

Vol.39

信玄祭

2009

S H I N G E N - K O F E S T I V A L

Celebrating the Legacy of Takeda Shingen

The 39th **Shingen-Ko Festival**
April 10 (Fri) - 12 (Sun), 2009
Yamanashi Prefecture, Kofu City area

- 4.10 (Fri)** Shingen-ko Tea Ceremony (Hokuto City, Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan Hall)
 Koihige Beard Style Contest (Maizuru Castle Park)
 Koihime Beauty Contest (Maizuru Castle Park)
- 4.11 (Sat)** The 8th All-Japan Takeda Shingen Music Festival
 in Yamanashi: Performance Contest (Maizuru Castle Park)
 "Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan" Dance Parade (Maizuru Castle Park)
39th Koshu Battalion Deployment (Kofu Station Area)
- 4.12 (Sun)** Kendo Tournament (Maizuru Castle Park)
 Shingen Carnival (Maizuru Castle Park)
 Educational Lectures (Maizuru Castle Park)
 Sengoku Period Food Sampling (around Kofu)
 The Mounted Procession of Takeda Shingen's 24 Generals (around Kofu)

Organizer Yamanashi Prefecture Shingen-ko Festival Planning Committee
 TEL: 055-231-2722
 Kofu City Shingen-ko Festival Planning Committee
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TM
 2009 Shingen-ko Festival
 Executive Planning Committee.
 Trademark Pending



For more information, visit the festival homepage at ▶▶▶ www.yamanashi-kankou.jp/shingen

The name of Takeda Shingen has echoed throughout Japan for over four hundred years, from the age of the samurai to the present day.

The Shingen-ko Festival celebrates the legacy of this famous Koshu warlord. Travel back in time to witness a grand parade reenacting the Koshu Battalion Deployment of Takeda Shingen's warriors, a moment so often portrayed in Sengoku Era picture scrolls. But the festivities commemorating this grand occasion do not end there. Three packed days of unforgettable activities await you in Kofu City.



The people of Yamanashi celebrate the virtues of Takeda Shingen every spring, with the lion's share of festivities occurring around the time of his death anniversary on April 12. The Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan banner, representing a philosophy Shingen adopted from Sun Tzu's Art of War are flown from one end of the prefecture to the other. The Shingen-ko Festival takes place from April 10 (Fri) to April 12 (Sun). It is the grandest festival in Yamanashi, its main highlight being the Koshu Battalion Deployment, a reenactment of unrivaled scope where about 1,500 locals from all around the prefecture dress in traditional costumes and commence their march from the plaza in front of Kofu Station. After a deployment ceremony and sake ritual Takeda Shingen, bathed in torchlight and surrounded by his 24 generals, leads his army along the streets of Kofu. (Will take place rain or shine.)

Japanese Olympic judo gold medalist, Yasuhiro Yamashita, is chosen to play the role of Takeda Shingen during the 39th Shingen-ko Festival!

Donning the armor of Takeda Shingen, the feared and respected feudal lord of the Sengoku Era, will be Yasuhiro Yamashita, one of the world's most successful judo competitors. He demonstrated his resilience during the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games when, despite a handicapping leg injury, he managed to win the judo gold medal. His success story inspired cheers all around Japan, and he was then presented with the People's Honor Award. Yamashita holds a grand record of 203 consecutive wins. After retiring from a glorious competitive career, Yamashita devoted his energy and skill to coaching promising Judo talents, successfully training two Olympic champions and four world champions. As a man who proudly upholds the Bushido spirit, Yasuhiro Yamashita is perfectly fit to play the role of history's great Takeda Shingen.

Profile: Yasuhiro Yamashita

Yasuhiro Yamashita graduated from the Athletics Department of Tokai University and continued on to graduate school at that same university where he pursued research in the area of physical education before concluding his studies. He participated in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics in the Men's Judo Open Weight Division and won the gold medal despite being injured. He then received the People's Honor Award. He is presently on the board of directors of the All Japan Judo Federation, the chairman of the Kanagawa Prefecture Athletic Association, and the director of the NPO- Solidarity of International Judo Education. Through various activities, he expands the field of judo throughout Japan and the world.



Drawn by contemporaries from the East and West, the heroic images of the armored samurai were chosen as the official symbols of the 39th Shingen-ko Festival. By combining the modern and traditional, these symbols carry with them the hopes and dreams of the festival, that Takeda Shingen's charismatic spirit and the legend surrounding it be conveyed to the rest of the world.

DESIGN-A featuring TSUKIOKA YOSHITOSHI [Japan]



Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839-1892)
One-hundred Aspects of the Moon,
Miho no Matsubara, Takeda Shingen (1891)



This poised and tranquil portrayal of General Takeda Shingen was drawn by the last Ukiyo-e master, Tsukioka Yoshitoshi.

From the top of a Koshu mountain, Shingen looks out over Suruga, an area he must control in order to secure a sea route from his inland base. A crimson battle surcoat rests lightly over his armor. For a peaceful moment, he gently lays aside his ambitions to appreciate the scene before him. A certain old song comes to mind when looking at this piece:

*If only there was
a checkpoint to the heavens,
it would be this place,
the Miho Pine Grove, which keeps
the moon forever at bay.*

Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839-1892) Living through the tumultuous years that bridged the Edo and Meiji Eras, Tsukioka Yoshitoshi was known as the last Ukiyo-e master, a genius who pioneered the development of modern visual expression in Japan. His series entitled One-hundred Aspects of the Moon deftly portrays a multitude of stories, fables, and plays, all the while focusing on the moon as its main theme.

DESIGN-C featuring Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan



By placing the characters for wind, forest, fire, and mountain (Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan) upon Shingen's own family crest, a new symbol emerges.



A pure wind. The character for wind represents the importance of a pure life and way of thinking.
Wind = Love



Nature. The character for forest represents the necessity of protecting nature at the national, prefectural, municipal, and individual levels.
Forest = Greens



Burning passion. The character for fire represents a passion for education and the importance of institutions of learning.
Passion = Education



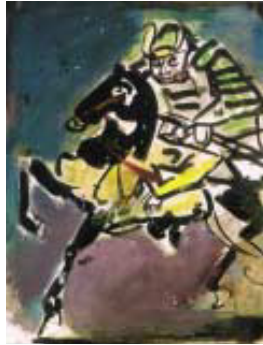
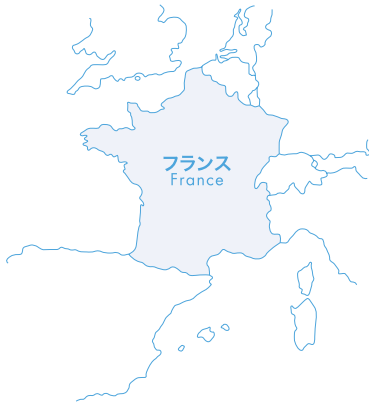
Dreams. The character for mountain represents the importance of fixing one's gaze upon the dream of a better future for one's prefecture and country.
Future = Dream

A short explanation of the Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan philosophy

Sun Tzu, a great military strategist of ancient China and author of the Art of War, had written the following: "Move swift as the wind, stay silent as the forest, be ferocious as fire, and immovable as a mountain." The main elements of this text were extracted and utilized in the creation of a powerful military standard.



孫子の旗 ▶



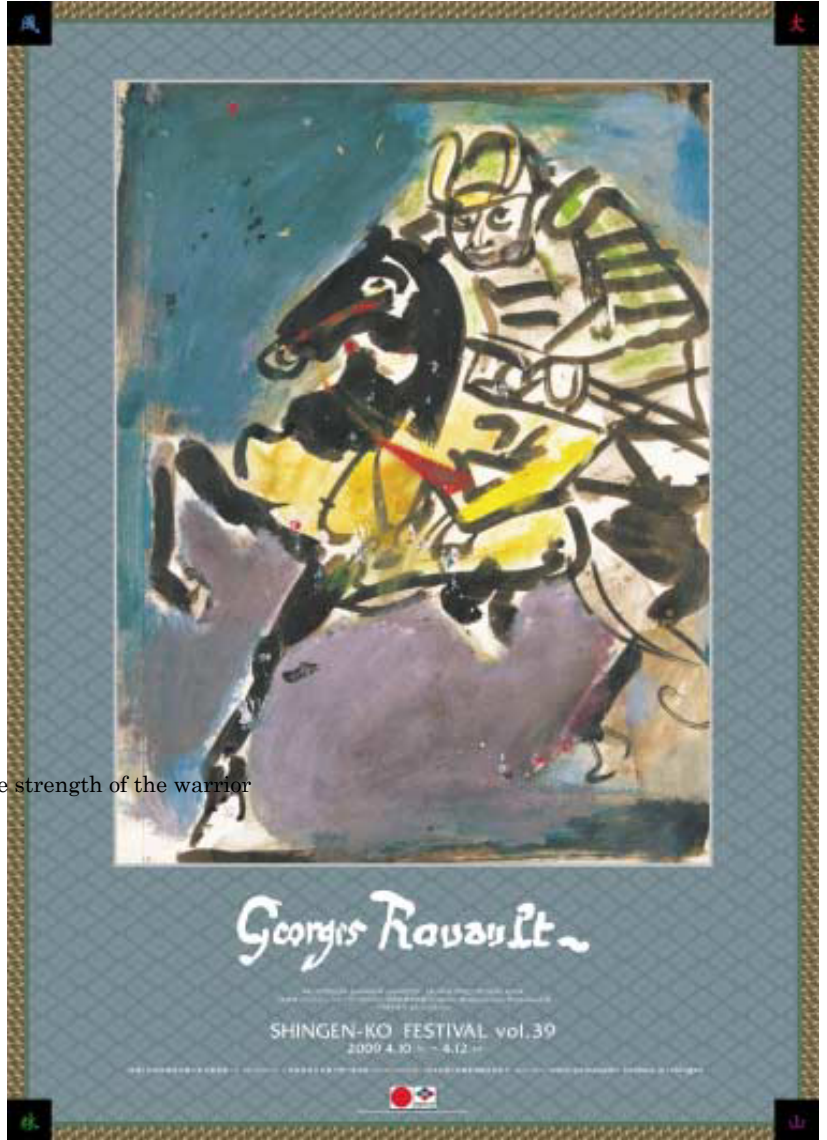
Georges Rouault (1871-1958)
Guerrier Japonais (1928)

Georges Rouault, the artist who painted the gallant image of the *Guerrier Japonais*

In 1921, when Japanese painter Ryuzaburo Umehara visited Rouault in Paris, he presented him with an Ukiyo-e portrait of a samurai.

Inspired by this image, Rouault translates the lines of India ink into oil and pastel, portraying with strong brush strokes the energy of a horse galloping at full speed and the strength of the warrior who rides upon it.

Georges Rouault (1871-1958) French painter and printmaker in lithography and etching. He attended France's official art school, the Ecole des Beaux-Arts where he studied under Gustave Moreau. It was also here that he met and befriended the artist Henri Matisse. In Rouault's earlier works, he mainly used dark tones. However, around the beginning of the 20th century, his use of color became more coarse and intense, displaying aspects of the Fauvism artistic movement. Though it should be noted that despite its influences upon his work, Rouault did not directly participate in the development of Fauvism. His representative works include *Head of Christ*, and *Miserere*. Utilizing the Catholic religion as a background, he elaborated on themes such as human sin, the sorrows of life, and the nobility of love.



Georges Rouault's painting of a samurai warrior is on exhibition in the Yamanashi Prefectural Art Museum from March 24 to April 19 of 2009.

Information

Shingen-ko Festival Official Logo

The Shingen-ko Festival Planning Committee has launched a newly minted "Shingen Brand," in the form of various Shingen-related goods boasting the official logo.

[Inquiries] 055-231-2722



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Designer Profile

Kenji Koga was born in Nagasaki in 1953. In 1974, he went to the US and from that point on has pursued artistic endeavors in both New York and Japan. In 1993, his design was chosen during the "Last Decade of the 20th Century Commemorative Stamp World Design Competition." The stamps he designed were then issued from New York, Geneva, and Vienna. He was also the designer for the Shingen-ko Festival's poster series.

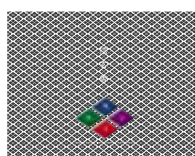
Official Goods



Original Hat



Original T-shirts



Original Shingen Incense



Original Mug

☐ **Legendary Takeda's 24 Generals** 風 Fu - 林 Rin - 火 Ka - 山 Zan

風 - Team 1 Obu Hyobu no sho Toramasa



Organized the "Aka Sonae" army and fought for battles in Ina and Saku, Obu is a brave warrior with the nickname of "Akai Inazuma" (Oshino Village)

風 - Team 4 Itagaki Suruga no kami Nobusano



Along with Amari Bizen no kami, Itagaki served as one of the two important generals Ryoshoku for Takeda. (Koshu City)

林 - Team 1 Obata Yamashiro no kami Toramori



First identified as Oribe, then as Yamanashiro no kami, Obata Toramori later joined the monastic order and acquired a Buddhist name "Nichii". He was known as a courageous warrior with the nickname "Oni-tora", literally meaning the devil tiger. (Nichiritsu Yamanashi Group)

林 - Team 4 Sanada Danjo no jo Yukitaka



Also referred to as "Itoku Sai", Sanada Yukitaka was the grandfather of Sanada Yukimura. A brave and intelligent warrior who is well known for the Sanada's sixcoin family crest, "Rokurenshen". (Yamanashi City)

火 - Team 1 Kosaka Danjo no jo Masanobu



Son of Kasuga Osumi from Isawa, Kosaka started serving for Takeda since 16 years of age and changed his name to Kosaka in 1561. An ingenious and talented retainer of Shingen. (Fuefuki City)

火 - Team 4 Ichijo Uemon no tayu Nobutatsu



Step brother of Shingen (with different mothers), Ichijo inherited the Ichijo family name. He was both a brother and great assistant of Shingen. He is also known for his great taste and love for flowers. (Ricoh Group)

山 - Team 1 Saigusa Kageyuzaemon no jo Moritomo



Son-in-law of the famed Takeda retainer Yamagata Masakage, Saigusa was the lord of Enshu Takatenjin Castle. He distinguished himself in the battles of Odawara Castle and Suruga Fukazawa Castle. (Chuo City)

山 - Team 4 Naito Shuri no suke Masatoya



A generous and refined warrior, Naito fought with his life in the Nagashino battle. (Kofu City - Tourism Association, Industry and Commerce Association)

Main Team Takeda Shingen



The head of the Takeda family, Takeda Shingen was a pre-eminent daimyo or feudal lord with both civil and military prestige in the late stage of Sengoku period. He died of diseases during his pursuit of the control of Japan. (Yamanashi Prefecture and public recruitment)

☐ **Parade**

Lady Oi Parade

Lady Oi is the mother of Shingen, the eldest daughter of the Oi Nobusato. (Minami Alps City)

Lady Sanjo Parade

The daughter of the famed Sanjo Kinyori from Kyoto and the first wife of Shingen, Lady Sanjo took great care of Shingen. (Public recruitment)

Princess Koihime Parade

Koihime's name is Suwa Goryonin, the daughter of Suwa Yorishige, and the wife of Shingen. She is the mother of Katsuyori. (Tokyo Sekisuiheim Co., Ltd. - Yamanashi Branch)

Takeda Shiro Katsuyori

Shingen's son, Katsuyori is a tragedy warrior with a broken dream of conquering Japan. (Koshu City - Yamato Junior High School)

風 - Team 2 Oyamada Sahyoe no jo Nobushige



Lord of Iwadono Castle, Oyamada is a noble general from Kai province who served three generations of Takeda family. He was also well-known for his extraordinary literary talent. (Otsuki City)

風 - Team 5 Tsuchiya Uemon no jo Masatsugu



Tsuchiya received high distinction after his excellent achievement in the 4th Kawanakajima (1561), and his family continued to share his fames. (The Tokyo Electric Power Company, Inc.)

林 - Team 2 Yamagata Saburo ehyoe no jo Masakage



A well-known warrior among different provinces, Yamagata was born in the famed "Toki" family in Mino province and a younger brother of Obu Toramasa, but he later changed his name to "Yamagata". (NTT Group)

林 - Team 5 Baba Mino no kami Nobuhara



Lord of Makijima Castle in Shinshu, Baba Nobuhara fought in 21 battles without getting injured. (Fuji Kyuko Co., Ltd.)

火 - Team 2 Takeda Gyobu no sho Nobukado



Younger brother of Shingen, Takeda Nobusado drew a lot of portraits of Nobutora and Oi Hime (parents of Shingen). (Sanstar Engineering INC.)

火 - Team 5 Sanada Gentia saemon no jo Nobutsuna



Eldest son of Sanada Yukidaka, Sanada Nobutsuna accomplished remarkable achievement in the Battle of Mikatagahara. (Konica Minolta Group)

山 - Team 2 Akiyama Hoki no kami Nobutomo



Lord first of Takato Castle in Shinshu, then of Iwamura Castle in Mino province, Akiyama was known by this excellent diplomatic skills. (Kofu City - Haguro Neighbourhood Association)

山 - Team 5 Hara Mino no kami Toratane



He is the most fearsome warrior among many provinces. He is said to have received 38 "Buko" honour certificates for his military achievement and, to have 53 injuries over his body. (Kofu City - Junior Chamber International Kofu)

風 - Team 3 Yokoda Bicchu no kami Takatoshi



One of the "Five Great Generals of Koyo Gundan", Yokoda had fought in 34 battles an injured for 31 times. (East Japan Railway Company Hachioji Branch - Kofu region)

風 - Team 6 Amari Bizen no kami Torayasu



A noted retainer first of Takeda Nobutora and then Takeda Shingen, Amari was appointed the "Karo" position for Takeda family along with Itagaki Nobukata. (Nirasaki City)

林 - Team 3 Anayama Genba no kami Nobugimi



Shingen was both Anayama's uncle and father-in-law. He was also known as "Mutsu no kami". After joining the monastic order, he acquired the name of "Baisetsu Sai" or "Baisetsu Nyudo". (Panasonic Group)

林 - Team 6 Takeda Tenkyu Nobushige



Shingen's elder brother, assistant and adjutant general, Takeda Nobushige is said to be the "Kagemusha" (impersonator) of Shingen as well. (Yamanashi Chuo Bank)

火 - Team 3 Obata Bungo no kami Masamori



Son of Obata Yamashiro no kami Toramori. Excelled in both martial arts and academics. (NEC Group)

火 - Team 6 Tada Awaji no kami Mitsuyori



A strong warrior from Mino province, Tada also left a legend of defeating the monster spirit "Kasha Oni". (Asahi Mutual Life Insurance Company - Kofu Branch)

山 - Team 3 Hara Hayato no suke Masatane

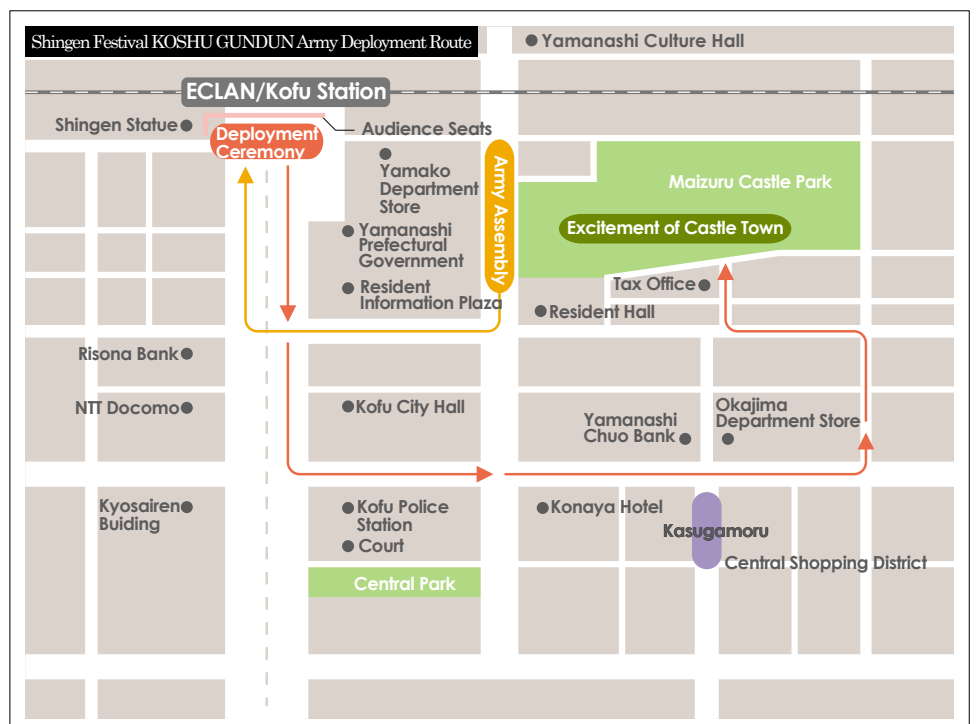


Because of his excellent defence strategies, Hara served as a think-tanker "Jinba Bugyo" for Takeda (Kofu City - Kofu Citizen Conference for Youth Development)

山 - Team 6 Yamamoto Kansuke Haruyuki



Referred by Itagakii Nobukata, Yamamoto acted as the military strategist for Shingen. (Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd. - Yamanashi)



□ Shingen-ko Festival Event Schedule (Tentative)

Date	Time	Event	Location	Description
4.10 (Fri.)	10:00~15:00	Shingen-ko Tea Ceremony	Fu-rin-ka-zan Hall (Hokuto City)	A tea ceremony will held in the Sengoku period style building
	15:00~15:20	Ritual Prayer	Takeda Shrine Internet	A ritual to pray for a successful festival
	16:00~12日17:00	Excitement of Castle Town (a portion)	Maizuru Castle Park and surroundings	Street stalls with Yamanashi local products, food and drink stands
	16:00~11日15:00	Opening of Jin'yas (a portion)	Central Shopping District and surroundings	The base of Koshu Battalion
	16:00~12日17:00	Peach Tree Ownership Reservation	Maizuru Castle Park	Chance to become owners of Yamanashi's well-known peach trees
	16:00~12日17:00	Stamp Stalls of Takeda's 24 Generals	Jin'yas, Central Shopping District, etc	Raffle prizes of Yamanashi local products will be drawn at stalls in Jin'ya's and Central Shopping District
	16:00~17:30	Koihige Beard Style Contest	Specially installed stage in Maizuru Castle Park	Contest for the best beard style among the 24 Generals
	17:30~20:30	Koihime Beauty Contest	Specially installed stage in Maizuru Castle Park	Final round of the Koihime Beauty Contest with 7 finalists
4.11 (Sat.)	10:30~16:00	Super Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan Performance Contest	Specially installed stage in Maizuru Castle Park	The 8th All-Japan Takeda Shingen Music Festival with performance surrounding Shingen's afterlife accomplishment, Takeda Buji (a song praising Shingen) and Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan
	14:00~15:30 (a portion: 10:00~)	Jin'ya Opening	Central Shopping District (Kasugamoru) and surroundings	This is a place for tourists to interact with the armed warriors
	11:00~15:00 (same as Apr. 12)	Sengoku Period Food Sampling Shingen Food Court	Central Shopping District (Kasugamoru)	Various Sengoku period and B-Level gourmet will be available for tasting (with a sampling fee)
	16:00~17:00	"Fu-Rin-Ka-Zan" Dance Parade	Kofu Station~ Heiwa Dori~ Joto Dori~ Maizuru Castle Park	A group dance with approximately 1000 performers. Original songs will be presented
	17:30~18:00	Koshu Battalion Deployment Ceremony	In front of Kofu Station	A recreation of the formal deployment ceremony
	18:00~19:30	Child Samurai Parade Takeda Period Parade Koshu Battalion Deployment	Jin'yas, Central Shopping District, etc	Children Samurai parade Naginata Team Parade Takeda Period Parade, 24 Generals and Shingen Deployment
	19:30~20:30	Lantern Parade	Kofu Station~ Heiwa Dori~ Joto Dori~ Central Shopping District	Walking along the parade route with lanterns
	19:30~20:00	Returning Ceremony	Specially installed stage in Maizuru Castle Park	Victory Declaration and fireworks
4.12 (Sun.)	9:00~10:30	Kendo Tournament	Plaza in Maizuru Castle Park	A grand kendo tournament with 800 contestants
	10:30~12:00	Japanese Drum Taiko Performance	Specially installed stage in Maizuru Castle Park	Taiko performance by people ranging from kindergarten kids to adults
	12:00~17:00	Shingen Carnival	Specially installed stage in Maizuru Castle Park	Dancing and Singing Festival with over 1000 thousand performers
	10:30~12:00 13:30~15:00	Educational Lectures	Onshirin Memorial Hall (in Maizuru Castle Park)	"Omoshiro" fun story telling of Takeda and the Maizuru Castle Park
	13:30~15:00	Kofu Hayashi Performance	Kasugamoru Event Stage	A Japanese traditional "Noh" performance in celebrating the battle victory
4.12 (Sun.) Takeda Shrine Kofu City	9:00~	Takeda Shrine Festival	Takeda Shrine	A Shinto ritual held on the anniversary of Shingen's death (April 12th)
	10:30~15:30	Mounted Procession of Takeda Shingen's 24 Generals	Takeda Shrine~ Heiwa Dori~ Park~ Takeda Shrine	A cavalcade with Takeda Shingen's 24 Generals and the other 400 team members.

Special Sponsors












(In random order)