



[The Nippon Foundation News] Golden Week 2022

Japan's Golden Week holidays (Showa Day, Constitution Day, Greenery Day, and Children's Day) this year fell on April 29 and May 3, 4, and 5. This is traditionally one of the most popular travel periods in Japan, and this year was the first time in three years with no coronavirus-related restrictions in place during the holidays. The number of people traveling was significantly higher than last year, but has not recovered to pre-pandemic levels. For people who were still reluctant to travel for extended periods, or were unable to do so with May 2 not being a holiday, places accessible for one-day trips from Tokyo proved popular.

One of these places is Kamakura, a city located by the Pacific Ocean less than an hour by train from central Tokyo. Kamakura was Japan's de facto capital from 1185 to 1333, and has many Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples. The *Daibutsu* (Great Buddha), an 11-meter-tall bronze statue of Amida Buddha on the grounds of Kotokuin temple, was built in the 13th century and today is the instantly recognizable symbol of Kamakura. Tsurugaoka Hachimangu, Kamakura's most important Shinto shrine, was built in 1063 and moved to its current site in 1180. The approach to the shrine begins at the waterfront and proceeds through the city center, ending with a large flight of stairs leading to the main building. Kamakura is also known for having many *ajisai* (hydrangea) on the grounds of several temples, which will be another tourist attraction when they bloom during the rainy season in June.



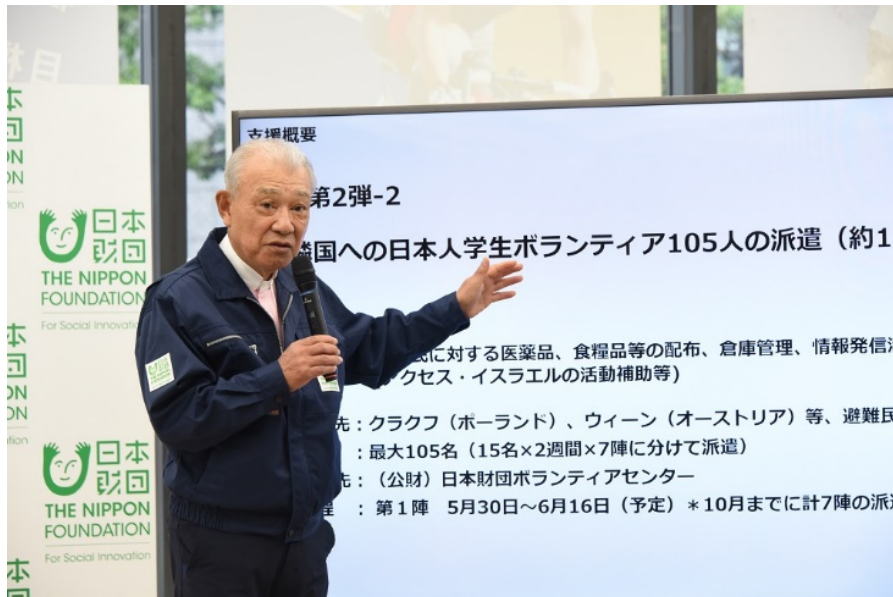
A wedding ceremony taking place with tourists in the background at Tsurugaoka Hachimangu shrine (left) and tourists visiting the Daibutsu (right) under a clear blue sky during Golden Week in 2022

News

- Plan Announced to Assist Persons with Disabilities Still in Ukraine and Dispatch 105 Japanese Student Volunteers to Neighboring Countries (2022.04.27)
- Accepting Applications for Travel Expense, Daily Living Expense, and Home Furnishing Expense Assistance (2022.04.15)
- First Joint International Research Since Eruption of Underwater Volcano Near Tonga Announced (2022.04.01)

Plan Announced to Assist Persons with Disabilities Still in Ukraine and Dispatch 105 Japanese Student Volunteers to Neighboring Countries

2nd phase of The Nippon Foundation's Support for Ukraine



The Nippon Foundation on April 26 announced that it would provide assistance to persons with disabilities who are still in Ukrainian war zones, and dispatch Japanese university student volunteers to assist those who have evacuated to neighboring countries. The volunteers will be based in Krakow (Poland), and other locations with large numbers of evacuees, and will assist with the distribution of medical supplies, food, and other items to evacuees, management of relief supplies, and the dissemination of information.

[Full Article](#)

Accepting Applications for Travel Expense, Daily Living Expense, and Home Furnishing Expense Assistance

Applications being accepted from April 20

The Nippon Foundation is providing assistance for travel expenses, daily living expenses, and home furnishing expenses to people who have evacuated from Ukraine to Japan. The assistance is available to Ukrainian citizens who are evacuating to Japan as a result of the invasion by Russia, and who have a guarantor with residence status in Japan. Applications and required documentation will be screened based on the conditions for each type of assistance.

[Full Article](#)

First Joint International Research Since Eruption of Underwater Volcano Near Tonga Announced

Aiming to forecast risks and reduce damage from eruptions



The Nippon Foundation and New Zealand's National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) announced on April 1 that they would conduct a joint survey of the area around the underwater volcano that erupted off the coast of Tonga in January 2022. This will be the first joint international research since the eruption to visualize the situation in the affected areas of the ocean, and is intended to clarify the risks and provide information that can be used to prevent and mitigate damage from similar undersea volcanic eruptions in the future.

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Yohei Sasakawa Blog

Chairman of The Nippon Foundation



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[The Nippon Foundation to Send 105 Japanese Volunteers to Poland, Elsewhere to Support Ukrainians with Disabilities \(2\)](#)
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[The Nippon Foundation to Send 105 Japanese Volunteers to Poland, Elsewhere to Support Ukrainians with Disabilities \(1\)](#)
[2022/05/06]

[Love Pocket Fund to Donate 30 Million Yen to Help Displaced Ukrainians Come to Japan](#) [2022/04/28]

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