

Agent

# FUKUOKA

A MISSION FOR YOUNG EXPLORERS





#### **Fukuoka: A Mission for Young Explorers**

#### Greetings, Agent!

You've been selected for a top-secret mission to uncover the hidden wonders of Fukuoka! From exploring ancient temples to tasting famous ramen, your adventure will take you through one of Japan's most exciting cities. Complete these challenges to earn the title of **Fukuoka Master Explorer!** 

Good luck, and remember: stay curious and adventurous!

#### **Top Secret Mission: Fukuoka Adventure**

#### Operation Samurai & Shrines

- Ohori Park Detective Explore Ohori Park and find the small island bridges.
- **Bonus:** Can you spot a turtle or koi fish in the pond?
- **Fukuoka Castle Climb** Visit the Fukuoka Castle Ruins and find a high spot to see the city.
- **Bonus:** Can you imagine what the castle looked like long ago?

#### **Operation Food Explorer**

- Ramen Challenge Try Hakata ramen, Fukuoka's famous noodle dish!
- **Bonus**: What toppings did you choose?
- **Street Food Hunt** At a yatai (food stall), find a local snack like takoyaki or yakitori.
- **Bonus**: Which one was the most delicious?



#### Operation Beach & Nature

- **Momochi Coast Explorer** Walk along Momochihama Beach and find three different seashells.
- Bonus: Can you see Fukuoka Tower from the beach?
- Nanzoin Temple Mystery Visit Nanzoin Temple and look for the giant reclining Buddha.
- **Bonus**: How long do you think the Buddha statue is?

#### **Bonus Operations**

- **Baseball Fan Mission** Spot a Fukuoka SoftBank Hawks logo around the city.
- **Bonus**: If you see someone wearing a Hawks jersey, give them a thumbs-up!
- Festival Seeker If visiting in July, find a Hakata Gion Yamakasa float!
- Bonus: Can you spot a samurai design on a float?
- **Story Creator** Write or draw a story about a ninja who protects Fukuoka Castle.



#### Luca & Nico's Secret Message - Can You Decode It?

Use your new Fukuoka dialect words to crack the code!

"Bari yokka Explorer! Go see the Yamakasa floats, say Honjitsu wa yo-katta to the ramen chef, and find a secret ninja spot!"

#### Craft: Make Your Own Yamakasa Float!

Create your own festival float inspired by Hakata Gion Yamakasa!

#### What You'll Need:

- Paper or cardboard
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors (ask an adult for help!)
- Glue or tape
- Small decorations (stickers, fabric, paper cutouts)

#### Steps:

- 1. Draw a tall, colorful festival float like the ones in the Yamakasa Festival.
- 2. Decorate it with samurai, dragons, or cherry blossoms.
- 3. Cut it out and attach a base so it can stand upright.
- 4. Show your family and explain what each design means!



#### **Culture Guide: What Makes Fukuoka Special**

- Ramen Capital Fukuoka is famous for Hakata ramen, a rich tonkotsu (pork broth) noodle soup.
- Ancient Temples Visit Shofukuji Temple, Japan's first Zen temple!
- **Baseball Crazy** Fukuoka is home to the SoftBank Hawks, one of Japan's most loved baseball teams.
- **Hakata Gion Yamakasa Festival** Every July, giant floats are carried through the streets in an exciting racing festival!
- **Seaside City** Fukuoka has both modern skyscrapers and beautiful coastal views, like Momochihama Beach.

#### Language Guide: Speak Like a Local in Fukuoka!

Learn some words from the Fukuoka dialect (Hakata-ben)!

- Bari yoka! (ばりよか!) Very good! (Awesome!)
- Honjitsu wa yo-katta (ほんじつはよかった) Today was great!
- Nanbashi yotto? (なんばしよっと?) What are you doing?
- **Dou shitto?** (どうしっと? ) What's wrong?

(Hakata-ben is a fun and friendly dialect. Locals will love hearing you try it!)

#### **Packing Tips for Your Fukuoka Adventure**

Every great agent needs the right gear! Don't forget to pack these mission essentials:

- **Walking shoes** You'll explore temples, castles, and beaches!
- Sunscreen & hat Fukuoka gets warm and sunny, especially near the beach!
- Notebook & pencil Record discoveries in your Secret Mission Log.
- **Camera or phone** Capture photos of Yamakasa floats or Fukuoka Tower.
- **Chopsticks** Be ready for ramen and street food adventures!



# **Secret Mission Log – Agent's Final Report**

Congratulations, Agent! Before you leave Fukuoka, complete your final mission debrief: (Parents can print this as a fun keepsake!)

The most amazing thing I saw today:
The funniest moment of my adventure:
A secret I learned about Fukuoka:
My next mission will be to



#### Family Mission Recap - Adventure Club Discussion

Gather around, agents! Let's debrief our mission with these fun questions: (Encourages family bonding and deeper engagement with the adventure!) If you could design your own samurai armor, what colors would you choose? What toppings would you add to the ultimate Hakata ramen? If you were a SoftBank Hawks player, what would be your victory dance? If you could join the Yamakasa Festival, what would your float look like?



What's one thing you learned about Fukuoka that surprised you?	

#### **MISSION COMPLETE!**

Celebrate your success with a delicious reward, like a warm bowl of Hakata ramen or a cool ice cream from Momochihama Beach. Share your discoveries with fellow adventurers and prepare for your next mission.

**Agent**, your journey through Fukuoka has just begun – until next time...

Stay curious, stay adventurous, and keep dreaming! ~ The LuNi Travels Family ~

**Luca & Nico's Secret Code Answer**: "Very good, Explorer! Go see the Yamakasa floats, say 'Today was great!' to the ramen chef, and find a secret ninja spot!"