

Hanakae Matsuri

Flower-Exchanging Festival

April 17, 2018
8:00 to 16:00

Event Info

- ✿ Exchange Cherry Blossom Branches with *Fukumusume* Girls
- ✿ Win Kanegasakigu Shrine Mementos in the Hanakae Shinji Drawing
- ✿ Try Calligraphy or Dress Up in Warring States-Era Clothes
- ✿ Shop for Souvenirs or Enjoy Food and Drinks

How Does “Hanakae” Work?



- 1 This ritual requires a special (artificial) cherry blossom branch. Don't forget to bring yours!
- 2 Come to Kanegasakigu Shrine
- 3 Exchange cherry blossom branches with one of the *fukumusume*, or “good fortune girls,” next to the main shrine. Say “*hana kaemasho*” (“let's exchange flowers”) when you exchange branches, and if you have a wish, keep it in your mind.
- 4 Next, exchange cherry blossom branches with many other people. Share the happiness!
- 5 Take your last cherry blossom branch home with you, and place it somewhere special, as both a decoration and a charm.

What Is the Flower-Exchanging Festival?

Men and women come to Kanegasakigu Shrine to see the cherry blossoms, inviting one another to exchange cherry blossom branches as a way to find both happiness and love, in this romantic festival. They say that exchanging cherry blossom branches is sure to bring happiness in the future — this festival draws many young adults each year.



Shuttle bus

A free shuttle bus is available from Kehi Jingu Shrine to Kanegasakigu Shrine (where the festival is held). It runs every 15 minutes from 8:00 to 15:00.

