Kyoto is a magical city, where the hills are purple in the distance, where fresh waters run pure and plentiful, where the streets lead back into history in harmony with each of the city’s four distinct, beautiful seasons.

As a city Kyoto has more than 1,200 years of history. For 1,100 years it was imperial capital of Japan. A place nurtured by time, Kyoto is also a changing and modern city, where great ideas are born and culture continues to develop. Any visitor to the city can’t help but feel the wonder of this truly special city.

Come and see for yourself the mystery and beauty that is Kyoto – the heart of Japan.

The Japanese currency is called the yen. Cash is the most widely accepted method of payment. Major credit cards are widely accepted, except in some small sole traders. Debit cards are almost unknown and should not be relied upon as a payment option. Travelers’ cheques are only accepted for exchange in banks and post offices, and, in general, cannot be used to purchase goods and services. Foreign exchange can be performed in banks (look for signs in English), larger post offices and a limited number of hotels: there are no street-side bureaux de change in Kyoto. Bank counters are open 9 am to 3 pm, post offices financial services from 9 am to 4 pm. There is not much discrimination in exchange rates and commissions between the city and the airport. You can draw cash on your credit card or debit card at certain ATM cash machines: all post office (found in every neighborhood; not 24 hr) and Seven Bank (in all 7-Eleven stores; 24 hr) ATMs accept overseas credit cards with PIN, and some debit card systems.
Kyoto has two subway lines: the Karasuma line and the Tozai line. In addition to the subway, there are five private train companies operating in the city area (Keifuku, Eizan, Keihan, Hankyu, and Kintetsu).

How to buy tickets
Most train and subway stations are equipped with automatic ticket dispensing machines. To purchase your ticket, put the money in the machine first. Then select the button for your ticket price and press that button. You can also pay with a prepaid card (such as the Kyoto Trafica Card, see below), if you have one.

Kyoto City Subway Day Pass
With this pass you can ride all Kyoto City Subway lines without limit for one day.
Adult ¥600   Child ¥300

Kyoto One Day (Two Day) Pass
With this pass you can ride all Kyoto City Buses, all Kyoto City Subway lines, and Kyoto Bus buses (except some routes) an unlimited number of times for either one day or two successive days.
One Day Pass  Adult ¥1,200  Child ¥600
Two Day Pass  Adult ¥2,000  Child ¥1,000

Trafica Kyro Prepaid Cards
These are prepaid cards for use with the Kyoto City Bus and Kyoto City Subway that offer discounted travel. The ¥3,000 card allows ¥3,300 worth of travel and the ¥1,000 card is worth ¥1,100. The Trafica Kyro card is valid on all Kyoto City Buses and Kyoto City Subway lines.
Adult ¥1,000 or ¥3,000  Child ¥1,000

Haruka JR Limited Express
This direct limited express runs between Kyoto and KIX. It leaves from JR Kyoto Sta. Reservations are recommended during busy departure times. Generally, there are two trains every hour. The trip takes about 75 minutes. Fare: ¥3,490 (reserved); ¥2,980 (non-reserved); ¥6,260 (round-trip reserved seats)

Shuttle Taxi Service to KIX
A shuttle taxi service directly connects between Kyoto and KIX. You don’t have to worry about how to get the airport and can relax on the way. Just make a reservation (or ask your hotel concierge to get one), and they will come to pick you up. Yasaka Taxi KIX Shuttle: ¥3,500/person; Tel: 075-803-4800; MK Taxi Sky Gate Shuttle: ¥3,500/person; Tel: 075-778-5489.
The word Rakuchu, which came into use at the end of the 16th century when Toyotomi Hideyoshi built a protective wall around Kyoto as part of his renewal plan of the city, distinguishes the inside of the city (inside the wall) from the outside (Rakugai). Today, Rakuchu refers to what is primarily the downtown area of the city. It includes the area around Kyoto Station, the Shijo Kawaramachi shopping district, and the traditional areas of Gion and Nishiki.
Toji Temple

This temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was built to pray for peace and tranquility of the capital when Heian-kyo, the original name of Kyoto, was established in 823. The temple’s 5-story pagoda is the highest in Japan (56.4 meters). The temple is home to numerous works of arts, many of which are National Treasures. On the 21st of every month, a giant temple market is held here.

Tel: 075-691-3325
Open: 8:30-16:30 (Sep.20~Mar.19)
: 8:30-17:30 (Mar.20~Sep.19)
Entry: ¥500 (¥800 during special opening in Spring & Autumn)

Nijo Castle

This castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was built in 1603. The entire compound, measuring 500 meters from east to west and 400 meters from north to south, is surrounded by a tall stone embankment and moat. A corridor in the main building was ingeniously designed to make a sound like a Japanese nightingale when walked on. The castle’s Kano school sliding door paintings are also famous.

Tel: 075-841-0096
Open: 8:45-17:00
Entry: ¥600

Nishi Honganji Temple

The origin of this temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was moved to its present site in 1591 by Toyotomi Hideyoshi. The Shoin room and Karamon Chinese Gate, are both designated as National Treasures. There is also a famous garden, and Japan’s oldest Noh theatre stage.

Tel: 075-371-5181
Open: 5:30-17:30 (5:30-18:00 in summer, 5:30-17:00 in winter)
Entry: free (to visit the Shoin room, application by a reply postal card is required)

Kyoto Imperial Palace

Located almost in the center of the city, this huge park-like compound, includes several palace buildings. It was also the location of many fine residences belonging to the ranking noble court families. These residences were torn down and a massive park, with lawns and over 9,000 trees, was created. Today, this extensive park area is a highly popular recreation and relaxation zone.

Tel: 075-211-1215 (Kyoto office of the Imperial Household Agency)
Reservations, in person, via the Imperial Household Agency, are required for the inner palace area (except for 5 days in spring and autumn).

Shimogamo Shrine

This shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is one of the oldest in Kyoto. The shrine’s Aoi Matsuri Festival, held on May 15 every year, is famous throughout Japan for its procession of hundreds of people wearing the costume of the Heian nobles.

Tel: 075-781-0010
Entry: free

Higashi Honganji Temple

This temple, which was created independent of Nishi-Honganji Temple by order of the shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu in 1603, consists of a number of huge wooden buildings, one of which is among the largest in the world.

Tel: 075-371-9181
Open: 5:50-17:30 (6:20-16:30 from Nov. to Feb.)
Entry: free

Access
Kyoto Sta., on the JR lines and the Karasuma subway line

Kitano Tenmangu Shrine

This shrine is dedicated to the spirit of Sugawara Michizane, a famous scholar, who is revered as a god of learning and the literary arts. Today, the shrine is visited by many students to wish for success in their school entrance examinations. A plum blossom festival is held on Feb. 25; a huge shrine market, called Tenjinsan, held on the 25th of every month, is known for its countless open-air stalls.

Tel: 075-461-0005
Open: 5:00-18:00 (5:30-17:30 between Oct. to Mar.)
Entry: free

Access
City bus, get off at Kitano Tenmangu-mae (#9, 50,101 from Kyoto Sta.)

Sanjusangen-do Temple

This temple is famous for its 1,001 wooden statues of Kannon (Goddess of Mercy), which known as the Thousand-armed Buddha. The same central hall also contains 28 magnificent spirit statues associated with Kannon. A special archery event, in which challengers try to hit a target placed 60 meters away, is held on January 15th.

Tel: 075-561-0467
Open: 8:00-17:00 (9:00-16:00, Nov.16 - Mar.31)
Entry: ¥600

Access
City bus, get off at Hakubitsukan, Sanju-sangen-do mae (#208, 100 from Kyoto Sta.).

Shimogamo Shrine

This shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is one of the oldest in Kyoto. The shrine’s Aoi Matsuri Festival, held on May 15 every year, is famous throughout Japan for its procession of hundreds of people wearing the costume of the Heian nobles.

Tel: 075-781-0010
Entry: free

Access
City bus, get off at Shimogamo Jinja-mae (#205, 4 from Kyoto Sta.)
This area, also known as Higashiyama, runs parallel to Kyoto’s eastern mountains. Many of Kyoto’s most famous temples and shrines and cultural facilities such as museums, libraries and exhibition halls are located here. The Rakuto area is especially suited for walking tours, all of which can be completed in less than half a day.
Kyoto Sightseeing Spots  Eastern Area

Kiyomizu-dera Temple

A UNESCO World Heritage Site. The main hall, famous for its spacious outdoor, cliff-like balcony, supported on an intricate, several-story-high wooden structure of pillars, is a designated National Treasure. Kiyomizu means pure water. Much of the large temple area offers outstanding views of the city.

Tel: 075-551-1234  
Open: 9:00-18:00 (to 18:30 in summer)  
Entry: ¥300

Kodaiji Temple

Nene, the widow of Toyotomi Hideyoshi, constructed this temple to console her husband’s spirit. The garden surrounding Kaisan-do Hall is a designated national historic and famous scenic place. Many personal artworks, etc. that once belonged to Hideyoshi and Nene, are on display at the temple. The temple has a popular garden light-up in spring and autumn, and during other special occasions.

Tel: 075-561-9966  
Open: 9:00-17:30  
Entry: ¥600

Sannenzaka Area

Sannenzaka, leading from Yasaka Shrine to Kiyomizu Temple in three, separate, sloped stages, is a designated national historical preservation area. Interesting souvenirs shops which sell Kiyomizu pottery, Nishijin weavings and others handmade articles line each street (no cars) and lend a bustling, exotic atmosphere. These streets are also highly recommended for late evening and early morning strolls, when the visitor can easily imagine that time had stopped a hundred years ago.

Tel: 075-561-9966  
Open: 9:00-17:30  
Entry: ¥600

Yasaka Jinja Shrine

The origin of this shrine is not certain. However, the main hall of the shrine is credited with halting a major epidemic in 877 that had spread throughout the capital. This shrine is an extremely popular destination to pray for the prevention of disease and illness. The shrine’s magnificent vermilion gate is a important national cultural asset. The Gion Festival, held here in July, is known as one of Japan’s three main festivals.

Tel: 075-561-6155  
Entry: free

Shoren-in Temple

This elegant temple, also known as the Awata Palace, once served as a place of refuge for the emperor after a giant fire destroyed much of Kyoto in 1788. It houses many cultural properties including a drawing of the Fudomyoo-nidoji, which is a National Treasure.

Tel: 075-561-2345  
Open: 9:00-17:00  
Entry: ¥500

Heian Jingu Shrine

This shrine was constructed in 1895 in commemoration of Kyoto’s 1,100 year anniversary. It is a 5/8 scale reconstruction of the original Imperial Palace, built when Kyoto was founded in 794. The Jidai Festival is held annually by the shrine on the 22nd of October.

Tel: 075-761-0221  
Open: 8:30-17:30 for Shin-en garden (8:30-17:00 from March 1-14, 8:30-17:00 from Sep. to Oct., and 8:30-16:30 from Nov. to Feb.)  
Entry: free (¥600 to enter the Shin-en garden)

Chion-in Temple

This temple was constructed on the orders of the Priest Honen in 1175. The temple’s huge main Hoji hall can seat three thousand people. Among the temple’s many interesting sights are the Sanmon Gate, the biggest in Japan, and a huge bronze bell.

Tel: 075-531-2111  
Open: 9:00-16:00  
Entry: free

Murin-an

Completed in 1896 as a villa for the famous politician, Yamagata Aritomo, the garden of Murin-an makes excellent use of the eastern hills as a backdrop. The compounds 3,300-square-meter grounds has two ponds, and a western-style house, where politicians once discussed key issues concerning the war with Russia.

Tel: 075-771-3909  
Open: 9:00-17:00  
Entry: ¥400

Access

City bus, get off at Kiyomizu-michi or Gojo-zaka (#206, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)

Tozai subway line, Keage Sta.

City bus, get off at Chion-in- mae (#206 from Kyoto Sta.)

Tozai subway line, Higashiyama Sta.

Tozai subway line, Higashiyama Sta.
**Kyoto Sightseeing Spots**  
Eastern Area

### Nanzenji Temple

Emperor Kameyama loved this beautiful place so much that in 1264 he built his detached palace here. Later he became a student of the Zen Master Busshin Daimin Kokushi, and he dedicated the palace as a Zen temple in 1291. It is famous for its Kano school sliding door paintings (of a tiger drinking water).

Tel: 075-771-0985  
Open: 8:40-17:00 for the Hojo Hall and Sanmon Gate (8:40-16:30 from Dec. to Feb.)  
Entry: free (¥500 for the Hojo & Sanmon, ¥300 for the Nanzen-in.)

**Access**  
Tozai subway line, Keage Sta.

### Eikan-do Temple

Formerly called Zenrinji Temple, Eikando Temple houses a famous standing statue of the Amida Nyorai. The temple is one of Japan's most famous for maple leaf viewing (mid November). The temple's pagoda, set up on the sloping hillside, offers panoramic views of the city.

Tel: 075-761-0007  
Open: 9:00-17:00 (8:30-17:00 during Nov.)  
Entry: ¥600 (¥1,000 during Nov.)

**Access**  
City bus, get off at Gion (#206, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)

### Shinnyo-do Temple

This temple was constructed in 984 to receive the image of a beautiful Buddhist Amida Nyorai statue, which had been located in a temple on Mount Hiei. The temple's main image, the Raigo Amida Nenbutsu, is one of Kyoto's most highly worshipped.

Tel: 075-771-0915  
Open: 9:00-16:00 (to enter the main hall and the garden)  
Entry: free, ¥1,000 (to enter the main hall and the garden)

**Access**  
City bus, get off at Shinnyo-do-mae (#5 from Kyoto Sta.)

### Ginkakuji Temple (Silver Pavilion)

This temple is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built in 1489, it served as a retirement villa for the shogun Ashikaga Yoshimasa. The garden features white sand waves and two unique sand piles: the Kogetsudai, (Moon Mound) and the Ginsaden (Sea of Silver Sand), which were made to reflect moonlight so as to enhance the appreciation of the garden during moon-lit evenings.

Tel: 075-771-5725  
Open: 8:30-17:00 (9:00-16:30 from Dec. to Feb.)  
Entry: ¥500 (¥1,000 to enter the Tokyu-do, permission needed in advance by postcard.)

**Access**  
City bus, get off at Ginkakuji-mae (#5 from Kyoto Sta.)

### Kenninji Temple

This temple is the oldest Zen temple in Kyoto. It was built in 1202 by the Priest Eisai, who introduced tea to Japan. It houses the masterpiece "Fujin-Raijin-zu", a painting of the gods of wind and thunder, by the famous painter, Tawaraya Sotatsu. In spring, a large, traditional Zen-style tea ceremony is held here in commemoration of the birth of Eisai. There are more than 15 sub-temples within the temple precincts.

Tel: 075-561-0190  
Open: 10:00-16:00  
Entry: ¥500 for the Hojo room, and a donation for Ryosoku-in Temple.

**Access**  
City bus, get off at Higashiyama Yasui (#206 from Kyoto Sta.)

### Gion area

This extensive area is bordered by Yasaka Shrine to the east, Kenninji Temple to the south, the Kamogawa river to the west and Shinbashi Street to the north. It is Kyoto's most famous and popular entertainment district, full of first-class Japanese restaurants, bars and clubs.

**Access**  
City bus, get off at Gion (#206, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)

### Nishiki Food Market

This market, set up along Nishikikoji St. between Teramachi and Takakura streets, is known as the "kitchen of Kyoto." On this narrow, stone-paved street, about 150 grocery stores sell the best fresh produce available in Kyoto. It is always bustling with customers who come to look, to taste, and to buy the best.

**Access**  
Karasuma subway line, Shijo Sta.

### Tetsugakuno-michi (Path of Philosophy)

This famous walking route stretches for two kilometers, along a canal, between Ginkakuji Temple and Nyakuoji Shrine at the base of the Higashiyama foothills. The path was named after the famous philosopher Nishida Kitaro, who liked to walk along this route and meditate on philosophical matters. The path is popular year-round, especially in spring for cherry blossoms and in early summer for fireflies.

**Access**  
City bus, get off at Ginkakuji-mae or Nanzenji-Eikando-michi (#5 and 100 from Kyoto Sta.)
The northern part of Kyoto is called Rakuhoku. Here, the visitor can enjoy rich natural beauty and numerous beautiful historical locations. As the area is mountainous, it is colder than the central part of the city, making it a popular summer retreat. The area around Kitayama Station is one of Kyoto's trendiest destinations at present.
Kyoto Sightseeing Spots  Northern Area

Shisen-do Temple
This was built in 1641 as the residence of Ishikawa Jozan, a samurai who served Tokugawa Ieyasu and then retired to become a poet. The wonderfully landscaped garden, known for its serene atmosphere, features a unique teeter-totter bamboo device that fills with water and then drops on a stone with a sharp crack.
Tel: 075-781-2954
Open: 9:00-17:00, closed on May 23.
Entry: ¥500

Manshu-in Temple
This temple stands in a small forested compound at the base of Mount Hiei. The temple's sand and wood landscape garden, in which the white sand symbolizes water, uses the nearby mountain scenery as a fine backdrop. The temple is a designated national scenic spot, and is home to some 1,200 cultural treasures. In spring the temple is popular for its plum and camellia flowers. In autumn the maple leaves attract large crowds.
Tel: 075-781-5010
Open: 9:00-17:00
Entry: ¥600

Shugakuin Imperial Villa
This villa was constructed by Emperor Gomizunoo, and served as his retirement palace from 1655 to 1659. The villa encloses an area of 540,000 square meters and three large gardens, making it perhaps the largest private compound in Kyoto. The upper tea garden is regarded as one of the most beautiful in Japan. Outstanding views of Mt. Kurama and Mt. Atago can be enjoyed here. Advanced reservations are required through the Imperial Household Agency.
Tel: 075-211-1215 (Kyoto office of the Imperial Household Agency)
Open: 9:00-17:00 (9:00-16:30 from Dec. to Feb.)
Entry: ¥700

Enkoji Temple
The Jugyu Garden accommodates Seiryu Pond and suikinkutsu (a special sound effect using water in Japanese gardens) which is said to be the oldest ones in northern Kyoto city. This temple is popular for colored leaves and moss in autumn. It preserves Japan's oldest wooden boards of printed letters (about 50,000 letters) called Enkoji-ban (Important Cultural Property).
Tel: 075-781-8025
Entry: ¥500
Open: 9:00-17:00

Kurama Temple
This mountain-top temple was built in 770, to pray for the safety of the capital. A special exhibition hall in the compound features an interesting series of exhibits on the flora and fauna of the area, which is also well-known for its excellent cedar-root-covered walking trail (leading to Kibune).
Tel: 075-741-2003
Open: 9:00-16:30 (9:00-17:00 from June to Aug., 9:00-16:00 to enter the Reiho-den)
Enter: ¥200, plus another ¥200 to enter the Reiho-den

Sanzen-in Temple
This temple belongs to Tendai sect of Buddhism. It was built in 1118. The temple's main statue of an Amida Nyorai (made of wood) and its statues of the Ryowaki samurai are designated important national cultural properties. The garden, covered with moss and surrounded by old cedar trees, is very beautiful. In the rainy season, about 3,000 hydrangea bushes add a magnificent explosion of color at the back of the temple gardens.
Tel: 075-744-2531
Open: 8:30-17:30 (8:30-16:30 from Dec. to Feb.)
Enter: ¥700

Jakko-in Temple
This temple, one of Kyoto's oldest, is said to have been built by Prince Shotoku in 594. Though the street leading up to the temple is crowded with people and tea shops, the temple is very quiet. The temple is very popular for maple leaves in autumn.
Tel: 075-744-3341
Open: 9:00-17:00 (9:00-16:30 from Dec. to Feb.)
Enter: ¥600

Kibune Shrine
The god of water is enshrined here, and this shrine is a popular prayer destination for people who are engaged in agriculture, fishing, and sake brewing. An important water festival is held to pray for the god of water on July 7 every year.
Tel: 075-741-2016
Open: 9:00-16:30
Entry: free

Kurama Temple
This mountain-top temple was built in 770, to pray for the safety of the capital. A special exhibition hall in the compound features an interesting series of exhibits on the flora and fauna of the area, which is also well-known for its excellent cedar-root-covered walking trail (leading to Kibune).
Tel: 075-741-2003
Open: 9:00-16:30 (9:00-17:00 from June to Aug., 9:00-16:00 to enter the Reiho-den)
Enter: ¥200, plus another ¥200 to enter the Reiho-den

Access
City bus, get off at Ichijoji-Sagarimatsu-cho (#5 from Kyoto Sta.)

Access
Kyoto bus, get off at Ohara (#17, 18 from Kyoto Sta.).

Access
Eizan railway line, Kibuneguchi Sta.

Access
Eizan railway line, Kurama Sta.

Access
Eizan railway line, Kibuneguchi Sta.
Kyoto Sightseeing Spots  Northern Area

Daitokuji Temple
This temple was completed in 1319. It is one of the most important Zen temples in Japan. The Daigaran building, a designated National Treasure, and other important cultural assets, were donated to the temple by numerous important feudal lords. Advanced permission is needed to visit many of the temples in the compound.
Tel: 075-491-0019
Open: 8:00-16:30
Entry: free (¥400 for Daisen-in, ¥350 for Ryugen-in, ¥400 for Zuiho-in, ¥400 for Koryu-in)
Access: City bus, get off at Daitokuji-mae (#206, 101 from Kyoto Sta.)

Kamigamo-jinja Shinto Shrine
A designated UNESCO World Heritage Site, this Shinto shrine, covering an area of 664,000 square meters, includes 2 National Treasure and 41 shrine buildings all of which are designated as important national cultural assets. The main hall was rebuilt in 1863. The Aoi Matsuri festival procession (May 15) finishes here.
Tel: 075-781-0011
Open: 8:00-17:00 (Nov. - Mar.: 8:30-16:00)
Entry: free
Access: City bus, get off at Kamigamo-jinja-mae (#4 from Kyoto Sta.)

Kamigamo-shake-machi Town Area
This quiet residential area, home to the priests of Kamigamo-jinja Shinto Shrine, is located on the opposite side of a clear stream, slightly southeast of the shrine. Each large traditional house, surrounded in a tall earthen wall, has its own bridge. Priests use the water from the stream for purification ceremonies. One of the houses, the former residence of the Nishikibe, is open to public.
Access: City bus, get off at Kamigamo-jinja-mae (#4 from Kyoto Sta.)

Ota-jinja Shinto Shrine
Ota-jinja Shinto Shrine belongs to Kamigamo-jinja Shinto Shrine. There is a pond on the east of the shrine hall where thousands of rabbit ear irises inhabit (Natural Monument). The best time to enjoy blooming irises is from early to mid May. Irises of Ota-jinja Shrine were famous since the Heian period as an ancient poem written in those days praises beauty of the flower.
Tel: 075-781-0011
Entry: free of charge in the precinct (¥300 during iris season as support)
Open: 8:00- around 17:00
Access: City bus, get off at Kamigamo-jinja-mae (#4 from Kyoto Sta.)

Entsuji Temple
This temple used to be a villa belonged to Emperor Gomizuno-o. It was converted to a Buddhist temple and has been worshipped by the imperial family. The temple hosts a dry landscape garden which is registered as one of Japan’s scenic beauty spots. The garden consists of 40 large and small rocks surrounded by moss. It is said that Emperor Gomizuno-o designed location of the rocks. Having Mt. Hiei on its backdrop, this garden has solemn atmosphere.
Tel: 075-781-1875
Open: 10:00-16:30 (10:00-16:00 from Dec. to Mar.); entry until 30 min. before closing time.
Entry: ¥500, children: ¥300
Access: Kyoto bus, get off at Entsuji-michi (#45, 46 from Kita-oji Sta. on subway Karasuma line), or 5-min. by taxi from subway Kitayama Sta.

Jisso-in Temple
This temple is also known as Iwakura Jisso-in Monzeki. The temple ground is home to two different style gardens. One is a stroll garden with pond and the other is a dry landscape garden. This is one of the most popular locations for both spring and autumn. Particularly noteworthy is the splendid scenery when spring fresh green and autumn colored leaves are reflected on the lacquered black floor.
Tel: 075-781-5464
Open: 9:00-17:00
Entry: ¥500, children: ¥250
Access: Kyoto bus, get off at Iwakura Jisso-in (#4, 27 from Kusukasai Kan Sta. on subway Karasuma line).

Koetsuji Temple
This temple started out as a home for the artist Honami Koetsu, built on land donated to him by Tokugawa Ieyasu. Koetsu was a genius in calligraphy, pottery and other arts. The temple has seven different tea rooms, all designed differently, and is famous for its autumn foliage.
Tel: 075-491-1399
Open: 8:00-17:00, closed Nov. 10 to 13
Entry: ¥500
Access: City bus, get off at Entsuji-michi (#24, 27 from Kusukasai Kan Sta. on subway Karasuma line).

Genko-an Temple
This temple, founded in 1694, belongs to Soto Sect of Buddhism. Ceiling structure was brought from Fushimi Momoyama Castle and was reconstructed in the temple. There are blood marks on the ceiling. They are the remains of a battle in 1600 between Ieyasu Tokugawa and Mitsuari Ishida (the blood marks are of the followers of Tokugawa who were defeated by Ishida in the battle). The temple’s round (Window of Enlightenment) and square (Window of Doubt) shaped windows are renowned.
Tel: 075-492-1858
Open: 10:00-16:30 (10:00-16:00 from Dec. to Mar.); closed Nov. 10 to 13
Entry: ¥500
Access: City bus, get off at Takagamine-Genkoan-mae (#K1, from Kita-oji Sta. on subway Karasuma line).
The western side of Kyoto, known as Rakusai, has been praised by poets and artists since ancient times, and is home to such famous tourist spots as Arashiyama, Sagano, Takao, and culturally rich area around Kinkakuji Temple. There are many famous temples and shrines in the area that date back to the beginning of Kyoto’s history. Arashiyama and Sagano are especially famous for cherry blossoms and maple leaves.
## Kyoto Sightseeing Spots  Western Area

### Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)
- **Designation:** UNESCO World Heritage Site
- **Construction:** 1397
- **Owner:** Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu
- **Gardens:** Special National Historic and Scenic Site
- **Tea House:** Sekka-tei
  - Staggered shelves of bush clover wood
  - Nanten alcove pillar
- **Contact:** Tel: 075-461-0013
- **Timing:** 9:00-17:00
- **Entry Fee:** ¥400

### Tenryuji Temple
- **Designation:** UNESCO World Heritage Site
- **Established:** 1339
- **Garden:** First Special National Historic Site
- **Features:** Imperial court garden, classic Zen garden design, Kameyama and Arashiyama mountains
- **Contact:** Tel: 075-881-1235
- **Timing:** 8:30-17:30 (8:30-17:00 from Dec. to Mar.)
- **Entry Fee:** ¥600 (including entry to the main hall), ¥500 for the garden only

### Ryoanji Temple (Rock Garden)
- **Designation:** UNESCO World Heritage Site
- **Established:** 1450
- **Garden:** Dry landscape garden
  - 15 large and small rocks on a bed of white sand
  - East-west rectangular plot
- **Contact:** Tel: 075-463-2216
- **Timing:** 8:00-17:00 (8:30-16:30 from Dec. to Feb.)
- **Entry Fee:** ¥500

### Adashino Nenbutsuji Temple
- **Location:** Mt. Okuru
- **Function:** Place to cremate or bury bodies without friends or relatives
- **Sento Kuyo:** Memorial ceremony with 1,000 candles on August 23 and 24
- **Contact:** Tel: 075-861-2221
- **Timing:** 9:00-17:00 (9:00-16:00 from Dec. to Feb.)
- **Entry Fee:** ¥500

### Myoshinji Temple
- **Established:** 1342
- **Conversion:** Former Emperor Hanazono's detached palace
- **Openings:** Three out of 47 sub-temples

### Daikakuji Temple
- **Location:** On Mt. Arashiyama
- **Boasts:** Famous moon viewing spot
- **Saga Chrysanthemum:** Survives 300 years

### Jojakkoji Temple
- **Location:** Mt. Ogura
- **Features:** Twelve-meter high pagoda, maple leaf viewing site

### Ninnaji Temple
- **Designation:** UNESCO World Heritage Site
- **Construction:** 9th century
- **Features:** Five-storied pagoda, Kon-do Hall
- **Contact:** Tel: 075-461-1155
- **Timing:** 9:00-17:00, Goten Hall 9:00-16:30
- **Entry Fee:** Free (¥300 for cherry blossom), Goten Hall ¥500, Reiho-kan ¥500

### Daikakuji Temple
- **Location:** Sagano Line
- **Accessibility:** JR Sagano Line, Hanazono Sta.

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### Access
- **Kinkakuji Temple:** City bus, get off at Kinkakuji-michi (#205, from Kyoto Sta., #59 from Sanjo-Keihan Sta.
- **Tenryuji Temple:** City bus, get off at Arashiyama-Tenryuji-mae (#28 from Kyoto Sta.)
- **Ryoanji Temple:** City bus, get off at Ryoanji-mae (#59 from Imadegawa Sta.
- **Adashino Nenbutsuji Temple:** City bus, get off at Toriimoto (#72 from Kyoto Sta.)
- **Jojakkoji Temple:** JR Sagano Line, get off Harazono Sta.
Saga Toriimoto Area
This famous tourist area stretches from the northern base of Mount Ogura to the area around the village of Kiyotaki. To the east of the road leading to Adashino Nenbutsuji Temple are a series of fine buildings with ceramic tile roofs, and to the west of the road are some excellent, preserved examples of thatched-roofed farm houses.

Katsura Imperial Villa
Construction of this world-famous architectural and garden masterpiece began in 1620. Its 56,000 square meter area is landscaped with a series of superbly designed gardens in which a number of simple, yet elegant halls and tea houses are located. Entry to the garden must be arranged in advance through the Kyoto office of the Imperial Household Agency.

Jingoji Temple
Established in 809, the temple's main hall, a wooden statue that is a designated National Treasure, has long been an object of veneration to prevent illness and disaster. The temple is home to many ancient Buddhist masterworks. At the Jizo-in subtemple, people break ceramic roof tiles in the hope of preventing misfortune.

Romantic Train (Sagano Scenic Railway)
This tourist train offers visitors an excellent chance to appreciate the stunning natural scenery along the Hozugawa River gorge, renowned for its cherry blossoms, the glowing green of its new leaves, and its autumn colors. Many people choose to return by boat from Kameoka: an exciting river-rapid experience.

Kozanji Temple
A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Kozanji Temple was built in 774. Among its ten thousand artworks are seven National Treasures and 1,500 Important Cultural Assets. The world's oldest tea farm is located within the temple grounds.

Toei Uzumasa Movie Land
This Japanese movie theme park features various types of open-air sets used in samurai movies. Some of the studios are still producing films. Other attractions include a cinema culture hall featuring exhibits related to the history of Japanese movies and film making. Visitors can also try on and be photographed in all kinds of traditional costumes.

Rakushisha
Originally this house was the residence of the Mukai Kyorai, a dedicated disciple of the famous haiku poet, Matsuo Basho. The name comes from an old tale in which a merchant pays in advance to buy all the persimmons on a certain tree, only to find them all on the ground the following morning.

Gioji Temple
This temple is one of the sub-temples of Daikaku-ji Temple. It is said that a Buddhist monk, Ryochin, a disciple of Honen, established it. In the Tale of Heike, this is the place where two women who were loved by Kiyomori Taira (the head of Taira clan) became Buddhist nuns and lived. Late autumn is the best season to visit this temple as colored red leaves fallen on the green moss create magnificent view.

Access
City bus, get off at Saga Shogakko-mae (#28 from Kyoto Sta.)
Connecting Shiga and Nara with Kyoto, the Rakunan area has been settled since ancient times. The area includes Yamashina and Daigo, eastern entrance points to Kyoto, Fushimi which is known for sake brewing, and the remnants of the Momoyama Castle town.
Tofukuji Temple
This temple was built in 1239. Covering an area of 200,000 square meters, it is the largest Zen temple in Kyoto. The wooden bridge on the grounds is a well-known location for maple leaf viewing, for which the temple is nationally famous.
Tel: 075-561-0087
Open: 9:00-16:00
Entry: free (¥400 each for entry to the Hojo Garden and Tsuten Bridge, ¥300 for the Reiun-in, ¥300 for the Funda-in, and ¥200 for the Doju-in.)

Sennyuji Temple
This temple, often called Midera Temple because of its close relationship with the Imperial family, was originally named Hourinji Temple. A statue of the Kannon said to resemble an image of a Chinese empress, carved by her husband the emperor, is located in the main hall.
Tel: 075-561-1551
Open: 9:00-16:30 (9:00-16:00, Dec. to Feb.)
Entry: ¥500

Fushimi Inari Shrine
The head shrine of more than 40,000 Inari shrines throughout Japan, Fushimi Inari Shrine is one of the oldest in Kyoto. Enshrining the god of good harvests and good business, the shrine is crowded with people during the New Year and on the first day of each month.
Tel: 075-641-7331
Entry: free

Daigoji Temple
Built in 874 and designated as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site, Daigoji Temple houses a number of National Treasures and important properties, including a five-story pagoda, the oldest wooden building in Kyoto Prefecture. The temple is one of the most famous in the area for cherry blossom viewing.
Tel: 075-571-0002
Open: 9:00-17:00 for the Sanpo-in (9:00-16:00, Dec. to Feb.)
Entry: free (¥600 for Sanpo-in)

Kanshuji Temple

Zuishin-in Temple
Zuushin-in Temple contains a number of famous artifacts, many things that once belonged to the poetess, Ono Komachi. The temple is also famous for its plum blossoms. A dance dedicated to Komachi is held here every year in late March.
Tel: 075-571-0025
Open: 9:00-16:30
Entry: ¥400

Jonangu Shrine
Considered to be a geomantically perfect place, Jonangu Shrine hosts a special, ancient poem writing party/game twice a year, in spring and fall. In the game, participants, dressed in full kimono, sit along a narrow stream. A sake cup is floated down the stream from one player to another. Before the cup arrives, the receiving player must compose a poem.
Tel: 075-623-0846
Open: 9:00-16:30
Entry: free (¥500 for the garden)

Sake Warehouses in Fushimi
This row of sake warehouses covered in wood at the bottom and plastered white on the top is a beloved sight in the sake brewing town of Fushimi. Designated as one of Kyoto's 100 scenic places, this view from the promenade along the river is exquisite. In addition, the area also features such attractions as the Teradaya ryokan and the Gekkeikan Okura Museum (all about sake).
MUSEUM & EXHIBITION

Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art

Built in 1928, this museum is housed in an imposing, very large western-style brick building. The museum regularly holds special exhibitions of modern and contemporary art by domestic and international artists. The museum collection consists of about 1,400 works of modern Japanese art.

Tel: 075-771-4107
Open: 9:00-17:00, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥500 for permanent exhibitions

Access Tozai subway line, Higashiya Sta.

Raku Museum

Rakuyaki refers to a special kind of hand-shaped pottery that is fired at low temperatures. It is frequently used in the traditional Japanese tea ceremony. This museum has a collection of 1,200 pieces belonging to the Raku Family founded by the first generation master, Chojiro, 450 years ago.

Tel: 075-414-0304
Open: 10:00-16:30, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥800-900 (varies depending on the exhibition)

Access City bus, get off at Horikawa-Nakadachiuri (from Kyoto Sta.)

Shigureden

Shigureden is an amazing interactive museum devoted to the Ogura Hyakunin Isshu (Ogura Anthology of 100 Poems by 100 Poets). The anthology was compiled in 1235 and it is one of the best known literary works of the Heian period. This special museum opened in Arashiyama in January 2006. Visitors can see exquisite poems displays and try interesting interactive games using the latest digital technology.

Tel: 075-882-1111
Open: 10:00-16:30 (entry until 16:30), closed on Mondays (open if Mon. is holiday and closed the next day instead) and the end and beginning of the year
Entry: ¥500

Access JR San-in line, Saga Arashiyama Sta.

Chado Research Center

This unique center is devoted to the appreciation of the traditional Japanese tea ceremony, which continues to play a major role in keeping many of Japan's traditional arts alive. Every year, four major exhibitions are held to demonstrate various aspects related to tea.

Tel: 075-431-6474
Open: 9:30-16:30, closed on Mondays
Entry: free

Access Karasuma subway line, Kurama-guchi Sta.

Hakusa-sonso Garden

This red brick museum was built in 1895. It is a designated Important Cultural Asset. Its extensive collection is focused on ancient Oriental art and antiques from both China and Japan. The garden, featuring a fountain and many statues, is a beautiful place to relax.

Tel: 075-525-2473
Open: 9:30-18:00, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥420 for permanent exhibits

Access City bus, get off at Hakubutsukan-Sanjosangendou-mae (#206, 208, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)

The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto

This stunning modern structure arranges seven or eight major annual exhibitions for masterpieces by Japanese and international artists. The museum also has an excellent permanent collection.

Tel: 075-761-4111
Open: 10:00-17:00 (open Friday nights, April to October), closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥420 for permanent exhibits

Access Tozai subway line, Higashiya Sta.

Hosomi Museum

Home to the art collection started by Hosomi Kokoan, a prosperous Osaka businessman. This museum consists of about 1,000 exceptional pieces including paintings, carvings, and fine handicrafts, of which twelve are Important Cultural Properties.

Tel: 075-752-5555
Open: 10:00-18:00, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥1,000

Access Tozai subway line, Higashiya Sta.

Sen-oku Hakuko Kan (Sumitomo Collection)

Home to a priceless collection of 600 Chinese bronze works and countless examples of superb Chinese calligraphy, this museum was founded by the Sumitomo family in 1960.

Tel: 075-771-6411
Open: 10:00-17:00, March-June and Sept.-Nov., closed on Mondays and holidays
Entry: ¥730

Access City bus, get off at Higashitenno-cho (#5, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)

Museum of Ikebana (Hashimoto Kansetsu Memorial Museum)

Once the residence of the late 19th-century Japanese painter, Kansetsu Hashimoto, this lovely location is an excellent place to relax and appreciate a wide range of art. In the garden, visitors can sip green maccha tea and look at numerous stone statues.

Tel: 075-751-0446
Open: 10:00-17:00, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥700

Access Tozai subway line, Higashiya Sta.

The Nomura Art Museum

Home to the Nomura family art collection. This museum has an impressive collection of more than 1,500 items. The museum is only open during spring and autumn.

Tel: 075-751-0374
Open: 10:00-16:30, closed on Mondays (closed during summer and winter)
Entry: ¥700

Access City bus, get off at Nanzenji-Eikan-do-michi (#5, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)

Hankyu Arashiyama line, Arashiyama Sta.

Keifuku Arashiyama line, Arashiyama Sta.

JR San-in line, Saga Arashiyama Sta.

Karasuma subway line, Ginkakuji-michi (#9, 50 from Kyoto Sta.)

Access City bus, get off at Horikawa-Nakadachiuri (from Kyoto Sta.)

Once the residence of the late 19th-century Japanese painter, Kansetsu Hashimoto, this lovely location is an excellent place to relax and appreciate a wide range of art. In the garden, visitors can sip green maccha tea and look at numerous stone statues.

Tel: 075-751-0446
Open: 10:00-17:00, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥700

Access Tozai subway line, Higashiya Sta.

This museum has an impressive collection of more than 1,500 items. The museum is only open during spring and autumn.

Tel: 075-751-0374
Open: 10:00-16:30, closed on Mondays (closed during summer and winter)
Entry: ¥700

Access City bus, get off at Nanzenji-Eikan-do-michi (#5, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)
The Museum of Kyoto

This museum is devoted to providing a comprehensive introduction to the culture and history of Kyoto. The modern, main building holds regular major international art exhibitions, and also houses exhibits related to Kyoto, and reference rooms.

Tel: 075-222-0888
Open: 10:00-19:30, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥500 for permanent exhibits

Access
Karasuma subway line, Karasuma Oike Sta.

Domoto Museum

This private, fine art museum is home to a collection of 2,200 works by Domoto Insho, a famous Japanese painter, who established himself in Kyoto. The collection contains an excellent body of abstract paintings based on Buddhist themes.

Tel: 075-463-0007
Open: 9:30-17:00, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥500

Access
City bus, get off at Ritsumeikan-dai-gaku-mae (#50 from Kyoto Sta.)

Kawai Kanjiro's House

This superbly preserved residence was the home and studio of one of Japan's most famous modern ceramic artists, Kawai Kanjiro. Most of the house interior, including the furniture, were designed by the artist.

Tel: 075-561-3585
Open: 10:00-17:00, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥900

Access
City bus, get off at Gojo-zaka (#206, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)

Kondo Yuzo Memorial Hall

The former home of the renowned ceramic genius, Kondo Yuzo, a living National Treasure, this fine facility includes a collection of his work, and a replica of his workshop (complete with the tools that he used).

Tel: 075-561-2917
Open: 10:00-17:00, closed on Wednesdays
Entry: ¥500

Access
City bus, get off at Gojo-zaka (#206, 100 from Kyoto Sta.)

The Jotenkaku Museum

Shokokuji Temple is one of Kyoto's oldest and most important Zen temples. Its collection includes numerous treasures from the Golden and Silver pavilions, including four National Treasures, and 111 Important Cultural Properties.

Tel: 075-241-0423
Open: 10:00-17:00, closed irregularly and during the New Year's holiday
Entry: ¥800

Access
Karasuma subway line, Imadegawa Sta.

Kiyomizu Sannenzaka Museum

The Kiyomizu Sannenzaka Museum is the first museum in Japan to display a permanent collection of metalwork, cloisonné, maki-e lacquerware and Kyoto Satsuma ware artworks from the late Edo to the early Meiji period (17-19th century).

Tel: 075-532-4270
Open: 10:00-17:00, closed Mondays & Tuesdays
Entry: ¥500

Access
City bus, get off at Kiyomizu-nichu (#106, 206 from Kyoto Sta.)

Town Preservation Center

The Saga Torimoto area, developed in the 17th century in front of Atago Shrine. Here, visitors can stroll among Japanese traditional houses with thatched and tiled roofs in a beautiful, natural setting.

Tel: 075-223-2072
Open: 11:00-17:00, closed on Mondays
Entry: ¥300

Access
City bus, get off at Saga-sha-do-mae (#28 from Kyoto Sta.)

Horino Memorial Museum

This traditional Japanese home is devoted to the history of sake brewing and Kyoto merchant (machiya) culture.

Tel: 075-864-2406
Open: 9:30-16:30
Entry: ¥300

Access
City bus, get off at Chushojima (#81 from Kyoto Sta.)

Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum

Gekkeikan Sake Company, Ltd. is one of Kyoto's oldest sake brewers. This museum has exhibits related to sake brewing and superb visual displays. Sake tasting and souvenir shopping are also possible here.

Tel: 075-254-7414
Open: 10:00-18:00 (entry until 17:30)
Closed: Wed., occasionally closed for maintenance, and around New Year
Entry: Adult: ¥800, junior high school & high school student: ¥300, elementary school student: ¥100

Access
Karasuma and Tozai subway line, Karasuma Oike Sta.
What makes your travel experience even more special is to “experience” new things. To learn about Japan more deeply and come across some new interests, why not discover and experience as much as you can while you are in Kyoto?

**Kiyomizu Ceramic Glazing**
This style of pottery glazing and design was developed in the Kiyomizu area. Its excellent designs and various techniques are famous throughout the world.

**Yuzen Dyeing**
A colorful design and dyeing process inspired by seasonal and natural motifs, yuzen dyeing plays an important role in traditional kimono and obi production.

**Nishijin Brocade**
This gorgeous silk fabric weaving process, developed in Kyoto’s Nishijin weaving district, is known for its delicate patterns.

**Japanese Sweet Making**
Japanese sweets made in Kyoto are particularly delicate. They have been developed with tea ceremony culture and detailed appearances reflect beauty of Japanese season and tradition.

**Cloisonne**
Mainly used for accessories, cloisonne is a special decoration process whereby metal surfaces are patterned with enamel glazes.

**Zazen (Zen Meditation)**
Kyoto is one of the world’s leading centers for Zen meditation practice. The city has many important temples and monasteries.

**Kimono Dressing**
Many places offer rental service and dress-up experience of valuable art kimono, casual yukata and even gorgeous juni hitoe in Kyoto.

**Cultural Experience**
A variety of form of Japanese culture have nurtured in the long history. One of the places to experience Kyoto’s unique cultures is a machiya townhouse.

**Kiyomizu Ceramic Glazing**

*Kotobuki Toushun*
Located within the Kiyomizu-yaki pottery complex, Kotobuki Toushun is a well-known place for the study of the Kiyomizu-yaki tradition. The facility offers visitors a chance to see how this kind of pottery is made, as well as experience the design process themselves.

Add: 7-2 Kawata, Kiyomizu-yaki Danchi, Yamashina-ku  Tel: 075-581-7195
Reservations: required for groups
Open: 9:00-17:00, closed on Sundays, and holidays Dec.-Feb.

**Tea Ceremony**

*Fukujuen Kyoto Flagship Store*
Established in 1790, Fukujuen is one of the most prestigious Uji green tea shops in Kyoto. On the 4th floor, “Kyo-no-chaan,” visitors can experience the traditional Japanese tea ceremony both in a classical tea ceremony room and table-style. Original tea utensils are also available for purchase on the 5th floor, “Kyo-no-chagu.”

Add: 457 Tsuboya-cho, Ogawa-dori, Oike sagaru, Nakagyo-ku  Tel: 075-211-3273
Reservations: required for groups
Open: 9:00-17:00, closed during the New Year holidays

**Yuzen Dyeing**

*Marumasu Nishimura-ya*
For more than 90 years, this family-run yuzen (stencil) studio has been producing fine Kyoto textiles. Visitors can gain hands-on experience making their own handkerchiefs, table runners T-shirts and more.

Add: 457 Tsuboya-cho, Ogawa-dori, Oike sagaru, Nakagyo-ku  Tel: 075-211-3273
Reservations: required for groups
Open: 9:00-17:00, closed during the New Year holidays
**Kyo Braided Cord**

**Adachi Kumihimo Gallery**

This unique facility has a library of books and reference materials on Japanese cord braiding. One-day courses in cord braiding (sash bands and hair accessories) are offered. Large groups wishing to study will be accommodated at any time.

Address: Demizu-dori, Karasuma-nishi-iru, Kamigyo-ku
Tel: 075-432-4113
Reservations: required
Open: 9:00-16:00 (except during lunch), closed on weekends and holidays

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**Kobori Kyo Buddhist Altar Fittings Kobo**

This studio features a library and gallery devoted to Kyoto Buddhist altar fittings, and exhibits on traditional altar manufacturing processes, tools and materials.

Address: 88 Nishinoya-dodo-cho, Yamashina-ku
Tel: 075-341-4121
Reservations: required
Open: 10:00-16:00 (except lunch time), closed on Mondays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.
Accompanied by an interpreter is necessary. The visit will take 90-120 min. (with interpretation).

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**Japanese Sweet Making**

**Kanshundo Main Shop**

Visitors can try their hand at making Japanese sweets. Their experienced staffs will teach you slowly and gently. The sweet and green tea will be served after the experience.

Venue: 1) Higashiyama (Tel: 075-561-1318), 2) Sagano in Arashiyama (Tel: 075-861-5488)
Fee: ¥2,000
Reservations: required; accepted from groups of 2 or more.

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**Zazen (Zen Meditation)**

**Daisen-in Temple in Daitokuji Temple Complex**

Daisen-in Temple is one of the sub-temples of Daitokuji Temple complex. The gardens are designated as Japan’s historic sites and special scenic beauty spots. The Shoin garden is one of the best examples of dry landscape garden from the Muromachi period. A waterfall running from the mountain and dynamic water flow to the ocean are represented by white sand. Zazen meditation is available in the evening of Saturdays and Sundays (reservations required).

Address: 54-1 Murasakino Daitokuji-cho, Kita-ku
Tel: 075-491-8346
Fee: ¥1,000 (zazen meditation: ¥400)
Open: Mar.-Nov. 9:00-17:00 (zazen meditation: 17:00-18:00 on Sat. & Sun.), Dec.-Feb. 9:00-16:30 (zazen meditation: 16:30-17:30 on Sat. & Sun.)

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**Zazen (Zen Meditation)**

**Taizo-in Temple in Myoshinji Temple Complex**

Taizo-in Temple offers several special Japanese cultural programs for foreign visitors such as zazen meditation and calligraphy. Shojin Zen vegetarian cuisine and garden tour are also available (content depends on each plan; reservations required). Join one of these plans and make your visit to Kyoto unforgettable.

Address: 35 Hanazono Myoshinji-cho, Ukyo-ku
Tel: 075-463-2855
Reservations: required per plan
Time required and fee: depending on the plan; enquire directly

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**Yuzen Dyeing**

**Fureai-kan (Kyoto Museum of Traditional Crafts)**

Situated on the basement of the Miyako Messe, the Fureai-kan was set up as a preservation and display center for all of Kyoto's remaining 73 living craft traditions.

Address: B1F Kyoto Kangyokan Hall (Miyako Messe), 9-1 Okazaki, Seishoji-cho, Sakyo-ku
Tel: 075-762-2670
Open: 9:00-17:00 (closed on Aug. 20, 21 and during the New Year holidays)

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**Kyospho**
**Cultural Experience**

**Tonday**

Visitors can experience traditional life culture of in Nishin, Kyoto in a classical machiya townhouse. The house itself is a valuable cultural asset which tells people Kyoto's history and culture that people have succeeded for many generations. In Kyoto, everyday life is a form of art and culture. Tonday offers this special experience for anyone visitors.

**Add.:** Omiya-dori Ichiago-agaru, Kamigyo-ku
**Tel.:** 075-255-1028 **Reservations:** required
**Open:** 9:30-18:30 **Fee:** from ¥3,500 (depend on the plan)
**Access:** City bus, get off at Imadegawa Omiya (#201 from Shijo Kawaramachi)

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**Kimono Dressing**

**Heian Costume Experience Studio**

Visitors can try and experience authentic Heian-period costumes including gorgeous juni-hitoe reproduced as close to as real costumes from 1200 years ago. Wear juni-hitoe and feel noble like a true imperial family member and have their staffs take photos of you. Visitors can go outside with the costume and enjoy exploring the Imperial palace garden. Only two groups a day (in the morning and afternoon) are accepted, so people can fully enjoy special experience.

**Add.:** Nijo-dori Takakura-nishi-ru, Nagako-ku
**Tel.:** 075-255-1028 **Reservations:** required
**Open:** 9:30 and 13:30 (limited 2 groups a day; 8 people maximum in one group) **Fee:** from ¥10,000/person (depend on the plan)
**Access:** Karasuma subway line, Karasuma Oike Sta.

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**Cultural Experience**

**WAK JAPAN "Waku Waku Kan"**

At traditional Machiya house in the city center, you can experience various kinds of Japanese Culture. We have tea ceremony, flower arrangement, Koto playing, Kimono wearing, calligraphy, home cooking, Origami, Sake tasting, Taiko playing, martial arts and more. We also offer exclusive home-visit programs which include transfer between your hotel and the private home.

**Add.:** 761 Takakura-dori Nijo-agaru, Nagako-ku
**Tel.:** 075-212-9993 **Reservations:** required
**Open:** 9:30-18:30 **Fee:** from ¥3,500 (depend on the plan)
**Access:** Karasuma subway line, Karasuma Oike Sta.

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**Kimono Dressing**

**International Friendship KYOGOKORO**

Visitors can try traditional Japanese kimono costume. Feel free to enjoy exploring Kyoto in kimono as their staff will deliver the baggage to accommodation. On-site kimono dressing service is also available (depending on the plan). Strolling in Kyoto in kimono will be an unforgettable experience.

**Add.:** 457-2 Tsuhaya-cho, Ogawa-dori Oike-sagaru, Nagako-ku
**Tel.:** 075-211-803 **Reservations:** required (by phone or E-mail info@kyo-gokoro.com)
**Open:** 10:00-17:00 (closed on Sun.) **Fee:** ¥3,500, ¥4,500, ¥5,000 (enquire directly for details)
**Access:** Tozai subway line, Nijo-jo Sta.
Kyoto Area Walking Courses

Historical, traditional Kyoto is home to thousands of temples and shrines, countless living, cultural traditions, fascinating architecture and abundant greenery. Blessed with four distinct seasons, Kyoto is special all year round. Encounter a world of wonderful people and traditional living, explore Kyoto.

Kyoto Station Area Walking Course
Toji—Umekoji Park—Nishi Honganji Temple—Higashi Honganji Temple—Shoseien Garden—Kyoto Station Building

**Highlights**

- Walking north on Omiyadori from Toji Temple, one reaches the green expanse of wonderfully landscaped Umekoji Park. In the park, in addition to the Umekoji Steam Locomotive Museum, there is a fine restaurant overlooking a pond. From here, the walk continues to Nishi Honganji Temple and Higashi Honganji Temple, both major sites of historical and cultural interest. The last spot on the walk is Kyoto Station, a modern edifice full of shopping and relaxation options.

Kiyomizu-dera Temple Area Walking Course

**Highlights**

- This walk starts at the amazing Kiyomizu-dera Temple complex. From the temple walk down a descending series of narrow laneways full of pottery shops, cafes and restaurants. The path then leads into the Maruyama Park, and on to the large compounds of Chion-in Temple and Shoren-in Temple, full of treasures and

Nanzenji Temple Area Walking Course
Nanzenji Temple—Eikan-do Temple—Tetsugakunomichi (Path of Philosophy)—Ginkakuji Temple (Silver Pavilion)

**Highlights**

- This walk starts from the main gate of Nanzenji Temple. A little further up the road lies Eikan-do Temple, famous for its autumn leaves. From Eikan-do, follow the world-famous two-kilometer Path of Philosophy up to Ginkakuji Temple, one of Kyoto's most popular attractions.

Ohara Kurama Hiking Course
Ohara—Jakkoin Temple—Ebuni Pass—Shizuhara—Yakkoza—Kurama

**Highlights**

- This walk begins on the west side of the historical village of Ohara. From the serene silence of Jakko-in Temple, enter the mountains, passing in front of Ebuni Shrine, and walk over the Ebuni Ridge to the village of Shizuhara. From here the path leads over another ridge to the old village of Kurama where visitors can relax in an outdoor hot spa, shop for vegetable pickle delicacies or simply marvel at the greenery and fresh air.
Kinkakuji Temple Area Walking Course
Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)—Ryoanji Temple—Ninnaji Temple—Myoshinji Temple

Kinkakuji Temple – (20 min.) – Ryoanji Temple – (15 min.) – Ninnaji Temple – (10 min.) – Myoshinji Temple

**Highlights**
This course follows the historical Kinukake-no-michi road, starting from the world-famous precincts of the Golden Pavilion. Bordered with red Japanese pines, the path leads to the much photographed Zen stone and raked gravel garden at Ryoanji Temple. Following the base of the forested hills, the path leads on to Ninnaji Temple, popular in spring for its late-blooming cherry trees. The final stop is the giant Zen compound of Myoshinji Temple, which contains 47 smaller sub-temples.

Fushimi Inari Shrine Area Walking Course
Senjuyuji Temple—Tofukuji Temple—Ohashi-ke Family Garden—Fushimi Inari Shrine

Senjuyuji Temple – (15 min.) – Tofukuji Temple – (15 min.) – Ohashi-ke Family Garden – (2 min.) – Fushimi Inari Shrine

**Highlights**
This course begins at Tofukuji Temple, which has two fine gardens and several massive ancient wooden structures, and leads up to the secluded stillness of Senjuyuji Temple. From here the visitor passes by the Ohashi Family Garden, built by one of Japan’s leading modern gardeners, to the mysterious and extensive Fushimi Inari Shrine complex, with its countless orange torii gates and upwardly wending mountain paths.

Arashiyama-Sagano Area Walking Course


**Highlights**
This route begins at the Togetsukyo Bridge, which looks out over the Oi River and the Arashiyama mountains in the background. From here strolls through a finely preserved area to the northern gate of the fantastic Tenryuji Temple compound, with its impressive gardens. After this the path goes on past a number of humble cottages, stone Buddhas, interesting temples and shrines, ending finally at Daikakuji Temple. Some people may prefer to do this route by bicycle (which can be rented just north of the Togetsukyo Bridge).

Yasaka Jinja Shrine, Gion Area Night Walking Course
Pontocho—Gion/Shinbashi—Yasaka Jinja Shrine—Gion Corner

Pontocho – (15 min.) – Gion/Shinbashi – (10 min.) – Yasaka Jinja Shrine – (15 min.) – Gion Corner

**Highlights**
This route leads along the narrow Pontocho laneway, with its old wooden-fronted restaurants and tea houses, and then across the river on Shijo to the Gion/Shinbashi area. This walk is especially recommended in the evening, when one will most likely see several women in kimono and perhaps even a geisha hurrying by. The path continues to Yasaka Shrine, and then on to Gion Corner, where visitors can experience a number of different traditional art performances.