



Let's Experience Japanese New Year Traditions !



New Year is said to be the most important holiday season in Japan. Family members and relatives get together to celebrate the new year days. In Japan, people celebrate New Year based on the solar calendar; but in some Asian countries, they celebrate New Year based on the lunisolar calendar.

Typical Japanese things (to do) in New Year

<First visit to shrines/temples>

Many Japanese people visit shrines and/or temples to give the first greeting to Japanese gods or Buddha, "Hatsu-mode."



What to do when visiting a shrine

Bow twice and clap hands twice. Then, bow again. Praying from the heart is very important. Some people buy talismen or draw a fortune slip, called "O-mikuji."

Be careful : Bus/Train schedules in New Year (Dec.29-Jan.3) may be different from the regular ones.

<New Year decorations>



Shime-kazari

"Shime-kazari" wreath is put on/over the door, and "Kagami-mochi" layer of rice cake is set in the house.

kagamimochi



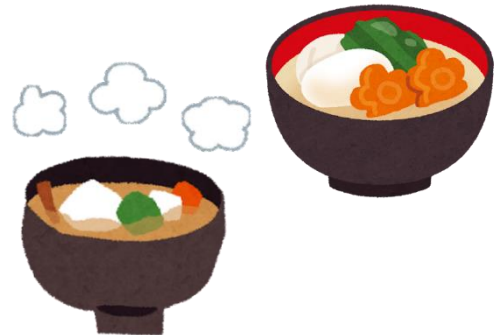
Kadomatsu



<New Year dishes>

<Ozoni (soup)>

Special soup with rice cake in it, eaten only New Year. The shapes of rice cake (round or square), ingredients, and the taste of broth are different from family to family, region to region.



<Osechi Ryori food>

A set of some food, chosen to symbolize auspicious meanings. They are usually cooked in strong tastes to be delicious cold and preserved for several days. Followings are some examples.

”**Kazunoko**,” herring roe, meaning prosperity of descendants.



”**Kuromame**”

black beans.

”Mame”

means

studious and

healthy, so

wishing for

working

earnestly in

good shape.

”**Date-maki**” fish omelet looks

like a scroll in old days, so

wishing for increasing

knowledge.

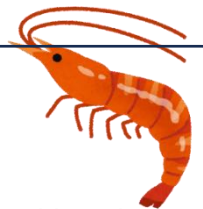


”**Kurikinton**”, sweet potatoes with chestnuts are very yellow, symbolizing being rich.



”**Ebi**” shrimp

Its long whiskers and bended body symbolize longevity.



Winter events in Toyama

Will you visit a ski ground in Toyama's snowy winter? Not only ski or snow board, you can also enjoy riding a sleigh.

※ Rental services for gear are available at Ski grounds.



(Popular ski grounds)	Open	Close
IOX-AROSA (Nanto City)	12/22	3/10
Taira (Nanto City)	12/15	End of March
Ushidake Spa (Toyama City, Yamada)	12/23	3/3
Tateyama Sanroku (Toyama City, Hara)	12/16	4/3

～ We also have the following upcoming events! ～

12/24(Sun)	Morning Market in Uozu	Uozu City
12/31(Sun)	New year's count down	Kansui Park etc.
1/7 (Sun)	Flea Market	Gokoku Shrine, Toyama
1/13 (Sat) · 14 (Sun)	Takaoka Nabe Festival	Takaoka City
2/24 (Sat) · 25 (Sun)	Ramen Festival	Nyuzen Town

☆ Here are some events in Feb.. (Final dates not yet decided.)

- Field watch (Let's experience snow in Tateyama

Toyama Prefectural Museum of Tateyama

- Tenkomaori Igloo event Toyama City, Tenkomori
- Bird Watching Imizu City, Kaiohmaru Park
- Girls'(Doll) Festival Takaoka City, Fukuoka

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