

Yoneda Tenjin Fall Festival

This festival is held annually in October to celebrate the harvest and express thanks for good crops. During the festival, large, highly decorated *yatai* (floats) are carried in a procession around the city by adults and children. The excitement and lively atmosphere that characterize the event make it well worth a visit.

According to legend, hundreds of years ago, Yoneda Tenjin Jinja Shrine was rebuilt by the chief advisor of Kitakyushu Miyamoto Iori (1612–1678). Iori was the adopted son of philosopher and painter Miyamoto Musashi (1584–1645) the legendary swordsman and author of the *Book of Five Rings* (*Go rin no sho*). Yoneda Shrine is thus known for its association with Musashi and Iori.