

The 54th Chubu Nippon Figure Skating Competition and The Chunichi Cup February 9 – 12, 2018

First Information

About The CHUNICHI Cup

The CHUNICHI Cup has been organized more than 50 years ago for the purpose of the development and promotion of the regional Figure Skaters by the regional skating associations and the Chunichi Shinbun (daily newspaper company).

Through this competition, Chubu Nippon (central Japan) area became the powerhouse of the Figure Skating in Japan.

We have many top skaters both domestically and internationally, such as Midori ITO, Mao ASADA, Shoma UNO and others.

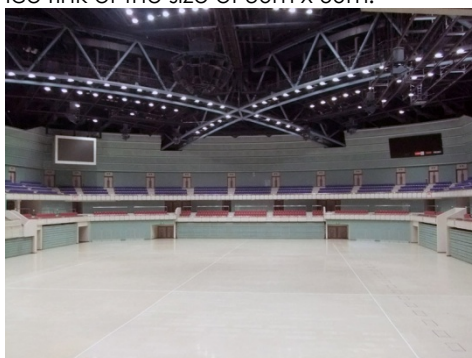
Olympians	Midori ITO	1988, 1992
	Masakazu KAGIYAMA	1992, 1994
	Yoshie ONDA	2002
	Miki ANDO	2006, 2010
	Takahiko KOZUKA	2010
	Mao ASADA	2010, 2014
	Akiko SUZUKI	2010, 2014
Kanako MURAKAMI	2014	

Venue “Big Hat”



Big Hat, a large scale multipurpose arena, was used as the main venue for the ice hockey events of the Nagano Winter Olympic Games. Its roof resembles a big hat and so it was named Big Hat. In winter it continues to be a venue for ice hockey and figure skating competitions. The venue boasts movable seats which can be stored within the walls, increasing the usable floor size in summer from 2,000 to 4,000 m². It can be utilized for exhibitions and a variety of other events. Utilising Wakasato Civic Cultural Hall, which is adjacent to Big Hat and served as the main press center of the Nagano Winter Olympic Games, as well as Big Hat, a large scale event can be held in the same area.

A fully air-conditioned and heated ice rink of the size of 30m x 60m.



No private and public time is available at the venue.

M-Wave ice rink in Nagano City also provide no public time due to Speed Skating Competition during the Chunichi Cup.

To and From JR Nagano station



Access by Bus or Taxi

By Nagaden Bus	Nagano Station Zenkoji Exit (No.4 Bus Stop) Nagano Station East Exit (No.1 Bus Stop) Hoshina Onsen Line, get off at the Big Hat Stop, 1 min walk from the bus stop. Nagano Station East Exit (No.1 Bus Stop) Nisseki・Mizuno Art Museum Line, get off at Mizuno Art Museum, 3 min walk from the bus stop.
By Alpico Bus	Nagano Station Zenkoji Exit (No.2 Bus Stop) ~Nisseki・Matsuoka Line, get off at the Big Hat Stop, 1 min walk from the bus stop.
By taxi	Approx. 10 minutes from Nagano Station East Exit or Zenkoji Exit

Climate

The average outside temperature during the period concerned is +5° Celsius at day and -5° Celsius at night. But the real temperature can vary. Average temperature is approximately 1° to 5° Celsius at day. It will be snow sometime.

Hotels

Official hotel is not decided yet.

Nagano is the famous sightseeing destination for both Japanese and foreign tourists, so there are many variety accommodations available.

From old Japanese style Ryokan hotel to the International hotels.

Most of hotels are located the downtown or station area.

OC recommended below International hotels, because of the distance to and from venue.

Hotel Metropolitan Nagano, located next to the JR Nagano station Zenkoji exit.

In front of Bus and Taxi station mentioned above.

<http://www.hotelmetropolitan-nagano.jp/>

HOTEL SUNROUTE NAGANO-HIGASHIGUCHI, located the JR Nagano station east exit.

<http://www.sunroutenaganohigashiguchi.jp/en/location/index.html>



How to reach Nagano by Train

While making your travel arrangements, you can find the following recommendations useful.

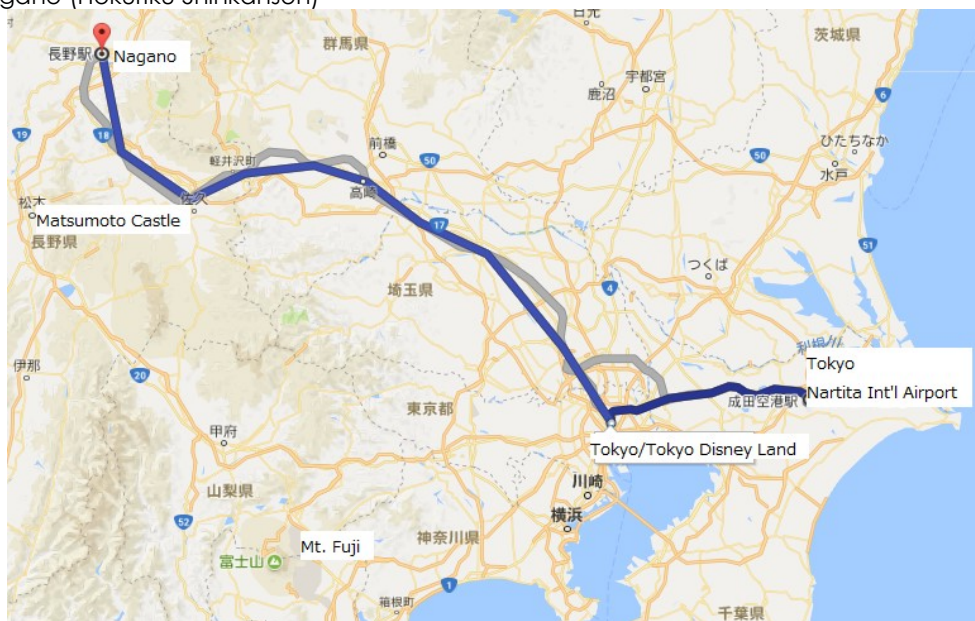
If you have a plan for sightseeing or amusement parks, such as Kyoto, ancient capital of Japan, Tokyo Disney Land and Universal Studio in Osaka other than competition, OC recommend you to use JAPAN RAIL PASS. Please consult your local travel agent.

From NARITA International Airport, approx. 3 hours (OC's recommendation)

Use JR Line, 10,580JPY for adult one way.

Narita to Tokyo (Narita express)

Tokyo to Nagano (Hokuriku Shinkansen)



From Chubu International Airport (Centrair), approx. 4hours.

Use Meitetsu Line and JR Line. 7,940JPY for adult, one way.

Chubu Int'l Airport to Kanayama (Meitetsu Line); 30 min, 810JPY

Kanayama to Nagano (JR Line) Shinano express; 3 hours, 7,130JPY

Useful information

Language

The official language is JAPANESE.
Majority of Japanese could use simple English words.

Time Zone

Time zone for Japan is 9 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. (GMT+9:00)
No DST in Japan.

Currency

The National currency is the Japanese Yen.
Cash is accepted everywhere, and it is usually no problem to use large bills to pay for small items, except at small street vendors.
Japanese yen can be withdrawn from foreign bank accounts through ATMs found at post offices and 7-11 convenience stores.
ATM marked with a Plus symbol accept automated banking cards from outside of Japan.
Although not as universally accepted as cash, credit cards can be used at more and more places, especially major retail stores, electronics shops and department stores. Visa, Mastercard, JCB, American Express and Union Pay are among the most widely accepted types of cards. Travelers checks, on the other hand, are not widely accepted except at major department stores and electronics shops that regularly cater to foreign customers.

Banks:

open from 9.00 to 15.00 (Monday - Friday)

Electricity

The voltage in Nagano is 100 Volt/60Hz, which is different from North America (120V), Central Europe (230V) and most other regions of the world. Japanese electrical plugs have two, non-polarized pins(A type).



Main Sightseeing spots

Zenkoji Temple

- Foundation: 642 AD
- Sect: Non Sect (Independent from Sect)
- Main Image: Amida Triad Sharing One Halo
- Founder: Yoshimitsu Honda

The history of Zenkoji temple started in 642, when Yoshimitsu Honda enshrined a Buddhist Image at the present site.

The main image was created in India and introduced into Japan with Buddhism via Paekche in Korean Peninsula in 552.

It is called "The Image of Sangoku Denrai" in Japanese.

The image has been believed to lead all the people to the Buddhist Pure Land regardless of their status, gender or creed. It has been earnestly worshipped by many people from those in power at the time to the common people.

The main image was completely hidden from the people in 654, and since then no one has ever been allowed to see it.

The temple name "Zenkoji" literally means "Yoshimitsu' s temple". It is read as "Zenkoji" by another way of reading of the Chinese characters.



National Treasure Matsumoto Castle

Approximately 1 hour from Nagano by express JR train.

Starting from Fukashi Castle which was built during the Eisho period(1504-1520AD) of the Warring States period, Matsumoto Castle has become a National Treasure as the oldest extant five structure/six story castle in Japan. Its contrasting black and white, against the shining Japanese Alps makes for splendid scenery.

main features of Matsumoto Castle.

- (1) The castle built on the flat land immersed in spectacular landscape of the Northern Alps.
- (2) The beauty of black and white contrast color.
- (3) The castle structure preparing for wars and watchtower for viewing the moon.
- (4) Five-floor from outside, while six-floor from inside.
- (5) High-rise design with pillars
- (6) 16 columns supporting the foundation of the internal stone wall.
- (7) Raft-shaped terrain under the stone wall.
- (8) Many columns standing on the first, second and third floors.



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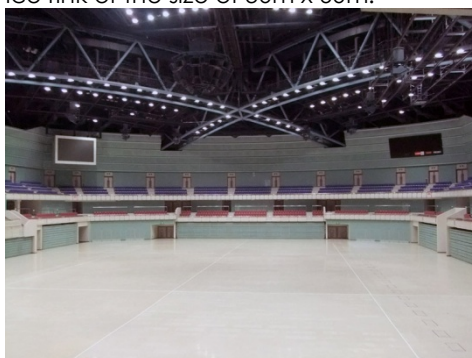
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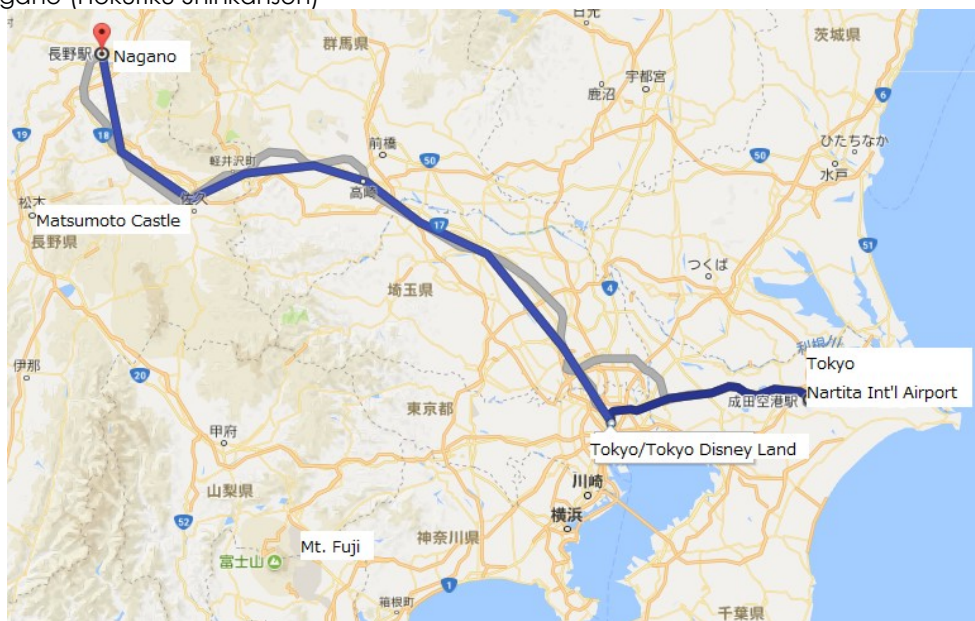
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