

Miyazaki City CIR Report January 2025



Hi everyone, I am Lotte and am the current CIR in Miyazaki City.

I just arrived in November, so I have only been here a few days longer than 2 months, but to be honest, a lot already happened!

When you arrive in Japan, normally you get an orientation of a few days, but since we were late arrivals our orientation was short, but worth it!

We stayed in a hotel in Tokyo, woke up early, had some tasty breakfast, and immediately left for the orientation.



After this, we hurried to the airport for our local flight to our destination. I arrived between 4 and 5 pm in Miyazaki airport. We were awaited by a lovely pickup squad!

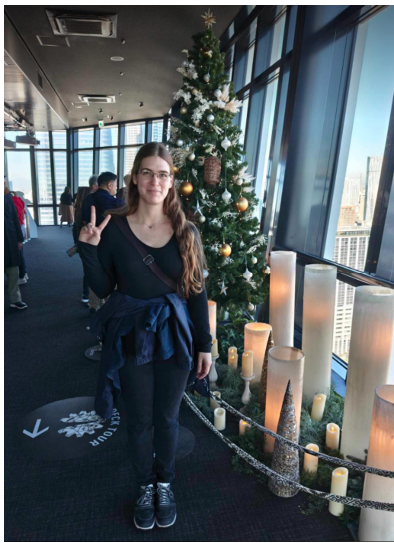
We then greeted our own colleagues' and went our own ways. For me, the next thing to do was to greet my direct colleagues and go get some necessities. This was much needed since there colleagues only a bed, a refrigerator, a washing machine and a microwave. Both the bed (a folding bed on loan until I got my own) and the microwave were requested and kindly provided by the city!



Nothing else was not there, so blankets, curtains, toilet paper, a towel or two, and some food/water were needed fast. And since it was already between 5 and 6 pm, it was hard to make it on time before the shops closed. But using the car and time of my colleague and the help of another ALT who lived close by and knew the neighborhood well, we managed! ^^

The nice ALT even shared some donuts with me as a welcome gift, Pokemon Donuts!! <3

It's now been 2 months and while I have most of my furniture, I still want a closet to organize my clothes, a shelf for the kitchen, some extra towels and some bars to hang my clothes, ... I just mean to say, the first few months, whether you have the budget for it or not, be prepared to live like a student for a bit and gather stuff one by one. This way you won't buy hastily and only buy the stuff you actually need, not just the cheapest one you might need to throw away !



Ok, now that this little tip is said, let's get into the next week. I did overdo myself quite a bit in the first few weeks. While I do recommend exploring once you arrive, please don't fill your schedule as much as mine from the start, and take time to rest!

What I did was as follows: the first weekend after arriving, since I arrived Tuesday, it was after 3 days, I took a trip to attend the Pokemon Go Fest in Fukuoka, went to the event, the pokemon Center, and immediately after went back.

The weekend after that, I took a holiday on Friday and went on a 3-day trip to Tokyo to attend the BLCCJ Gala event. First I went to explore Tokyo a bit on Friday afternoon, and by chance ran into a fellow Belgian friend who was visiting there, and I hadn't seen in years, so that was a happy coincidence. ^^

We caught up talking, visited Tokyo Tower, and went to eat something tasty. After that, I went back to relax in the hostel, used their onsen and went to the event.

The gala event itself was super nice, tasty food, met lots of lovely people with connections to both Belgium and Japan, and the raffle was fun as well!



On the flight back, I was really satisfied but also felt like it would be nice to finally rest a bit at home instead of going out!! I would return on Sunday morning, so I'd have the afternoon

to relax and catch up on sleep, or so I thought. The moment I arrived back at my apartment, the management company was there, asking if I was the resident and asking if they could go in. It seems the water from my apartment was leaking onto the lower floor, and as a result they had to do some work. They entered, checked it out, and sadly, it ended up being non-fixable on that day itself. The next week, we got called that it would take 3 weeks to fix the hot water. While I could still use cold water, I ended up with the flu and thus couldn't really go outside to an onsen either. I was really in a pinch! But luckily I have good colleagues and got invited to take a hot bath at their house to warm up a few times. I am truly thankful to our kachou and her family for allowing that!



Once the water got fixed, it was the 2nd week of December, and work was interesting and going well. Once during the day someone our superior knew, showed up and invited us to go make mochi, so of course what else could I do but accept and go make (and eat) some tasty mochi, made by everyone combining their efforts?! It was a really intense but very fun experience ^^

After that, I made my own little Christmas tree, both a Poké mon version and one made at an event for foreigners in Miyazaki. I went to a bounenkai (new year's end party) with my friends from Pokemon Go I made by going to weekly events around the station, went to the shrine with a CIR from Kirishima named Serena with our Kachou and even went to a second shrine in Aomori after that as well. We drew Omikuji and while my luck was good, I'll have to look out for eating and drinking too much, so it seems the gods here know me a bit too well. As these are all really long experiences, Ill just attach some photos. Please look forward to my report next year as well ^^



