

Welcome to Atami SGG International Club and our February newsletter. We are a group of like-minded volunteers, Japanese and foreign, all living in Atami.

If you have any language problem, please contact us. We have several members who, between us, speak English, German, Spanish, Italian, French and Chinese.

Setsubun is usually observed the day before the first day of spring. It will be celebrated Feb 3rd this year. It is a cultural event to chase out evil spirits and usher in good health. One ritual is throwing beans as a symbolic gesture. This custom is supposed to have originated during the Muromachi period (1333-1573), and suggests that the beans represent the destruction of demon's eyes.



Many of the shrines hold Setsubun celebrations, each with their own traditions. Kinomiya Shrine is special by offering elaborate presents. Sumo wrestler, Atamifuji, is scheduled at the *mamemaki* (bean throwing ceremony) from 16:30. Izusan Shrine will start festivities at 16:00, while Imamiya Shrine begins at 17:00. Please note that the times shown are only approximate. Come join us in the celebration!

Let's go to Hatsushima to see Mt. Fuji on Fuji-no-hi on **Feb 23rd**. The schedule is:

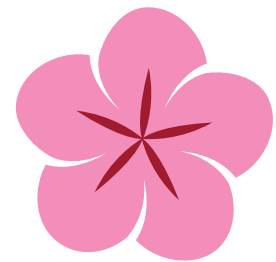
- 9:30 Gather at Atami Port
- 10:00 Ferry departs (arrives 10:30)
- 10:45 Visit Hatsushima elementary and junior high school
- 11:45 - 13:00 Lunch (pay on your own)



- 13:00~15:00 Tour around the island including the lighthouse
- 15:20 Ferry departs; arrives 15:45 at Atami Port
- Round trip ferry: 2,800 yen
- Light house entrance: 300 yen
- Reservation: 090-1950-6632
- info@atamimachiaruki.net

February 2024 Events

- 2/5 14:30-15:30 Atami SGG Monthly meeting; 15:30 ~ 17:00 Dr. Kinoshita's English lesson (Iki Iki Plaza, 6th Fl)
- 2/1 - 3/3 Festival at Baien Park
- Jan - 2/4 Sakura Festival at Itogawa riverside
- 2/8 Blood donation at Atami city hall 9:30~16:00 (except lunch time)
- 2/10, 23 Market at Nagahama Kaihin Park
- 2/17 Dried fish festival at Umie-ru Nagahama
- 2/12, 24th Fireworks at Atami seaside
- 2/1, 25 Sunday morning market at Nagisasho Park
- 2/20 Forgetfulness Café at Iki Iki Plaza from 14:00~16:00



Atami Professional Photo Studio A photo studio has been opened at the Russian restaurant in Sakimi-cho. Photo sessions are by appointment only and coupons are available until the end of March. For reservations, please call Mizuno san at 09022035244 or contact her by completing the form which can be accessed by the QR code. We look forward to seeing you.

Advertisement



We are developing our resources for the benefit of Atami residents. Is there some useful information about life in Atami you would like to know or share? We would be delighted to hear from you at info@atamisgg.com The QR codes will take you to our website & Instagram account (you may see a google ad).

