



Minami Lounge will be closed from Dec.29,2023 to Jan.3, 2024!

The year 2023 will end in a few days and the new year 2024 will start. Let's try Japanese New year customs this year!

December

Year-end big clean up (General Cleaning) Clean the dust of previous year to welcome the new year.

Nengajo A greeting card for new year. Write and send the card during December, so it will arrive on the new years day.

End of December → Prepare **kagamimochi** (rice cake for the god) in the room and put **kadomatsu** and **shimekazari** (to greet the god) in front of the house.

Toshikoshi soba Eat soba (buckwheat noodle) on December 31st.



January 1-3 New Year Let's greet New Year by saying "Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu" (Happy New Year in Japanese)

It is a holiday in Japan and many people have their day off. A lot of people return to their hometown from the previous year to celebrate the new year.

※Be aware! Many hospital, city hall and stores are closed due to the new year holiday



Ozouni
Osechi

A soup with rice cake inside. It is eaten on new years day to wish for good health. Lots of Japanese delicacies packed in a square bento box. You can buy it in department store, super market, and also on internet.

Hatsumoude
Otoshidama

A first visit to the shrine & temple of the new year. Special allowance given to children on New Year's day.



January 7th Nanakusagayu Eat rice porridge with 7 types of Japanese vegetables and hope for good health.

Let's hear the New Year Rituals of Other Countries! (From Minami Lounge Language Staff)



Tagalog Staff

Philippines celebrate new year on January 1st. The day before the new year is very busy. We prepare 12 to 13 types of circular fruits, open all the doors in the house to welcome good fortune and wear polka dot designed clothes with pockets full of coins to wish for having enough money. Just before 0:00am of Jan. 1st, we jump high to wish for good health.



English Staff

In USA or in UK, many people have a count down party with friends and relatives. Since new year holiday is just after the long Christmas holiday, it finishes fast. Many working places starts from January 2nd.



Chinese Staff

Chinese new year date differs every year. The way of celebrating also differs by the district. In my district, we eat special feast with our family on new years eve. Fried dumpling is eaten in many households. If your fried dumpling have a coin inside, you are lucky! On the new years day, everyone wear new clothes and go greet friends and boss of the working place. Forgot to mention the most important ritual! We put the decoration of Chinese character "Luck" upside down for good fortune.



Thai Staff

Thai celebrate new year "Songkran Festival" on April 13th. On that day we go to the temple and clean the buddha statues. When we return home, we sprinkle water on our parents and grand parents hands (hands of the elderly). And at last we sprinkle water between the family members.



Chinese Staff



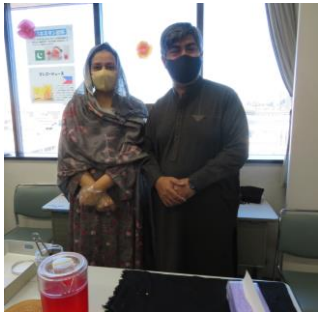
Minna no "Wa!" Festa 2023 was Held!



Minami Lounge's big event "Minna no "Wa!" Festa" had been hosted on a sunny day at our lounge. Almost 1,000 people visited Minami lounge and the event was a huge success.

Tea of the World

A volunteer participated this booth said "I am happy to have a chance to introduce my home country culture to many people! I never had a chance like this before."



Foods of the World

Foods from 5 countries; Indonesia, Thai, Vietnam, Korea and China were sold.



Chinese Dragon Dance was performed by the children of YOCS Kindergarten.



Stage Performance

Enjoyable worldwide stages had been performed. There were band performances, Thai & Philippines dance performances, and Ukrainian dance and song performances.



Activity Information/Experiencing Program

Everyone enjoyed the activities.



Try on Booth

Many People tried kimono on and had taken their pictures at the photo spot.



Japanese Speech

12 foreign students have talked about their native culture and their impression of Japanese living



Multicultural Volunteer

Mr. Sapkota had been interested of Japanese culture & technology from his youthhood and came to Japan on 2007 as an international student. He studied international business and opened his own shop in Naka-ward.

He registered as a Minami lounge multicultural volunteer by his friend's recommendation. Mr. Sapkota helps Minami lounge by translating, interpreting and also visiting schools to help students with his native tongue. The pictures in the right was taken when he was a moderator in Minami lounge's event "Minna no "Wa!" Festa". He told us "Many people helped me when I came to Japan, Now it is my turn to give it back. I want to help others."



Mr. Sapkota From Nepal
Been in Japan for 16 years

Minami Citizens Activity & Multicultural Lounge (Minami Lounge)

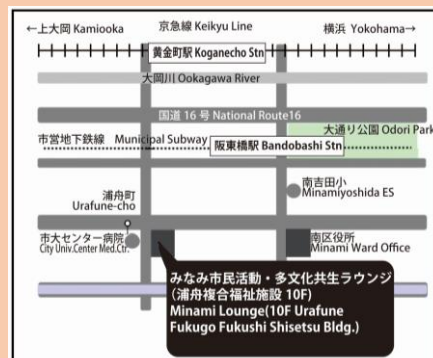
Urafune Fukugo Fukushi Shisetsu 10F, 3-46 Urafune-cho
Minami-ku, Yokohama 232-0024

① **Consultation Desk (Free of charge)** : Mon.-Sun. 9:00-17:00
(Closed on : Every 3rd Mondays · Dec.29 to Jan.3)
Tel. : (Japanese) 045-232-9544
(Foreign Language) 045-242-0888
※Please check below for available languages

② **Free of charge consultation** :
Law (2nd Thurs), Visa (3rd Thurs) and Education (4th Thurs)
※ 13:30- 14:30- (Appointment needed. Tel.045-242-0888)

【Available languages and days】

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Chinese	Chinese	Chinese English	Chinese Thai	Chinese Tagalog	Chinese	Chinese



Minami Lounge URL
<https://tabunka.minamilounge.com/>

◀ Direction Map