

WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS 「KIZUNA –絆– News letter」

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

Issued February 26, 2025, Vol.43

46 days to go until the opening of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan...



From left to right: KANNO Hiroaki, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; ITO Yoshihiko, Minister for the World Expo 2025; MUTO Yoji, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry; ISHIBA Shigeru, Prime Minister; MURAI Yoshihiro, National Governors' Association President; HIRAI Shinji, National Governors' Association Vice President; YOSHIMURA Hirofumi, Chief of the National Governors' Association Osaka-Kansai Expo Promotion Headquarters



Tuesday, February 25: The Prime Minister and relevant ministers in a meeting with the National Governors' Association

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Saijo City Tanbara Nishi Junior High School, Ehime Prefecture / ZIZO DESIGN Co., Ltd.
Nagoya City Azuma Junior High School, Aichi Prefecture / KDDI, Hitachi
Toin Cho Sanwa Elementary School, Mie Prefecture / Panasonic
- February 26:
Minami Echizen Cho Imajo Elementary School, Fukui Prefecture / Otsuka Pharmaceutical
Kinkou Cho Tashiro Junior High School, Kagoshima Prefecture / Bascule, MIRAISENS
- February 27:
Takaoka City Shikino Junior High School, Toyama Prefecture / KDDI, Hitachi
Agano City Yasuda Junior High School, Niigata Prefecture / Kansai Electric Power Transmission and Distribution
- February 28:
Saijo City Tano Elementary School, Ehime Prefecture / Asahi GJ
Kitakata Cho Minami Gakuen, Gifu Prefecture / Kanadevia



MYAKU-MYAKU
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EXPO 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (February 18 - February 24)

~ 47 days to go! ~



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1. Special Feature: Highlights of the Expo:**Improvements to the method of purchasing admission tickets**This week's
topics

On February 25, Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yoji Muto announced changes to make it easier to buy tickets. The measures were announced at a meeting with the Expo Committee of the National Governors' Association.

- Easy Reservation Tickets will be introduced. These online tickets can be purchased without registering Expo IDs; visitors will not be able to make advance reservations of pavilions and events but can book them once inside.
- On-site tickets will also be made available. Visitors will be able to buy tickets for that day in front of the entrance gate.
- Discounts for the Season Pass will be on offer, at 24,000 yen instead of 30,000 yen, to those who have made one-day visits in April and May – and feel that they want to come back for more.
- Season Pass holders will be able to enter the Expo from 9am throughout the event; they will no longer have to wait until 11am..
- An ‘Easy Guide to Enjoying the Expo’ (title to be confirmed) will be published. The guide will target visitors who plan to visit the Expo without advance pavilion reservations.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20250225-03/><https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20250225-04/><https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20250225-02/>

Credited by Prime Minister's Office of Japan Official Web Site

2.Introduction of pavilion exhibits

An introduction of official pavilions selected by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry at its own discretion.

1) Ireland



- The pavilion design will be based on the triskelion, an ancient Celtic motif. The three spirals represent Ireland, Japan and the spirit of creative collaboration.
- On June 14, the National Day, musicians, dancers and performers will wear emerald green, Ireland's symbolic colour, to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

2) Monaco



- The pavilion is inspired by Japanese and Mediterranean gardens. Fine wines and cognacs brought in from the renowned Hôtel de Paris Monte Carlo in Monaco can be tasted in the wine cellar-style lounge and on the terrace decorated with rose petals loved by the House of Grimaldi.
- The National Day on June 28 will feature orchestra performance by the Grand Duke Gun Cavalry Company as well as ballet and dance by the Royal Grace Ballet School of Monaco.

3) Australia



- The pavilion reuses materials from previous major international events. The exterior is inspired by Australia's iconic eucalyptus flower, symbolising the country's vibrancy and diversity.
- The pavilion will host a range of cultural events and business programs that will allow visitors to experience Australia's latest technology, rich culture and dynamic society.
- The National Day is September 3.

4) Malaysia



- The pavilion is built from environmentally friendly materials such as bamboo and oil palm trunks. It will be lit up at night, giving it a fantastic appearance different from daytime.
- The exhibit will showcase Malaysia's diverse culture and vibrant economy through traditional food, dance, crafts and play, as well as immersive exhibits using cutting-edge technology.
- The National Day is September 8.

3. Event Information (May 18 -May 24)

The following are some of major events taking place in the week of May 18 -May 24, with a focus on events for which the two-month advance reservation lottery has started this week (noted with an *).

■ Poka Poka Presents! SHOW-WA & MATSURI Special Live *

- Date: May 18
- Venue: EXPO Arena Matsuri
- Appearing on Fuji TV's noon live variety show "Poka Poka"! A special performance by SHOW-WA and MATSURI group of performers, produced by Yasushi Akimoto, born with the concept of popular songs from Showa era in the modern age.



■ EXPO 2025 Japan Bonsai & Suiseki (small naturally occurring stones) Exhibition

- Date: May 19-22
- Venue: EXPO Messe WASSE
- A wide range of *bonsai*, or diminutive trees in containers tendered over the years to make it appear like miniature versions of fully-grown trees, will be on display. In addition, lectures and demonstrations by *bonsai* professionals will also take place.

■ Digital Twin Perspectives – Real and virtual urban futures - *

- Date: May 20-24
- Venue: Gallery WEST
- A Digital Twin technology will be presented by integrating a 3D city model (PLATEAU) and a 3D model of the Expo site, to be experienced through vision and vibration on a virtual-reality chair.



■ **Niihama Taiko Festival ***

- Date: May 21
- Venue: EXPO Arena Matsuri
- A sumptuous drum performance on used at the Niihama Taiko Festival will be on offer. Visitors will also get to take turns being the load bearer, or *kakifu*, of the stands.



■ **NTT Day Super Kabuki powered by IOWN EXPO 2025 version***

- Date: May 24-25
- Venue: EXPO Hall Shine Hat
- Inspired by the world of the classic Kabuki play "Yoshitsune Senbonzakura" and virtual idol Hatsune Miku's trademark song "Senbonzakura", this one-of-a-kind entertainment combines the stylistic beauty of kabuki with NTT's technology to provide the most modern take on the longstanding art of *kabuki* theater.



■ **【Osaka Week -Spring-】 Kansai Medical University's medical care for the near future**

- Date: May 18
- Venue: Gallery WEST
- The event will introduces unique initiatives such as photoimmunotherapy and new drug development in the field of cancer, practical application of sensory drug discovery technology that activates immune functions through smell, personalised medicine based on genome information and latest medicine using iPS cells. There will also be a hands-on exhibition on medical technology for future doctors.



■ **【Osaka Week ~Spring~】Let's Experience Yao's Art Culture**

- Date: May 18
- Venue: Gallery EAST
- Visitors will be able to casually experience the history of art and culture in Yao City, a vibrant suburb of Osaka. Photo sessions by members of Yao Welcome Commons and hands-on workshops on creating illustrations and portraits will also be featured.



■ **Build Back Better from the Great East Japan Earthquake**

- Date: May 19-24
- Venue: EXPO Messe WASSE
- The Reconstruction Agency and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry will exhibit at the Community and Mobility Week of the Future, focusing on reconstruction of the disaster-affected areas under the themes 'Earthquake Legacy and Disaster Response', 'Food and Fisheries', 'Latest Technology' and 'Fukushima International Research and Education Institution (F-REI)'. METI will exhibit the trajectory of the redevelopment of the coastal Fukushima region as a testing ground for solving social issues.



■ **Uzbekistan: Cultural Concerts & Entertainment Events**

- Date: May 18
- Venue: EXPO Hall Shine Hat
- Cultural programs and concerts by artists, musicians and other performers, ranging from theatre, music and audiovisual performances are being planned.



■ **Netherlands: Arts and Crafts Common Ground**

- Date: May 20-24
- Venue: Gallery EAST



- Exhibition of collaborations between Japan and Dutch arts and crafts.

■ **Brazil: Advanced Air Mobility – Flying Taxis**

- Date: May 23-25
- Venue: EXPO Arena Matsuri
- During the Future Communities and Mobility Week, Brazil will present its latest eVTOL, an all-electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft manufactured in Brazil by Embraer and partners.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/events/>



4. Promotion Activities

- February 22; Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yoji Muto visited the Expo site. Riding the Osaka Metro as visitors would from April 13, Minister Muto took turns viewing the Signature Pavilions, the State Guest House and the Japan Pavilion. Upon conclusion of the visit, he reiterated his commitment to promote the event to the public within Japan and around the world.



- February 21; The Cabinet Secretariat announced the 12th and final registration the exchange plans between official participants and local governments. A total of 154 exchange plans have been registered by 95 local authorities, consisting of 19 prefectures and 76 municipalities.
 - The newly registered local governments and their partners are as follows:
Higashi-Kagura-cho, Hokkaido Prefecture (Kenya)

Shibuya-ku, Tokyo (USA)
 Shizuoka Prefecture (China)
 Shiga prefecture (Vatican)
 Kameoka City, Kyoto Prefecture (Ukraine, China)
 Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture (Czech Republic)
 Yao City, Osaka Prefecture (Liberia)
 Higashi-Miyoshi Town, Tokushima Prefecture (Canada)
 Fukuoka Prefecture (Fiji)



https://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/expo_suisin_honbu/topics/pdf/12_touroku.pdf

5. Upcoming Events

- Schedule of the EXPO School Caravan

Time & Date	Name of school / Organisers
February 25,2025	Saijo City Tanbara Nishi Junior High School, Ehime Prefecture / ZIZO DESIGN Co., Ltd.
	Nagoya City Azuma Junior High School, Aichi Prefecture / KDDI, Hitachi
	Toin Cho Sanwa Elementary School, Mie Prefecture / Panasonic
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	Kitakata Cho Minami Gakuen, Gifu Prefecture / Kanadevia

* Excerpts only from schools that agreed disclosure.

For further information on EXPO 2025:

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

