



2 Rules/behavior for daily life/Customs

There are many daily life rules and manners as well as lifestyle habits that are particular to Japan. This section provides concise information necessary for living comfortably in Japan, including details on putting out garbage, keeping pets, dealing with noise, room use, interaction with the neighbors and ceremonial occasions.

2-1 National holidays in Japan

There are 15 national holidays in Japan. Although schools, government offices and most companies are closed on national holidays, shopping centers and department stores are open as on Sundays.

●List of national holidays

January 1	New Year's Day	Celebrate the start of the year
Second Monday of January	Coming-of-Age Day	Celebration for new adults to encourage them to live independently as responsible members of society.
February 11	National Foundation Day	Commemorate the foundation of the nation and foster love for the nation.
Around March 20 (varies every year)	Vernal Equinox Day	Admire nature and cherish the livings.
April 29	Showa Day	Reflect on the Showa era marked by the recovery after tumultuous years, and contemplate the future of the nation.
May 3	Constitution Day	Commemorate the enforcement of the Constitution of Japan and pray for the growth of the nation.
May 4	Greenery Day	Get close to nature and be grateful for its benefits, so as to nurture a rich spirit.
May 5	Children's Day	Respect the individuality of children and ensure their happiness, while giving thanks to mothers.
Third Monday of July	Marine Day	Appreciate the benefit of the ocean and pray for prosperity of Japan as a maritime nation.
Third Monday of September	Respect-for-the-Aged Day	Pay respect to the elderly who had long contributed to society, and celebrate their longevity.
Around September 23 (varies every year)	Autumnal Equinox Day	Pay homage to our ancestors and commemorate the deceased
Second Monday of October	Health-Sports Day	Enjoy sport and foster sound bodies and minds.
November 3	Culture Day	Promote culture with love for peace and freedom.
November 23	Labor Thanksgiving Day	Value labor, congratulate production and thank one another.
December 23	The Emperor's Birthday	Commemorate the birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.