

ASIA
FALL
JAPAN
TSUKIMI FESTIVAL



• *Dates of Organization:*



✚ The moon viewing festival usually takes place on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month. Tsukimi holidays change every year but usually fall in mid-September or early October according to the solar calendar. This is the time when the moon is full and the most beautiful.

• *Festival Details:*



✚ *Tsukimi Festival, like many Japanese festivals, the Tsukimi tradition is said to date back to the Nara period (710-794 AD). However, it was only during the Heian period (794-1185) that the celebration took effect.*



+ The court nobles celebrated the moon viewing by enjoying sumptuous parties by ponds and lakes, performing and reciting poems under the moon.



✚ This custom of viewing the moon was developed during the Edo period (1603-1868). Where farmers hold a harvest festival as a way to thank Mother Nature for a bountiful harvest.




✚ Though traditions have been adapted to modern customs. But it's a time for reflection, thanksgiving, and prayer for good health for a year full of blessings.



+ Many temples throughout Japan celebrate the Tsukimi event with performances such as traditional dances and recitations from the Heian period.



 In most homes in Japan, Tsukimi is celebrated in a much more modest manner. People decorate objects such as pampas grass (*susuki*), clover (*hagi*) and autumn flowers. Near the window from which the moon can be seen, the light of rice sacks (*Tsukimi Dango*), persimmons, chestnuts, grapes and pears. These items are arranged on the porch facing south so that they can share a meal with the moon god.

+ The Tsukimi Moon Festival will include outstanding events taking place across the country. Includes the following major events:



+ Tokyo Tower Light Festival



+Taiko drumming, performing other arts. The moon can then be viewed through the telescope at Himeji Castle.



+Live Jazz Performance at Tokyo Sky Tree.



+Poetry reading and musical performance at Ise Shrine.



+Release lanterns at Mukojima garden – Hyakaen.

+ *Tsukimi festival dishes:*



+Tsukimi Dango



+Mochi cake



+Fruits and vegetables



+Raw egg dish

 *Celebrate Tsukimi at your home:*



+You can celebrate Tsukimi at home by incorporating some of the rituals of the home ceremony. Turn Tsukimi into a fun evening with a picnic and admire the beauty of the moonlight.