

Term 3 Information

Term 3 will commence from the 1st of July and run until the 14th of September.

iCulture Workshops

- Anime Class
Wednesday 26th June
5:30pm - 6:30pm
- Calligraphy Class
Friday 28th June
5:30pm - 7:30pm
- Kanji Class
5th July - 7th August
Every Friday (5 classes)
5:50pm - 6:50pm

In order to organise our new term schedule we ask that you please confirm your next term scheduling with your teacher.

If you have any questions regarding the above dates please contact us.

Contact Details: 0401 886 629
info@ijapanese.com.au

Mount Fuji - 富士山 Fuji san

Mount Fuji is a symbol of Japan. The mountain contributes to Japan's physical, cultural, and spiritual geography.



Mount Fuji is the tallest mountain in Japan, standing at 3,776 meters. It is an active volcano straddles the prefectures of Yamanashi and Shizuoka. It is even visible from Tokyo.

The mountain is now dormant, but it has erupted 18 times in recorded history and many more times before that according to geological evidence. The last eruption occurred in 1708, the eruption produced ash that drifted and settled as far away as Edo, today known as Tokyo.

Mount Fuji has long been a spirituality sacred mountain. The peak has been worshipped as the home of a fire God and as the home of a Shinto Goddess of Trees since at least 7th century where there is a shrine (Sengen-Shrine) on its summit.

Mount Fuji is also a mountain that cannot fail to inspire artists that include the legendary ukiyo-e painter and printmaker Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849). From long ago, beginning with the haiku of the poet Basho, Mount Fuji has been taken up in many songs and paintings. The Fuji of



Hokusai's ukiyoe paintings is particularly well known all over the world.

It was first climbed by an anonymous female monk in 663 AD. It was forbidden for women to climb the sacred mountain until the Meiji Era 1868. Nowadays, climbing Mount Fuji is very popular not only among Japanese but also foreign tourists. About 300,000 people climb to the summit every year, many of them hiking throughout the night to witness the sunrise from the summit. This sunrise is regarded as a deity and worshipped by the Japanese who call it 'Goraiko'.

On the mountain top, there is a mail box, so you can send letters with your impressions upon reaching the summit. If you want to enjoy Mount Fuji at a more leisurely pace and from nice natural surroundings, you should head to the Fuji Five Lake (Fujigoko) region at the northern foot of the mountain, or to Hakone, a nearby hot spring resort.

The beautiful Mount Fuji has not been appointed as a World Heritage site. Many hikers leave litter on Mount Fuji and that is why Japan's attempts at getting Fuji designated as a Natural World Heritage Site have failed.

Mount Fuji is however assured to be registered as a Cultural World Heritage at the meeting of UNESCO to be held in Cambodia in June 2013.

END OF TERM 2 EVENT 2013

Please come along and join us for dinner.

Let's enjoy Japanese food and games!
All students are welcome to bring friends.

DATE : Saturday 29th June
TIME : 5:30pm - 7:30pm
PLACE : Horoki
COST : \$25
RSVP : Saturday, 22nd June
Payment essential beforehand.



Lets Cook Japanese Food

Introducing a simple natto recipe

Natto Pasta



Serves 1

Ingredient:

- 100g pasta
- 1 pack(50g) natto (with sauce)
- 10g butter
- 1 tbs soy sauce
- 1 tbs lemon juice

Method:

1. Add pasta into salted water and cook until al dente.
2. Put butter into big bowl and add natto and sauce (attached to natto) and mix it.
3. Mix paste and natto together and add soy sauce and lemon juice.
4. Serve and sprinkle shredded seaweed to garnish.

Student's interview - Andrew Hopcroft

1. Tell us a little about yourself and what you do?

Hi, My name is Andrew. I am 26 and work at a school doing technical support.



2. What is your impression of Japan?

I find the Japanese culture really interesting. I love the food and I've been watching Anime since I was a kid.

I went to Japan last year and had a great time even though I couldn't speak a word of Japanese, everyone I meet was very friendly and really helpful.

3. Why do you study Japanese?

My family had home stay students stay with us over about 8 years and most of the students were from Japan. Its been great to be able to speak Japanese to them for a change!

4. How long have you studied at iJapanese?

I have been studying at iJapanese for nearly a year.

5. How do you find your study of Japanese?

I really enjoy studying Japanese. I don't find languages easy to learn, but Kisai, has made it very fun and copes with my forgetfulness well! I really like it when I can make a full sentence (that makes sense) or a quick conversation.

6. At iJapanese, what do you enjoy most?

I find iJapanese to be a great place to learn Japanese, it's a very friendly and encouraging place to study. Having a quick chat at the start of the class is one of my favourite parts!

Thank you Andrew san!

About Natto - Have you tried natto before?

Natto is a foul-smelling sticky web of fermented soybeans, it is often eaten with cooked rice.

For centuries, natto has been made using a specialized fermentation process by adding beneficial bacteria to soybeans. Fermentation enhances the nutrition of soybeans and develops a unique flavour and texture. Its physical texture is sticky and is a natural result of the fermentation process.

Natto has a distinct flavour, and some people do not like it. It's like the Japanese vegemite perhaps? Doesn't sound nice? But let's try it, anyway!



How to eat? - Delicious natto is how you mix.

Natto can be purchased at most Asian grocery shops. Natto comes in plastic containers with a packet of sauce and hot mustard.

1. Put natto into a bowl.
2. Stir the natto with chopsticks (whip at high speed in a circular motion!)
3. Add sauce and mustard (to taste) and mix.
4. Put on rice and dig in!

Adding flavour :

Spring onion, egg, plum pickle, seaweed, wasabi, even mayonnaise or tuna

iCulture Workshops 文化講座

We will continue to hold our iCulture Workshops as they have been welcomed by our students.

Anime Studying Class

Draemon

Learn Animation phrases and expressions as they are different from your day to day conversation.



Date : Wednesday, 26th June
Time : 5:30pm - 6:30pm (1hs)
Fee : \$18

**Calligraphy Workshop**

Master the style of brush techniques

Learn the basic skills of calligraphy writing. Creating your own calligraphy works of art on traditional Japanese fan paper or paper board to take home. You can also keep your calligraphy tools so that you can continue practicing at home.

Date : Friday 28th June
Time : 5:30pm - 7:30pm (2hs)
Fee : \$33 (Only session)
\$58 (With calligraphy set)

Kanji Class

Learn useful Kanji

This fun class provides Kanji with the meaning and related terms each lesson, so it's easier for you to memorise them. This Class is suitable for beginner level.

Date : 5th July - 7th August
Every Friday (5 classes)
Time : 5:50pm - 6:50pm (1h)
Total fee : \$115 Including materials

**From Phillip フィルより**

Japan... The world's leaders in forefront technologies, a place we affiliate our most reliable brands like Sony, Canon, Epson, Toshiba, Fujitsu, Honda, Toyota and of course my favorite, Nissan.

Japan has the largest share in the world market in the areas of electronics, automotive technologies and science. It also holds the largest number of Nobel prizes in Asia.

We associate Japan with large-scale innovation, yet it may surprise you to know that many things are still being done 'the old fashion way'; which also bears to attention a phrase use in Japan meaning "by hand and no paper." Knowing how much paper a typical office in Japan goes through, you would think they have declared war on the digital information age whereupon trees are mere innocent bystanders.

How can this be, you ask? Well it's very simple. Japan is still very much an older generation with more than a quarter of its population is over 60 years of age; and let's face it, they're in no hurry to embrace new technologies in much the same hurriedness as we are.



If you ask a Japanese person who Steve Jobs is, they may likely look at you blindly, smile politely and ask "だれ" dare (who)? Yet the rest of the world knows him as the man who gave us Apple products.

Contrast this with the old saying "why change something that works?", you will see that Japanese people take this literality. For instance some offices still keep many, if not all of their records on paper maintained by superfluous personal, regardless of the fact that it is also stored by computer. You would expect Japan to have a modern approach on what our society deems to be efficient and convenient, yet credit cards are not widely used by Japanese people and to make life difficult, ATM's are not accessible 24 hours at banks as they are in many other countries.

For such a technologically advanced culture, whereby time and efficiency is seemingly imbedded into their genes, it is interesting how the rest of the world is geared towards having the best of the best, whereas Japan is happy being one step behind...or will it be 2 steps forward. An interesting discussion for another time perhaps.



From Kisai きさいより- Ofuro (Japanese bath)

Japanese love their baths. As there are many people entering bathtubs every day, the technology of bath products and equipment in Japan are advancing quickly.



Most Japanese houses are equipped with an advanced bathtub that can be set to pour the right amount of water at the right temperature with a push of a button.

There is also a pre-heat function to ensure water temperature remains controlled for long periods of continuous use.

Bath time in Japanese culture is shared with the whole family and water is not drained after each member's usage. Bathtubs in Japan are usually equipped with jet bath function also. This is used for massage purposes, similar to those found in the jacuzzis in hotels.

Bathing is not just a Japanese custom, but for entertaining as well. Most recently, public facilities "the super sentoo" are climbing up the popularity chart. "super sentoo" offers various kinds of bath services ranging from saunas, bubble baths and massage services.

Since it is a public facility, don't ever think that both sexes share the same facilities, Like public baths do in Australia. The only joint facilities would be restaurants and accommodation. "Super sentoo" are loved by people of various ages as these places are not designed for baths only but also offer good atmosphere for meetings and catching up. Different *sentoo*s are utilised differently to sometimes cater for small concerts, yoga lessons and host events such as rakugo (traditional Japanese comic monologue performances).

With admission fee ranging between 1,000 - 2,000 yen (\$10-\$20), super sentoo is an affordable destination place for everyone including tourists. So please check out this place the next time you visit Japan and experience the culture and entertainment of Japanese people.



There are unique concept of Starbucks shops in Japan.

Why don't you visit some of them?



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From Noriko のりこより - I love coffee.

Since we have moved to our new location on Collins St, where the best coffee shops in Melbourne are, I'm dazzled by too many choices!

In Japan, the introduction to coffee occurred in the 1800s by Dutch traders who were residents of Nagasaki. However, coffee was not popular because it wasn't Japanese taste. In the Meiji era (1868-1912), Japan was eager to adopt western culture and modernize and started to show the attitude of wanting to accept coffee as a 'symbol of a western culture'.

From the Meiji era through to the Taisho era (1912-1926), there were many coffee shops for social functions, although it was still concerned a 'plush drink'. In 1960's, coffee has started to become popular.

The first chain coffee shop started in 1962, after production of instant coffee (invented by Japanese) began. Release of the world's first canned coffee was in 1965 by UCC.



A 'Long black' was a popular drink and you could smoke at 'old fashioned' coffee shops at the time, however when Starbucks opened 1996, Japanese coffee drinking habits changed. They now drink more coffee with milk, such as lattes or cappuccinos and can no longer smoke inside.

Coffee is very popular nowadays in Japan, but it hard to find good coffee shops.

I hope we can drink nice coffee like Melbourne some day!

