

26 September 2025

The 19th KIX International Friendship Dragon Boat Festival!

Kansai Airports is thrilled to announce the 19th KIX International Friendship Dragon Boat Festival on 5 October 2025, organized by the KIX Dragon Boat Competition Executive Committee (consisting of the Japan Dragon Boat Association, the Wakayama Dragon Boat Association, and Kansai Airports).

Dragon boat is known as a soft sport that anyone can enjoy regardless of age. Teams of a drummer, ten to twenty paddlers, and a steerer compete against each other in the race.

Since the first KIX International Friendship Dragon Boat Festival was held in 2004, teams consisting of people in the communities around Kansai International Airport (KIX), airport employees, and Japanese and international club teams have competed in the event. It is now one of the biggest dragon boat competitions in Japan. A total of 59 teams from Japan and overseas including the Netherlands, Qatar, and Hong Kong will join the festival this year, and spectators are welcome to join the race.

Kansai Airports Group will continue to create new travel experiences by offering exciting events to our customers.



Photo of the last year's race



Details

Date and time: Sunday, 5 October 2025, 8:30 to 17:00

Venue: Kansai International Airport (in the special 200-meter course in the inner water between KIX Islands 1 and 2)

Organizer: The KIX Dragon Boat Competition Executive Committee
(The Japan Dragon Boat Association, the Wakayama Dragon Boat Association, and Kansai Airports)

Main planner: The Osaka Dragon Boat Association

Partner: The World Masters Games 2021 Kansai Organizing Committee

Sponsors: Iwatani Corporation, Shima Seiki MFG., Ltd., Takenaka Corporation, Obayashi Corporation, Daikin Industries, Ltd., Rengo Co., Ltd., Kintetsu Group Holdings Co., Ltd., Hankyu Corporation, Suntory Holdings Limited, Nankai Electric Railway Co., Ltd., and For You Inc.

Supporters: Wakayama Broadcasting System, Izumisano City, Sennan City, Tajiri Town, Hotel Nikko Kansai Airport, Kansai International Airport Tenant Liaison Committee, and Kadiac Co., Ltd.

Website: <https://www.kansai-airport.or.jp/special/event/20251005.html>

Contact information

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Kansai Airports was established by a consortium made up of VINCI Airports and ORIX Corporation as its core members. Kansai Airports took over the operations of Kansai International Airport ("KIX") and Osaka Itami Airport ("ITAMI") from New Kansai International Airport Company ("NKIAC") and has been operating the two airports since 1 April 2016.

Kansai Airports Kobe, Kansai Airports' wholly-owned subsidiary, took over the operations of Kobe Airport ("KOBE") from Kobe City and started its business as an operating company on 1 April 2018.

Under the concept of "One Kansai Airports Group", Kansai Airports group strives to continuously improve its services for all airport guests through appropriate investments and efficient operations, with safety and security being the top priority. Kansai Airports group aims to maximize the potential of the three airports, for the benefit of the communities they serve.

For more information, please visit : <http://www.kansai-airports.co.jp/en/>

Kansai Airports

Location	1-banchi, Senshu-kuko kita, Izumisano-shi, Osaka	Shareholders	ORIX 40%, VINCI Airports 40%, Other investors 20% ¹
Company Representatives	Representative Director and CEO: Yoshiyuki Yamaya Representative Director and Co-CEO: Benoit Rulleau		
Business Scope	Operation and management services, etc. of Kansai International Airport and Osaka Itami Airport		

Kansai Airports Kobe

Location	1-ban, Kobe-kuko, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo	Shareholder	Kansai Airports 100%
Company Representatives	Representative Director and CEO: Yoshiyuki Yamaya Representative Director and Co-CEO: Benoit Rulleau		
Business Scope	Operation and management services, etc. of Kobe Airport		



ORIX Group was established in 1964 and is a corporate group active around the world in financing and investment, life insurance, banking, asset management, real estate, concession, environment and energy, automobile-related services, industrial/ICT equipment, ships and aircraft. We operate in around 30 countries and regions with approximately 34,000 people. We unite globally around our Purpose: "Finding Paths. Making Impact.", combining diverse expertise and innovative thinking to help our world develop in a sustainable way. For more information: <https://www.orix.co.jp/grp/en/>



VINCI Airports, as the leading private airport operator in the world, manages the development and operation of more than 70 airports located in 14 countries. VINCI Airports draws on its expertise as a comprehensive integrator to develop, finance, build and operate airports, leveraging its investment capability and know-how to optimise operational performance and modernise infrastructure while bringing about their environmental transition. In 2016, VINCI Airports became the first airport operator to commit to an international environmental strategy, setting itself the aim of reaching zero net emissions across the network by 2050. For more information: www.vinci-airports.com

¹ ASICS Corporation; Iwatani Corporation; Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.; Obayashi Corporation; OMRON Corporation; The Kansai Electric Power Company, Incorporated; Kintetsu Group Holding Co., Ltd.; Keihan Holdings Co., Ltd.; Suntory Holdings Limited; JTB Corp.; Sekisui House, Ltd.; Daikin Industries, Ltd.; Daiwa House Industry Co., Ltd.; Takenaka Corporation; Nankai Electric Railway Co., Ltd.; NIPPON TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE WEST CORPORATION; Panasonic Holdings Corporation; Hankyu Hanshin Holdings, Inc.; Rengo Co., Ltd.; The Senshu Ikeda Bank, Ltd.; Kiyo Holdings, Inc.; The Bank of Kyoto, Ltd.; THE SHIGA BANK, LTD.; The Nanto Bank, Ltd.; Nippon Life Insurance Company; Mizuho Bank, Ltd.; Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited; MUFG Bank, Ltd.; Resona Bank, Limited; and the Private Finance Initiative Promotion Corporation of Japan.