



Hakata Traditional Performing Arts Centre

The Hakata Traditional Performing Arts Centre is a new tourist location in front of Kushida Shrine, the local Shinto deity of Hakata, where visitors can experience Hakata's traditional culture.

This facility also serves as Hakata Kenban (ticket office) and a rehearsal area.

Hakata Kenban

Kenban is the agency for geigi, female artists who entertain performing traditional arts such as Japanese dancing and playing musical instruments. Kenban also handles geigi service charges.

The first Kenban office (named Aioi Kenban) was established close to the location of the former Naraya Primary School in Aioi-cho (presently Hakata-ku) in 1889.

Later, Nakasu Kenban and Mizuchaya Kenban were established.

In the Taisho era (1912–1926), there were five Kenban offices, including Shin Kenban and Minami Kenban. During World War II, the Kenban system was completely dismantled.

After World War II, Nakasu Kenban and Mizuchaya Kenban were revived.

In 1985, however, all the former Kenban offices were integrated into the Hakata Kenban.



[Access]

- **Subway:** A five-minute walk from Gion or Nakasu-Kawabata Station
- **Bus:** A five-minute walk from Kawabata-machi or Hakataza-mae Stop
A two-minute walk from Canal City Hakata-mae Stop

[Address]

2-20 Reisen-machi, Hakata-ku, Fukuoka
(Fukuya Bldg. 1F, in front of Seido (sacred road) to Kushida Shrine)

[Contact Details]

Hakata Traditional Arts Promotion Association

(Secretariat: Regional Promotion Department, Fukuoka Chamber of Commerce and Industry)
2-9-28 Hakata Ekimae, Hakata-ku, Fukuoka
812-8505

Tel: +81-92-441-1118
(9 AM to 5 PM on weekdays)

The Hakata Traditional Performing Arts Centre's official SNS

The Hakata Traditional Performing Arts Centre continues to distribute official information on various events, including Hakata's traditional performing arts.



Visit our Facebook page



@hakatadentougeinoukan



HAKATA Traditional Performing Arts Centre



Hakata Traditional Arts
Promotion Association

Performances of Hakata's Traditional Performing Arts Groups

About twice
a month

The Hakata Traditional Performing Arts Centre also holds regular performances that make it possible for visitors to come in contact with and experience Hakata's traditional culture. On occasion, it will hold performances on request.



1 Performance by Hakata geigi



2 Performance of Chikuzen's Hakata Koma



3 Performance of Tsukushimai dance



8 Traditional dance performance of Fukuoka Shiki-no-kai (lit. Fukuoka Four-season Group)



【Experience】Ozashiki asobi
(a large, traditional type of party)



【Experience】Dancing together



Q & A time



Photography

Comments from Audience Participants:

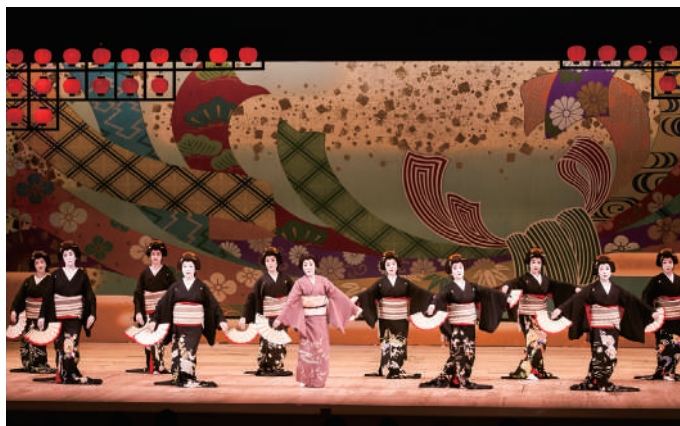
- It was a valuable opportunity to be able to come into contact with Japanese culture.
- It was an audience participation performance, including dance and games, and I had a very pleasant time.



Check the performance schedule with the following website:
<https://www.fukunet.or.jp/area/hakata-traditional/>

Supporting Organizations for Hakata Traditional Arts Promotion Association

1 Hakata Geigi (female artists who entertain with traditional arts such as Japanese dancing and playing musical instruments)



It is said that the geigi appeared in Hakata in the middle of the Edo period. In those days, geigi from Osaka were invited to tea houses in Nagasaki to entertain customers. Their stay in Nagasaki was limited to no more than 100 days. They would then temporarily move to Hakata to earn money and then return to Nagasaki again. Some of them settled in Hakata and it is said that

these settlers became the roots of the Hakata geigi. During the Meiji and Taisho eras, Hakata geigi were famous for their generous, open character. In the past, more than 2,000 geigi were registered with the Hakata Kenban. With changing times, the number has decreased and 18 geigi are presently registered.

2 Chikuzen's Hakata Koma (traditional spinning tops)

The Hakata Koma is a juggling performance that has a history of more than 450 years. It was an Imperial-honored performance loved by both Emperors and Shoguns. The Hakata Koma is a top containing an iron core and originated in the latter half of the 17th century, early in the Edo era. The Hakata Koma rotates with stability and can be moved about on the palm of the hand. Chikuzen's Hakata Koma is a traditional, juggling performing art that has been handed down through 20 generations and has been designated as one of the first cultural heritage arts of Fukuoka Prefecture.



3 Tsukushimai (local traditional dance)

The Tsukushimai dance originated in Kyushu, and the name "Tsukushimai" is noted in the literature of more than a thousand years ago. It is roughly divided into Kanmai, a dance style dedicated to Japanese Shinto deities, and Kugutsumai, a dance style to entertain people. Over two hundred pieces of music have been handed down. The Tsukushimai dance is characterized by a majestic performance of sliding feet, combined with dynamic dancing involving the dancer's leaps and tapping of the feet. Various oral instructions on the dance have been attracted attention academically.



4 Hakata Niwaka Promotion Association

Hakata Niwaka is a local comical entertainment with a long history and tradition. It has been designated as an intangible folk cultural property of Fukuoka City. Performers wear half-faced masks called "niwakamen." They speak in a Hakata dialect with traditional impromptu comical talking that includes a punch line. Hakata Niwaka in humorous conversational style or dramatized style reflects social conditions as improvised subjects.



5 Hakata Matsubayashi Promotion Association

Hakata Matsubayashi is a folk festival that involves children and three Shinto gods, Fukujin, Ebisu, and Daikoku. It is the origin of Hakata Dontaku, a festival held annually in Fukuoka. On the day of the festival, a Hakata Matsubayashi procession walks through town for a celebration. It is also designated as a selected intangible folk cultural property of Japan.



6 Koi-no-kai International Cultural Exchange

Kyushu Center of Japan Inter Culture

The Koi-no-kai International Cultural Exchange accepts consuls, international students, overseas classical dancers, and Japanese students as trainees. It provides them with information on the tradition and creation of Japanese culture through Japanese classical dances and deepens international exchange and mutual understanding.



Traditional Dance Organizations

7 Hakata Traditional Dance Association

9 Fukuoka Traditional Dance Group

8 Fukuoka Shiki-no-kai Traditional Dance Group

10 Enamikai

