

Okayama Insider

No. 207
FREE

OCT

The tenth month of the 18th year of the Heisei period.

2006

神無月 (Kannazuki) 平成 18 年

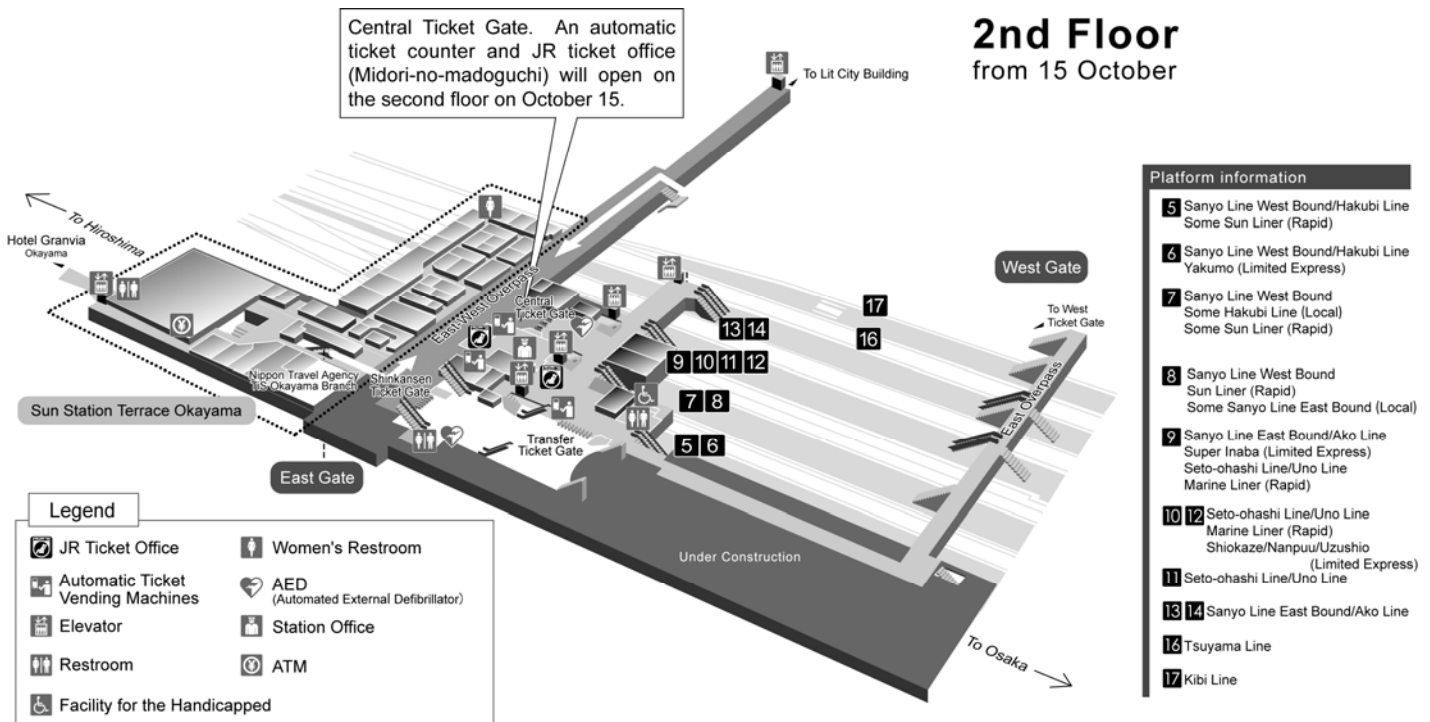
The godless month. It is believed that all the local deities are in Izumo at this time, hence there are no gods here now.

Published by the Okayama Insider Group
Paper and printing supplied by the Okayama Prefectural International Exchange Foundation
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New ticket gate, new shopping mall... from 15 October

“New” JR Okayama Station

by Noriko Ehara



On Sunday the 15th of October, JR Okayama Station will be reborn to be a brand new station! At the East Gate, there will be no more ticket gates. Instead, a central ticket gate will open on the 2nd floor and the east ticket gate on the 1st floor will close. The main functions of the station will be concentrated on the 2nd floor and it will be more convenient to transfer to the Shinkansen (super express bullet trains). A newly built East-West Overpass (210 meters long) complete with a shopping mall called the Sun Station Terrace Okayama (or Sansute Okayama for short) is another big change. The overpass connects the East Gate directly to the West Gate and Lit City Building. People coming from the West Gate can easily access the central ticket gate and Shinkansen ticket gate. The shopping mall with 50 shops will open at 10.15 am on the 15th. There are boutiques, cafes, restaurants, shoe shops, cosmetic stores....and 10 of these shops are appearing for the first time ever in Okayama. If you like Viennese coffee, you can try Omotesando Saryo. They will serve you a nice cup of Viennese coffee and a damande (croissant coated in almond paste). There is also a Hiroshima based super market called “Yours” for passengers to buy groceries on their way home. The construction works for other refurbishing will continue to 2008.