

KOBE

Kobe City PR Digest January 2026

Meet the People Who Keep Our City Safe



If you have any questions about ward office procedures, financial support for raising children, etc.

Call the Kobe International Community Center (KICC)!

☎ 078-742-8721 (11 languages)



↑ Scan here to visit the website!



Edited & Translated by:
Kobe City Community Engagement Division, Kobe City International Division

The People Who Keep Our Community Thriving



(Public Construction Projects Bureau staff)

"I work to make Kobe a city resilient to disasters. Every day, I strive to prevent problems during emergencies."



(Public Construction Projects Bureau staff)

"I am responsible for the management of sewage treatment plants, including construction design and maintenance work."



(Port and Harbor Bureau staff)

"City construction projects are wide-range and large-scale. My work focuses on making Kobe a more attractive city."



(Construction and Housing Bureau staff)

"I handle electrical systems and elevator installations for facilities, collaborating with various staff members to move projects forward."

Ten Days of Radiant Light: Kobe Luminaire



Kobe Luminaire is an annual memorial event honoring the victims of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake with brilliant light displays. This year's theme is: "The Heartbeat of Kobe, A Story of Light."

For 10 days, spectacular installations will illuminate the entire city. Visitors can also take part in a digital stamp rally and coupon campaigns.

Dates: January 30 (Fri) - February 8 (Sun), Sundown until 9:30 PM

Free Admission Area: Higashi Yuenchi Park, Former Kobe Foreign Settlement

Paid Admission Area: Meriken Park

Advance Tickets: Weekdays ¥500
Weekends ¥750

Same-Day Tickets: Weekdays ¥1000
Weekends ¥1500

Free Admission: Children (elementary school and younger with guardian) and persons with disability ID

Note: Same-day tickets may not be available depending on advance ticket sales.

Inquiries: 078-391-6371

Join us in supporting Luminaire through crowdfunding →



Stay Safe During Earthquakes: Install a Seismic Breaker

What is a “Post-Power Outage Fire” (*Tsuuden kasai*)?

A “post-power outage fire” is an electrical fire that occurs after a major earthquake when power is restored following an outage.

During the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, 33 out of 157 building fires in the city were caused by post-power outage fires.

Why is it dangerous?

These fires often break out in empty homes after residents have evacuated, and they occur with a time delay.

Because discovery of the fire and initial firefighting are delayed, flames can spread rapidly in rooms cluttered with debris.

What items should I have to prepare against it?

Seismic Breaker: Detects earthquake tremors and automatically shuts off electricity.

Simple plug-in types are also available and can be purchased at home improvement stores.

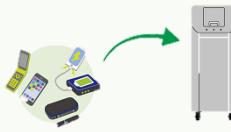
Resident-Use Fire Alarm: Alerts you early in case of fire. Replace every 10 years as a guideline.

Fire Extinguisher: Allows you to extinguish a fire before it spreads.



Lithium-Ion Batteries Can Be Dangerous

Batteries used in smartphones, mobile chargers, and heated tobacco devices can cause fires when compressed or crushed in garbage trucks or processing facilities.



As such, Kobe City is actively collecting these items for disposal.

If you are disposing these items, please deposit them in designated appliance recycling boxes (小型家電リサイクルボックス) or battery collection boxes (電池回収ボックス) located at ward offices and other locations.

Eligible Items for Collection:

Mobile phones & smartphones

Heated tobacco devices & e-cigarettes

Mobile batteries

Be sure to check Kobe City's garbage sorting and disposal rules.



Portable fans → Designated appliance recycling boxes (小型家電リサイクルボックス, found at ward offices, etc.)



Disposable hand warmers → Non-burnable trash



Cardboard → Recycling collection areas (資源回収)



Gas canisters & spray cans → Empty the can completely and place in a clear bag (do NOT need to puncture)



Dry-cell batteries → Battery collection box (電池回収ボックス) or non-burnable trash



Enjoy Strawberry Picking!

In Arinocho, Kita Ward (about a 30-minute drive from Sannomiya), you'll find many farms where you can go strawberry picking!

Don't miss out on the delectable “Niro Niro strawberries”—a large, sweet, and fragrant variety you can only find at these farms!

Be sure to make a reservation for strawberry picking by calling the farm of your choice directly.

For inquiries:

Kobe Tourism & Horticulture Association
Phone: 078-991-1557

