

Fukuoka City



Seaside Momochi: building a new city for the 21st century.

Fukuoka City is roughly equidistant from major Japanese cities such as Osaka, Tokyo and Sapporo and major East Asian cities like Busan, Seoul, Shanghai, Beijing and Taipei. As a result it is a key stop on major regular international routes, positioned in the ideal spot for interchange with South Korea, China and other Asian countries.

To the north is the Genkai Sea, separated from Hakata Bay by the Uminonakamichi and Itoshima peninsulas, while the Sefuri mountain range to the south and the Sangun range to the east demarcate the crescent-shaped Fukuoka Plain. A number of rivers feed into Hakata Bay, such as the Tatara, the Naka and the Muromi, but none are very large. The average annual temperature is a relatively warm 17.5 °C (2010).

The population of the city continues to grow, reaching an estimated total of 1,463,826 people in 708,027 households as of 1 October 2010. According to the 2005 national census, Fukuoka has one of the lowest average ages of any of Japan's major cities, only 40.3. There is a major concentration of tertiary-sector industry in the region, with a large portion of all industry being in wholesaling, retailing, food and beverage establishments, and service. The city is also an important center for industries utilizing and preserving traditional crafts, including traditional industrial art objects of Japan such as Hakata-ori fabrics and Hakata dolls, and local specialty craft products such as Hakata magemono (wood craftwork).

The city is served by an outstanding transportation network, centered on Fukuoka Airport (a major regional airport) and Hakata Port (a Specially Designated Major

Port), plus an extensive rail network including the Shinkansen "Bullet" train, JR lines, city subway and Nishi-Nippon Railroad, as well as the Trans-Kyushu Expressway and Urban Expressway roadways.

Fukuoka is a city with its own unique personality. It combines the fascination of a major metropolis with the natural beauty so well represented by Hakata Bay, and enjoys a rich and vibrant culture and tradition nurtured over the centuries. Visitors come to enjoy urban tourism inside the city, to enjoy resorts located surprisingly close to the city center, to enjoy the history evidenced in the Korokan diplomatic guest house from ancient times, the Kin-In gold seal discovered here that was a gift from the Chinese Emperor centuries ago, and the ancient fortifications built to defend against the Mongol invasions. The city offers the Hakata Gion Yamakasa Festival, the Dontaku Festival, the Asian Month festivities promoting better understanding of other lands and cultures, and many other events; and of course the rich seafood offers its own delights to both local and visiting gourmets.

In recent years many people from both throughout Japan and the world have come to Fukuoka, the center of government, economy, culture and fashion for Kyushu, and the range of facilities to welcome tourists continues to grow, such as Fukuoka Tower, Marine World Uminonakamichi, Bayside Place Hakata Futoh, Hawks Town, Canal City Hakata, Hakata Riverain (Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, etc.), Hakataza theater, Marinoa City Fukuoka, and JR Hakata City, which opened in spring 2011. As the hub of land, sea and air transportation, Fukuoka City is indeed the gateway for tourism throughout all of Kyushu and western Japan.



Asian Month: visitors have the chance to experience authentic ethnic arts and food from all over Asia.



The Kyushu National Museum presents the emergence of Japanese culture from the perspective of Asian history.



Ohori Park: an urban park with a lake encircled by trees.

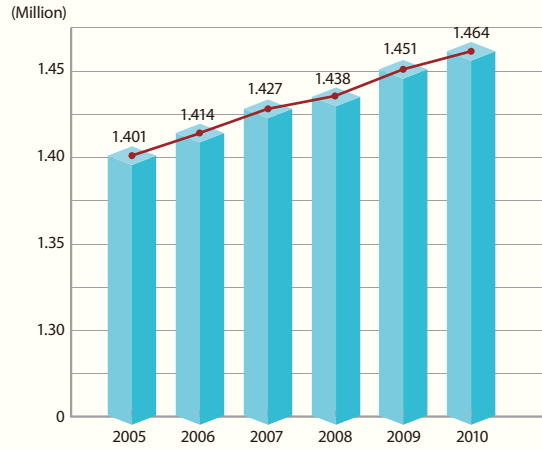


Hakata Gion Yamakasa: a summer festival for the men of Hakata.

Data

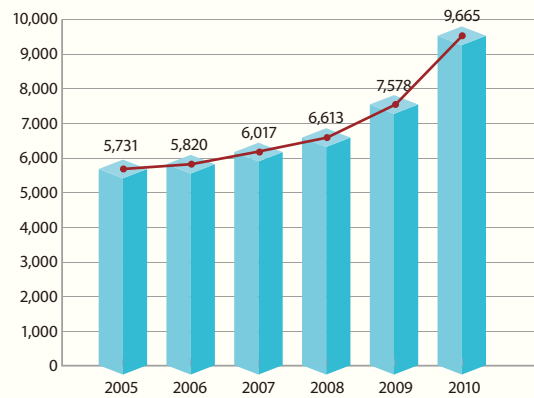
Population of Fukuoka City

(As of 1 May 2011)



International students in Fukuoka Prefecture

(As of 1 May 2011)



International students in Fukuoka Prefecture by nationality and region

(As of 1 May 2011)

