

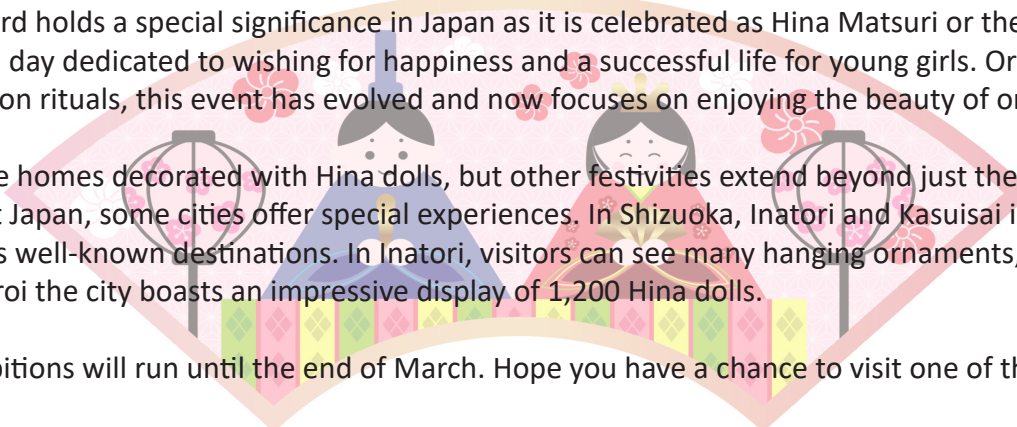
Welcome to Atami SGG International Club and our March newsletter. We are a group of like-minded volunteers, Japanese and foreign, all living in Atami.

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

March 3rd holds a special significance in Japan as it is celebrated as Hina Matsuri or the Girls' Festival—a day dedicated to wishing for happiness and a successful life for young girls. Originally part of purification rituals, this event has evolved and now focuses on enjoying the beauty of ornate dolls.

Not only are homes decorated with Hina dolls, but other festivities extend beyond just the household. Throughout Japan, some cities offer special experiences. In Shizuoka, Inatori and Kasuisai in Fukuroi stand out as well-known destinations. In Inatori, visitors can see many hanging ornaments, while Kasuisai in Fukuroi the city boasts an impressive display of 1,200 Hina dolls.

These exhibitions will run until the end of March. Hope you have a chance to visit one of them.



SGG Members participated in a Koh-Do or incense ceremony on Feb 6th

In Japanese history, Koh-Do was popular with the samurai and court class as well as others. Intellectuals such as writers, artists, affluent merchants, and landowners started to adopt its formalities and incense had a great influence on calligraphy, literature, and tea ceremony, making it an intangible and spiritual asset at the time. There will be opportunities to do this again for SGG members.

SGG Event

March 2024 Events

- 3/4 14:30-15:30 Atami SGG Annual General meeting (Iki Iki Plaza, 6th Fl) followed by dinner at 17:00
- 3/1 - 10 Hatsushima Donburi Gassen from 11:00 to 15:00
- 3/2-3, 16-17 Market at Nagahama Kaihin Park
- 3/13 Consultation about traffic accidents, City office 3rd fl. reserve by 3/11
- 3/20 Fireworks at Atami seaside
- 3/23 - 4/7 Cherry blossom festival at Atami castle
- 3/10, 24 Sunday morning market at Nagisasho Park
- 3/30 - 4/7 Weeping Cherry tree Festival at Nakano kajigawa Park
- Free corona vaccinations will end on March 30th



Experience the charm of Atami with a stay at **Guest House MARUYA**. We are just a 15-minute walk from Atami Station in the center of Atami. Our capsule rooms are cozy with traditional Japanese futon bedding. Unwind in our shared kitchen & lounge, where travelers swap stories and build connections. Refresh in our communal bathrooms, fostering a sense of camaraderie. Let Guest House MARUYA be your gateway to Atami.

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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).

