku on the exterior walls of the Osaka main office, Kyoto office and Hyogo (Kobe) offices, from this autumn up to October 13, 2025.



京都支社 (イメージ)



兵庫支社 (イメージ)

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240925-01/>



- September 26 – 29; The Association exhibited an Expo booth at Tourism EXPO Japan 2024 held at Tokyo Big Sight, also introducing the attractions of the Expo at the organiser's press conference. Minister Hanako Jimi inspected the booth. The Expo was also promoted at the Tourism Ministers' Meeting held on the first day of the event.



- September 30; Ai Haruna, a TV personality and singer who was the opening performer at the opening ceremony of the Tokyo Paralympics, was appointed as a special supporter of the Expo.

* Ai Haruna: While performing live every year as a singer, she also appears on TV and radio programmes, advertisements, events and lectures on human rights, and is also active as a businessperson. In addition, Ms Haruna is involved activities such as supporting disaster-stricken areas and volunteering at children's cafeterias.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240930-02/>



- September 26; The Association launched a promotional campaign for healthcare programmes in collaboration with Osaka Prefecture and KDDI Corporation, with the EXPO 2025 Digital Wallet point service Myakupo! to be awarded.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240926-02/>



3. Ticket sales

Number of tickets sales: 5,309,921 as of September 27, 2024

4 . O&As

1) Advanced air mobility, also known as flying taxis

It has been reported that the so-called flying taxis will not be able to offer commercial operations at the Expo. Does this mean that the original goals will not be achieved?

- i. One September 26, the 4th Expo Advanced Air Mobility Preparatory Meeting was held, and the outline of the operation of the advanced air mobility, also known as flying taxis, at the Expo was announced.
- ii. Advanced air mobility at the Expo was not necessarily intended for commercial operation from the beginning. These are being coordinated by each operator for point-to-point flight operations, which are the goals of the Expo 2025 Action Plan.
- iii. As for advanced air mobility at the Expo, major front-runners in Japan, the US and the UK will be conducting demonstration flights using the latest test aircraft under development, which will be an important step toward the popularization of advanced air mobility worldwide.
- iv. The government will continue to work with related businesses to create opportunities for Expo visitors to feel closer to the society of the future.