

# **VISITORS TO ISHIKAWA**



## **For Foreign Visitors to Ishikawa**

This pamphlet is written with the objective of helping foreign visitors to have a safe and peaceful stay in Japan. It explains the various activities the police perform and the measures to take in case of an emergency.

**ISHIKAWA PREFECTURAL POLICE**

# **POLICE ACTIVITIES**



## **STRUCTURE OF THE POLICE FORCE**

There are 12 police stations under the command of Ishikawa Prefectural Police Headquarters. Each police station has its own jurisdiction and is responsible for the safety of its residents.

Each police station is further divided into many different sections to deal with a variety of things such as community safety, crime investigation, traffic, etc. Within each jurisdiction there also exist many Kobans (or police boxes) and Chuzaishos (or police substations) which form the basis of the police community activities.

At police boxes, police officers work in shifts, while at substations they not only work, but live there full time. Respectively, they are the primary responsible parties in their designated areas when it comes to dealing with incidents and accidents at an early stage.

Ishikawa prefectural police perform the following activities in order to ensure a safe and peaceful lifestyle for residents:

## **PRESERVING THE PEACE**

Police officers at police boxes or substations carry out activities such as crime prevention, arrests, traffic guidance and control, and patrolling to protect people from suffering from accidents or crimes.

## **PURSUING SUSPECTS**

The police strive hard every day to solve and fight against crimes like murder, robbery, and theft, which greatly threaten the lives and peace of mind of the residents.

Any tips or information you can provide the police with would be of great help in solving these cases as soon as possible.

## **SHUTTING DOWN ORGANIZED CRIME**

Organized crime syndicates secure their finances from illegal activities such as drug smuggling, extortion, etc.

In recent years they have become heavily involved in the smuggling of illegal foreign workers into and out of Japan, often exploiting their earnings and even coercing them with threats and violence to commit crimes.

The police, with the cooperation of residents, are constantly fighting to break up and abolish these crime syndicates with the goal of eventually exterminating them altogether.

## **ENFORCING FIREARM REGULATIONS**

Strict restrictions on guns have contributed to the safety of our society. Unfortunately, nowadays it is not just gangsters, but even ordinary citizens who have been found to possess guns illegally. Many innocent lives have suffered as a consequence.

The police are working hard to crack down on illegal possession of guns with the aim of realizing a safe and gun-free society. We welcome and await any information you can give us.

## **PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES**

The police are constantly undergoing intense training to maintain their ability to swiftly arrest suspects and provide relief assistance to victims when incidents like hijackings or disasters like earthquakes occur.

## **WORKING TOWARDS SAFE AND PLEASANT ROADS**

It is very important for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians to obey the traffic rules and yield to one another in order to prevent traffic accidents from happening.

The police are doing their best to promote good road manners through traffic direction and supervision to help bring about safe and pleasant roads.

Also, by utilizing vehicle monitoring and traffic light management systems, the police are able to understand traffic conditions and relay that information in real time to drivers on the road

## **PROMOTING THE HEALTHY GROWTH OF TEENAGERS**

In order to help nurture the growth of teenagers, the police are hosting many promotional events such as street-side guidance and youth counseling while cleaning up streets that present a bad influence to teenagers.

## **SUPPORTING AND ASSISTING VICTIMS**

The police are sensitive to the concerns of victims of crimes and disasters.

For example, thanks to the "110 for Sexual Crime Victims" program, female officers have now been assigned to every police station to take part in cases involving sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence, in addition to responding to various inquiries and providing consultation.

# **HOW TO REPORT TO THE POLICE WHEN INCIDENTS OR ACCIDENTS OCCUR**



## **DIAL 110**

When incidents or accidents occur, please report to the nearest police station, police box, or substation. Also, when the following emergencies occur, please contact the police as soon as possible by dialing 110. This number handles all cases and will immediately dispatch the nearest patrol cars and police officers to the crime scene.

- Murder, robbery
- Kidnapping
- Violence, assault, extortion
- Traffic accidents resulting in personal injuries or death
- Other emergencies

When dialing 110, please remain calm and speak clearly and slowly. Please do not disturb the crime scene, and wait for the police to arrive.

## **IMPORTANT POINTS WHEN DIALING 110**

When dialing 110 please inform the police of the following things:

- 1 What happened? (Brief summary of the incident)
- 2 When and where did it happen?
- 3 How many suspects were there, and what identifying characteristics did they have?
- 4 Did the suspect(s) run away? (Color, license plate number, make and model of the vehicle)
- 5 In which direction did the suspect(s) run away?
- 6 Your address, name and telephone number

Please note that officers may not be able to respond in all languages, so if you think your message is not understood, please try to speak in Japanese slowly or find someone who can speak Japanese.

# **CRIME PREVENTION AND TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS**



## **HOW TO AVOID BECOMING A VICTIM**

The most common type of crime in Japan is theft. In order to avoid being a victim of theft, please pay attention to the following:

- Always lock your doors and windows when going out or when sleeping.
- Always lock your car when getting out, even just for a little while.
- Do not leave any valuable items in your car.
- Always lock your bicycle when not using it.

[ About registering your bicycle with the police]

Registering your bicycle helps the police recover your bicycle earlier should it be stolen. You can register your bicycle in a bicycle shop near you (¥600 yen for the registration of one bicycle).

## **HOW TO PREVENT TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS FROM HAPPENING**

### ➤ Traffic Rules for Cyclists

- Ride on the left side of the road.
- Do not ride in parallel, and no more than one person on a bike.
- Stop or slow down when passing small children or people with disabilities.
- Obey traffic lights: do not run through red or flashing red lights.
- When there is a stop sign, always come to a complete stop and check all directions to see if it is safe to pass.
- Do not ride your bicycle while holding an umbrella.
- Always turn on the light when riding a bicycle at night.
- Do not park your bicycle in a way that obstructs the passing traffic (pedestrians or cars).

### ➤ Traffic Rules for Motor Vehicle Drivers and Motorcyclists

- Drive or ride on the left side of the road.
- Always have your driver's license with you.

- Always fasten your seat belt.
- Do not drive a car that has not passed the required Shaken (vehicle inspection) or is not insured.
- Do not park your car in a non-parking space.
- Absolutely zero tolerance for drunk driving.
- Drive slowly when passing pedestrians or cyclists.
- Always wear a helmet when riding a motorcycle.

# **THINGS TO WATCH OUT FOR AFTER EARTHQUAKES**



In the past decade many people have been killed or gone missing due to earthquakes, such as in the 2011 Tohoku earthquake, the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake, and the 2018 Hokkaido earthquake.

Learning from catastrophes like this, it is crucial that we put emergency response procedures in place in advance to prevent damage from disasters. It is better to learn about it now than to panic and scramble for help later.

## **Action Points**

- 1 First, make sure your own safety is not at risk.**
- 2 If possible, quickly put out the fire and stay calm.**
- 3 Secure a fire escape route.**
- 4 Do not panic when trying to escape outside.**
- 5 Do not go near small alleys, fences, cliffs, or riverbanks.**
- 6 Look out for landslides and tidal waves.**
- 7 Escape by foot and keep your personal effects to a bare minimum.**
- 8 Help each other out.**
- 9 Gather more information to see if there are any after effects.**
- 10 If you happen to be driving at the time, please do the following:**
  - Stop at the roadside or an empty space and turn off the engine**
  - Listen to the radio broadcast to gather more information**
  - If there are police officers directing traffic, follow their instructions**
  - Leave your key inserted in the car and escape by foot**

# **VARIOUS COUNSELING AND REPORTING WINDOWS AT A GLANCE**

- In the event of robbery, violence or traffic accidents:

Contact: 110, police stations, police boxes

Please report as early as possible.

You can also ask a person in the vicinity to interpret for you when calling 110.

- To receive a driving history record:

Contact: Jidosha Anzen Unten Center, or Japan Safe Driving Center

TEL: (076)237-5900

- To receive a Police certificate (i.e. proof of no criminal record):

Contact: Kanshiki-ka, or the Identification Division, at the police headquarters

Necessary documents:

Passport

residence Card

Certified Copy of Residency for Foreign Citizens

Documents proving the necessity of issuing the record

- Inquiries regarding driver's license:

Contact: Untenmenkyo-ka, or the Driver's License section

TEL: (076)238-5901

- When a family member or an acquaintance disappears without cause:

Contact: Seikatsu anzen-ka, or the Community Safety section, at a police station

Please bring photos of the missing person with you

- Applying for a proof of robbery record:

Contact: Keiji-ka, or the Criminal Investigation section, at a police station

This record cannot be issued without the report of damage document.

- Consultation regarding juvenile delinquents:

Contact: Your local police station or

"Young Telephone" hotline TEL: 0120-497-556

- Consultation regarding sexual crimes, stalking and domestic violence:

Contact: Your local police station or

"110 for Sexual Crime Victims" TEL: (076)225-0281 or #8103

- General inquires and consultation about police matters:

Contact: "Community Safety Counselling" service

TEL: (076)225-9110 or #9110

**POLICE HELP LINE**

**Victim support for foreigners.**

**076-225-0555 (in Japanese and English)**

# **LIST OF POLICE STATION TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

**Ishikawa Prefectural Police Headquarters                      076-225-0110**

**Kanazawa-Naka Police Station            076-222-0110**

**Kanazawa-Higashi Police Station    076-253-0110**

**Kanazawa-Nishi Police Station        076-266-0110**

**Daishoji Police Station                    0761-72-0110**

**Komatsu Police Station                    0761-22-0110**

**Nomi Police Station                        0761-57-0110**

**Hakusan Police Station                    076-216-0110**

**Tsubata Police Station                    076-289-0110**

**Hakui Police Station                        0767-22-0110**

**Nanao Police Station                        0767-53-0110**

**Wajima Police Station                      0768-22-0110**

**Suzu Police Station                         0768-82-0110**