

WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS

「KIZUNA –絆– News letter」

Issued June 12, 2024, Vol.8

We have about 300 days to go until the opening of the Osaka/Kansai Expo. Many countries have been holding pavilion presentations and groundbreaking ceremonies, as well as beginning pavilion construction. What is more, Expo-related events are being held in capital cities across the world. You can really feel the growing enthusiasm—both in and outside Japan—toward making the Expo a success. Let's all work together to create an exciting Expo that will inspire hope for the future.



HANEDA Koji,
Commissioner General of the 2025
World Exposition in Japan
(Ambassador)

As one involved in international collaboration efforts in Kansai, I really sense the enthusiasm for the Expo among the region's local residents. Interest from abroad is growing, and preparations for overseas pavilions are well underway too. I am glad to be a part of this wonderful opportunity that will gather technologies and ideas from around the globe and help develop new solutions to the world's challenges.



HIMENO Tsutomu,
Ambassador in charge of
Kansai region



Unveiling ceremony of the second JAL MYAKU-MYAKU Jet

[Central] From left: MIYASAKA Kumiko, Managing Executive Officer, Senior Vice President, Western Japan, Japan Airlines Co., Ltd. / TOTTORI Mitsuko, Representative Director, President, Chief Executive Officer, Japan Airlines Co., Ltd. / JIMI Hanako, Minister for the World Expo 2025 / ISHIGE Hiroyuki, Secretary General, Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition

On June 3, JAL launched its second MYAKU-MYAKU Jet, featuring a design inspired by the Expo, for international flights primarily bound for Asia. We will devote our utmost efforts to build momentum for the Expo around Japan and the world.

My sincere gratitude to everyone working on the ground!

From JIMI Hanako

【The week's report】

1. Overseas Pavilions Construction Status
June 4: Update on progress of construction of the Belgian Pavilion
2. Last week's main events / Schedule for this week and beyond
June 3: Keihanna Expo Kick Off Event held
June 4: MYAKU-MYAKU and Hanshin Tigers collaboration goods unveiled
June 7: Present campaign for admission ticket purchasers announced
June 7: Takenaka Corporation announces completion of construction of the Grand Roof (Ring)
June 9: MYAKU-MYAKU makes a surprise appearance at the Tohoku Kizuna Festival
May 31: Expo-related article published in *HIGHLIGHTING Japan*
June 3: Embassy of Japan in Australia shares an X post on MYAKU-MYAKU's Australia trip
3. Sales / Applications
Tickets sold: 2,628,085 (as of June 5) / Volunteers recruited: 55,634 (final figures)



See you at the
Expo!

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Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (June 4 - June 10)

~ 306 days to go ! ~



1. Official Participants

- June 4; The Belgian Pavilion made public the progress of its pavilion. Construction work, including the foundation and concrete, is making steady progress.



[https://www.facebook.com/BelExpo BelgianPavilion](https://www.facebook.com/BelExpoBelgianPavilion)

* The theme of the Belgian Pavilion is “water”. The pavilion is divided into three layers expressing the three phases of water, namely ice, water and steam. Latest life science and healthcare technology will also be exhibited.

Status of participating countries as of June 6

- Number of countries with official participation agreements: 102 countries
- Countries where have been decided their construction companies: 39 countries
- Countries where already handed over the site: 42 countries
- Countries where construction has started: 31 countries

2. Reports from the past week and plans for the upcoming week

- June 3; The kick-off event for the Keihanna Expo was held in Osaka City. Keihanna Expo will take place in Keihanna Science City located in the border region between Osaka, Kyoto and Nara and will be held in collaboration with Expo 2025. It will focus on the four themes of 1) robots, avatars and ICT, 2) well-being, 3) startups and 4) science and art.



<https://www.pref.kyoto.jp/bunkaga/smartcity/keihannaexpo2025.html>



https://www.kri.or.jp/project/keihanna_expo_kickoff.html



- June 4; Collaboration products (e.g., stuffed toys, face towels) between Hanshin Tigers, the super-popular baseball team based in Kansai, and Myaku-Myaku will be available at the Expo official store and the official Hanshin Tigers shop from the beginning of July.



<https://expo2025mlo.jp/news/493>

- June 7; The Association announced a bonus campaign for ticket purchasers of the EXPO 2025. Through the Myaku-Myaku-Pon! Campaign, those who purchase the admission tickets and register the Expo ID by October 6 of this year will be automatically entered in a raffle, with 5,000 people winning upwards of 30,000 yen of electronic money (Myaku-Pay!) that can be used at the venue as well as special-edition merchandise.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240607-03/>

- June 7; The assembly work for the Grand Ring was completed in the West Construction Zone, operated by a consortium led by Takenaka Corporation. The Grand Roof will see full completion this fall, pending work in the two other construction zones.



<https://www.takenaka.co.jp/news/2024/06/02/>

- June 9; Myaku-Myaku made a surprise appearance at the closing event of the Tohoku Kizuna Festival held in Sendai. The organisers announced that next year's Tohoku Kizuna Festival will be held at the venue of the Expo 2025.

*Tohoku Kizuna Festival is jointly organised by six cities in the northeastern Tohoku region and commemorates the camaraderie of survivors from the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011.



Closing ceremony of the Tohoku Kizuna Festival: the mayor of Sendai with Myaku-Myaku

- May 31; The official Japanese government public relations magazine, HIGHLIGHTING Japan, featured articles on Expo 2025. It introduced Japan Government Pavilion, pavilions of Thailand and Australia and next-generation technologies such as AI suitcases that can be experienced at the Expo venue.

https://www.gov-online.go.jp/hlj/ja/may_2024/may_2024-08.html



- June 3; The Embassy of Australia posted on X (formerlu Twitter) that Myaku-Myaku mascot has been traveling in Australia.



<https://x.com/jpembassyau/status/1797511033290211714?s=46>

<Upcoming Events>

- June 18: BIE general meeting (online)
- June 26 – 27: International Participants Meeting in Nara

3. Ticket sales and volunteers

- Number of tickets sales: 2,628,085 as of June 5
- Total number of volunteers applicants: 55,634 (confirmed figure)
 - * Registration will be expanded from 20,000 initially planned to 30,000