

Hello everyone! My name is **Cory Howell**, and I arrived in Matsusaka in
October 2021 as a CIR. Before coming
to Japan, I worked as a writer and
editor. For starters, let me ask:

What do you know about San Diego, California?



San Diego is a beach down in Southern California with amazing nature and a temperate climate. Thanks to the awesome weather, we can surf, hike, and generally do outdoor activities all year round.



SoCal is very diverse, and we have a great food scene. I love the food in Little Tokyo, the pho and Vietnamese coffee in Little Saigon—but you can't beat the Mexican food! Since San Diego is on the border with Mexico we have a strong Latin influence. The **fish tacos** in SD are the best!

As a fourth-generation Japanese-American (my great grandparents immigrated from Kumamoto to CA), I've always loved Japanese culture. Coming to Matsusaka, I've been able to learn about Motoori Norinaga and *Mono no Aware*, the history of Matsusaka Castle, and started watching Ozu Yasujiro's movies (I recommend *Tokyo Story*), and am excited to learn more.

Speaking of which, you can follow my journey if you have Instagram **@discover_matsusaka**! Please feel free to like and follow if you're interested!

Likewise, I'm doing translation work for businesses and organizations around Matsusaka, so if anyone happening to read this knows someone interested in getting **free translations or English workshops** done through Matsusaka City, send them my way!

I'm looking forward to meeting you all!

よろしくお願いします! See you soon!