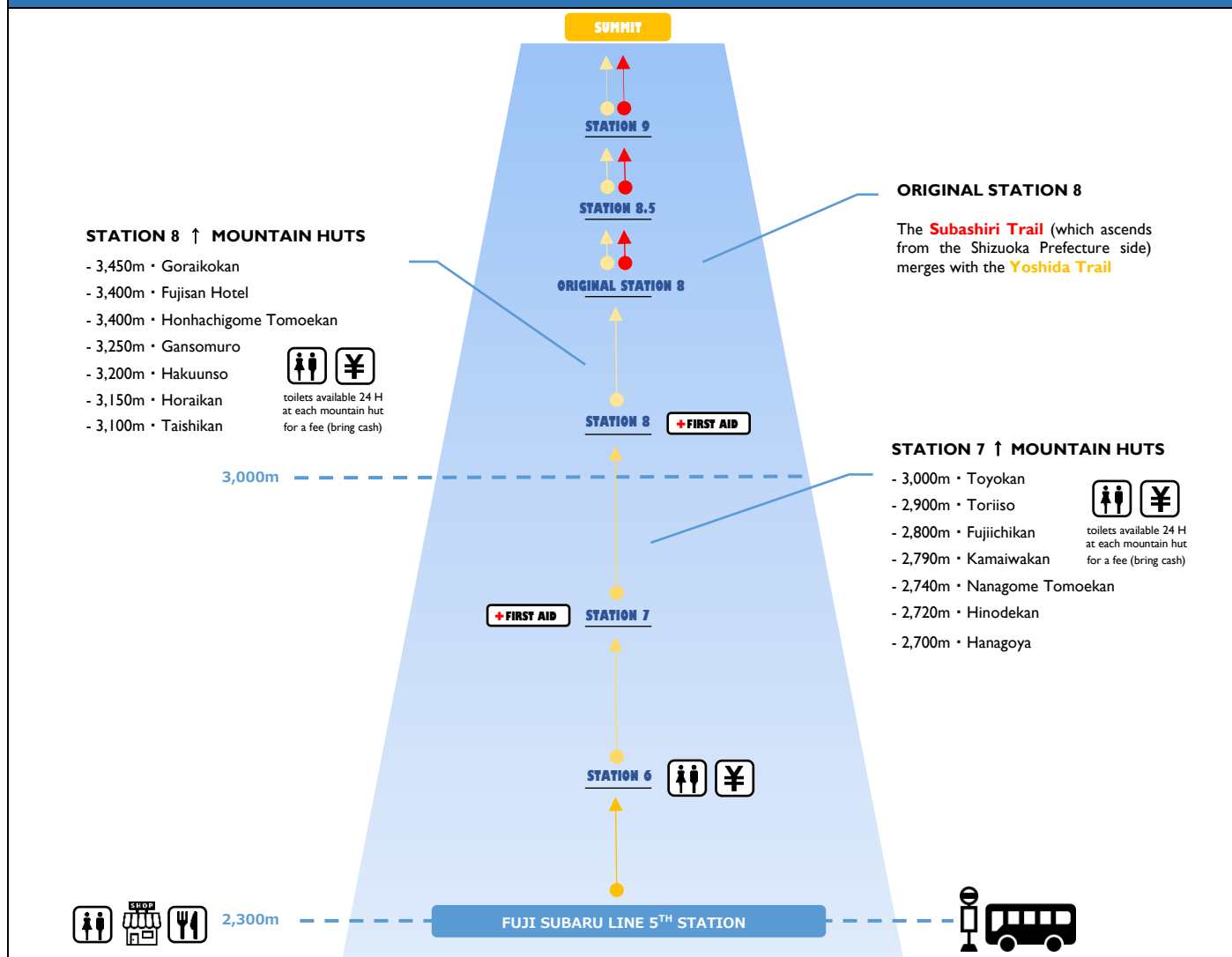




After a year of strict restrictions on gatherings and socializing, many of us are feeling ready for things to return to normal. Though most large-scale seasonal events like the city's beloved Shiseisai summer festival have still needed to be reimagined for a largely yet unvaccinated public, the city has kicked off summer with some semblance of normalcy. Most notably, the Olympic Torch Relay which came to Fujiyoshida on June 27 brought crowds of cautious spectators to Route 139. We talked with Mr. Kondo who was selected as one of the runners in the Fujiyoshida portion of the relay to get his thoughts on the experience and his outlook on the upcoming Olympics as a whole. Later in July, the women's French national rugby team arrived in Fujiyoshida to acclimatize and train prior to the Tokyo Olympic Games. During the team's stay, local residents had opportunities to engage with the team in various albeit limited ways. The team made an appearance during the first ever virtual summer festival live stream during which they answered questions from the public and thanked the city for their hospitality. The city cheered them on as they performed on the world stage and returned home with a silver medal. It has been an honor to be a part of their journey. This year also marks the 70th anniversary of the city's founding and several commemorative events dotted the city's summer calendar though at limited capacity. Needless to say we miss our annual summer middle school exchange program which under normal circumstances would have sent another group of student delegates off to our American sister city of Colorado Springs at the beginning of August. The program was started in 1989 and 2020 was the first year since its conception that a student group was unable to make the trip. In lieu of an in person exchange, all seven city middle schools collaborated with the office of international affairs to create a video sharing a day in the life of a Japanese middle school student to be distributed to schools in Colorado Springs. This is just one example of what this new era of international exchange may look like for the foreseeable future. Though we live in a remarkably different landscape than pre-pandemic times, here in Fujiyoshida Mt. Fuji has remained a constant and powerful symbol of hope and endurance. We send that strength alongside our prayers to those impacted by the virus throughout the world ■

2021 MOUNT FUJI CLIMBING INFO



▶ ACCESS TO 5TH STATION

● PERSONAL VEHICLE via Subaru Line

ROAD CLOSED: 7.21 3:00AM to 8.31 6:00PM

<http://subaruline.jp/e>



SCAN ME

● FREE SHUTTLE BUS from Car Park

IN OPERATION: 7.1 (Thu) to 9.11 (Sat)

<https://fujisanparking.jp>



SCAN ME

SEASON
7.01 ~ 9.10

COVID PREVENTION
MEASURES IN PLACE

MANNERS ON MOUNT FUJI IN THE AGE OF COVID

1

Do not climb if you have a fever or are under the weather



2

Climb in small groups, preferably with people who live with you



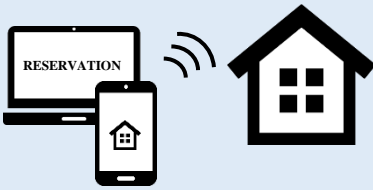
3

Avoid climbing during crowded days and times



4

You MUST reserve your mountain hut before climbing



5

Do not climb at night to see the sunrise without staying overnight at a mountain hut



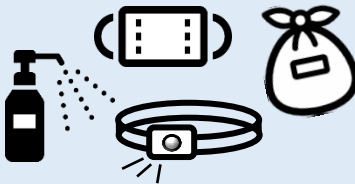
6

Keep up to date with the most recent safety information and make a flexible climbing plan



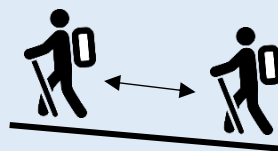
7

Bring all necessary prevention and safety equipment with you



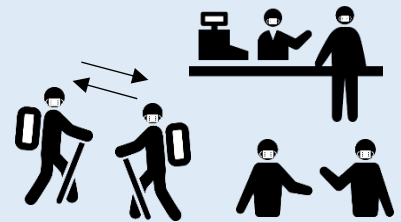
8

Keep social distance with other climbers



9

Cover your nose and mouth as necessary



10

Give way to others when trail is congested



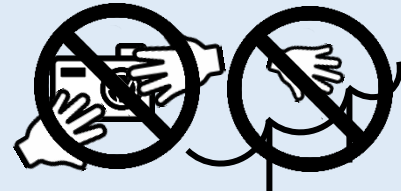
11

Keep your own pace to avoid getting out of breath



12

Avoid sharing belongings and touching stakes and/or ropes



13

Sanitize your hands after using toilets and/or entering shops



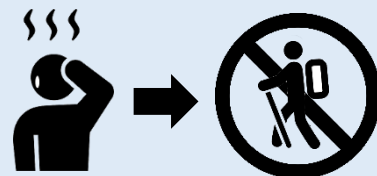
14

Bring your rubbish or bodily waste products home with you



15

Stop ascending and descend the mountain if in poor physical condition



Olympic Torch Relay

HOPE LIGHTS OUR WAY

The Olympic Torch Relay which had been postponed for a year alongside the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, kicked off on March 25 in Fukushima, of the Tohoku region the site of the horrific tsunami of 2011. From there the torch travelled through all remaining 46 prefectures in sequence, arriving safely in Tokyo for the opening ceremony on July 23 where Japanese national and international tennis star Naomi Osaka lit the Olympic cauldron. The theme for the 2020 Torch Relay was “Hope lights our way” and the route was engineered to draw international attention to rural municipalities throughout Japan. Yamanashi prefecture was the 42nd stop on the relay route and Fujiyoshida City served as the final stop and site of the closing celebration for the prefecture. Fujiyoshida City had 14 runners in total and was headed off by city native and Mt. Fuji tour guide Mr. KONDO Koichi. We had the opportunity to sit and speak with Mr. KONDO about his experience.

42

YAMANASHI

JUNE 26th ~ 27th

DAY 1

Nambu Town, Minobu Town, Hayakawa Town,
Fujikawa Town, Ichikawamisato Town, Chuo City /
Showa Town, Kai City / Minami Alps City, Hokuto City,
Nirasaki City, Kofu City

DAY 2

Fuefuki City / Yamanashi City, Koshu City, Mt. Fuji,
Uenohara City, Otsuki City, Tsuru City, Nishikatsura
Town, Oshino Village, Fujikawaguchiko Town,
Narusawa Village, **Fujiyoshida City**





CLOSE UP



MR. KONDO KOICHI OF "GORIKI"

A born Fujiyoshida City native who began guiding on Mt. Fuji in 1997 and started his company "Fuji Tozan Gakko Goriki" in 2002, Mr. Kondo Koichi has an appreciation for mountain climbing that extends beyond tourism. He has made environmental awareness a central tenet of his tours. He continuously works toward facilitating environmental protection, educating youth, training future guides, eco-tourism product development and marketing, and rural revitalization efforts. He believes in the value of cooperating with many different players in order to protect Mt. Fuji as is apparent by the characters that make up his company name "合" (combining) and "力" (forces). Mr. Kondo reflected on his experience after participating in the relay as one of the fourteen runners of the Fujiyoshida leg claiming "I felt very comfortable running in my hometown, and was moved by the number of people who came out to support us, particularly the children." In just the same way he passed the torch in the relay, he hopes to pass down his passion for the environmental protection of Mt. Fuji to younger generations of guides. When asked about the fate of the upcoming Olympic Games, Mr. KONDO signaled cautious optimism stating "the games will go on as planned, I can only believe that they will be held safely."

THE ROAD TO BECOMING A TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC HOST TOWN



The road to getting designated as an Olympic Host Town was a long process started all the way back in 2016.



DECEMBER 2016 – FFR HEADQUARTERS



DECEMBER 2016 – SIGNING OF AGREEMENT



APRIL 2017 – OFFICIAL VISIT OF SEVENS' GM



MAY 2017 – OFFICIAL FFR PRESS CONFERENCE



APRIL 2018 – TEAM VISITS CHUREITO PAGODA



APRIL 2018 – WELCOME CEREMONY



APRIL 2018 – PRACTICE GAME WITH JAPAN



APRIL 2019 – GROUP PHOTO WITH CHILDREN



APRIL 2019 – TAIKO DRUMMING



MARCH 2020 – FRANCE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE



MARCH 2020 – OFFICIAL AGREEMENT



JULY 2020 – VIDEO MESSAGE



FELICITATIONS FRANCE 7 FÉMININ !



The French female rugby sevens arrived on July 11th to kick off their two week acclimatizing training camp at the base of Mt. Fuji. With a far smaller delegation than had originally been anticipated prior to the pandemic, the group came with key players and a small group of support staff. During their time in Fujiyoshida they stayed at the Fujikyu Highland Resort and Spa where they were limited to their team room on the twelfth floor due to COVID prevention measures in place. To make the most of their situation, the city provided various activities for them including games and brought many of their engagements to them. All members of the team and staff were required to take daily COVID tests and wore masks any time they were outside of training or the team room. During their training camp they made two trips into Tokyo where they trained on a pitch at Waseda University to get used to the infamous Tokyo heat and humidity ahead of the games. Local residents who had signed up ahead of time were allowed to watch the team practice at one of two public practices and were visibly moved to be able to get up close and personal with these world class athletes. After a successful training camp, the team departed Fujiyoshida for the Olympic Village on July 26, sent off by city and hotel employees. Once the tournament began they swiftly beat out all teams in their pool heading all the way to the finals where they faced off with New Zealand and were ultimately defeated 26-12 after a grueling game. They returned to France with a silver medal in hand and left a lasting impression on our city forever.

► COVID VACCINES



- Fujiyoshida City is offering its residents the Pfizer vaccine
- Vaccine vouchers will be mailed to all residents including foreign residents.
- You will need to make a reservation with the information on your voucher.

※PLEASE NOTE: - Vouchers are being mailed by age group starting with seniors.
- Online reservations are possible but the system is only in Japanese.
- A PDF of English instructions is available on the top reservations page.

A multilingual hotline has been set up to provide support regarding vaccinations

☎ 092-687-5164 [HOURS 9:00~24:00]

[AVAILABLE LANGUAGES: English, 中文, 한국어, ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt, bahasa Indonesia, ไทย, नेपाली, Português, Español, Français, Deutsche, Italiano, Русский, Tagalog, Bahasa Melayu, မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဘာသာ, မြန်မာ, Монгол, සිංහල]

► AMENDED EMERGENCY RESPONSE



Previously, an Alert Level 4 was designated as an Evacuation Advisory and will now be treated as an Evacuation Order. When an Alert Level 4 Evacuation Order is put into place, all residents must evacuate to a designated shelter as quickly as possible.

LEVEL 1 early warning, information gathering (meteorological agency)

LEVEL 2 severe weather warning (heavy rain, flooding, high tide, etc.)

LEVEL 3 evacuation of elderly and disabled

LEVEL 4 evacuation order (all residents evacuate)




LEVEL 5 get to safety immediately

► VIRTUAL CITY SUMMER FESTIVAL



In an effort to avoid the three c's, this year's summer festival will be virtual, with performances and live interviews. **Tune into CATV (CH 11) on 7.17**

JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				KAIZANSAI MT. FUJI OPEN 1 	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	FUJI MOUNTAIN RACE 16 	SUMMER FESTIVAL 17 
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	LOTUS WEEK 13 @ ASUMIKO PARK <i>through 8.21</i> 	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				