

Higo Morning Glory

Blooms from July to September

❀ Features of Higo Morning Glories ❀

What makes it different from other morning glories?

**A big white center (funnel)
and glossy petals**

It grows to 9-12 cm in diameter.
It has 6-10 connected pleated petals.
Its large center (funnel) is pure white.

❀ How many subtypes are there? ❀

There are 30 different varieties.

❀ Colors of Higo Morning Glory ❀

They come in many colors with striped and splashed patterns.



❀ History of the Higo Morning Glory ❀

Morning glories came from abroad as a medicinal plant in the 8th century.
Hosokawa Lords encouraged samurai and volunteers in the Kumamoto Domain to grow morning glories, and the Higo Morning Glory eventually became a symbolic flower Kumamoto prides itself on.

1899 Higo Morning Glory Preservation Society "Ryoka-Kai" is formed with 48 members.

1940 The society expands to 180 members.

Records about the society's activities stopped during WWII.

1945 Air Raids in Kumamoto ⇒ Higo Morning Glory was thought

1953 The Great Flood in Kumamoto to be extinct.

Ms. Sueko Tokunaga alone kept the seeds and continued cultivating,
keeping the Higo Morning Glory alive!

1961 **The Ryoka-Kai Society was re-formed.**

1999 A ceremony was held to commemorate
the 100th anniversary of the Higo Morning Glory.

2013 Featured in an exhibition at Kumamoto Castle
attended by the Emperor and Empress.

Did you now
Higo Rokka

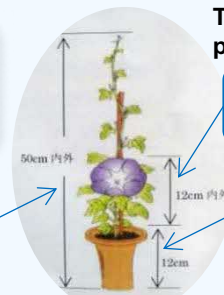
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❀ Growing a Morning Glory in a Small Pot ❀ A Unique Arrangement!

**The Entire Figure–
Flowers, Vines,
Leaves– is elegant!**

Vine Length

Should be 3 times longer
than the pot (about 50cm).



They are carefully grown individually in
pots to bloom on their exhibition day.

The First Flower should be as tall as
the pot at its highest point, (about 12cm).

The glazed pots have a diameter
and height of 12 cm and are custom-
made by a pottery in Kumamoto.

Manner of Appreciation? View while sitting upright on Japanese tatami mat!

❀ Let's View the Higo Morning Glory! A beautiful feast of flowers!! ❀

Suizenji Jojuen Garden 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Kokin Denju no Ma :

Flower-sharing gathering: July 5 (Every 1st Sun of July)

Autumn Exhibition : Sept 4(Fri) - 6(Sun)

Rokka Exhibition Hall : July 6(Mon) - 7 (Tue),
Early September

Kumamoto Castle

Castle Keeps' Square July 4(Sat), 5(Sun), 11(Sat), 12(Sun)

Ninomaru Rest Station: July 3(Fri) - 12(Sun)

Koraimon Gate: July 11(Sat) - 12(Sun)

Kumamoto City International Center: Whenever the flowers bloom

Kato Shrine : Whenever the flowers bloom

* The exhibition schedule may be subject to change. For more detailed information, please contact each respective venue directly.

❀ Higo Morning Glories Featured at International Expositions! ❀

An exhibition for Higo Morning Glories is planned to be featured
at **GREEN×EXPO 2027 YOKOHAMA JAPAN !**

❀ Protect These Pure Seeds! ❀

Unique seeds vary in color and size based on the variety.

Ryoka-Kai maintains these precious seeds and does not sell them.



❀ Higo Morning Glory Ryoka-Kai ❀ Now Recruiting!

Careful and elegant flower cultivation / Cultivation and preservation of flowers

June: Cultivation Workshop July/Sept: Exhibition *Around 60 members as of Apr 2026

<Contact> **Higo Morning Glory Ryoka-Kai Office (Kumamoto City Museum)**

✉ hakubutsukan@city.kumamoto.lg.jp Phone: +81-96-324-3500

❀ Precious Treasures of Kumamoto ❀

The six varieties of traditional flowers unique to Kumamoto cultivated by the Higo samurai during the Edo period

2026 Vol.4
July – September

Higo
Morning Glory

Higo Iris



Did you know?
Higo Rokka



Higo
Chrysanthemum

Higo
Peony



Higo
Camellia



Higo
Sasanqua



❀ Center of the Flower! ❀

Large center (the pistil) Single layer of petals Clear color

Let's see what makes each flower distinct!

❀ Carrying on Tradition & Spirit! ❀

The spirit of "Higo mokkosu" has preserved the methods of cultivation, formation and appreciation of

Potted Plants, Flowerbeds and Bonsai

The profound world of Higo Rokka!

Let's Learn More about Higo Rokka

created by Meisters of Greening in Kumamoto City Team てんとうむし (Ladybug)

We support the preservation, inheritance, and development of the Higo Rokka!



❀ History of Higo Rokka ❀

Beginning in the 1700s,

The 6th Hosokawa Lord of the Kumamoto Domain, Hosokawa Shigekata (1720-1785) **encouraged clansmen to practice horticulture as a form of self-discipline.**

In the 1800s, during the reign of 10th-generation Hosokawa Narimori

(1804-1860), the clansmen formed an enthusiast group called

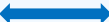
Hanaren to establish new varieties of flowers and set rules to grow them.

Taking flowers, seedlings, or seeds out of the group was prohibited!

In 1960, six flower varieties that could be enjoyed during all four seasons were selected for an exhibition held in the presence of the Emperor.

These six types of flower have been collectively called **Higo Rokka** ever since.

❀ Let's See the Higo Rokka! ❀ Blooming Calendar

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
					From mid-February to early April						
Higo Camellia ひごつばき											
Can be found at the Zoological and botanical Gardens, Prefectural Athletic Park, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Country Park, Kumamoto Prefectural office, Former Kumamoto Residence of Koizumi Yakumo in Kumamoto and Higo-Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo											
* Exhibition at Suizenji Jojuen Garden											
					From late April through early May						
Higo Peony ひごしゃくやく											
Can be found at the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Suizenji Jojuen Garden in Kumamoto, Higo-Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo and Kyuhoji Ryokuchi Park in Osaka											
* Exhibition at Suizenji Jojuen Garden and Tsukawara Museum											
					From late May through mid-June						
Higo Iris ひごはなしょうぶ											
Can be found at Shohinken garden, the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Suizenji Jojuen Garden in Kumamoto and Higo-Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo											
* Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle											
					From July to September						
Higo Morning Glory ひごあさがね											
* Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, Kato Shrine, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Koraimon Gate and Kumamoto City International Center											
											
Higo Chrysanthemum ひごぎく											
Can be found at Suizenji Jojuen Garden											
* Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, Suizenji Jojuen Garden and Kumamoto City International Center											
											
Higo Sasanqua ひござざんか											
Can be found at the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Prefectural Athletic Park in Kumamoto and Higo-Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo											
* Exhibition at Suizenji Jojuen Garden											

*Exhibition dates and locations are subject to change or may be cancelled.

❀ Entry to the Higo Meika-en Flower Garden at Kumamoto Castle's Takenomaru is prohibited post-Kumamoto Earthquake.

The Rokka are observable at the exhibitions within the castle.



❀ Used in a Variety of Designs Too! ❀

Manhole: Higo Camellia (Kumamoto City Waterworks and Sewage Bureau)



2026 Higo Morning Glory↑

Did you Know? Higo Rokka

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