



Visit a public library in Kobe!



If you have any questions about ward office procedures, financial support for raising children, etc.



↑ Tap here to visit the website!

Call the Kobe International Community Center (KICC)!

☎ 078-742-872 | (11 languages)



Kobe's public libraries

Libraries are not just for bookworms. They are an open "third space" for everyone where people can go besides home and the workplace.



① Ask a librarian, a pro at finding books

If you need help or are looking for a book, please ask a librarian. They will listen and help you find the right book.

Details (JP)



Details (JP)



② Reserve books with your smartphone

You'll receive an email when your reserved book becomes available. You can have the book sent to any of the city's 12 municipal libraries for pick-up.

③ Read e-books on your smartphone or laptop

If you're connected to the internet, you can check out books to read anytime, anywhere.

④ Read books that have been sterilized with a special machine

When you put your borrowed books in the book sterilizer, they are disinfected using UV light. A gust of air also hits the bottom of the book to remove any dust or debris trapped between the pages. Simply set the book inside and push the switch, and your book will be clean in 30 seconds.

The unique public libraries in Kobe

Higashinada Library: Many seats for reading, including counter seating with a great outside view

Nada Library: Many local events by nearby universities, Rakugo clubs, and other groups. Movie days for kids on Mondays

Chuo Library: Approx. 1 million books and 500 seats. The largest library in the city

Sannomiya Library: Many art and design-related events

Kita Library: An extensive collection of interesting books about Kita Ward, including traditional performances and rural Kabuki theater

Hokushin Library: The library's concept is "field of books". You can "harvest" knowledge on sofas or in kid-friendly spaces

Hyogo Library: Satellite library, workshops, and other local events

Shin-Nagata Library: Many individual events, such as book clubs where you can express your thoughts about the book

Suma Library: A calming atmosphere of being surrounded by greenery. Includes a large children's book section and books useful for high school students

Myodani Library: Located in a department store. Stylish interior that evokes the warmth of Mt. Rokko

Tarumi Library: Illustrations of original fish characters greet you at the entrance, drawing the excitement of kids

Nishi Library: Relaxing, café-like vibe

Bookmobile: Visits neighborhoods in Kita and Nishi Wards that are far from the libraries once a month. Approx. 3,000 books in stock

Guide to using the libraries (JP) →



New facilities open at Suma Seaside Park from September 1st!

Renovations for half of the western side of the park will be complete September 1st. There will be a new building with shops and a refurbished park where members of the community and tourists can interact.

Grass and playground equipment in an excitingly lush, green park!



This central park of Suma Ward is being renovated so people can use it more easily on a daily basis. There will also be an event hall and gallery for citizens to use.

A new café, restaurant, and sporting goods store



You can have a great time at the park, including dining and shopping at the Matsu no Mori Village ("Pine Forest Village").

COMING SOON

Birth of a resort and leisure zone in June 2024



The entire park will be in full operation once the eastern half of the park is complete. Kobe Suma Sea World will be the only aquarium in western Japan

where you can see an orca. And the Kobe Suma Sea World Hotel will be the first hotel in Japan where you can interact with dolphins. You can also look forward to seeing a new BE KOBE monument in the park too.

Cycle through autumn colors on the Kande-Yamada Cycling Road!

On this 19-km stretch of cycling road, you can enjoy delicious food spots as well as the majestic view of Tsukuhara Lake surrounded by rice fields and mountains.



Kobe City is offering bicycle rentals this autumn, including cross bikes and electric-assisted bicycles.

Period: September 16 - November 26

Fee: 500 - 2000 yen (depending on the date & bicycle type)



Tap for details! (JP)→

Change your fire alarms every 10 years!

Fire alarms are effective for detecting fires as early as possible and preventing damage from spreading.

However, when they become too old, the sensor can break down and cause the device to stop working correctly. Be sure to test your fire alarm once every 6 months and replace it every 10 years.

How to test your fire alarm: Push the button or pull on the string. If the alarm is working correctly, it will produce either a "correctly working" message or a fire alarm noise.



(To stop the alarm, please wait until the fire alarm automatically stops ringing, push the button again, or pull on the string again.)

Get advice from the Kobe Child Development Specialist Teams

With society's increasing understanding toward developmental disorders, there are more and more inquiries to specialist hospitals and clinics. To meet this increasing need, free consultations with a specialist team are available from October on a trial basis to residents of Tarumi and Nishi Wards.

Based on an interview and simple test, this team will give advice on interacting with your child, refer you to various support systems, and think with you on what other forms of support are appropriate for your family's situation.

Eligibility: Families of pre-elementary school aged-children who live in Tarumi or Nishi Ward.

*If you are a resident of another ward, please consult with the General or Eastern Pediatric and Rehabilitation Centers for the Disabled



Tap for details! (JP)→

Art in the Town Rokko Meets Art 2023 "beyond"



In this modern art festival held at the top of Mt. Rokko every autumn, you can appreciate art while surrounded in nature.

Period: August 26 - November 23

Time: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

*Exhibition periods & times vary with each venue

Some works can be viewed from 5 pm

Admission: See website (presale ticket discounts available)



Tap for details! (JP)→