

WHAT IS A SISTER CITY?

A Sister City program is established to develop a mutual understanding between two cities and to strengthen international friendships through exchanges and cooperation in economy, arts, education and sports.

The program serves to establish friendly relations among citizens of different countries and develops foreign relations of the organized communities in which they live.

OUR SISTER CITIES

Huntington Beach is honored to have two Sister Cities. The first relationship was established in 1977 with the City of Waitemata, New Zealand. In 1982 the Mayors of Huntington Beach and Anjo, Japan signed an official resolution to join these two cities in a Sister City program.

Both cities share similarities in size, population, economic development. Waitemata shares an interest in coastal activities with Huntington Beach. Anjo enjoys a common interest with us in community services and commercial development.

ANJO, JAPAN: A PROFILE

The City of Anjo is located on the main island of Japan—between the cities of Tokyo and Nagoya. It has a population of 127,000 and covers an area of 85.67 square kilometers.

The city government of Anjo is very similar to our municipal system. They have an elected mayor and a 36-member City Assembly. The city provides a variety of educational, social, recreational, public works and public safety programs to its citizens. Anjo has 43 city parks which include numerous recreation and sports activities.

Anjo is mainly an agricultural area. Diversified farming produces rice, vegetables and livestock for the area. In addition to the agricultural development of Anjo the city is beginning to broaden its industrial and commercial base.

As a symbol of the joy and success of the City of Anjo, each August its citizens celebrate with a summer extravaganza—Tanabata Festival. Parades, dances and fireworks displays are colorful symbols of ancient rituals and contemporary celebrations.

Sister City programs strengthen friendships.

WAITEMATA, NEW ZEALAND: A PROFILE

The City of Waitemata is located on the west coast of the north island of New Zealand. It is a city that encompasses a variety of landscapes from mountains to coastline. The land is used as a combination of residential, commercial, and industrial developments, but 43 per cent of the land is designated as open space reserve. Waitemata is the fifth largest city in New Zealand with a population of over 91,500.

The city is divided into 4 wards and is served by 13 councillors and an elected mayor. In August 1983 the City of Waitemata opened a new Civic Centre which houses all municipal offices and operations.

Waitemata is a diverse city rich in Maori culture and history with an eye toward contemporary municipal Administration.

THE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

The Sister City Association was originally organized in 1977 and has been revitalized in 1982. Over the last year the committee has been busy planning a variety of programs and activities. These include:

- Several exchange visits by officials and citizens of Anjo and Waitemata.
- A cultural exchange program between Huntington Beach and Anjo—sharing works of art from both amateur and professional artists.
- Fund raising projects such as an International Festival and a booth at the Golden West College Community Festival.
- Display showcases housed in City Hall and the Central Library which hold many beautiful gifts that have been given by our Waitemata and Anjo friends.
- A collection of books about New Zealand and Anjo in the Central Library

Many activities have been implemented which have highlighted youth programs, including:

- A two week student exchange program between Huntington Beach and Anjo.
- Annual exchange of works of art created by school children.
- A newly implemented Youth Group meeting twice a month.

HUNTINGTON BEACH SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION



Anjo, Japan



Huntington Beach, California



Waitemata, New Zealand

YOUR PART IN THE SISTER CITY PROGRAM

The Sister City program offers the community an exciting opportunity to become involved in international friendship and cooperation. Many wonderful projects are planned. Your ideas and participation are most welcome. The members of the committee have found this experience to be educational informational, but most of all fun! So far, committee members have found that the Huntington Beach community has a wealth of resources—the most valuable resource is its citizens—old and young, businesspeople, students and homemakers.

The Sister City Committee has planned this brochure to answer questions about the Sister City program. The committee invites you to join and welcomes your participation in any and all aspects of the program.

HUNTINGTON BEACH SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION

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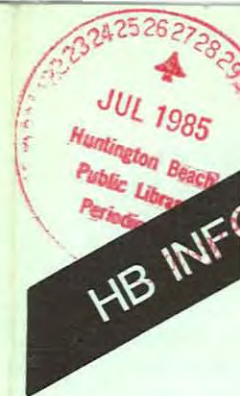
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HUNTINGTON BEACH
SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION

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