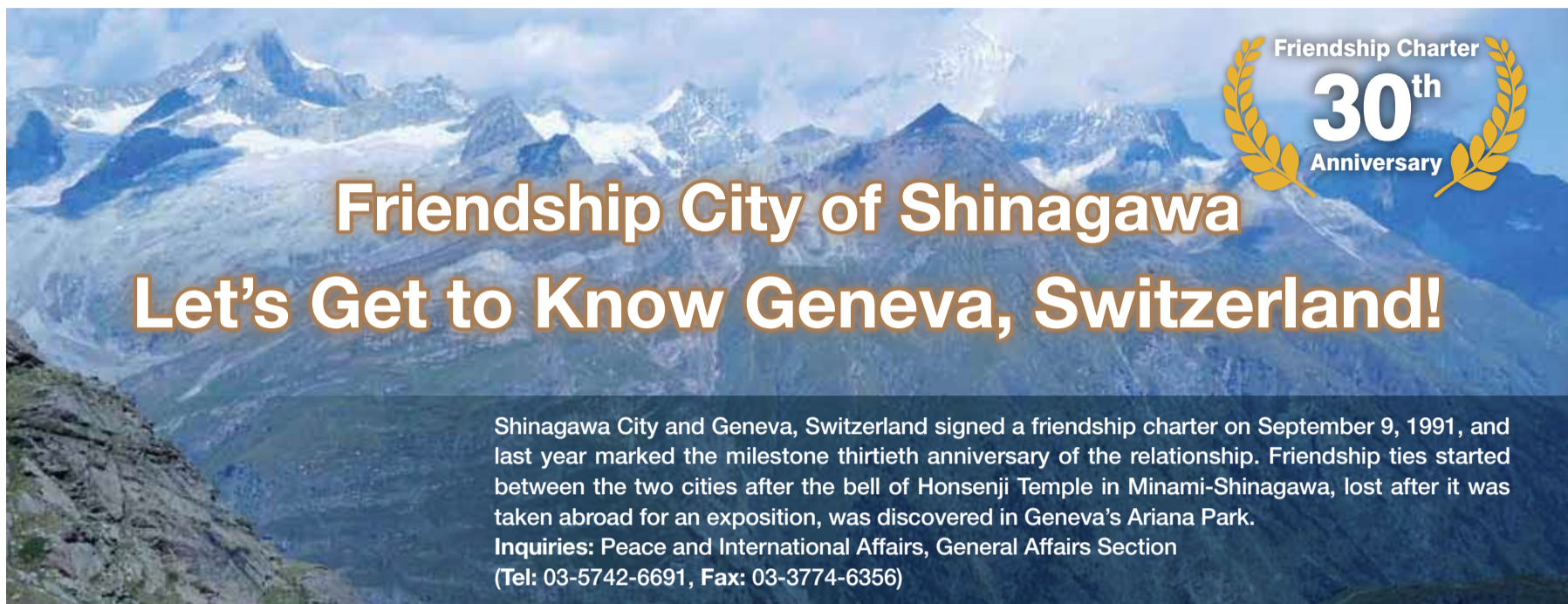


SHINAGAWA

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Tel: 5742-6612
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Friendship Charter
30th
Anniversary

Friendship City of Shinagawa

Let's Get to Know Geneva, Switzerland!

Shinagawa City and Geneva, Switzerland signed a friendship charter on September 9, 1991, and last year marked the milestone thirtieth anniversary of the relationship. Friendship ties started between the two cities after the bell of Honsenji Temple in Minami-Shinagawa, lost after it was taken abroad for an exposition, was discovered in Geneva's Ariana Park.

Inquiries: Peace and International Affairs, General Affairs Section
(Tel: 03-5742-6691, Fax: 03-3774-6356)



Characteristics of Geneva

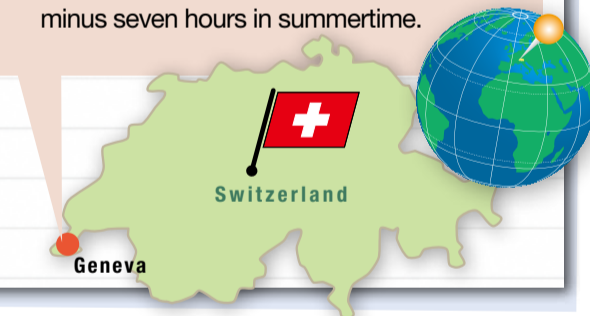
Features of the city: The largest city of the Canton of Geneva, Geneva is located on the western end of Lake Geneva and ringed by the Alps and Jura Mountains. The city's old town, which has a rich history and culture, is situated on the left bank of the Rhone River.

On the river's right bank are many international institutions, such as the European headquarters of the United Nations and the headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Four languages are recognized as official national languages: French, German, Italian, and Romansh. Since many Swiss people speak

English as their second language, English is a common language in the country.



- **Area:** 15.93 km²
 - **Population:** About 205,000
 - **Time difference with Japan:** Minus eight hours (Geneva is eight hours behind Japan).
- Note:** Between the last Sunday of March (starting date) and the last Sunday of October (ending date), the time difference is minus seven hours in summertime.



Here are some sites in Shinagawa City that are linked to Geneva



Honsenji Temple Bell

The temple's bell was lost in Europe but later found in Geneva's Ariana Park and returned to Honsenji Temple.

Location: 3-5-17 Minami-Shinagawa

Nearest station: About a five-minute walk from Aomono-yokocho Station.



Geneva Heiwa-dori Street

Because of the Honsenji Temple bell connection, Geneva gave Shinagawa a sign that says "Avenue de la Paix ('Peace Street' in French)" as a gift. Although the Tokyo Metropolitan Government has control over the street, the street was named Geneva Heiwa-dori (Geneva Peace Street) at the request of local residents having friendly ties with Geneva.

Nearest station: About a one-minute walk from Aomono-yokocho Station.



Flower Clock

To commemorate the friendship charter's tenth anniversary, Geneva presented these clock hands to Shinagawa City. Shinagawa's flower clock was constructed using the famed Flower Clock in Geneva as a model.

Location: 4-12-6 Higashi-Shinagawa (plaza in front of Aeon Style Shinagawa Seaside)

Nearest station: About a four-minute walk from Shinagawa Seaside Station.

Are You Familiar with National Health Insurance?

● What Is National Health Insurance?

Japan's social security system includes health insurance. This health insurance program is broadly divided into workbased (company) insurance, regionally based National Health Insurance, and Latter-Term Elderly Medical Insurance for those who are 75 years of age or older. Those who live in Japan are required to join one of these health insurance plans. (However, eligibility requirements for enrollment must be fulfilled.) Japan's National Health Insurance system is a mutual-aid program in which members pay insurance premiums based on their income, and to which both the national government and local municipalities also contribute.

● Who Can Enroll?

Under 75 years of age who live in Shinagawa City and have completed resident registration can enroll. However, those to whom any of the following applies are not eligible to enroll.

- Those who are eligible to join another public health insurance program, such as company health insurance
Note: Those who are employed by a Japanese company should enroll in the health insurance plan of that company (place of employment).
- Those who are receiving public financial assistance for everyday living
- Those with an authorized period of stay of three months or less (including those who have not obtained the proper visa)

● Notification

You must be sure to file the designated notification form with the National Health Insurance and Pension Section within fourteen days of the following circumstances. Your individual number (My Number) is required for procedures.

Note: If someone else files an application on your behalf, he/she will need to present a proxy letter.

- (1) To join the program
 - When you enter Japan or move to Shinagawa City
 - When you withdraw from the employee health insurance program
 - When you give birth to a baby (if you cannot enroll in social insurance)
- (2) To withdraw from the program
 - When you move out of Shinagawa City or leave Japan
 - When you join the employee health insurance program
 - Death
Note: You can apply for funeral expenses.
- (3) Other situations
 - When you move within Shinagawa City
 - Change in name
 - Change in head of household
 - Consolidation or dissolution of household(s)
 - Your health insurance card is lost or damaged

Inquiries: Qualification Subsection, National Health Insurance and Pension Section (Hon Chosha 4F) **Tel:** 03-5742-6676, **Fax:** 03-5742-6876

Course for Foreign Residents —Enjoy Life

This course is divided into three themes: disaster preparedness; how to sort and dispose of recyclable items and garbage; and everyday living in Shinagawa City (such as anticrime measures and traffic rules, health services, and how to use the libraries).

Dates and time: November 11 (Fri.), November 18 (Fri.) and November 25 (Fri.), 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. (three sessions)

Eligibility and capacity: People who live, work or go to school in Shinagawa City; up to ten persons per language (decided by lottery). Sessions will be held in each language for three persons or more.

Note: English and Chinese interpreters are available.

Location/application/inquiries: Please fill out the application form on the Shinagawa-ku International Friendship Association's website, send a fax or apply in person to the association by no later than Monday, October 31. Please include the name of the class you wish to join, your address, name (with *furigana*), age, daytime phone number and nationality. If you are a student in Shinagawa City, please include the name of your school. If you work in Shinagawa City, please include the name of your place of employment. (**Address:** Shinagawa City Office Dai-san Chosha 4F, 2-1-36 Hiromachi, **Tel:** 03-5742-6517, **Fax:** 03-5742-6518, **Web-site:** <https://www.sifa.or.jp/>)

Note: This program is subject to change depending on COVID-19 conditions.

Shinagawa Artist Exhibition 2022 O Art Museum Special Exhibition Hibiki (Echoes) Koshi Hasegawa—The Gift of Writing

This exhibition will spotlight works from childhood to the present by Koshi Hasegawa, a calligrapher from Shinagawa City.

Dates and time: October 15 (Sat.) through November 23 (national holiday), 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Location/inquiries: O Art Museum (Osaki New City Bldg. No. 2, 2F, in front of Osaki Station, **Tel:** 03-3495-4040, **Fax:** 03-3495-4192)

Admission:
Free



(((InterFM89.7MHz))) Shinagawa Info

Multilingual FM City News Broadcasts

The city government broadcasts *Shinagawa Info*, a 3-minute municipal news program, in several languages on InterFM897 (89.7 MHz) from 6:56 a.m., Monday through Friday.

The languages broadcast are as follows:

Mondays: Chinese and Japanese

Wednesdays: Tagalog and Japanese

Fridays: English and Japanese

Tuesdays: Korean and Japanese

Thursdays: English and Japanese

In addition to daily-living information, emergency information is broadcast during times of emergency.

You can also check the broadcast content via the website.

Website: <https://www.interfm.co.jp/timetable/>

About COVID-19 Vaccinations

(information current as of September 27)

● Booster Shots—Omicron Variant Vaccine

Eligibility: Residents twelve years of age or older who have completed the initial vaccinations (first and second injections) and got their previous vaccination (second through fourth injection) at least five months ago.

Location: Vaccinations are scheduled at group vaccination sites and medical institutions such as hospitals, medical association halls and clinics.

Reservations: Applications are accepted via the website or through the call center.

Note: Vaccines used at group vaccination sites and medical institutions are gradually switching to the vaccine for the Omicron variant.

● Booster Shots (third injection) for Children (five through eleven years of age)

Children between the ages of five and eleven who got their second injection at least five months ago can receive the booster shot (third injection).

For more information concerning the starting date and vaccination tickets, please check the Shinagawa City website. Please use the website or the call center to make a vaccination reservation.

Inquiries: Shinagawa Coronavirus Vaccination Call Center

Tel 03-6633-2433 **Fax** 03-6684-4845 **Hours** 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

To find out about the updated information, please visit the Shinagawa City website. The contents on the website can be read in various languages (English, Chinese and Korean), using the automated translation function.

Shinagawa City website



Tokyo Multilingual Consultation Navi

Consultation services are available for any concerns regarding the spread of the novel coronavirus and its impact on lives.

Languages: Fifteen (plain Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Nepalese, Indonesian, Tagalog, Thai, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Hindi, Russian and Burmese)

Tel 03-6258-1227

Hours 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
(excluding Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays)

COVID-19 Omicron Variant Call Center

Consultation services are available if you have questions or concerns about COVID-19 infection, such as how to prevent the spread of the virus and what to do if symptoms appear at the contact numbers below.

Languages: Twelve (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Nepalese, Burmese, Thai, French, Portuguese and Spanish)

Tel 0570-550571 **Fax** 03-5388-1396

Hours 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
(Available on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays as well.)