

# Tug of war Festival in Kagoshim,Kyushu,Japan

■ **Date:** 2019/9/22 ■ **Place:** Satsumasendai City, Kagoshima Prefecture

■ **Description:** Preparations for this festival start bright and early, with over 1,500 people spending half a day braiding 365 ropes into one gigantic rope for the tug of war. The finished rope is 365m long and weighs 7 tons. Around 3,000 shirtless men don a protective chest cloth called a sarashi and tug on the massive rope together. An intense, spectacular battle takes place between the hiki-gun (pulling teams) who pull on the rope and the oshi-gun (pushing teams) who try to push them onto the opposition's side.

## INFORMATION

■ **Station:** JR Sendai Station (Satsumasendai City)

■ **Getting to the venue:** 20-minute walk from the station

■ **Official website/social media:** Available (Japanese only)

■ **Attendees:** around 70,000 people

■ **Local attractions:**

- Koshiki-shima Islands (take a cruise through these islands and see topography that resembles the way Japan looked around 80 million years ago)
- Iriki Fumoto Samurai Residences (a samurai town with a history dating back over 800 years)
- Marutake Samurai Armour (Japan's largest samurai armour maker)



## Experience program

**Experience program name: Half-day Tug of War Tour**

➢ **Watch 1,500 people pulling the rope up close and even join in on this interactive**

### ■ Selling Points

- ✓ Learn about the history and best sights of the festival from a guide (an interpreter is provided)
- ✓ Try braiding the rope and join in the tug of war
- ✓ Have lunch with locals who will participate in the tug of war and explore must-see attractions nearby.



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## ■ Schedule

- 12:30 Meet at Sendai Station
- 13:00~14:00 Watch and join in the braiding of the rope
- 14:00~19:00 Free time  
(sightseeing, enjoy a local meal at a restaurant)
- 19:00~22:00 Watch the tug of war with a guide (guests can join in)  
Commemorative photo at the end of the tour.

■ Selling price: ¥5,000  
(including tax)

■ Capacity: 20 people

## ■ Memo

Watch the tug of war and the Shinto ritual before it with a guide

\*Wear clothing and shoes that are easy to move in (no sandals or heels).

## ■ Inquiries and reservations

TEL:—

E mail: [info@cocoro-satsumasendai.co.jp](mailto:info@cocoro-satsumasendai.co.jp)

## ■ Payment method

- ① Bank transfers and credit cards accepted

## ■ Cancellation fee

- ① Travel agent's cancellation policies apply.