

Kyoto Imperial Palace



Shishinden (Hall for State Ceremonies)

The Kyoto Imperial Palace had been used as the residence of emperors for more than 500 years since 1331 until the capital moved to Tokyo in 1869. The architectural styles of the ancient palace are revived in the main buildings such as

the Shishinden, the Seiryoden, and the Kogosho.

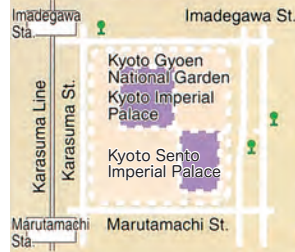
Enquiries: Kyoto Office
TEL. 075-211-1215

Kyoto Sento Imperial Palace

(Application is necessary, Admission free)



Kitaike (North Pond)



This Palace was built as the residence of the Emperor Emeritus Gomizuno-o in the mid-seventeenth century. The palace building was burnt down by fire in 1854 and has never been rebuilt. Today its elegant landscape garden and the teahouses remain.
(Duration of the tour is approximately 60 minutes)

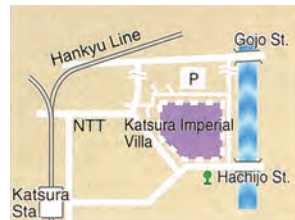
Enquiries: Kyoto Office
TEL. 075-211-1215

Katsura Imperial Villa

(Application is necessary, Admission fee is charged)



Shoin (Palace)



This Imperial Villa was built in the seventeenth century by Prince Toshihito, the first generation of the Hachijō-no-miya Imperial family and its garden is renowned as a masterpiece of Japanese refined landscape garden.

(Duration of the tour is approximately 60 minutes)

Enquiries: Kyoto Office
TEL. 075-211-1215

Shugakuin Imperial Villa

(Application is necessary, Admission free)



Yokuryuchi (Pond in the Upper Villa)



Enquiries: Kyoto Office
TEL. 075-211-1215

This Imperial Villa was built for the Emperor Emeritus Gomizuno-o in the mid-seventeenth century. Consisting of Upper, Middle, and Lower Villas, it is renowned as a masterpiece for its landscape gardening method called "Shakkei" (borrowed landscapes) which incorporates the surrounding landscapes into the garden design.
(Duration of the tour is approximately 80 minutes)

Shosoin Repository (heritage viewing) (Admission free)

Enquiries: Office of the Shosoin Treasure-house
TEL. 0742-26-2811



Shosoin Repository

The *Shosoin* preserves many objects called the *Shosoin* Treasures. Some of them were dedicated to *Todaiji* as the remembrances of Emperor *Shomu* in the year 756. These treasures are valuable

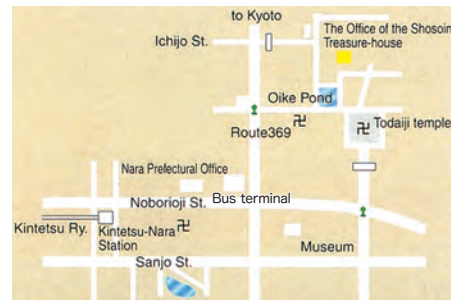
for the world since they are the 8th century cultural properties. The repository *Shoso*, which is sometimes called "*Azokura*", is also well-known throughout the world, which was designated as a World Heritage by UNESCO in 1998.

Open:

- From Monday to Friday 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Closed:

- Saturday, Sunday and National Holidays
- From December 28 to January 4
- For unavoidable circumstances due to Imperial Court functions and other occasions.



General Information on the Visits to the Imperial Palace in Tokyo and Kyoto

Imperial Palace (The tours conducted twice a day at 10:00am and at 1:30pm)	Kyoto Imperial Palace (Open all year round, registration is unnecessary)	Kyoto Sento Imperial Palace, Katsura Imperial Villa, Shugakuin Imperial Villa
Maximum capacity for application	No limits	4 people (per-application, per-place)
Requirements for visitors	No requirements	18 years or older (Katsura : 12 years or older) Applications must be submitted by the actual visitor
Days to visit	Every day except for the following: • Monday (Tuesday if a national holiday falls on a Monday)	Every day except for the following: • Monday (Tuesday if a national holiday falls on a Monday)
How to apply	Application can be made in either of the following ways from the first day of the month immediately preceding the month of the desired visit date. • Online application: (https://sankan.kunaicho.go.jp/english/index.html) • Conventional application: firstly, reserve the date by telephone and, secondly, bring the list of visitors directly to the office at least one day before the reserved visit date. (Sending the list via email at least 7 days beforehand can be acceptable, too.)	Walk-in registration Numbered admission tickets including a time slot will be handed out on a first come first served basis at each villa or palace. Advance application You may apply three months in advance from the first day of that month. • Online application: https://sankan.kunaicho.go.jp/english/index.html • Direct application: at Kyoto office of Imperial Household Agency Katsura: admission fee for an adult (18 years or older) 1,000 yen Junior High & High school students are admitted free of charge.
Contact desk	Imperial Palace Tour Office 03-5223-8071 8:45am-noon, 1:00pm-5:00pm (Only on days indicated above "Days to visit") The Imperial Household Agency Visiting Guide: https://sankan.kunaicho.go.jp/english/index.html	Kyoto office: Imperial Household Agency 075-211-1215 8:40am-5:00pm (Only on days indicated above "Days to visit") The Imperial Household Agency Visiting Guide: https://sankan.kunaicho.go.jp/english/index.html

Published by the Imperial Household Agency, April 2023
1-1, Chiyoda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8111, JAPAN
TEL:03-3213-1111
FAX:03-3213-1213

Guide to participate in Public Events at the Imperial Palace and to visit the Palace and other Establishments



- Visit of the General Public to the Palace for the New Year Greeting
- Visit of the General Public to the Palace for His Majesty's Birthday
- Ceremony of the Utakai Hajime (Imperial New Year 's Poetry Reading)
- Autumn Gagaku Recital
- The Imperial Palace
- The East Gardens of the Imperial Palace
- Sannomaru Shozokan (The Museum of the Imperial Collections)
- Kyoto Imperial Palace
- Kyoto Sento Imperial Palace
- Katsura Imperial Villa
- Shugakuin Imperial Villa
- Shosoin Repository (heritage viewing)

Imperial Household Agency Website
https://www.kunaicho.go.jp/eindex.html

Visit of the General Public to the Palace for the New Year Greeting for His Majesty's Birthday

Enquiries:General Affairs Division
TEL.03-3213-1111



At the Imperial Palace each year on January 2 and February 23, Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress receive the greetings from the people. Their Majesties appear with other adult members of the Imperial Family on the Imperial Palace balcony. On the occasion of

the Emperor's Birthday, the Greeting Book is open for the well-wishers from the afternoon in front of the Imperial Household Agency Building.

New Year Greeting

Date: January 2
Entrance: Main Gate (Nijubashi)
Exit: Sakashita-mon Gate, Kikyo-mon Gate, Ote-mon Gate, Inui-mon Gate.

His Majesty's Birthday

Date: February 23
Entrance: Main Gate (Nijubashi)
Exit: Sakashita-mon Gate, Kikyo-mon Gate, Ote-mon Gate, Hirakawa-mon Gate, Kitahanebashi-mon Gate.

Signing of the Greeting Book
Place: At the front of the Imperial Household Agency Building, the Imperial Palace.
Entrance: Sakashita-mon Gate
Exit: Kikyo-mon Gate, Ote-mon Gate, Hirakawa-mon Gate, Kitahanebashi-mon Gate.

For further details: Please refer to the Imperial Household Agency Website
<https://www.kunaicho.go.jp/e/index.html>

Submission of Poems for the Ceremony of the *Utakai Hajime* (Imperial New Year's Poetry Reading)

Enquiries:Board of the Ceremonies
TEL.03-3213-1111



Every year in January, on the day of the Ceremony of the *Utakai Hajime*, the theme for the following year's ceremony and details for submission of poems are announced.

-Submissions should be a previously unpublished *tanka* poem, based on the theme for the

year and are limited to one entry per person.

-In case of submissions from abroad, you may use any kind of paper (its size should be 24cm long and 33cm wide) and it is not necessary for you to use a writing brush.

-The period of submission for poems for the Ceremony of the *Utakai Hajime* is from the day the theme is announced until September 30.

Autumn *Gagaku* Recital (Application is necessary, Admission free)

Enquiries:Board of the Ceremonies
TEL.03-3213-1111



Kangen (wind and strings)



Bugaku (classical dance and Music)

Every year at the end of October or the beginning of November the Music Department of the Imperial Household holds a *Gagaku* recital. The dates, repertoire and details for applying for tickets to the recital are announced at the beginning of July.

*Tickets are limited to one per applicant and should the number of applications exceed ticket numbers, a lottery to decide ticket allocation will be drawn.

The Imperial Palace (Application is necessary, Admission free)

Enquiries:Imperial Palace Tour Office
TEL.03-5223-8071



Fujimi-yagura (Mt.Fuji-view Keep)



Kyuden Totei Plaza



Fushimi-yagura Keep

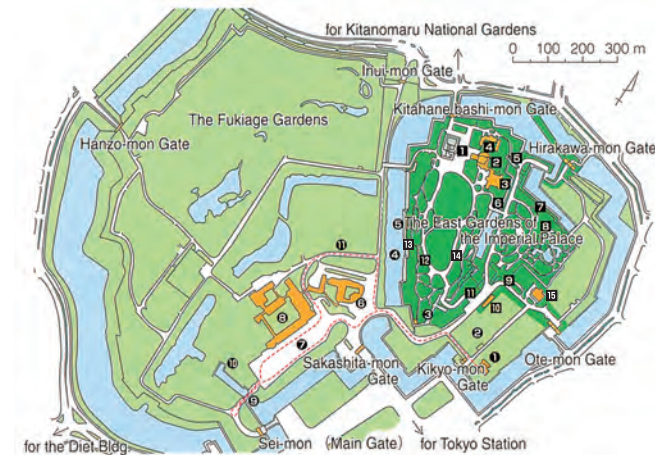


Yamashita-dori Street

After entering the Kikyo-mon Gate, you will be briefed on safety tips in the resthouse followed by the guided tour through the East Courtyard of the Imperial Palace, the Iron Bridge of the Main Gate (Nijubashi) and other view points.

Map of the Imperial Palace Grounds

(Tour course;) Tour takes approx. 75 mins.



Buildings can be seen during the tour

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| ① Someikan (Visitors' House) | ⑦ Kyuden Totei Plaza |
| ② The former Privy Council Bldg. | ⑧ Kyuden (The Imperial Palace) |
| ③ Fujimi-yagura (Mt.Fuji-view keep) | ⑨ Seimon-tetsu-bashi Bridge (Niju-bashi) |
| ④ Hasuikabori (Lotus Moat) | ⑩ Fushimi-yagura Keep |
| ⑤ Fujimi-tamon Defence House | ⑪ Yamashita-dori Street (The Imperial Household Agency Bldg.) |
| ⑥ Kunaicho Chosha | |

Buildings in the East Gardens

- | | |
|---|---|
| ① Tenshudai (Remains of the main tower) | ⑨ Doshin-bansho Guardhouse |
| ② Tokagakudo Concert Hall | ⑩ Hyakunin-bansho Guardhouse |
| ③ Gakubu Chosha (Music Department Bldg.) | ⑪ O-bansho Guardhouse |
| ④ Shoryobu Chosha (Archives and Mausolea Department Bldg.) | ⑫ Site of Matsuno-o-roka Corridor |
| ⑤ Bairin-zaka Slope | ⑬ Fujimi-tamon Defence House |
| ⑥ Shiomi-zaka Slope | ⑭ Scale Model of the Edo Castle Keep |
| ⑦ Prefectural Tree Emblems | ⑮ Sannomaru Shozokan (The Museum of the Imperial Collections) |
| ⑧ Suwano-chaya Tea House | |

The East Gardens of the Imperial Palace

Enquiries:Intendant's office
TEL.03-3213-1111
(Admission free)



The building of the garden adjacent to the Imperial Residence began in 1961 as a part of the construction of the Imperial Palace complex. The 210,000 square meters garden was completed in September 1968, and has been open to the public since October 1 of the same year, except when it is used for court function.

Open:

From March 1 to April 14 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. (entry up to 4:30 p.m.)
From April 15 to the end of August 9:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. (entry up to 5:30 p.m.)
From September 1 to the end of September 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. (entry up to 4:30 p.m.)
From October 1 to the end of October 9:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. (entry up to 4:00 p.m.)
From November 1 to the end of February 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. (entry up to 3:30 p.m.)

Closed:

The Garden is closed on the following days and occasions.
• Every Monday and Friday (open on National Holiday except the Emperor's Birthday, February 23)
• From December 28 to January 3
• Due to Imperial Court functions or other occasions.

Entrance and exit gates

Ote-mon Gate, Hirakawa-mon Gate and Kitahanebashi-mon Gate.

Sannomaru Shozokan (The Museum of the Imperial Collections)

Enquiries:Sannomaru Shozokan
TEL.03-3213-1111
(through September 30, 2023)



At the turn of the era from Showa to Heisei (1989), the collection of 6,000 art pieces owned by the Imperial Family was donated Japanese government. For the preservation and study of this collection, Sannomaru Shozokan (The Museum of the Imperial Collections) was established in 1993. The museum displays the collection widely to the public. The total now amounts to 9,800 pieces for including the articles left by the deceased Empress Kojun, Princess Chichibu, Princess Takamatsu, and donated by the Prince Mikasa Family.

- The Museum of the Imperial Collections is closed from December 13 (Mon.), 2021 through fall 2023 (estimated) for the new facility construction.
- The Museum of the Imperial Collections will be transferred to the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage in October 1, 2023.

※This is a rendering image of the entire building after it opens in 2026.