



Special Feature

Interviews with Working Foreign Nationals

Part 1: Vietnam



Ota City is a Great Place to Work!

With this edition of Ota City Navigation, we are beginning a new feature that introduces foreign nationals who work in Ota City. Our aim is to help foreign readers learn about what makes working in our city worthwhile.

We are starting by presenting two Vietnamese who work for a real estate consulting company with strong community ties in Ota City. What makes working in Japan and Ota City appealing?



Nguyen Thi Lanh



Nguyen Thi Thu Huong



Q When did you arrive in Japan?

● **Lanh:** I arrived at the end of December 2020, so I have been here for about one year and three months now.

★**Huong:** I met Lanh at a job interview in Vietnam. We received job offers and got on the same plane together. When we arrived at Haneda Airport, there were almost no people there because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Q What made you interested in Japan?

● **Lanh:** I went to university with Japanese language as my major. I chose Japanese because I like Japanese manga (especially the soccer manga *Jindo/Kattobi Itto*).

★**Huong:** When I entered university, I wanted to try learning a new language other than English. I also had my eye on working. So I decided to major in Japanese interpretation and translation.

Q What kind of work do you do?

● **Lanh:** Our main task now is to assist foreigners.

We primarily deal with shared residences. We put out a number of openings and if any inquiries come in, we handle them. When customers decide on a room, we show them around and attend to their needs. And sometimes, when cultural differences lead to problems in a shared residence, we act as an intermediary to help everyone understand each other.

★**Huong:** We also want to help owners get a better understanding of foreigners and thereby increase the number of rental properties that are available to foreigners. We can help out when, for example, problems or complaints arise after Vietnamese tenants move in.



Continued to P4

[Ota City's "Community Cycle" System]

Ota City Community Cycle is a bicycle sharing service that lets you rent and return a bike at any of the many cycle ports (bicycle parking lots) located within the service area. Cycle ports can be found in thirteen cities of Tokyo, including Ota City. There are about 110 ports within Ota City alone. Use Community Cycle bicycles to make your commuting, shopping, and sightseeing more convenient. (Membership registration is required.)

When	Where	Capacity
Available 24 hours a day	About 1,000 locations in Tokyo (about 110 locations in Ota City)	Each person who registers for membership can use one bicycle.
Cost	How to apply	Where to apply
Single-use member: 165 yen for the first 30 minutes (165 yen charged for each additional 30 minutes) Monthly member: 2,200 yen per month (good for unlimited rides of up to 30 minutes per time; 165 yen charged for each additional 30 minutes) One-day pass: 1,650 yen (usable until 11:59 pm)	Register for membership from the website.	
Inquiries	Urban Infrastructure Development Management Division ☎ 03- 5744-1315 FAX 03- 5744-1527 E-mail toshikan@city.ota.tokyo.jp	

[Important Information on Bicycle Thefts and Parking Lots]

Ota City wishes to remind you not to park your bicycle on streets or near train stations. Always use a bicycle parking lot. Bicycles left near stations can obstruct pedestrians and block the passage of emergency vehicles and therefore may be impounded.

There are many bicycle parking lots in Ota City. However, please note that parking hours and fees differ depending on the lot. Check with the lot you wish to use or visit the Ota City website for details.

Also bear in mind that many bicycle thefts occur in Ota City. Always remember to lock your bicycle, even when parking it at your home or in a bicycle parking lot. Using two locks is even better, as it forces the thief to work longer. Protect your bicycle by using two locks.

Inquiries
Urban Infrastructure Development Management Division ☎ 03-5744-1315 FAX 03-5744-1527 E-mail toshikan@city.ota.tokyo.jp
Bicycle parking lots 
Theft prevention information 


[Free Open Days for Furuhamas Beach Volleyball Court]

Have you ever wanted to play beach sports on a court of soft, pure white sand? Here's your chance.

Equipment for beach volleyball, beach tennis, and other activities will be loaned out free of charge, allowing you to enjoy a variety of beach sports.

Brief instructions will also be provided upon request.

The Free Days are for enjoyment by children and adults alike, so feel free to come with the whole family!

When	Where	
Sunday, July 17 and Sunday, September 18 Morning session: 10:30 am to 12:30 pm Afternoon session: 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm	Main beach volleyball court, Omori-Higashi Waterside Sports Area 1-37-1 Omori-Higashi, Ota-ku	
Cost	Capacity	How to apply
Free	Up to 15 people per court. A rotation system will be used.	Apply at the court on the day you wish to play.
Inquiries	Sports Promotion Division ☎ 03-5744-1441 FAX 03-5744-1539 E-mail sports@city.ota.tokyo.jp	
		

【Regarding Resident Tax Payments】

The second payment of the inhabitant tax (special city inhabitant tax and metropolitan inhabitant tax) is due on August 31. Please be sure to make your payment by the due date. The third payment will be due on October 31. Mark your calendar so you don't forget! Please visit the Ota City website if you have questions about tax payments.

Inquiries

Tax Payment Division
☎ 03-5744-1205
FAX 03-5744-1517



Accepting Applications

【Home Visits】

Spend some time with a Japanese family!

Ota City offers a program that lets you visit and interact with a local Japanese family.

- ◆ You will visit a Japanese family (a "host family") to talk and spend time.
- ◆ You will spend about two or three hours at your host family's home.
- ◆ Your host family will speak to you in Japanese.
- ◆ You will be one of two or three participants (international students or people from other countries) who will visit the same family.
- ◆ Please eat lunch before going to your host family's home. The host family will not serve food.



When	Where	Cost	Capacity
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Sunday, September 25, 2022	Ota International Exchange Center (Minto Ota)	Free (You will be responsible for paying your transportation expenses.)	20 participants

How to apply

Fill out the necessary items
on the application form.

Where to apply



Your host family is looking forward to spending time with you!

Visit this site for details.



Call for Participants

【Japanese Speech Contest 2022】

Are you a foreigner studying Japanese?

Why not join our speech contest and express yourself using your Japanese skills?

- ◆ To be eligible, you must be a non-native speaker of Japanese and meet one of the following criteria.
 - You live in Ota City
 - You study in Ota City
 - You work in Ota City
- ◆ Each speaker will speak for between 3 and 5 minutes.
- ◆ Possible topics include the following:
 - Your impressions of life in Japan or Ota City
 - Things you like and dislike about Japan
 - Differences between Japan and your home country
 - Things you want to do in Japan
 - Problems you've experienced in Japan (or things you want Japanese people to help you with)



Photos from the contest in 2019.

When

Afternoon, Sunday, October 30, 2022

Where

Ota International Exchange Center (Minto Ota)

Cost

Free (You will be responsible
for paying your transportation
expenses.)

Capacity

About 15
speakers

We look forward to seeing you!

Visit this website for the
application details!



Inquiries

Global City Ota Cooperation Association
☎ 03-6410-7981 FAX 03-6410-7982
E-mail mail@ota-goca.or.jp





So you are using your positions in a real estate company to help fellow foreigners! The full interview is available here. Please have a look!



We are accepting foreign nationals who would like to be interviewed!

Please visit this site.



【Peace Ceremony Commemorating Ota City's "Peace City" Declaration】



This article is available in audio.



On August 15, 1984, Ota City declared itself a "Peace City" with a wish for lasting world peace and eternal prosperity for humankind. The city has held a Fireworks Festival since 1987 to commemorate the declaration and also to foster a community spirit built on mutually recognizing the preciousness of peace and ensuring it survives for younger generations.

Unfortunately, the Fireworks Festival for this year, 2022, has been canceled to help control the spread of COVID-19. A Peace Ceremony will be held at Ota City Residents Plaza in its place.



Part 1 【Ceremony】

- Opening: Wadaiko Japanese drums performance
- Greetings by the Organizer and Guests of Honor
- Reading of Ota City's Peace City Declaration
- Ensemble singing of Ota City Peace City Declaration's commemorative song *Heiwatte Nani* (what is peace?)

Part 2 【Stage Attractions】

- Details and performers: To be determined

The event is scheduled to be held without an audience. It will be live-streamed like last year's ceremony.

When

The program is scheduled to begin at 2:00 pm on Monday, August 15, 2022.

Cost

Free

Inquiries

Cultural Promotion Division

☎ 03-5744-1226 FAX 03-5744-1539 E-mail bunka@city.ota.tokyo.jp

Published by the Ota city Internationalization and Multiculturalism Promotion Division

Ota International Exchange Center (Minto Ota) 2nd floor, 4-16-8 Kamata, Ota-ku, Tokyo 144-0052 ☎ 03-5744-1227 FAX 03-5744-1323

This newsletter is published eight times a year in six languages (simple Japanese, English, Chinese, Nepali, Tagalog, and Vietnamese).

It is distributed at Ota City facilities, such as libraries, children's centers, and branch offices, as well as at JR Kamata Station, Omori Station, Keikyu Kamata Station, and other major train stations in the city.