



45 years of Sister City Friendship
Share with us in next year's Anniversary Celebrations with the City of Whitehorse

Next year will mark the 45th Anniversary of the Sister City Affiliation between Matsudo City and the City of Whitehorse in Australia. Why not take part in the celebrations?
Inquiries to: Matsudo City Culture & Tourism Section (Bunka Kankou-ka) Tel: 366-7327



Area: approx. 64km² (similar to Matsudo city)
Population: approx. 150,000 (one third the size of Matsudo city)
Location: approx. 15km east of Melbourne City
Whitehorse's residents live in harmony with the city's rich natural beauty.

How did the Sister City relationship begin?
In 1958 a student from Daigo Junior High School wrote a letter to the Australian Embassy in Japan requesting Eucalyptus seeds to plant in Matsudo City. The Australian Embassy readily accepted her request and sent a large number of seeds. With continued support from the Australian Embassy, Matsudo City planted many Eucalyptus trees over many years in an effort to increase the number of trees in the rapidly growing city. In 1970 the then Mayor Kiyoshi Matsumoto made an official visit to the City of Box Hill (now Whitehorse City). He recognized that the city was full of greenery, easy to live in, and conveniently located nearby the city center of Melbourne, and decided that Matsudo could learn a lot about town planning from Box Hill. The following year on May 12th a signing ceremony was held and the Sister City relationship was born.
*For further information please visit the International Friendship Room in the Cultural Hall.



<Message from the Mayor of Whitehorse City>
Each year we hold 'Matsudo Week' events and activities to celebrate the enduring Sister City relationship between Whitehorse and Matsudo. We are very much looking forward to welcoming the Matsudo delegation in May 2016 when you visit us to celebrate and reaffirm the Sister City relationship on the occasion of the 45th anniversary. This will be a very special and memorable time for our two great cities.
Andrew Munroe
Mayor of Whitehorse City

Youth Delegation Information Session
Date Sept. 13 (Sun) 13:00~14:00
Venue YU Matsudo
Pre-registration Not required*
*A parent or guardian can also attend on behalf of the interested student

Let's go to Whitehorse!
Application required
Recruiting Students for the Sister City Youth Delegation

Scheduled period of stay
March 15th (Tue) – 24th (Thu), 2016
Destination Whitehorse City, Australia
Accommodation Homestay
Eligibility Junior or Senior High School Students living in Matsudo (those who intend to apply are requested to attend the Information Session on September 13th)
Available places 7 (applicants will submit a composition and also be interviewed [English conversation included])
Program Cost Approx. 220,000 Yen
Inquiries to Matsudo International Exchange Association (MIEA) Tel 366-7310

Let's Look for !
Matsudo City's many links to Australia!



<Eucalyptus trees>
You can find Eucalypts planted all over Matsudo City. They are resistant to dry heat and continue to flourish during the hot summer months.



<Manhole covers>
Matsudo's manholes are decorated using cute koala designs. Challenge yourself and try and find the covers featuring three koalas! There are a limited number throughout the city.



<Bridge rail>
You can also find koala decorations on the *Shinkogasaki* bridge, crossing the *Rokkengawa* River.

May 12th is "Green Tree Day" every year in both Matsudo and Whitehorse. To commemorate the Sister City relationship, both cities conduct a tree planting event in the local community. This is followed by a telephone conversation between both Mayors to reaffirm the Sister City affiliation.