



*Excitement and energy*

Festivals that have been passed down through the generations since ancient times are still celebrated as important events. In the kiriko festival, which is unique to the Noto Peninsula, huge kiriko lanterns are paraded around town to the sounds of vigorous chanting. During the period from July to September, kiriko festivals are held in more than 100 communities.

Two of Ishikawa's most famous spring festivals are Seihaku-sai Festival, which boasts of Japan's largest float, and Otabi Festival, which features children's performances of kabuki plays on gorgeous floats decorated with lacquer, gold leaf and carvings. The Kanazawa Hyakumangoku Festival celebrates Maeda Toshiie's taking over of Kanazawa Castle, and its highlight is a magnificent samurai parade. The energetic Gojinjo Daiko masked drummers, who perform to scare away demons, have been designated as an intangible folk cultural asset by Ishikawa Prefecture.



Seihaku-sai Festival (Nanao City) (map E2)



Gojinjo Daiko drumming performance (Wajima City) (map E3)



Kanazawa Hyakumangoku Festival (Kanazawa City) (map E4)



Otabi Festival (Komatsu City) (map E5)