

Dining in Kyoto is an act of sublime indulgence. Kyoto cuisine is skillfully created for the palate and the aesthetic. It is in harmonious balance with the season and served on a selection of sumptuous Kyoto ceramics and lacquer ware. Treat yourself to the taste of Kyoryori and Kaiseki meals in historical buildings and authentic settings. Kyoto also boasts excellent Western and Asian restaurants to provide a world of tempting choices.



Kyoryori - designed for gourmets

Encounters of the historical and the groundbreaking ...

Take a stroll through the intimate streets of contemporary Kyoto. Let it envelop you in refined elegance as it reveals to you how carefully it treasures its past.

Spare a moment to seek out and make an acquaintance with a corner Kyoto that will be special to you long beyond your journey to the heart of Japan.

Delicate appreciation



Tea Ceremony - a journey for the soul

Kyoto has long been the cultural heart of Japan. The finest talent have been gathering in Kyoto for more than a thousand years to create and develop the high culture that symbolizes the country. Make a stronger connection with the city as you relax in the sensuous tea ceremony, find self-expression in the way of flowers and reach deep understanding through involvement in fine arts on offer.

Share your experiences and memories back at home in conversations and through valuable Kyoto souvenirs. Browsing opportunities in traditional settings abound. Take a piece of the spirit of Kyoto with you in products perfected by artisans over a millennium; Kiyomizu ceramics, hand-dyed Yuzen fabrics, Nishijin wovens geisha accessories, folding fans, Fushimi sake, are just a sample of recommendations.



Folding fans - Kyoto accessories



One-thousand-and-one Kannon in Sanjusangendo Hall

Kyoto - the panorama

History and Culture

- ✿ 2000 Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines
- ✿ 17 UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites
- ✿ 110 museums and galleries
- ✿ Japanese garden capital
- ✿ Origin of tea ceremony, noh theatre, fine arts
- ✿ Home to Imperial Palace and a host of castles

Creature Comforts

- ✿ Safe city where visitors enjoy a carefree stay
- ✿ Abundance of fine dining in Japanese and international restaurants
- ✿ Accommodation ranges world-class luxury hotels, basic business-style lodgings and atmospheric Japanese inns

Reasonable

- ✿ Despite the reports by Marco Polo about the roofs being clad in gold, Kyoto is in fact a low-cost city that is sensitive to your budget
- ✿ Expenses are less than Tokyo and other major world cities
- ✿ No tipping necessary
- ✿ Special hotel discounts and transport passes for convention participants

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City of Auspicious Meetings

京都



Noh Men - Mask used in Noh Theatre

Smiling or frowning? The expression on this noh mask depends on the angle that you look at it. Each mask is carved to show a range of emotions.

Noh theatre is a UNESCO Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity



Fushimi Inari - Torii Gates



Verdurous bamboo

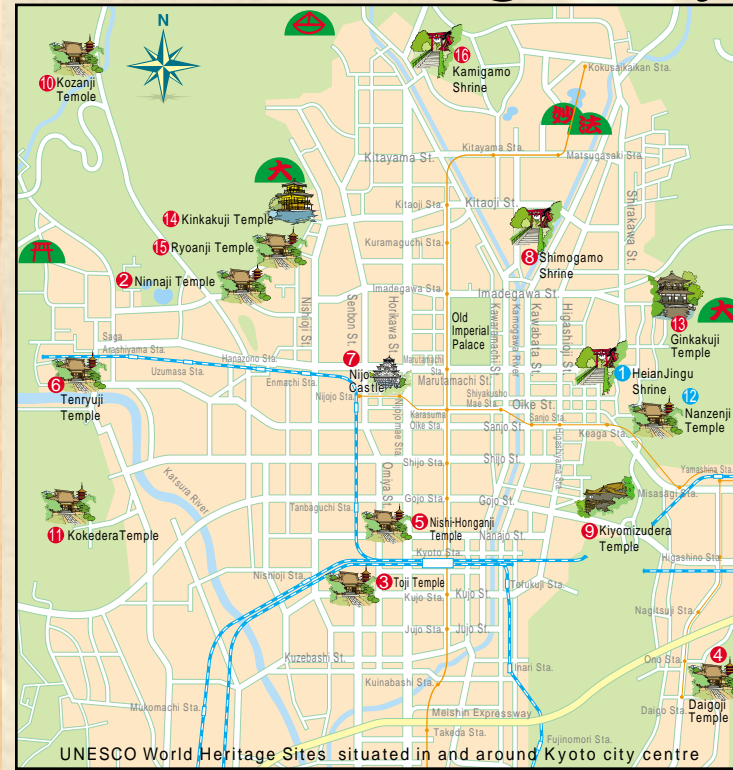
Surrounded by mountains and crisscrossed by life-giving rivers; Kyoto is a city living in harmony with nature. Kyoto revels in the changing of the seasons. Encounter the delicate spring cherry blossoms, verdurous summer, vivid autumn maple foliage or the light mantle of snow dusting the ancient arching roof line in winter. Whenever you come you will have an experience that is truly unique, truly Kyoto.

Kyoto presents its colour in the countless festivals throughout the year. Soak up the ambience as your exploration of the historic streets reveals modern vigour flowing from a great past. Look out for lanterns, street markets, flags, banners, noise and energy that signal a site of festivities in progress in the streets and temple precincts. Famed grand Kyoto celebrations: Aoi Festival, Gion Festival and Festival of the Ages.



Glorious Gion Festival

World Heritage City



Nowhere else is there a cityscape as rich as Kyoto. An impressive number of temples, shrines and palaces are designated as UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites. These are surrounded by thousands more delights quietly awaiting you, all within a compact city centre.

UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site



1 Heianjingu Shrine



2 Ninnaji Temple



3 Toji Temple



4 Daigoji Temple



5 Nishi Honganji Temple



6 Tenryuji Temple



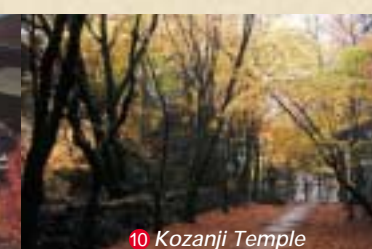
7 Nijo Castle



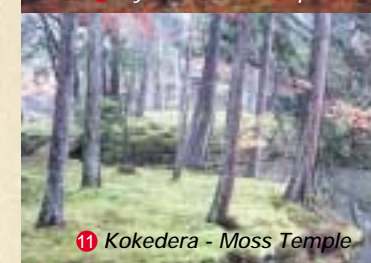
8 Shimogamo Shrine



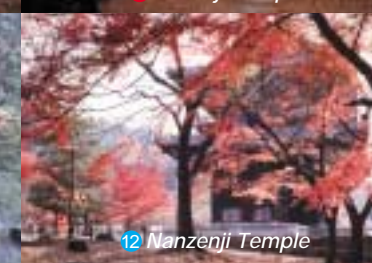
9 Kiyomizudera Temple



10 Kozanji Temple



11 Kokedera - Moss Temple



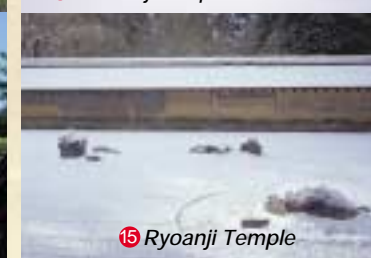
12 Nanzenji Temple



13 Ginkakuji Temple - Silver Pavilion



14 Kinkakuji Temple - Golden Pavilion



15 Ryoanji Temple



16 Kamigamo Shrine

Navigating Kyoto in English

The city of Kyoto is laid out in a compact grid system. Kyoto city streets and excellent transport network follow the same north-south, east-west pattern.

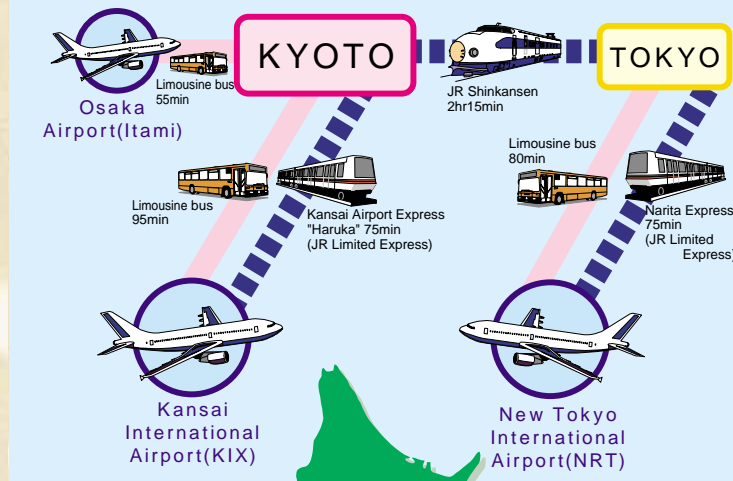
Moreover, popular sights are conveniently clustered in districts meaning that first-time visitors can navigate the city enjoyably and confidently.

Signs are written in Japanese, English and other languages, while the bus and subway systems conveniently announce station names and other useful information in English.

Public Transportation

The bright, spotless and comfortable city subway system offers convention delegates an efficient, relaxing and reasonable means to travel around Kyoto. Hotels, conference facilities and sightseeing spots are located along the subway lines.

In addition, the extensive bus network makes it effortless to traverse the city.



Smooth connections - Kyoto Shinkansen, rail, subway and bus station



Easy International Access

Kyoto is conveniently accessible via the Kansai International Airport (KIX). Direct flights from international cities and major hubs in Europe, North America and Asia land at KIX.

Smooth Connections

After your flight, let the luxury express train JR Haruka whisk you to Japan's ancient capital in a little over an hour. Otherwise, relax in the comfort of a limousine bus to reach Kyoto in around 100 minutes. A low cost door-to-door service by shuttle taxi is also available between your hotel and the airport.

Welcome to Kyoto!

A city steeped in serene mists of Japanese history and enthusiastically embracing the excitement of modern society. The dynamic city of Kyoto reigned as the capital of Japan for over 1000 years and its influence on the nation remains powerful to the present.

Experience the essence of Japan in the bustling streets, peaceful temple grounds, gentle people and deep-rooted traditions of Kyoto.

More than a millennium as the centre of governance, culture and academia



Thunderous taiko drumming

In Kyoto, hospitality is an art form and entertainment options are endless. Let the ancient power of Kyoto touch you through the variety of performing arts. Be awed at intense Noh theatre, courtly Gagaku, elegant Kyomai, thunderous taiko and the plethora of visual delights that were born and refined in Kyoto. Catch a rare glimpse of a kimono-clad geisha, the epitome of long-developed Kyoto cordiality.