

Newsletter vol.2



**The 32nd World Congress of
Biomedical Laboratory Science**
International Innovation of Laboratory Medicine
— Basic and Advanced —

Date August 31 (Wed.)-September 4 (Sun.), 2016

Venue Kobe International Conference Center, JAPAN



Greetings

It is now cherry blossom season in Japan. There is a line in a tanka poem written by Ariwara no Narihira 1,200 years ago in the Nara Period that means "If there were no cherry blossoms in the world, my heart would be calmer in spring." Even for us living today, when cherry blossom season approaches we wait impatiently for them to bloom, and we are restless and apprehensive at the prospect of them falling.

Now, we are less than six months away from holding IFBLS2016. We hope that everyone around the world eagerly awaits it as if they anticipate the cherry blossoms.

The deadline to register general presentations has been extended to April 20, 2016.

We heartily encourage you to apply!

Please enjoy this Newsletter Vol. 2, with lots of information on fascinating Kobe and Japan.

So then, we'll see you in Kobe!



Vice Chairperson :
Mitsuaki Nagasawa

Why KOBE?

Kobe is a vibrant port city and hub for people, information and goods from around the world. Kobe's location nestled between the mountains and sea gives the city beautiful natural diversity - skiing on the Rokko Mountains, relaxing in the Arima Onsen Hot Springs, or playing at the beach; Kobe has a laid-back and open atmosphere which can be enjoyed all throughout the year. Kobe is a great choice not only as a tourist destination but also as a place to do business, with a wide range of industries and outstanding business environment.



What's more, Kobe's safety and friendliness and excellent infrastructure (whether it be medical, educational or recreational) give the city everything needed for a comfortable lifestyle.

<http://www.city.kobe.lg.jp/foreign/english/>

Yoshitsune Who?

Minamoto no Yoshitsune was one of the most famous warlords in Japan, and he was a genius strategist who made the most of superior cavalry tactics. He challenged the Heike Clan, maneuvering the Hiyodorigoe at Ichinotani, in Kobe, which led to a historic victory. With consecutive victories at Yashima and Dannoura, he annihilated the Heike and led the Genji Clan to victory. He was reportedly handsome guy and his romance with lady Shizuka is popular in Japan.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minamoto_no_Yoshitsune



About Kobe

Season: Summer
Average temperature: 26°C
Average humidity: 71%
Dress: short-sleeved or long-sleeved shirts
Population: 1.5 million Area: 552.3km²

Important Dates:

Abstract Submission Deadline has been extended to	April 20, 2016
Early Registration Deadline	May 31, 2016
Regular Registration Deadline	July 31, 2016



Lab. Tour / Site Visit

Sep. 3rd 9:00-15:00

Fee: JPY 5,000

Capacity: 120 (each course)



Departure and return point is Portopia Hotel (all courses)
Comfortable coach with English-speaking guide



Course-1

Systemex Solution Center

<http://www.systemex.co.jp/en/corporate/understanding-systemex/virtual-tour.html>

Systemex's showroom gives customers a full view of our past and future. Here customers are offered practical introductions to our total solutions, which bring to bear the strong expertise cultivated at healthcare practices over many years, combined with the technical strengths of a comprehensive manufacturer. Our 3D theater offers customers stereoscopic video reproductions of actual laboratories.

You can also experience a remote support service, one of the Systemex Network Communication Systems.



Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster

<http://www.kobe-lsc.jp/en/>

At the Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster, one of the largest biomedical clusters in Japan, research institutes (RIKEN, K Computer, etc.), highly specialized hospitals, and multiple medical companies and groups are involved in everything from basic research to the development of clinical applications and industrialization (development of practical applications, commercialization, and expansion of sales channels) related to a variety of themes including treatment, diagnosis, prevention, caregiving, welfare, etc., in pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, regenerative medicine, and other fields.



Course-2



Himeji Castle

http://www.hyogo-tourism.jp/english/spot/66_himejicastle.html

A survivor of countless battles and wars, Himeji Castle today looks much as it did 400 years ago.

Built during the Warring States Period, Himeji Castle has extremely strong defenses that were never breached by attackers. It was spared destruction at the time of the Meiji Restoration (1868) and then barely avoided being burned down in the Second World War. Himeji Castle's unscathed appearance is truly miraculous.

Himeji Castle was inscribed as a World heritage site in 1993.

All the surfaces of Himeji Castle--which is nicknamed "Shirasagi-jo (white heron castle)" for its graceful form, like the spread wings of the white heron--were repainted last year, so you will see a brilliant and beautiful castle.

Systemex i-Square

<http://www.systemex.co.jp/en/corporate/understanding-systemex/virtual-tour.html>



At i-Square, the production area is concentrated into a single floor to enable consolidated management of manufacturing processes. A proprietary production support system is used to generate appropriate work instructions for each area and accurately recognize the state of progress on each process, producing high-end instrument models efficiently.

The facility uses a free-access floor that allows the layout to be changed flexibly in response to demand.



Course-3

ARKRAY Kyoto Laboratory

<http://www.arkray.co.jp/english/technology/laboratory.html>

The Cutting edge of science & ecology together with the tradition & culture of Kyoto

Kyoto Laboratory is located within the grounds of Yousuien, a Japanese garden was built in 1610. Designed by Tadasu Ohe, the facility maintains the integrity of, and harmonious coexistence with the garden and is listed in the top 100 historical sites within Kyoto City's Kamigyo Ward as well as being the only private facility to be certified by the city as a an official aesthetic area.



Yousuien

<http://www.arkray.co.jp/english/yousuien/info/index.html>



Kinkakuji

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kinkaku-ji>

Rokuonji is one of the famous temples in Kyoto. It gives off a golden gleam, so it goes by the name of "Kinkakuji." (Kin means gold in Japanese.) Rokuonji was inscribed as a World Heritage site in 1994.

Rokuonji is the gold-gilt, three-storied temple. The stature of a Phoenix decorates the top.



Fushimi Inari Taisya

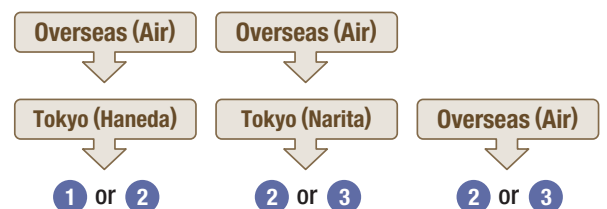
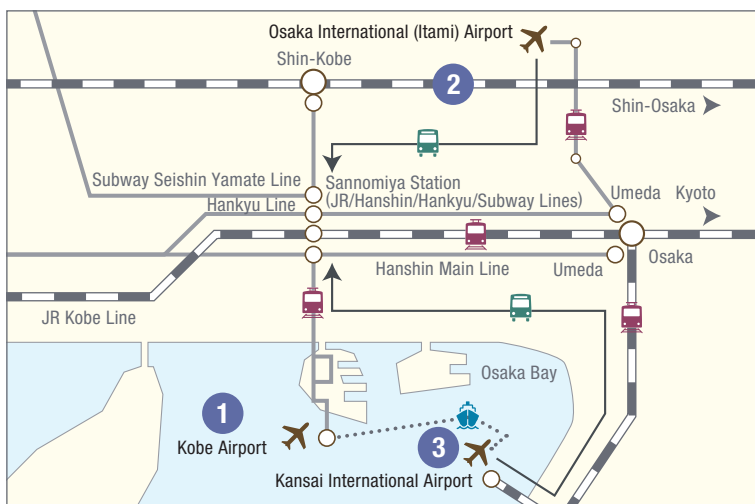
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fushimi_Inari-taisha

A leading sacred ground even within Kyoto, is the Fushimi Inari Shrine.

Leading all the way up the Torii mountain, you will find a path of some 3,000 Shinto shrine archways/torii. Anyone would be touched by this shrine's large scale.



Access



- 1 Kobe Airport
Approx. 8 min. by Port Liner
- 2 Osaka International Airport
Approx. 40 min. by Limousine Bus ▶▶ Sannomiya
Approx. 10 min. by Port Liner
- 3 Kansai International Airport
Approx. 60 min. by Bay Shuttle ▶▶ Kobe Airport
Approx. 8 min. by Port Liner



Fun in Kobe

Kobe Beef

So memorable that they named their son after a gourmet dish Kobe, the first name of that world-famous professional basketball player Kobe Bryant, is, in fact, the Americanized pronunciation taken from Kobe City. Apparently, Kobe's parents were so moved by the taste of Kobe beef steak when they visited Japan that the name "Kobe" instantly sprung to mind when they were naming their son. This is lasting proof that, even as time goes by, the flavor of Kobe beef remains sharp in people's memories. We are sure that its deliciousness will delight the palates of people around the world in years to come, too.



Kobe Bryant was chosen as "Kobe ambassador" in 2001.

<http://www.kobe-niku.jp/en/top.html>



Yabai

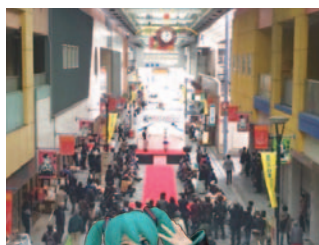
In the parlance that high school girls often use these days, "yabai" is synonymous with "very nice," so let's try using it.

KOBE Yabai

Kobe Anime Street

With "pop culture" related facilities such as manga, anime, and the like gathered in front of Shin-Nagata Station, where a life-sized monument of Tetsujin 28-Go (Iron Man Number 28) towers, "Kobe Anime Street" was opened in April 2015! There are even shops where you can actually wear cosplay costumes, figure displays, and workshops where "itasha*" cars are created!

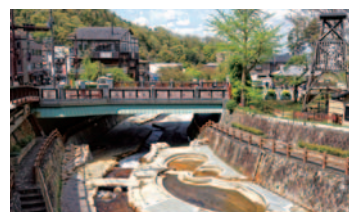
* Itasha are cars that are decorated with stickers representing manga, anime, game, and other such characters and manufacturer logos, as well as painting.



<http://www.getaroundjapan.jp/node/16116>

Arima Onsen (Hot Spa)

At the base of a scenic fall foliage valley, Arima Onsen, Japan's most famous hot spring town, lies deep in the north of the Rokko Mountain range behind Kobe city. Located among steep 350 - 500m mountains, the narrow and winding streets run through the old town, and the intricate terrain grants the town a unique atmosphere. It is the oldest Onsen (hot spring) town in Japan, founded 1300 years ago. Since days of old, it has been well known as a timeless spa resort where the Emperor, numerous famous court nobles, samurai, and other great minds visited. Although Arima has faced several natural disasters throughout its long history, numerous historical temples, shrines, and houses have been fortunately preserved in the old town. After the opening of the Kobe port 150 years ago, numerous foreign visitors came up to the hot spring, and built western style hotels and facilities in the town.



<http://visit.arima-onsen.com/>

Nada sake is known for a taste often described as "the clear sky of autumn"

In Nada, sake is generally made from lightly malted rice and the mineral-rich Miya Water, and its production is characterized by an intense fermentation process. Compared with many other brewing regions, Nada's is produced over a very short period of time from the bedding of malt to the straining of sake from the fermented rice.



The sake-brewing history of the Nada region dates back to medieval times. One written record suggests sake brewing began in Nada as early as the Muromachi Period (1330). A traditional and mostly reliable story, however, tells of a man named Zakoya Bunzaemon from the Itami region in present eastern Hyogo Prefecture, who moved to Nishinomiya and there began brewing sake sometime during the Kanei Era (1624~1643)

http://www.nadagogo.ne.jp/siryo/e_siryo.html

Official website:
<http://www.ifbils2016.org>

Facebook Kobe ifbils:
<https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100010096241926>

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