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Rainy Season 梅雨

Rain in the Country of Sunshine



As we pass into the boiler room of hell warmer months of the year, we also enter Japan's rainy season. In Japanese, this period of time is called **tsuyu / つゆ / 梅雨**, and it encompasses the entire country, as well as surrounding nations. Literally meaning '**plum rain**' this season is called such as it coincides with plum season in Japan. In this wonderful season, humidity will be through the roof, there will be heavy rain, and you can also anticipate the periodic typhoon advisory. All the while, it will be hot as it is summer. Yes, as we enter the humid and steaming rainy season, it will become more and more difficult to not get drenched one way or another, so to help we've come up with some pointers to help you cope with the heavy rainfall.



There's no sugar coating it, unless you have a car, you WILL get wet.

Whether you will be walking, biking, or commuting in the rain, water is inevitable, and there is only so much an umbrella can do when the rain is coming at you parallel to the ground. Most of these pointers are countermeasures, rather than preventative ones.



At the top of advice to be given is covering up.

Wearing **appropriate rain gear** is the absolute best way to brave the elements on your commutes to and from school. Gear and equipment such as **umbrellas**, **rain boots** or shoes you don't mind getting wet, **rain coats**, **hats**, and **ponchos** can help reduce the amount of rain that soaks in. It should be noted, that riding a bicycle and holding an umbrella is illegal and is punishable by local law enforcement with a citation, so in the case of riding a bicycle, the benefits of wearing a raincoat or even getting outfitted from head to toe in a rain jacket and pants increase. Cheap ponchos and umbrellas can be easily acquired from convenience stores, and they do offer decent protection from the rain, however they are not so effective on a bicycle, especially at speed. They are also flimsy and not the most durable things to be commissioned; buyer beware. If using the conbini ponchos in tandem with a bike, adding weights to the bottom can aid in preventing the hem from blowing up at speed.

Following closely behind in advice is bringing a spare change of clothes. Most, if not all schools, have staff locker rooms that can be utilized to change attire upon arrival onto campus. If you anticipate getting soaked, you can pack your proper work attire into a separate bag and carry it to school, **changing upon arrival**. Doing so will guarantee that your work clothing is not wet at all upon class. Also advisable is bringing a towel to dry yourself off after charging through a heavy downpour to school.



Make sure to cover your bags as well. When carrying things like laptops, books, papers, and other objects that are sensitive to water, it is important to **protect your belongings** from getting soaked. In a pinch, you can place your bags into a plastic bag to be carried in hand or in the basket of a mamachari for the commute to school. You can rest assured that your items will be shielded from water.

Moving beyond advised countermeasures to rain, we'll close on some final points of caution. The roads in Okayama can be very uneven and as a result have massive puddles. When waiting at a crosswalk, a word of advice is to stand a distance away from the curb as passing vehicles will soak everything in the splash zone. Many floors, particularly stone paths, brick or granite sidewalks, manhole covers, metal floor grates, the plastic yellow tangible block paths for the vision impaired, and the tile or linoleum floors inside buildings will all become very slippery when wet. Be sure to exercise caution when walking or biking on these surfaces, as even lug-soled boots can be slippery on these surfaces. The weather is very unpredictable, and even though a day is reported to be sunny or partly cloudy, it can quickly change to a sudden downpour at any given moment. As a result, it is also recommended to carry a portable umbrella as much as possible, or store cheap conbini umbrellas at your schools for those sudden unexpected rainy days.

Hopefully these simple tips can help you handle the upcoming hot and wet weather, as we head into 2024's season of 大雨. Stay dry, stay cool, and stay safe, peaches!



Want to be part of
The Peach Cobbler!!?!?



If you want to
contribute photos or
stories please contact
us at
newsletter@okayama-ajet.com
OR
okayama.rose@gmail.com



more info available on www.okayama-ajet.com

The ~ Advice Corner ~



COMING SOON



Let us and your fellow JETs help with
some UNOFFICIAL advice.

Results may vary.

Stay tuned for updates on the website

UPCOMING AJET EVENTS



Leavers **PARTY**



2024

Soon it will be that time of year when many of us close the chapter of our life that is the JET Programme. Let's all get together one last time in the land of sunshine and celebrate!

Tentative Date
2024/07/13

Stay tuned more info to come

Events in Okayama

JUNE 2024

FESTIVALS

岡山後楽園 お田植え祭 - Rice Planting Festival



Date: June 9th

More Info: [日本語](#) [English](#)

Location: Okayama Kourakuen

Time: AM:11:00-12:00, PM:13:00-14:00

Admission: Free

*If you want to experience planting the rice you can but you have to be one the first 30 people (reception ends when capacity is reached)

誕生寺ふるさと公園「ほたる祭り」 - Firefly Festival

Date: June 8th

More Info: [日本語](#)

Location: Fuefukigawakahi Park
(3rd parking lot behind Tanjoji Temple)

Time: 18:00 - 20:00

Admission: Free



第2回 岡山地酒まつり - The 2nd Okayama Local Sake Festival



Date: June 16th (Sunday)

More Info: [FB Page \(日本語\)](#)

Location: Nomaru Horticulture Kibiji Farm Entrance

Time: 11:00 - 16:00

Admission: Free

OTHER

おしぐらご - Oshigurago



Date: June 16th

More info: [日本語](#)

Location: Kanaura, Kasaoka City

Time: 10:30 - 13:00

Admission: Free

Japan Expo in Paris 凱旋コンサート 空音Japan Tour 『花鳥風月』 (岡山)

Date: June 15th

More info: [日本語](#)

Location: Noh Theater Hall tenjin9

Time: 13:30

Admission: In Advance - ¥5500

Adults at Door - ¥6000

High School or younger - ¥3300



JULY EVENT SNEAK PEEK

International Meet Up Party 「せかつく」



Date: July 6th

More info: [Instagram](#)

Location: Matador (Bar in Okayama City)

Time: 20:00 - 22:00

Admission:

Men ~ ¥4000

All you can drink and buffet style food included

Women ~ ¥3500

More events and info available on our website

<https://okayama-ajet.com/upcoming-events>



JUNE Word Search



ない おろ く め び ま お と か き
つ ま ん ま が び あ て ひ せ ち と
り ろ の し き そ い め わ め ち ひ
か お ち ち お と お ざ ご つ の れ
ち き ろ を ま ば そ か れ て ひ な
の ち せ く つ ゆ う わ ふ つ り と
う ろ ま ず り ね ら つ ほ じ ろ と
め は く ん て り す ん あ て ん み
こ あ し が の を び い じ く つ を
そ さ と ま つ お と う さ ん わ ゆ
い つ な お ゆ め な せ い い か あ
び を ら う は に あ わ だ に む つ
わ ん り ち ら た つ け め ん ろ な

June marks the end of spring and the beginning of summer, let's find some Japanese words related to June together!

Write the English translation (and/or kanji) of the words below and find them in the wordsearch above.



① おまつり →

② つゆ →

③ ちちのひ →

④ ろくがつ →

⑤ びわ →

⑥ おとうさん →

⑦ なつ →

⑧ あじさい →

⑨ あめ →

⑩ つけめん →

