

Kyoto Imperial Palace



Shishinden

From the time when Emperor Kanmu moved the nation's capital to Kyoto in 794 until 1868, the Imperial Family were resident in Kyoto more than 1,000 years. The Kyoto Imperial Palace

was reconstructed faithfully in ancient style. The last rebuilding of the Palace was completed in 1855.

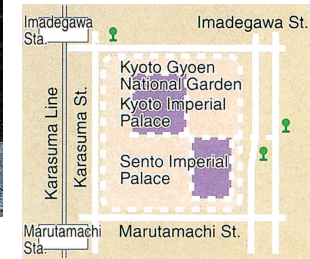
With the *Shishinden* (Ceremonial Hall) as the main building, the *Seiryoden*, the *Kogosho*, and several other structures are located here. (Duration of the tour is approximately 60 minutes)

Sento Imperial Palace

(Application is necessary, Admission free)



Suhama Seashore



Work was begun on this Palace at the time Emperor Gomizuno-o abdicated the throne in the seventeenth century. The latest Palace was lost to fire in the mid-nineteenth century, and today only the gardens and the teahouses remain.

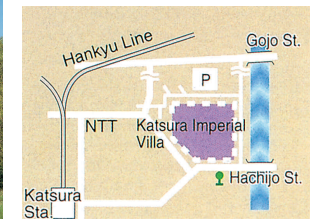
(Duration of the tour is approximately 60 minutes)

Katsura Imperial Villa

(Application is necessary, Admission fee is charged)



Goten



This Imperial Villa was built in the seventeenth century by Prince Toshihito, the first generation of the Princes of Hachijo and its garden is renowned as the best in Japan.

(Duration of the tour is approximately 60 minutes)

Enquiries: Kyoto Office
TEL. 075-211-1215

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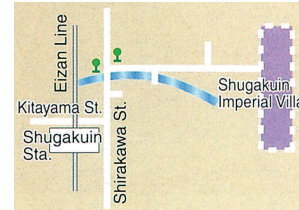
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Shugakuin Imperial Villa

(Application is necessary, Admission free)



The upper villa of the Shugakuin Imperial Villa



Enquiries: Kyoto Office
TEL. 075-211-1215

This Imperial Villa was built for the retired Emperor Gomizuno-o in the mid-seventeenth century, and has one of Japan's most famous gardens, making use of the surrounding landscape in the design. It consists of upper, middle and lower villas.

(Duration of the tour is approximately 80 minutes)

Shosoin Repository (heritage viewing) (Admission free)



Shosoin Repository

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

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

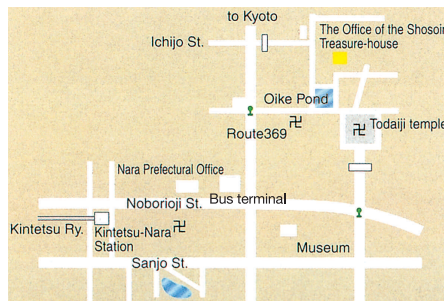
for the world since they are the 8th century cultural properties. The repository *Shoso*, which is sometimes called "*Azekura*", is also well-known throughout the world, which was designated as a World Heritage by UNESCO in 1998.

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) | 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 (On Tuesday if a national holiday falls on a Monday) • Year-end holidays (December 28-January 4) and days when certain events are taking place. | 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 registration You may apply three months in advance from the first day of that month. • Online registration : http://sankan.kunaicho.go.jp/english/index.html • Direct registration : at Kyoto office of Imperial Household Agency Katsura : admission fee for an adult (18 years old and above) 1,000 yen Junior High & High school students are admitted free of charge. |
| How to apply | • Opening hours April-August 9:00am-5:00pm (Last admission 4:20pm) September and March 9:00am-4:30pm (Last admission 3:50pm) October-February 9:00am-4:00pm (Last admission 3:20pm) • Entrance Saishomon Gate • Free guided tours (in Japanese, English and Chinese) are available. | • Online application: (http://sankan.kunaicho.go.jp/english/index.html) • Conventional application: firstly, reserve the date by telephone and, secondly, bring the list or 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.) |
| 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: http://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") |

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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
- Sento Imperial Palace
- Katsura Imperial Villa
- Shugakuin Imperial Villa
- Shosoin Repository (heritage viewing)

Imperial Household Agency Website
<http://www.kunaicho.go.jp/eindex.html>