Japan is not only a country with the world's leading economic development but also a unique cultural landmark that captures the great mark of human civilization, which can be showcased through numerous unique cultural festivals. They are organized on a season-by-year basis. So what fascinating festivals should not be overlooked during the journey to Japan? Read the SixNatures list on the top 6 most celebrated and most famous Japanese festivals!

1. Cherry Blossom Festival (Ohanami)

Celebrated in late March and early April (spring time in Japan), the Ohanami Festival has become the most standard and unique representation of Japanese culture worldwide. The festival is held in most Japanese cities, especially big cities such as Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, etc.

In the cold air with a beautiful scenery of cherry blossoms, people will talk about life and enjoy the traditional food such as Hanamizake, Bento rice, Sushi, and so on. A relaxing spirit is handed down to this day.

1. New Year Festival (Oshougatsu)

It is one of the largest traditional festivals in Japan that takes place over several days from December 31st of the solar calendar. The Japanese New Year celebration is also named 'Oshougatsu.' Especially, before the New Year's Eve, the Japanese will clean their houses to welcome the spirit and exorcise the ghost with three typical items: kadomatsu, shimenawa, and kagami mochi. During the New Year's Day, they will enjoy the traditional dishes osechi ryouri and toshi-koshi soba to leave the old year behind and pray for peace and prosperity in the new year. Japanese people also have the habit of visiting temples in the evening of New Year to pray for their health in the new year.

1. Lantern Festival (Obon)

Lantern Festival (Obon) - Top 7 largest and most famous traditional festivals in Japan

Like the Vietnamese Martial Arts Festival in July of lunar year, the Japanese also hold a traditional lantern festival (Obon) for the children of the memory of the supernatural for the souls of the dead at the same time. The filial piety of the children towards parents and grandparents. You will see colorful lanterns hanging in front of each house to guide the souls of relatives to visit the house. The women will prepare fruit and colorful bread to offer on the altar. People will wear traditional Yukata costumes and get along with traditional Bon Odori dance

1. Health and Peace Bridge (Gion)

Organized in July at the Yasaka Shrine, the Gion's health and peace festival is a spiritual sacrifice in order to foster mental and physical well-being, transcending the disease and anxiety. Considered one of the most interesting traditional festivals in Japan, the Gion festival features a parade featuring 32 Yama kazi puppets decorated with pine trees and plaques. Hoko's main palanquin is composed of musicians performing traditional Japanese traditional music. The festival is extremely lively and vibrant in the 1,000-year-old capital of Kyoto, Japan.

1. Carp Festival

The Doraemon manga fans are no strangers to the Koinobori Festival or the Children's Day in Japan. Derived from the ancient Edo period, on May 5th every year, every boy in Japan hangs on colorful koi carvings, representing the image of "fish transcendental" to pray that those boys will soon get healthy and successful in the future.

1. Hina Matsuri Festival

The Hina Matsuri Festival is a girls' festival held on March 3 every year - the time of cherry blossom in Japan. It originates from the tradition of playing dolls. Each Hina doll collection must consist of 15 dolls in traditional costume made of silk and decorated in Hina-ningyo shelf. They should be placed in a solemn place in the house as a guardrail for girls. On this occasion, girls can invite their friends to come to their houses and organize a party to enjoy traditional food such as Hishimochi rice cake, sekihan pasta, shirosake sweetness, candy, and so on.