

## Hirano Gion – Kumata Shrine, Hirano Ward, Osaka

<https://kumata.jp/>

### About the summer festival

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Kuzen Shrine's summer festival is held for four days from **July 11th to 14th every year**.

During the period, nine danjiri floats are paraded, making it one of the largest **danjiri festivals** in Osaka.

### Outline of summer festival

**The Gion -e** , which began in the early Heian period to quell natural disasters such as pestilences, earthquakes, and thunder, gradually took shape as a festival and became a lively event. It has taken on its current form, featuring taiko drums and danjiri performances.

The significance of the festival is to thank the gods for their daily blessings, and to offer heartfelt "hospitality" to the gods in order to increase the power of the gods. , the town is full of life. It is believed that by holding events on a grand scale, the dignity of the gods will increase, and eventually the divine virtues will be brought to the town.

In the long history of Hirano-go, while incorporating the trends of the times, there are two main festivals, one is the "Shrine Festival" centered on the parade of portable shrines that enshrine the gods, and the other is the "Machishu no Matsuri", which aims to repay the gods' blessings with the bustle of danjiri. "Matsuri" is united to protect and convey the unchanging fundamental spirit - the heart of prayer.

## About Mikoshi



A mikoshi is, so to speak, a vehicle for the gods, and the body of Susanoo-no-Mikoto, which is usually enshrined in the first main hall, is enshrined.

Summer has long been feared as the season for food poisoning and epidemics.

Based on the historical fact that Susanoo-no-Mikoto was once taught how to ward off epidemics, people pray for the appearance of the gods at this time and pray for the health of parishioners and the safety of the community.

You will be served at Danjiri Miyairi Nibanchō that year.

### viewing time

	Times of Day	place
11th	around 10 am	In front of Kuzen Shrine worship hall
		Runs around town until 3pm
14th	3 pm	At the base of Hinajiri Bridge
		It operates in the town until about 5:00 p.m.
	around 5pm	In front of Kuzen Shrine Otorii
	Around 10:00 am	In front of Kuzen Shrine worship hall
		Runs around town until 3pm

	Times of Day	place
3 pm	Akaruhime Shrine It operates in the town until around 9:00 p.m.	
around 9pm		In front of Kuzen Shrine Otorii

Outside the above hours, it is enshrined in the worship hall.

## About Taikodai



It is also called futon drum, and has the role of notifying the town of the movement of the mikoshi and clearing the dew on the way.

Boys aged between 3 and 12, selected from that year's Miyairi Ichibanco, wear red throwing hoods and make-up to serve as Tatakiko. Koji goes to the festival after a series of cleansing in order to participate in the Shinto rituals, such as moving on a shoulder so that his feet do not touch the ground.

## viewing time

	Times of Day	place
11th	around 6 am It operates in the town until around 8:00 p.m.	In front of Kuzen Shrine drum warehouse
	around 8pm	In front of Kuzen Shrine Otorii
14th	Around 9:00 am Runs around town until around 7:00 p.m.	In front of Kuzen Shrine drum warehouse

	Times of Day	place
	around 7pm	In front of Kuzen Shrine Otorii

Outside the above hours, you can see the drums at the Taikoko.

## About Danjiri



Nine danjiri floats owned by nine towns (Noto, Nonan, Nohoku, Nagaremachi, Ichimachi, Setoguchimachi, Nishiwaki, Deido, and Baba) are currently enshrined at Kuzen Shrine.

The city town danjiri made in 1845 is the oldest existing danjiri, and the first recorded danjiri is said to be the first generation danjiri made in Babacho in 1745. .

Reference: ``2015 Kuizen Shrine Hiranogo Summer Festival''

## viewing time

	Times of Day	place
12th	Around 9:00 a.m.	Each town
	9:45 p.m.	Nanko Street
13th	Around 11:00 a.m.	Each town
	7 pm	Kuzen Shrine Otorii

## highlight

### Nine town joint towing



12th 9:45pm

**Location** Nanko-dori

Nine danjiri perform a heroic competition. This is the only time during the period when you can see all the danjiri moving at the same time, and Nanko-dori is filled with excitement with many spectators.

## Danjiri Miyairi



13th 7pm

**PlaceMiyamae** Intersection - In front of Kuzen Shrine Daimon

Danjiri from nine towns enter the shrine one after another over a period of about 4.5 hours, at intervals of about 30 minutes from Miyairi Ichibanco.

## Otabisho Festival



14th 3pm

**PlaceAkurubimei** Shrine - Kuzen Shrine

After the Otabisho Festival is held in the precincts of Akaruhime Shrine, the two related temples also hold Shinto rituals.

It is said that if you rub your head with the feather fan of Sarutahiko God (Tengu), who leads the procession, you will grow up to be a good child, and you can see this scene at various places along the way.

## Other events

### Ritual to the river



11th 3pm

Location **Hinojiri** Bridge Tamoto

Prior to the deity transfer, the mikoshi is purified by the Hirano River. It is also called "Ashiarai" because the lower part of the mikoshi was once washed with river water.

### **deity transfer**



11th 8pm, 14th 11pm

**Place**Kuzen   Shrine 1st Main Hall

It is a Shinto ritual in which the object of worship is transferred to a mikoshi (portable shrine) and returned to the main shrine.

### Taikodai/Mikoshi Departure Ceremony



11th 6:00 am

In the early morning, the taikodai are carried out. Around 10:00 a.m., the mikoshi departs for the river-bound ritual.

### summer festival celebration



13th 10:00 am

It is the main festival of the summer festival to pray for the prevention of disasters such as epidemics that are likely to spread in the summer.