

VENUE

Academy Cinemas

📍 44 Lorne Street, Auckland CBD

BOOKING

Online booking required at
www.academycinemas.co.nz

Booking open from **Thursday 20 August**.
NZ\$1.5 online booking fee applies.



BOOK NOW

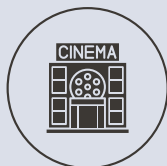
ACADEMY
CINEMAS
EST. 1982

PLEASE NOTE

All films will be shown **in Japanese with English Subtitles**.

We reluctantly reserve the right to
change the schedule.

VENUE &BOOKING



GENERAL ENQUIRY



CONSULATE-GENERAL OF
JAPAN IN AUCKLAND

☎ 09-303-4106 ✉ pr@ac.mofa.go.jp



MORE INFO



CONSULATE-GENERAL
OF JAPAN IN AUCKLAND

ABOUT JFF



In cooperation with the Japan Foundation,
the Japanese Film Festival (JFF) is held
annually to spark interest in Japan, promote
Japanese culture, and foster greater
understanding of Japan among people in
New Zealand.



JFF THEATER



Watch Now

JFF THEATER

JFF Theater is a free online
streaming service bringing
Japanese films and videos
to audiences worldwide
with multilingual subtitles.
Enjoy Japanese cinema
and culture anytime,
anywhere.

JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL 2026

日本映画祭

SEPTEMBER 2026

17-20

ACADEMY CINEMAS
44 LORNE ST, AUCKLAND CBD

Booking required

Free admission

ENGLISH SUBTITLES



CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN
IN AUCKLAND

JAPAN FOUNDATION

THU 17
SEP
6PM

She Taught Me Serendipity

今日の空がいちばん好き、とまだ言えない僕は



Director: Akiko Oku | Cast: Riku Hagiwara, Yumi Kawai
Year: 2025 | Length: 127min | Genre: Drama | Rating: TBC

Toru has no real plans in life. He feels most at ease at his part-time job at a bathhouse, where he handles the nightly cleaning. He attends university, but without much enthusiasm – until he falls for fellow student Hana, in whom he finds a kindred spirit.

Opening film

SAT 19
SEP
1PM

Tsugaru Lacquer Girl

バカ塗りの娘



Director: Keiko Tsuruoka | Cast: Mayu Hotta, Kaoru Kobayashi
Year: 2023 | Length: 118min | Genre: Drama | Rating: PG

Miwako, a young woman searching for her future finds herself drawn to the centuries-old craft of Tsugaru lacquerware and the complicated legacy of her family. Set in Aomori, this touching drama explores family ties, personal choice, and the enduring power of tradition.

SUN 20
SEP
1PM

Wash Away

うおっしゅ



Director: Ikunosuke Okazaki | Cast: Yuka Nakao, Naoko Ken
Year: 2025 | Length: 115min | Genre: Drama | Rating: TBC

Kana, a young woman working in Japan's adult entertainment industry, begins caring for her grandmother for one week, leading a quiet double life between work and family. As her grandmother's memory fades and Kana herself feels increasingly invisible in both worlds, she is gradually forced to confront her own sense of identity and find a way forward.



FRI 18
SEP
6PM

Under the Open Sky

すばらしき世界



Director: Miwa Nishikawa | Cast: Koji Yakusho, Taiga Nakano
Year: 2021 | Length: 126min | Genre: Drama | Rating: M

After serving a 13-year prison sentence, former yakuza Mikami struggles to rebuild his life in a society unwilling to forgive his past. A powerful and deeply moving drama about redemption, resilience, and the possibility of change, featuring an outstanding performance by Koji Yakusho and directed by acclaimed filmmaker Miwa Nishikawa.



SAT 19
SEP
3:30PM

Welcome Back

Welcome Back



Director: Naoto Kawashima | Cast: Kaito Yoshimura
Year: 2025 | Length: 119min | Genre: Drama | Rating: TBC

What is a person's true strength? What is the end of losing? After a crushing defeat changes their lives, two young men who grew up like brothers embark on separate journeys toward independence and self-discovery. Blending boxing action with an emotional story of friendship, loss, and redemption, Welcome Back is a fresh new take on the sports drama.

SUN 20
SEP
3:30PM

After the sunset

夕陽のあと



Director: Michio Koshikawa | Cast: Shihori Kanjiya
Year: 2019 | Length: 133min | Genre: Drama | Rating: M

Set in a small fishing town, this human drama follows a family raising a foster child they hope to adopt. Their quiet life is gently disrupted when unexpected information about the child's biological mother emerges. The film explores family bonds, identity, and the meaning of parenthood in a close-knit community.

Closing film