

# Minamata City – Celebrating 70 Years **2019!** International Exchange Café in Minamata

## 【Objectives】 *Come and join in!*

- 1) Introduce Minamata High School's Super Global High School (SGH) programs, join others in exchange activities, and offer opportunities for cross-cultural exchange and international understanding.
- 2) Improve junior high school and high school students' English communication ability.
- 3) Show foreign residents living in Kumamoto everything Minamata has to offer.

## 【Event Details】

**Date/time:** Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 from 10:30am to 4:00pm

**Place:** Minamata City (transport by bus)

**Participants:** Foreign residents living in Kumamoto as well as Minamata High School and local junior high school students (the main language used is English, but people from non-English speaking countries are most welcome!)

**Program:** Ice breaker, presentation by Minamata HS students, lunch and chatting, tour of Minamata's famous spots (guided in English by Minamata HS students!)

**Capacity:** 40 (if there are more applications, enrolled students of partner universities (Kumamoto University, Kumamoto Prefectural University, Sojo University) will be given preference. Remaining participants will be selected by lottery)

**Transportation to Minamata:** There will be a special return bus service from Kumamoto City.

**Fee:** 500 yen (includes light lunch, drinks and insurance)

**Application:** Please complete the form below and submit it by post, fax, or email.

**Deadline:** Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 (The form must arrive by this date)



## 【Applications & Inquiries】

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Minamata City – Celebrating 70 Years 2019 International Exchange Café in Minamata – Application Form			
Name			Nickname (in katakana)
Address			
Date of Birth		Phone Number	
E-mail			
Affiliate organisation		Nationality	
Food allergies	Yes/No - If yes, please give details:		
Religious or other food restrictions	Yes/No - If yes, please give details:		

# <All About Minamata>

Minamata City is located at the southern edge of Kumamoto Prefecture, bordering Kagoshima. The city's area is 162 km<sup>2</sup> and the population is 25,000. Nestled in the middle of beautiful seas, mountains, and rivers, the blessings of nature can be found anywhere in Minamata.

**Seas:** Minamata is known for its rugged coastlines that face the beautiful Yatsushiro Sea, known as the Mediterranean of Kyushu.

**Mountains:** The surrounding mountains are lush with forests and clear water. Away from large cities, the pace of life is peaceful and calm.

**Onsen:** Minamata is home to Yunotsuru Onsen, where visitors enjoy green mountain views and a babbling stream; and Yunoko Onsen, which looks out over the Yatsushiro Sea, dotted with distant islands.

**Flowers:** Visitors to Eco Park Minamata can enjoy 4,000 roses of 600 varieties. The line of cherry trees stretching five kilometers along the seaside and the cosmos of Nakaoyama Park also cannot be missed.

**Specialities:** In Minamata you can find citrus fruits known as dekopon and amanatsu; sweet salad onions that are tasty even raw; green and black tea of a wide variety of flavors and aromas; rich seafood including cutlass fish, *shirasu* sardine fry, and oysters; and shochu made from sweet potatoes and rice grown here in Minamata.

**Food:** We recommend trying Minamata's original champon, fresh fish caught in the Yatsushiro Sea, and sweets made from local fruits such as dekopon.

**Environment:** Minamata City is using the experience of the pollution-caused Minamata disease as a lesson, and is now working hard to protect nature and provide safety and security in citizens' daily lives as well as in local industries. City policy embraces the environment, and the city is promoting itself worldwide as an environmental city that other municipalities can look to as a model.

