

# 30 Years of Japan–Australia Friendship

Promoting Japanese culture through education and community exchange

Chozenji Cairns Betsuin Celebrates Its 30th Anniversary

*A Japanese Buddhist Temple and Cultural Centre*

Koenji Awa Odori "Tensho-ren" to Visit Cairns

13–16 August 2026 Cairns, Queensland, Australia



Koenji Awa Odori "Tensho-ren" dedicates a ceremonial performance at Chozenji Temple, Tokyo, before departing for Cairns.

## Opening

For the first time in many years, one of Japan's leading Awa Odori dance groups, Koenji Awa Odori Tensho-ren, will travel to Cairns to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Chozenji Cairns Betsuin, established in 1996. The four-day cultural exchange program will include performances, school workshops and community events, strengthening the friendship between Japan and Australia through traditional culture.

## Why this is news

Established in 1996 by the late Rev. Kando Osawa and Mrs. Ryuko Osawa, Chozenji Cairns Betsuin has served as a bridge of friendship between Cairns and Japan for three decades.

To commemorate this milestone, forty members of Tensho-ren will visit Cairns to share Japanese traditional performing arts with local students and the wider community.

The visit represents a significant milestone in the long-standing cultural relationship between Cairns and Japan.

## Main Events

### Trinity Bay State High School

Japanese-language students

- About 40 senior students
- About 60 junior students

Students will experience:

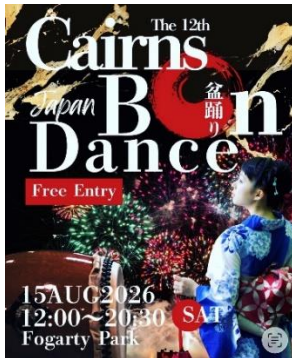
- Awa Odori performance
- Introduction to Japanese traditional dance
- Traditional musical instruments
- Dance workshop
- Interactive participation



### Cairns Japan Bon Dance Festival (Fogarty Park)

One of North Queensland's largest Japanese cultural festivals

Tensho-ren will perform as one of the festival's featured cultural attractions.



### About Chozenji Cairns Betsuin



Founded in 1996, Chozenji Cairns Betsuin has promoted Japanese culture, Buddhist values and community exchange for three decades, and continues to serve as a centre for Japanese culture, Buddhism, tea ceremony and community exchange.

**Media representatives are welcome to attend the events.**

Media coverage is welcome. Photographs and video footage will be available upon request.

## Contact

### Media enquiries

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### Chozenji Cairns Betsuin

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