Welcome to Iwakura City's Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom Festival)!

Please enjoy the cherry blossom-lined streets, selected as one of Japan's 100 top cherry blossom viewing spots, and the traditional *dashi* floats, designated cultural properties of Iwakura City.



Among the dashi floats of the Owari area, the dashi of Iwakura are said to be the oldest kind.

Of the three *dashi* floats, representing Okamiichiba district (Niimizo Shrine), Nakahonmachi district (Shinmei Daiichi Shrine) and Shimohonmachi district (Shinmei Ikuta Shrine), the *dashi* of Shimohonmachi is the oldest, believed to have been built in 1625 based on historical records. The *karakuri* marionettes of the Shimohonmachi *dashi*, depicting Sugawara-no-Michizane and a shrine maiden, perform "*Kanshōjō*," an episode in which Michizane cuts a branch of plum blossoms.

Karakuri performances are staged on the Shinkōji Bridge during the Sakura Matsuri.

Whether surrounded by the cherry blossoms in full bloom along the Gojō River in spring, or bedecked in fantastic swaying lanterns in summer... Please enjoy the sight of the three *dashi* floats as they wind their way through the characteristic narrow streets of Iwakura, accompanied by the melodious sounds of traditional *o-hayashi* festive music.