

Friday 22 May Traditional Culture Day
55th Himeji Castle Takigi Noh
Time 18 : 00~21 : 00 **Location** Sannomaru Square, Himeji Castle

TEL 079-281-6800 **HP** <https://himeji-takiginou.org>

Takigi Noh is an atmospheric style of Noh theatre performed at night with a lit bonfire and Himeji Castle in the background. Noh theatre was the first of its kind to be registered as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in Japan.

Program Noh "Kocho(The Butterfly)"

Kyougen "Kitsunozuka(The Fox Mound)"

Noh "Tenko(Celestial Hand Drum)"

Saturday 23 May Friendship Day

Himeji Castle Ambassador Presentation

Time 10 : 00~10 : 45

Otemae Park Stage Program
Time 11 : 20~17 : 50

Start	Organizations	Performances
11:20	Ise Elementary School	Unicycle performance
11:30	Tottori City Tourism Association	Shan shan umbrella dance
11:40	Heart BEAT	Dance performance by children with Down syndrome
11:50	NEWEST Country Dancing	Country line-dance
12:00	T-Heart, the official support character of the Central Army Artillery Regiment	Self-Defense Forces Gymnastics and Character Show
12:10	Ibaraki Prefecture Joso City	PR
12:15	Shodojima Island	PR
12:20	Harima Ryura Society	Conch shell performance
12:40	avex dance master Himeji store	Hip-hop dance
12:50	Little Fellows Baton Twirling Team	Baton twirling
13:00	Wakatoyokai Edo-period traditional kappore dance	Kappore dance
13:10	Kumamoto City	PR
13:15	Shinshu Matsumoto Airport Local Use Promotion Council	PR
13:20	Soka Gakkai Hyogo Music Corps	Brass band performance
13:30	"Brighten Society Movement" Himeji City Promotion Committee	PR
13:40	Nankin Tamasudare [Harimagarakutaza]	Street performance
13:50	Kawai Sunno Commendation Liaison Council	Shigin (Japanese poetry recitation)
14:00	Sakura Higashi Children's Academy	Singing, sign language, Yosakoi dance
14:10	Ishinomaki City	PR
14:15	Yazu District, Tottori Prefecture	PR
14:20	Nishihari shorinji kempo association	Shorinji kempo martial arts
14:30	Osakabe Shrine Preservation Society	Dance
14:40	Hyogo Prefecture Trampoline Robics Association	Trampoline Robics
14:50	Omato Revitalization Project	Circle-dancing
15:00	Hakuro Performers	Yosakoi dance
15:10	DreamMonkeys	Cheerleading
15:20	Izumi Childrens Taiko Drumming	Taiko drum performance
15:30	Little Angel Baton Twirling Team	Baton twirling
15:40	NEXTAGE	Dance
15:50	Kobe Airport	PR
15:55	Shiso City	PR
16:00	Music School Dream	Song
16:10	MAZAKI Bellydance	Belly dance
16:20	HOMURA	Taiko drum performance
16:30	NPO Community Crossroads Sen Ballet Class	Ballet
16:40	Akou City	PR
16:45	Ishima Island	PR
16:50	meta "sarugaku" (form of theatre popular in Japan)	Senryu
17:00	EiSho	Sword drawing
17:10	Fillies & Mares Cheerleading Team	Cheerleading
17:20	TAMOchannel	Song
17:30	TAICHI with Byakkoren	New Yosakoi
17:40	RASH	Hip-hop dance
17:50	Halau Na Maka Hulali	Hula dance

※Times are estimates and may vary

Castle Parade

Time 11 : 15~13 : 45

The new Himeji Castle Ambassadors appear for the first time ever in an open car!
This lively parade is full of variety, featuring a beautiful Shan-shan umbrella dance by Tottori City's tourism association, 120 participants performing in an Awa-odori dance by the Himeji Joto group, as well as marching processions and calligraphy performances.

【Caution】 Reserving viewing spots on public roadways (road, pedestrian walkways) is prohibited.

Start	Organizations	Performances
11:16	Himeji Fire Department Music Band / Himeji Castle Ambassadors	Marching
11:26	Cheerleading Team WinningRex	Cheerleading
11:31	Himeji Shodo Kids	Calligraphy performance
11:41	Mitsuki Shiroyama & "Samurai"	Enka & Yosakoi
11:51	Himeji Tyrannosaurus Executive Committee	Procession / dance
12:01	Takigawa Daini High School Brass Band	Marching
12:11	Himeji Joto-ren	Awa Odori dance
12:17	KRD 8 · WT☆Egret · BABEL (Himeji Support Project General Incorporated Association)	Vocal & dance performance
12:27	Eisa Michijune in Himeji	Eisa
12:37	Tottori tourism association	Shan-shan umbrella dance
Starting after Tottori City		Iwanami style Yusen kai
12:43	Konkokyo Fukuzaki Youth Marching Band	Marching band
12:49	Himeji Yosakoi Matsuri	Yosakoi dance
12:55	Samba Matrix	Samba dance & percussion
13:05	Himeji Castle Traditional Dance Preservation Society	Dance and taiko drum performance
13:15	Soka Gakkai Hyogofuji Music Corps	Marching band
13:25	JAPAN® World Wide Japan	Dance
13:35	Yamano Style Dressing Class	Dance

※Times are estimates and may vary

Historical Parade

Time 13 : 45~14 : 20

Start	Organizations	Performances
13:45	Himeji Castle Armored Troops	Warrior procession
13:51	Himeji Princess Sen Appreciation Society	Dance parade
14:01	Mount Masui Komuso Preservation Association	Shakuhachi flute performance
14:11	Jodo (stick fighting)	Martial Arts Demonstration

※Times are estimates and may vary

Princess Sen's Wedding Parade & Children's Daimyo Parade

Time 14 : 20~14 : 35 **Location** Otemae street

Himeji Castle's Ambassadors and local children will be participating in Princess Sen's Wedding Parade!

Himeji Daimyo Parade

Time 14 : 35~15 : 35 **Location** Otemae street

※There may be alterations to the organizations and order in which they appear.

Former professional baseball player Yoshio Itoi performs as an Edo period nobleman, along with a recreation of the the Himeji domain's luxurious daimyo procession.

Since 2021, the Daimyo procession at the Himeji Castle Festival has been recreated using period-accurate tools and clothing based on extensive background research. The movements and vocal cries are led by the Honmachi Sanchoume Daimyo Procession Preservation Society from in Ida City Nagano Prefecture.

Sou-odori Community Dance

Time 16 : 00~17 : 00 **Location** Otemae street

A total of approximately 1,000 people will perform the Banshu Danmon Ondo & Himeji Castle Dance.

On-the-day participation accepted!

Time 13 : 00~15 : 00

Registration at the Ieya Yashiki Ru Park Tent

Himeji de Bon Dance

Time 17 : 10~17 : 40 **Location** Otemae street

The first-ever event where everyone can have fun together to the rhythm of the DJ!

No worries if you can't dance! People of all ages are welcome to join and enjoy!

No registration required! Come to the north end of Otemae Street at 5:10 PM!!

Himeji Zoo at Night

Entry fee

Adult 250 yen **Child** 50yen ※Reentry possible with daytime ticket

Time 17 : 30~20 : 00 **Location** Himeji City Zoo ※Last entry at 7.30pm

Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Camp Himeji Military Equipment Exhibition

Time 10 : 00~16 : 00 **Location** Karo Yashikiato Park

Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 May

Various Events

Kids Festival

Time 【23】 13 : 00~18 : 00 【24】 10:00~18:00 **Location** Sannomaru Square, Himeji Castle

TEL 079-281-0887

Banshu Treasure Project

This event is for elementary school children and younger.

An interactive experience where you can "watch," "create," and "carry" traditional festival culture.

You can experience the skills of professional craftsmen.

You can make keychains and miniature festival floats.

You can also watch demonstrations of embroidery and metalworking techniques.

Castle Gardens (Food & Drink Booth)

Time 10 : 00~17 : 00 **Location** Otemae Park Stage

PR Booths

Time 10 : 00~17 : 30 **Location** Otemae Park Stage

Street Performance & Food Track (Food & Drink Booth)

Time 10 : 00~18 : 00 **Location** Shiromidai Park

Sunday 24 May

25th Himeji Yosakoi Festival

Time 10 : 00~18 : 00 **Location** Otemae and Shiromidai park area

Yosakoi festival groups from around the country gather to send out good vibes from Himeji to the rest of the world through their dynamic performances. Let's get dance together at Otemae Park and Shiromidai Park!

Sound Festival 2026

Time 11 : 00~17 : 00 **Location** Shirotopia Memorial Park Outdoor Music Stage

Creating a new culture with 'sound' and 'bonding'! Enjoy performances by young local artists in reggae music and hip-hop.