



## 「The Reasons I made Miyazaki my hometown: Road from Kyrgyz Republic」

— ZHYLDYZ from the Kyrgyz Republic —

Nice to meet you all. My name is Zhyldyz and I am from the Kyrgyz Republic.

My life in Japan began in April of 2023 when I landed in Miyazaki. For me, this was my first experience in a Japanese city and also my first time abroad. Miyazaki's scenery immediately stole my heart.



When I arrived, I was shocked that Miyazaki's sun rays were this strong and warm. I remember the illusion that I had come to Hawaii because of the rows of palm trees. The relaxed, southern resort atmosphere made me feel completely at ease. However, the real reason that I picked Miyazaki wasn't the climate-it was the people.

At first, I thought about studying abroad in a metropolis like Tokyo or Nagoya. But due to the school's requirements and my senpai's recommending me, "Miyazaki people are nice, it's easy living, and the food is delicious", I decided on Miyazaki. Compared to the competitive race nature of Tokyo, Miyazaki's low cost of living and warm, regional community-oriented atmosphere were particularly appealing to the me who was starting a new life in a new country.

After spending two years at a Japanese language school, Miyazaki truly became like a hometown to me. Especially at first, there was a language barrier that made things difficult but I was able to find people here

that became more than just friends, but a real family in Japan. My Japanese mother, grandmother, and little sister. Their uncompensated warmth and affection that didn't allow for me to feel loneliness in a foreign country wasn't just accommodating, but was massively supportive. My connection with these people was exactly the reason that, to me, Miyazaki became an irreplaceable home and a second hometown.

After graduating, with the hopes of landing bigger work opportunities, I considered moving to a larger city. However, I worried that in places like Tokyo, without a sense of community, I would end up becoming isolated. During that time, I found work here in Miyakonojo. It wasn't just finding employment, but the moment that I discovered the potential for self-realization in a place that makes the most of what Miyazaki has to offer. My company may still not be that large yet, but from being involved in new product development such as Matcha using locally sourced ingredients, there is a strong sense of reward as I use those new products to showcase Miyazaki's allure both domestically and abroad. Working here has inspired in me a strong desire to become a bridge between international perspectives and traditional Japan.

Miyazaki isn't just a workplace, but my Japanese *furusato* (hometown). Here, is where my precious friends and Japanese family are. My heart is with this sunlight city and I've made up my mind to spend my foreseeable future here in Miyazaki.

## Information & Notices

### ◇ World Festa in Miyakonojo 2026!

World Festa in Miyakonojo will also be held in 2026. We are eagerly awaiting your attendance.

Date: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) 2026 Time: 12:00-4:30

Location: Miyakonojo General Culture Hall (MJ Hall)

都城市総合文化ホール

Participation Fee: Free

#### Content Details:

Exchange with people from all around the world / Recreation Activities

Overseas dances and musical performances put on by foreign nationals

International exchange/cooperation group's activity

intro panel booths

\*The first 150 people to complete the walk rally will receive a present

### We are actively recruiting volunteer staff!

We are continually recruiting volunteers for jobs such as preparing the booths day of, cleaning up after the event wraps up, supporting the country introduction booths, stage reception/guidance, backstage support, etc. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

#### Contact Information:

Please contact the Miyakonojo International Association (MIA) by phone or email.

Phone: 0986-23-2295

E-mail mia@btvm.ne.jp



### Movies info

C-Plaza Cine-port (Tel: 0986-24-2571)

17-9 Nakamachi, Miyakonojo, Miyazaki Map-Code (GPS): 117 488 540\*55



- Zootopia 2 (12/5)
- Wind Breaker (12/5)
- Scarlet (12/5)
- Bomb \*Bakudan (12/5)

- Tokyo Taxi (12/5)
- Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba the Movie – Infinity Castle Arc Chapter 1: Akaza Returns (12/5)
- Avatar Fire and Ash (12/19)