

Higo Camellia

Blooms from February through March

Features of Higo Camellia

What makes it different from other camellias?

A big center with a single layer of petals

The 5-10 petals open up until they are flat. The golden stamens puff out very far.

How many subtypes are there?

About 120 cultivated varieties

have been certified by the Higo Camellia Society.



Higo Camellia is a World-class Brand!

The beauty of the Higo Camellia attracts camellia lovers from all around the world! The Camellia is so popular that it is featured at the **International Camellia Congress** held biannually! (Hosted in Tokyo from March 9-13 in 2025 and to be held in America in 2027)

2026 Exhibition of Higo Camellia Bonsai

Ultimate beauty formed by traditional techniques and training!

Thurs, March 12– Sun, March 15 9 AM – 4 PM

Rokka Exhibition Hall at Suizenji Jojuen Garden

Let's View Higo Camellia!

Kumamoto Prefectural Sports Park

Higo Camellia Walk (JP Garden Northside)

Kumamoto Agricultural Park, Country Park

Camellia Garden

Suizenji Jojuen Garden

Kumamoto City Zoological and Botanical Gardens

Kumamoto Prefectural Office

Former Kumamoto Residence of Koizumi Yakumo

Higo-Hosokawa Garden (Tokyo)



What colors are there?

Red



White



Pink



Brocade



History of the Higo Camellia

Higo Camellia is said to have originated in the 17th century, but the exact period and the creator are unknown.

1829 Edo Shirokane Florist's Bunsuke Notebook describes the cultivation methods for 30 types of Higo Camellia

1826 "Hanaren" groups are formed, producing new flower varieties and developing breeding and growing methods

1860 ↓
1877 Satsuma Rebellion (Seinan War) ⇒ Flowers were seriously damaged and many varieties were lost.

1945 Air Raids in Kumamoto

After WWII, rules relax and groups begin exhibiting Higo Camellia for the public to enjoy.

1958 The Higo Camellia Society is established

1974 Higo Camellia is designated as the **official flower of Kumamoto City**

1975 Higo Camellia explodes in popularity domestically as well as overseas

↓
1983 The Higo Camellia Society is reformed

How About Bring Home a Higo Camellia?

Many people in Kumamoto have added Higo Camellia to their own gardens, but can you tell if they are a certified variety? a new variety? ✖While flowering trees and seedlings are for sale, the Higo Camellia Society does not sell them.



Higo Camellia Society

Promoting the Cultivation, Preservation, and Succession of traditional bonsai techniques

March Exhibition Practical Workshop held twice a year

Society President : Mayor of Kumamoto City 40 members (10 foreign members from German, France, Italy, Korea, etc.)

*Recruiting Members! Please feel free to participate in the Practical Workshop!

<Contact> Agriculture and Fisheries Bureau Agricultural Affairs Department,

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Did you know? Higo Rokka

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❀ Precious Treasures of Kumamoto ❀

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

2026 Vol.1

Higo Camellia



Higo Sasanqua



Did you know?
Higo Rokka



Higo Peony



Higo Chrysanthemum



Higo Morning Glory



Higo Iris

❀ 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								
			← From late April through early May								
				← From late May through mid-June							
				← From July to September							
				← From mid-November through early December							
				← From November through December							

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

Higo Peony ひごしやくやく

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

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

Higo Morning Glory ひごあさがね

* Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, 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 ひごさざんか

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

❀ 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)



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

Did you Know? Higo Rokka

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