

Asuka, Yamato

Entrance to *Ishibutai kofun* at Asuka

Asuka () was an [ancient](#) Imperial [capital of Japan](#) during the 6th and 7th centuries. It was in [Yamato Province](#), which is present-day [Nara Prefecture](#).
[1]

Imperial Palaces

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Layout of Oharida Palace

When Asuka was Japan's capital, new palaces were constructed for each new monarch. Sometimes Imperial palaces were abandoned because of fires or bad omens.

According to tradition, Asuka was the site of Chikatsu-Asuka-Yatsuri Palace during the reign of [Emperor Kenzo](#)^[2]

Imperial capitals in Asuka in 593-640 were:

- Toyura Palace (*Toyura-no-miya*), 593-603^[3]
- Oharida Palace (*Oharida-no-miya*), 603-629^[3]
- Okamoto Palace (*Okamoto-no-miya*), 630-636^[3]
- Tanaka Palace (*Tanaka-no-miya*), 636-639^[3]
- Umayasaka Palace (*Umayasaka-no-miya*), 640^[3]

In 640-642, the court briefly moved to [Kōryō](#) and the Kudara Palace (*Kudara-no-miya*); then the court returned to Asuka at the Itabuki Palace (*Itabuki no miya*), 643-645^[3]

In 645-654, the emperor and the government moved to an area within the current city limits of [Osaka](#). This was the Naniwa-Nagara no Toyosaki Palace (*Naniwa-Nagara no Toyosaki-no-miya*).^[4]

In Asuka, the Imperial capitals in 655-660 were:

- Itabuki Palace, 655-655^[3]
- Kawahara Palace (*Kawahara-no-miya*), 655-655^[3]
- Later Okamoto Palace (*Nochi no Asuka-Okamoto-no-miya*), 656-660^[3]

In 660-661, the court removed to [Asakura](#) in [Fukuoka Prefecture](#) at the Asakura no Tachibana no Hironiwa Palace (*Asakura no Tachibana no Hironiwa-no-miya*).^[3]

In 667-672, the emperor moved to the Ōmi Ōtsu Palace (*Ōmi Ōtsu-no-miya*) in Ōmi-kyō which is today called [Ōtsu](#) in [Shiga Prefecture](#).^[5]

In Asuka, the Imperial capitals in 672-694 were:

- Shima Palace, 672
- Okamoto Palace, 672
- Kiyomihara Palace (*Kiomihara-no-miya*), 672–694^[3]

Asuka was abandoned when [Empress Jitō](#) moved the court and the capital to [Fujiwara-kyō](#).^[6]

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- [Capital of Japan](#)

References

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- ↑ Nussbaum, Louis-Frédéric. (2002). "Asuka" in *Japan Encyclopedia*, p. 59.
- ↑ Koch, W. (1904). *Japan; Geschichte nach japanischen Quellen und ethnographische Skizzen. Mit einem Stammbaum des Kaisers von Japan*, p. 13.
- ↑ [3.00](#) [3.01](#) [3.02](#) [3.03](#) [3.04](#) [3.05](#) [3.06](#) [3.07](#) [3.08](#) [3.09](#) [3.10](#) Asuka Historical Museum, *[Palaces of the Asuka Period](#)*, 1995; retrieved 2011-11-25.
- ↑ _____ (Naniwa Revialization Project),^[*permanent dead link*] August 24, 201; retrieved 2011-11-24.
- ↑ Nussbaum, "Ōtsu mo Miya" at p. 216.
- ↑ Nussbaum, "Fujiwara" at pp. 200-201.

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