

Outline of Matsuyama city



City of Matsuyama is situated in the midland of Ehime Prefecture.

The city is proud of having Dogo Onsen, one of Japan's oldest hot springs, and Matsuyama Castle in the center of the city that creates an atmosphere as a castle town. It is also known as a city of literature because of the art of haiku poems and the famous novels such as "Botchan" and "Saka no Ue no Kumo", where the celebrated haiku poet, Shiki MASAOKA and the renowned novelist, Soseki NATSUME were nurtured. We very much look forward to your visit to Matsuyama, "City of Hot Springs (Dogo Onsen), Castle (Matsuyama Castle) and Literature".

Try Haiku!

Explore the fun of haiku. Why don't you immerse yourself in a trip to Japan filled with seasonal atmosphere and enjoy composing haikus. Don't forget to drop your haikus into a box marked "Haiku Post", before you leave Japan. It is our pleasure to read them once every three months. Delightful news with a prize may come to you after you return home. Please look forward to it.

What's Haiku?

Haiku is a short poem written in 17 sounds (Japanese) which contains one word referring to the season. The topic should be about nature or people and their feelings.

We usually compose haiku using short, simple words omitting unnecessary detail.

Although there is no unified rule for composing haiku in English, there are various definitions.

According to the Haiku Society of America, haiku is expressed as "A poem recording the essence of a moment keenly perceived, in which nature is linked to human nature". Another example is a poem written as short as possible within 17 syllables, about nature, people or their feelings.

★The following poems are examples of haiku.

天 主 閣	秋 よ り 高 き	松 山 や	matsuyama -- higher than the autumn sky the castle tower	法 隆 寺	鐘 が 鳴 る なり	柿 く へ ば	biting into a persimmon a bell resounds Hōryūji
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★please take this home as a souvenir.

HAIKU POEM PAPER

Name				Age	
Nationality		Telephone			
Address					
e-mail address					
Your Haiku Poem					

←Cut here and drop your haiku in our Haiku Post.