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1. Geographical location

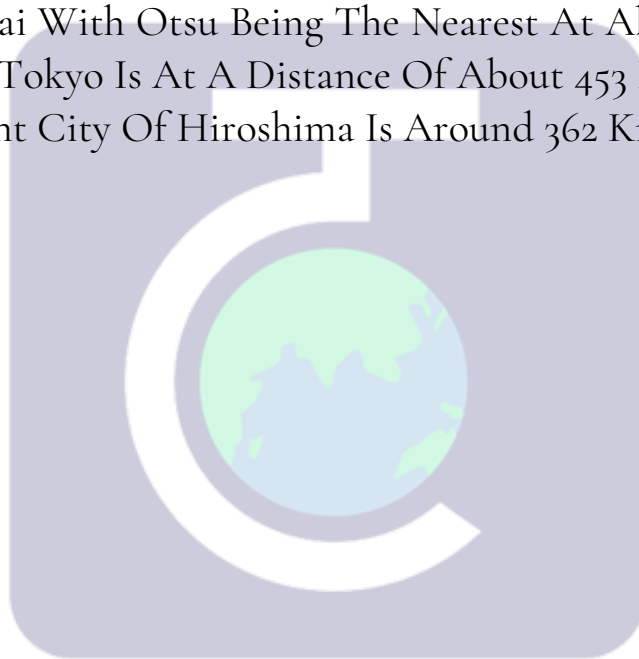
Kyoto is located in the Yamashiro Basin and is at the eastern side of the mountainous region called the Tamba Highlands. The city is surrounded by the Higashiyama, Kitayama, and Nishiyama mountains on three sides. All the mountains are at an elevation of just above 1000 m above sea level and the average altitude of the Kyoto city is 55 m. The city slopes from north to south. The capital city of the Kyoto Prefecture covers an area of 827.83 square kilometers. Situated in a valley at an interior basin, the city is prone to extremes in climate with hot summers and cold winters.



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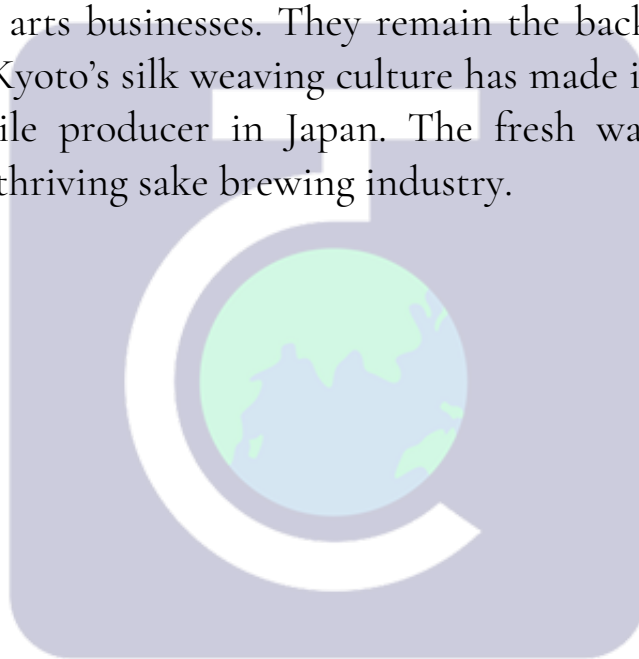
2. Neighbouring cities/countries

Being A Historically Important City And A Popular Tourist Destination, Kyoto Is Well Connected To The Main Cities And Town In Japan Through An Excellent Network Of Roads And Railway Systems. The Nearby Cities Include Osaka And Kobe At A Distance Of 44 Km And 64 Km Respectively. The Other Cities In The Kansai Region In Which Kyoto Is Situated Are Tsu, Wakayama, Nara, Otsu, And Sakai With Otsu Being The Nearest At About 10 Km Distance. The Capital City Of Tokyo Is At A Distance Of About 453 Km From Kyoto. The Historically Important City Of Hiroshima Is Around 362 Km Away.



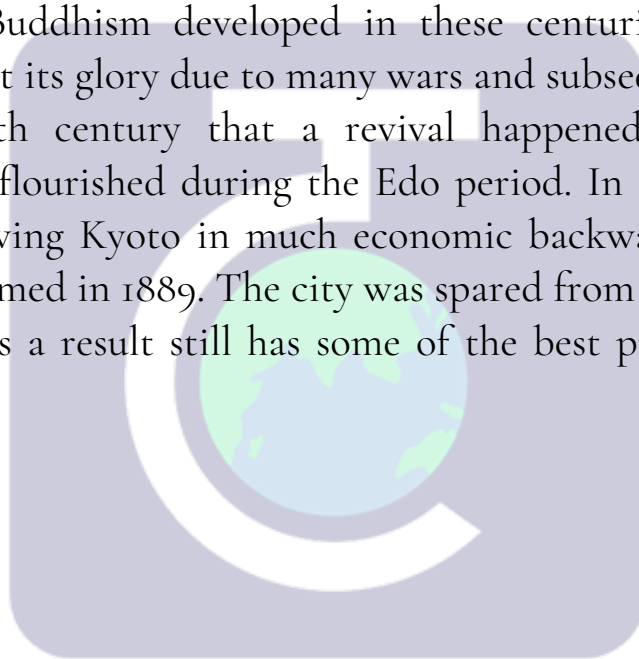
3. Significance

Once renowned as the imperial capital of the rulers of Japan, Kyoto still retains its historical and cultural significance in the country. The city layout is in the grid pattern of streets as it was in the past. The population includes a large number of foreign communities including Koreans, Chinese, and Americans. The city has been home to many small and large industries, many of them family-owned traditional craft and arts businesses. They remain the backbone of the tourism industry in the city. Kyoto's silk weaving culture has made it the most important fabric and fine textile producer in Japan. The fresh water supply has been instrumental for the thriving sake brewing industry.



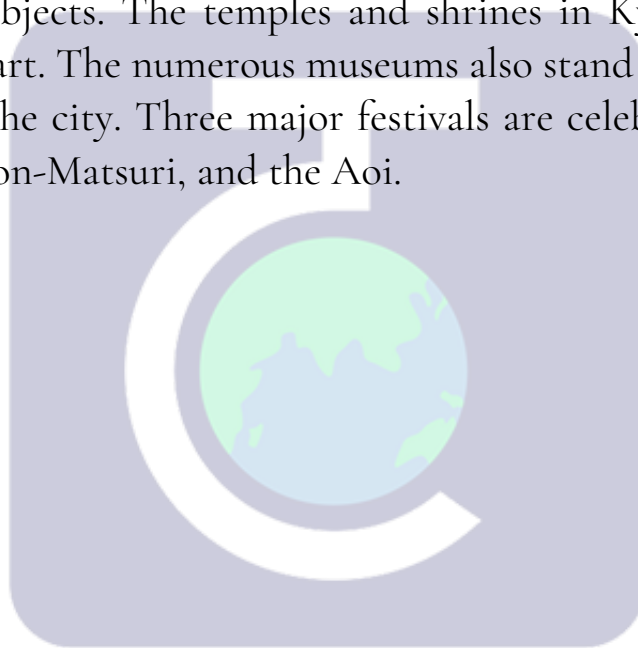
4. History

The history of Kyoto as an imperial capital begins from 794 AD. The earlier settlements were the Korean immigrants. The Fujiwara family of the Heian Period established itself as the strongest rulers of the region. It was when Buddhism, Taoism, poetry, and literature reached its peak. The Fujiwara family was followed by the Minamoto in the 12th century, and Muromachi period in the 14th century. Zen Buddhism developed in these centuries from the region. However, the city lost its glory due to many wars and subsequent destructions. It was around mid-16th century that a revival happened through Toyotomi Hideyoshi. The city flourished during the Edo period. In 1869, the capital was moved to Tokyo leaving Kyoto in much economic backwardness. The modern city of Kyoto was formed in 1889. The city was spared from the bombings during World War II and as a result still has some of the best pre-war buildings and structures.



Index**5. Cultural identity**

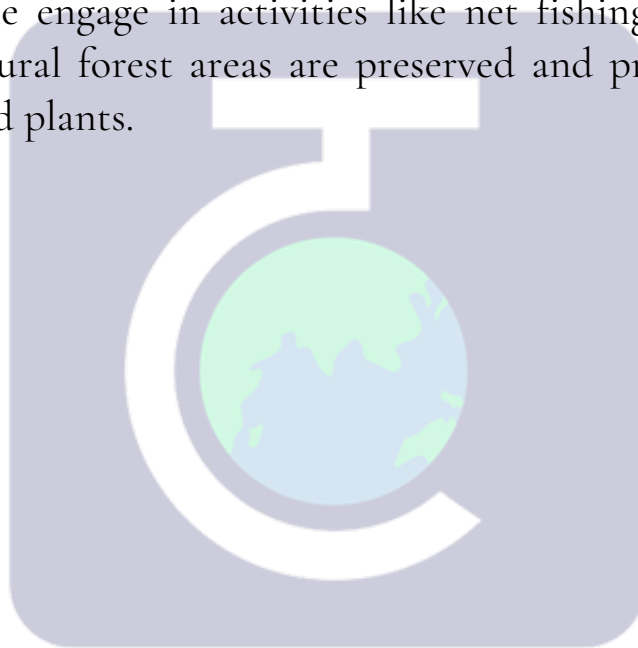
Kyoto still preserves the Japanese spirit of the imperial period during which it was the capital for a thousand years. Traditional art forms like tea ceremony and flower arrangement are still taught in institutions. Theatrical arts, traditional dances, calligraphy, painting, sculpture, and architecture of the past are well maintained throughout the city. Kyoto has a large share of national treasures and important cultural objects. The temples and shrines in Kyoto are examples of traditional works of art. The numerous museums also stand testimony to the rich and vibrant past of the city. Three major festivals are celebrated in Kyoto - the Jidai-matsuri, the Gion-Matsuri, and the Aoi.



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6. Natural resources

The seventh largest city in Japan, Kyoto is situated on a natural water table that provides freshwater to the wells in the city. Located far away from the sea in a valley, the soil is suitable for growing vegetables peculiar to the area. The Kyoto prefecture has a fair share of mountains and hills and people live in harmony with nature without upsetting its balance. Fishing is one of the traditional industries and people engage in activities like net fishing, cage fishing, spear fishing, etc. The natural forest areas are preserved and protected with a large variety of animals and plants.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)**7.1. Paid****7.1.1. Kinkaku-ji**

Address : 1 Kinkakujicho, Kita Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 603-8361, Japan

Zipcode : 603-8361

Location : 35.03937, 135.72924309999996

Contact : +81 75-461-0013

Website : http://www.shokoku-ji.jp/k_access.html

Nearest Public Transport : Kitanohakubaicho Station – Train Station (NR)

Entry Fee : Adult – 400 yen Junior High School & Elementary Students – 300 yen

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.2. Kiyomizu-dera

Address : 294 Kiyomizu 1-chome, Higashiyama Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 605-0862, Japan

Zipcode : 605-0862

Location : 34.9948561, 135.78504629999998

Contact : +81 75-551-1234

Website : <http://www.kiyomizudera.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Misasagi Station – Train Station (NR)

Entry Fee : 400 yen

Open & Close Timing : Daily 06:00hrs-21:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.3. Sanjūsangen-dō

Address : 657 Sanjusangendomawari, Higashiyama Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 605-0941, Japan

Zipcode : 605-0941

Location : 34.9878845, 135.7717126

Contact : +81 75-561-0467

Website : <http://www.sanjusangendo.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Shichijo Station – Train Station (NR)

Entry Fee : Adults – 600 yen Senior & Junior High School Students – 400 yen

Young children – 300 yen

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.4. Eikan-dō Zenrin-ji 延光寺 竹林寺

Address : Japan, 〒606-8445 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, 〒606-8445 48

Zipcode : 606-8445

Location : 35.0143702, 135.79557

Contact : +81 75-761-0007

Website : <http://www.eikando.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Keage Station – Subway Station (NR)

Entry Fee : Adult (individual) – 600 yen Child (individual) – 400 yen Adult

(group) – 500 yen Child (group) – 350 yen

Open & Close Timing : Daily – 09:00hrs-16:00hrs; 17:30hrs-20:30hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 30 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.5. Sanzen-in Temple

Address : 540 Ohararaikoincho, Sakyo Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 601-1242, Japan

Zipcode : 601-1242

Location : 35.11970180000001, 135.834335

Contact : +81 75-744-2531

Website : <http://www.sanzenin.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Yashieizanguchi Station – Train Station (NR)

Entry Fee : 700 yen

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.6. Toji Temple

Address : 1 Kujochō, Minami Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 601-8473, Japan

Zipcode : 601-8473

Location : 34.9811177, 135.74759640000002

Contact : +81 75-691-3325

Website : <http://www.toji.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Toji Station – Train station

Entry Fee : Adult (individual) – 500 yen; Adult (group 30+) – 350 yen High school students (individual) – 400 yen; high school students (group 30+) – 280 yen Elementary school & junior high school (individual) – 300 yen; Elementary school & junior high school (group) – 200 yen

Open & Close Timing : 08:30hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.7. Kodai Ji

Address : Japan, 605-0825 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Higashiyama Ward, 526

Zipcode : 605-0825

Location : 35.000792, 135.781104

Contact : +81 75-561-9966

Website : <http://www.kodaiji.com/index.html>

Nearest Public Transport : Gion-Shijo Station – Train Station (NR)

Entry Fee : Adult – 600 yen Student – 250 yen Group (30+) – 500 yen Discount for 3 places – Entokuin Temple, Kodai-ji sho museum, kodai-ji temple – 900 yen

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.8. Arashiyama Monkey Park Iwatayama

Address : Japan,  616-0007 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Nishikyo Ward, Arashiyama Genrokuzancho, 8

Zipcode : 616-0007

Location : 35.0090171, 135.67482640000003

Contact : +81 75-872-0950

Website : <http://monkeypark.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Arashiyama Station – Train Station

Entry Fee : Child (4 – 15 years) – 250 yen Adult (over 15 years) – 550 yen Child (under 4 years) – FREE Group discounts available for 30+ people











Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 4

Expected Wait Time : 30 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.9. Tenryu-ji

Address : Japan,  616-8385 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Ukyo Ward,         

Zipcode : 616-8385

Location : 35.0158275, 135.673771

Contact : +81 75-881-1235

Website : <http://www.tenryuji.com/index.html>

Nearest Public Transport : Arashiyama Station – Train Station

Entry Fee : High school students or older – 500 yen Middle school and elementary

– 300 yen Preschool children - FREE

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:30hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.10. Byōdō-in Temple

Address : Renge-116 Uji, Kyoto Prefecture 611-0021, Japan

Zipcode : 611-0021

Location : 34.8892908, 135.80767830000002

Contact : +81 774-21-2861

Website : <http://www.byodoin.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Uji Station – Train Station (NR)

Entry Fee : Adult (individual) – 600 yen; adult (group 25+) – 500 yen High school & junior high (individual) – 400 yen; High school & junior high (group 25+) – 300 yen Elementary school (individual) – 300 yen; Elementary school (group 25+) – 200 yen

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:30hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.11. Heian Shrine

Address : Okazaki Nishitennocho, Sakyo Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 606-8341, Japan

Zipcode : 606-8341

Location : 35.0159823, 135.7824263

Contact : +81 75-761-0221

Website : <http://www.heianjingu.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Jingu-Marutamachi Station – Train Station

Entry Fee : 600 yen for garden

Open & Close Timing : Daily 06:00hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.12. Kyoto Tower

Address : Japan, 〒600-8216 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Shimogyo Ward,
〒600-8216 721-1

Zipcode : 600-8216

Location : 34.987563, 135.7593435

Contact : +81 75-361-3215

Website : <https://www.kyoto-tower.co.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Kyoto Station – Train Station

Entry Fee : General – 770 yen High school – 620 yen High school & elementary –
520 yen Kindergarten – 150 yen

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:30hrs-21:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



7.2. Free

7.2.1. Fushimi Inari Taisha

Address : 68 Fukakusa Yabunouchicho, Fushimi Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture
612-0882, Japan

Zipcode : 612-0882

Location : 34.9671402, 135.77267170000005

Contact : +81 75-641-7331

Website : <http://inari.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Inari Station – Train Station (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Ginkaku-ji Temple

Address : 2 Ginkakujicho, Sakyo Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 606-8402, Japan

Zipcode : 606-8402

Location : 35.0270213, 135.7982058

Contact : +8I 75-77I-5725

Website : http://www.shokoku-ji.jp/g_about.html

Nearest Public Transport : Mototanaka Station – Train Station (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:30hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Gion

Address : Japan, 〒606-8346 Kyōto-fu, Kyōto-shi, Higashiyama-ku, Gionmachi
Minamigawa, 〒606-8346 –

Zipcode : 606-8346

Location : 35.0036688, 135.77503739999997

Nearest Public Transport : Gion-Shijo Station – Train Station

Time Required : 4

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Nanzen-ji

Address : Japan, 〒606-8435 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Sakyo Ward, 〒〒〒〒〒86

Zipcode : 606-8435

Location : 35.0112807, 135.79143669999996

Contact : +81 75-771-0365

Website : <http://nanzenji.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Keage Station – Subway Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:40hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Tofukuji Temple

Address : Japan, 〒605-0981 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Higashiyama Ward, 〒〒〒〒〒778

Zipcode : 605-0981

Location : 34.9765117, 135.77423269999997

Contact : +81 75-561-0087

Website : <http://www.tofukuji.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Tobakaido Station – Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-16:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Nishiki Market

Address : Japan, 〒604-8054 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Nakagyo Ward, 〒〒〒〒〒609

Zipcode : 604-8054

Location : 35.00500019999999, 135.76327089999995

Contact : +81 75-211-3882

Website : <http://www.kyoto-nishiki.or.jp/>


Nearest Public Transport : Shijo Karasuma – Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:30hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Nishi Honganji

Address : Japan, 〒600-8358 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Shimogyo Ward, 

Zipcode : 600-8358

Location : 34.991449, 135.7510267

Contact : +81 75-371-5181

Website : <http://www.hongwanji.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Tambaguchi Station – Train Station (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Daily 05:30hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Kyoto station building

Address : Higashishiokoji Kamadonocho, Shimogyo Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture, Japan- 600-8215

Zipcode : 600-8215

Location : 34.9881024, 135.75760549999995

Website : <https://www.jr-odekake.net/eki/top.php?id=0610116>

Nearest Public Transport : Kyoto Station – Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Yasaka Shrine

Address : 625 Gionmachi Kitagawa, Higashiyama Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture

605-0073, Japan

Zipcode : 605-0073

Location : 35.0036559, 135.77855339999996

Contact : +81 75-561-6155

Website : <http://www.yasaka-jinja.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Gion-Shijo Station – Train Station (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Kifune Shrine

Address : Japan,  601-1112 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Sakyo Ward, Kuramakibunecho,  

Zipcode : 601-1112

Location : 35.12164070000001, 135.76290619999997

Contact : +81 75-741-2016

Website : <http://kifunejinja.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Kibuneguchi Station – Train Station (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Daily 06:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. Pontocho Alley

Address : Shinpontocho, Sakyo Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 606-8383, Japan

Zipcode : 606-8383

Location : 35.0050818, 135.77108980000003

Nearest Public Transport : Jingu-Marutamachi Station – Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. ninenzaka???

Address : Japan, 〒605-0826 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Higashiyama Ward, Masuyacho, 349-18

Zipcode : 605-0826

Location : 34.998122, 135.78084309999997

Website : <http://www.2nenzaka.ne.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Gion-Shijo Station – Train Station (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.13. Shimogamo-jinja

Address : Japan, 〒606-0807 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Sakyo Ward, Shimogamo Izumigawacho, 〒606-0807

Zipcode : 606-0807

Location : 35.0387488, 135.7729868

Contact : +81 75-781-0010

Website : <http://www.shimogamo-jinja.or.jp/>

Nearest Public Transport : Demachiyanagi Station – Train Station (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Daily 05:30hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.14. Shijo Dori

Address : Kyōto-shi, Kyōto-fu Japan

Location : 35.01013269999999, 135.71607840000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.15. Teramachi Dori

Address : Kamigyo Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 602-0848

Zipcode : 602-0848

Location : 35.0283487, 135.76817630000005

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.16. AEON Mall KYOTO

Address : 1 Nishikujo Toriiguchicho, Minami Ward,  Kyoto Prefecture
601-8417, Japan

Zipcode : 601-8417

Location : 34.982696, 135.75443999999993

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.17. Arashiyama Bamboo Grove

Address : Arashiyama, Ukyo-ku

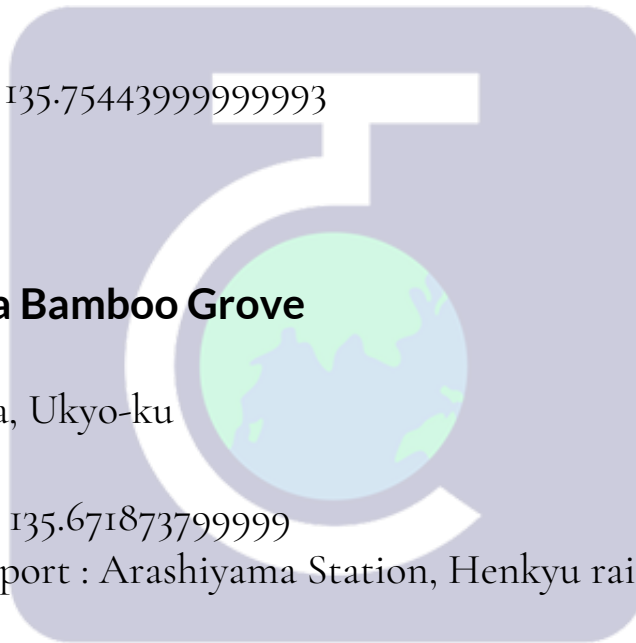
Zipcode : 6030000

Location : 35.0170421, 135.6718737999999

Nearest Public Transport : Arashiyama Station, Henkyu railway station

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No



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8. Key sites sports & adventure

Kyoto offers some excellent outdoor adventure activities for the foreign tourists. Cycling, walking, camping, paragliding, rock climbing, trekking, canoeing, and hiking are some of the exciting activities that await the travelers in Kyoto.

- **Arashiyama -**

Address : Ukyo Ward, Kyoto 616-8383, Kyoto Prefecture, Japan

Location : 35.009449,135.666772

Website : <http://kanko.city.kyoto.lg.jp/detail.php?InforKindCode=4&ManageCode=6000002>

Nearest Public Transport : Arashiyama Station – Train Station

Entry Fees : Gardens – 500 yen Buildings – 100 yen

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 3.00

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9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Kyoto has its own professional football club Kyoto Sanga F.C. Amateur footballs clubs like F.C. Kyoto BAMB 1993 and Kyoto Shiko Club are also present. Baseball is very much favored in Kyoto with a strong girls' professional baseball team Kyoto Asto Drams. High school teams also show powerful performances in annual tournaments. Horse racing is a popular sport in Kyoto. The Kyoto Racecourse is run by the Japan Racing Association.

- **Nishikyogoku Athletic Stadium:**

Address : 29 Nishikyogoku Shinmeicho, Ukyo Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 615-0864, Japan

Location : 34.9934781,135.71396019999997

Contact No : +81 75-315-4561

Website : <http://www.kyoto-sports.or.jp/facilities/detail.php?id=4>

Open/Close time : Depends upon the events

10. Spas and relaxation

- **Kyoto Royal Hotel & Spa:**

Address : Japan, 〒604-8005 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto,

〒426

Location : 35.0100551,135.76946969999995

Contact No : +81 75-223-1234

Website : <http://kyoto-royal.ishinhotels.com/>

- **Kurama Onsen Onsen Ryokan:**

Address : 520 Kuramahonmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture

Location : 35.1192218,135.7765369

Contact No : +81 75-741-2131

Website : http://www.kurama-onsen.co.jp/index_e.html#_=_

- **Funaoka Onsen:**

Address : 82-1 Murasakino Minamifunaoka-cho, Kita-ku, Kyoto 603-8225, Kyoto Prefecture

Location : 35.0369362,135.74456740000005

Contact No : +81 75-441-3735

Website : https://funaokaonsen.info/en/#_=_

11. Events calendar

Month

Events

Azuki-gayu Festival @ Torin-in Temple in Myoshin-ji Temple (15th- 31st)

Azuki-gayu is a vegetarian dish (red bean rice porridge) regularly taken by locals and tourists to prevent illness.

Kigen-sai Festival @ Kamigamo Shrine (11th)

The event is held to commemorate children's karate performance and also ancient styles of playing soccer.

Fushimi Sake Brewery Opening Festival @ Fushimi (5th)

The festival entails the Fushimi brewery showcasing its sake products and visitors can enjoy sake tasting as well as buying sweets, sake wares, Kyoto vegetables and much more.

Kyoto Sakura Yosakoi Festival @ Okazaki park, Umekoji park and other places in Kyoto. (2nd & 3rd)

This festival mainly involves

university students who compete through diverse dances and performances. It is among the largest Yosakoi festivals with over 150 teams.

Spring Antique Book Fair @ Miyako Messe (1st -5th)

The event features almost all kinds of books i.e. novels, academic books, art books, classics and many more.

Kodo 35th Anniversary Premier Concert @ Kyoto Theater (1st -3rd)

The concert is graced by the famous Japanese drum team and renowned kabuki as well as Tamasaburo Brando actors Pottery Memorial Ceremony and Market @ Senbon Shaka-do Temple (9th-12th)

The locals give thanks at the temple for the pottery they use on daily basis while a lively pottery market is staged around the temple.

Tanabata Star Festival Bamboo Decoration & Light-up @ Kifune Shrine (15th)

Pray for your wishes by writing

them down in a colorful paper that is hang on the Tanabata bamboo tree.

Ukai Cormorant Fishing @ Arashiyama (1st July - 23rd Sept)

Ukai involves use of traditional fishing methods and tourists are welcomed to watch the event from the fishing boat or river banks.

Kiyomizu-yaki Danchi Pottery Festival @ Yamashina (16th-18th)

This festival features all kinds of Kiyomizu-yaki ceramics, live music, performances and other events.

Kyoto Citizen Tea Party @ Nijo Castle (1st-3rd)

Enjoy special matcha green tea served at the gorgeous gardens of Nijo castle.

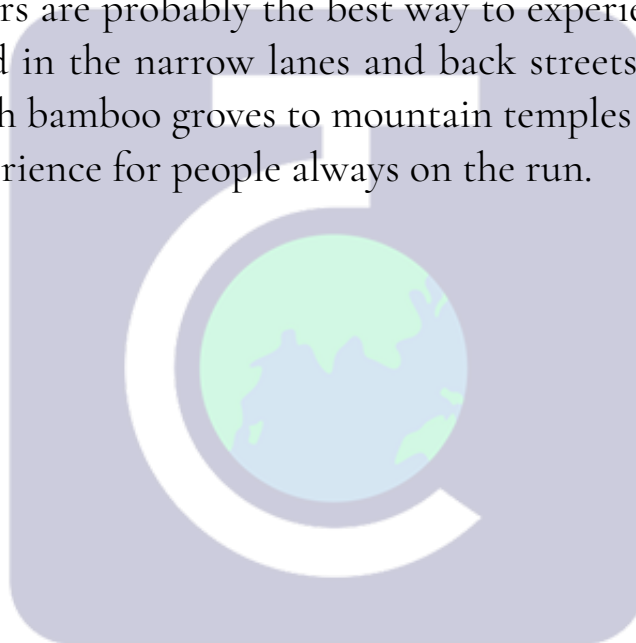
The Kyoto Cuisine Exhibition @ the Miyako Messe (13th & 14th).

The event entails top Japanese restaurants in Kyoto showcasing their best dishes, cooking and serving skills. The event also features a tea ceremony and the Shiki Bocho Japanese cooking knife performance.

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12. Key local guides and tours

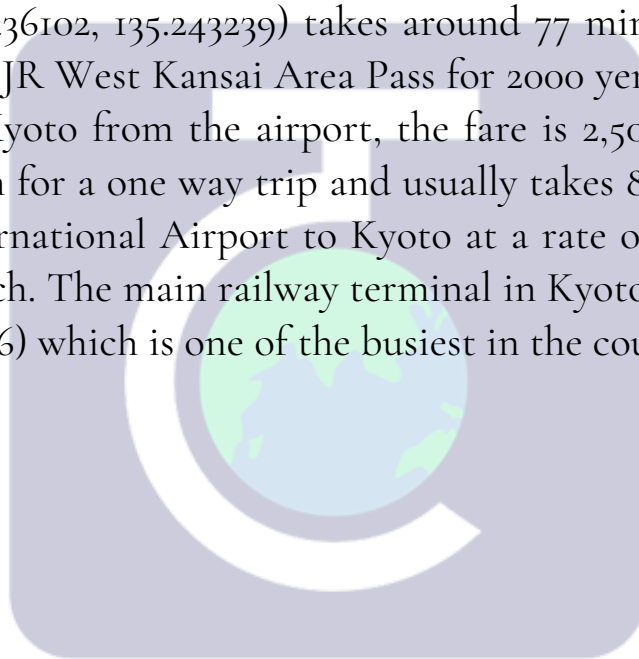
There is incredible number of attractions and activities to see and do in Kyoto. Though you can always get the help of private guides to visit the most popular destinations within the city, many travelers prefer to explore on their own either by walking or on bicycles. Japan National Tourist Organization publishes Kyoto Walks pamphlets in PDF format with bus numbers, routes, and walking routes. Small group bike tours are probably the best way to experience the local life and the flavor of the land in the narrow lanes and back streets of the city. Morning walking tours through bamboo groves to mountain temples can be a rejuvenating and de-stressing experience for people always on the run.



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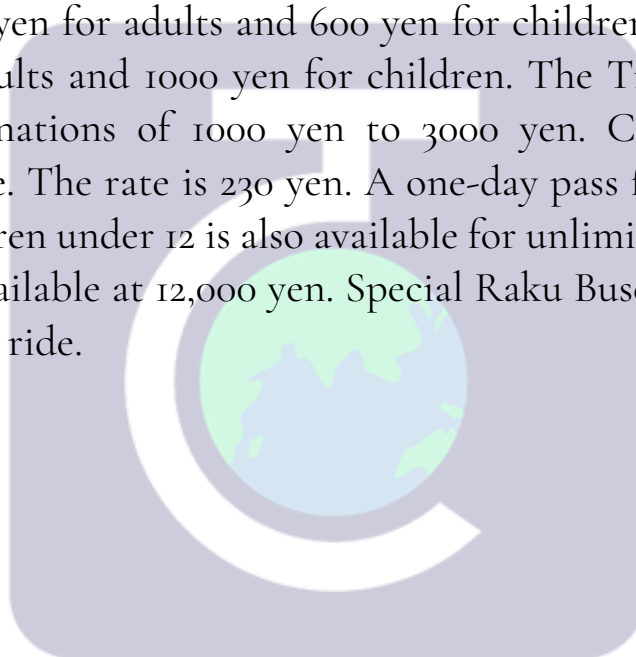
13. Transportation hubs

There is no airport in Kyoto. Travelers coming to the city can arrive at Kansai International Airport (34.432000, 135.230394) or Osaka International Airport (34.789579, 135.438085) in Osaka Prefecture. International travelers who arrive at the Kansai airport which lies at a distance of about 98 km from Kyoto can reach the city by rail or road. The Haruka Limited Express train from the Kansai Airport Station (34.436102, 135.243239) takes around 77 minutes to reach Kyoto. Tourists can buy the JR West Kansai Area Pass for 2000 yen. When travelling by limousine buses to Kyoto from the airport, the fare is 2,500 yen for adults and 1,250 yen for children for a one way trip and usually takes 88 minutes. Buses run from the Osaka International Airport to Kyoto at a rate of 1,280 yen and takes about an hour to reach. The main railway terminal in Kyoto is the Kyoto Station (34.985848, 135.758766) which is one of the busiest in the country.



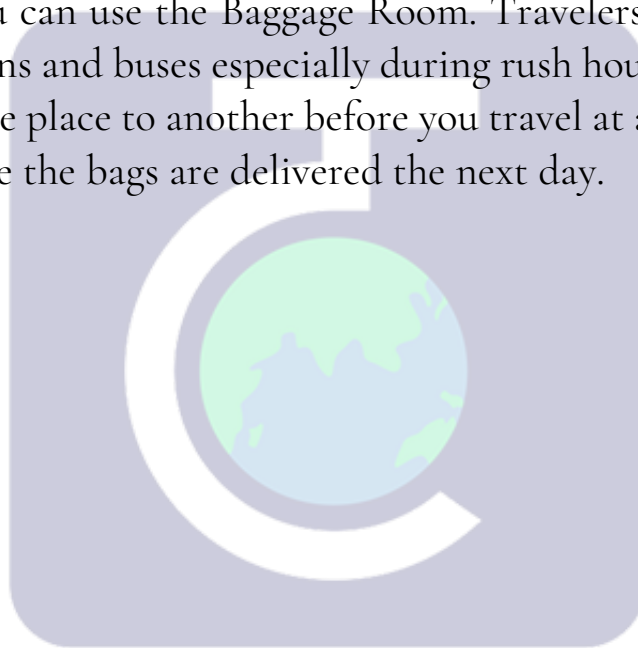
14. Transportation cost

The extensive network of bus and train services makes travelling easier within the city. Different types of tickets and passes are available for tourists for using on buses, trains, and subways. The ICOCA card can be used in west Japan and costs 2000 yen including a 500 yen deposit. There are some other cards for use within Kyoto. The Kyoto Sightseeing Card is purchased as one-day or two-day pass. One-day passes cost 1200 yen for adults and 600 yen for children, and two-day passes cost 2000 yen for adults and 1000 yen for children. The Traffica Kyoto Card is available in denominations of 1000 yen to 3000 yen. City bus fare is fixed regardless of distance. The rate is 230 yen. A one-day pass for 500 yen for adults and 250 yen for children under 12 is also available for unlimited bus rides in a day. A monthly pass is available at 12,000 yen. Special Raku Buses are run for tourists and costs 220 yen per ride.



15. Baggage allowance

The easiest way to travel with luggage in Kyoto is to make use of the luggage delivery service. You can send your luggage to your next destination within Japan and travel luggage free on trains, subways, and buses. Or, you can leave your luggage at the luggage lockers at the Kyoto Station. The lockers are available in different sizes and the prices range from 300 to 700 yen. If your luggage is too big to fit in a locker, you can use the Baggage Room. Travelers usually do not carry bulky luggage on trains and buses especially during rush hours. You can transport your luggage from one place to another before you travel at a cost of around 1,800 yen – 3,000 yen where the bags are delivered the next day.



Index**16. Must try food and local savouries**

Nishiki Market is one of the best areas to try varieties of food items. Most of the restaurants are spread across the entire city.



17. Restaurant & Nightlife

Food -

- **Izuu:**

Address : Japan, 〒605-0084 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, 〒367

Location : 35.0048453,135.7745761

Contact No : +81 75-561-0751

Website : <http://izuu.jp>

Open / Close Time : Wednesday-Monday 11:00hrs-23:00hrs; Tuesday Closed

- **KYOTO GOGYO ?? Ramen:**

Address : Japan, 〒604-8121 Kyōto-fu, Kyōto-shi, Nakagyō-ku, Jūmonjichō, 〒452

Location : 35.0053341,135.76377990

Contact No : +81 75-254-5567

Website : <http://ramendining-gogyo.com>

Open / Close Time : Saturday & Sunday 11:30hrs-16:00hrs; 17:00hrs-23:00hrs; Monday-Friday 11:30hrs-15:00hrs; 17:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Ishibekoji Kamikura:**

Address : 605 0825, 463-12 Shimokawaracho, Higashiyama Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 605-0825, Japan

Location : 35.0008707,135.7793646

Contact No : +81 75-748-1841

Website : <http://kyoto-kamikura.com>

Open / Close Time : Daily:10:00hrs-19:00hrs

- **Hyotei:**

Address : 35 Nanzenji Kusagawachō, Sakyō-ku, Kyōto-shi, Kyōto-fu 606-8437, Japan

Location : 35.0113447,135.7865028

Contact No : +81 75-771-4116

Website : <http://hyotei.co.jp/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-19:30hrs

- **Nakamura:**

Address : japan 604-8265 Tominokoji Oike Sagaru , Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto

Location : 35.010366,135.76514550

Contact No : +81-75-221-5511

Website : <http://kyoryori-nakamura.com>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-14:00hrs; 17:00hrs-19:30hrs; Sunday Closed

- **Katsukura:**

Address : Japan, 〒604-8143 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Nakagyo Ward, 〒604-8143

Location : 35.004032,135.760918

Contact No : +81 75-221-4191

Website : <http://www.fukunaga-tf.com/katsukura/shop.html>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-22:00hrs

- **Tempura Yoshikawa:**

Address :  135, 604-8093, Japan

Location : 35.010318200,135.76497570

Contact No : +81 75-221-5544

Website : <http://www.kyoto-yoshikawa.co.jp/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-13:30hrs; 17:00hrs-20:00hrs

- **Omen:**

Address : Japan,  606-8406 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto,  74


Location : 34.999013399,135.78082829

Contact No : +81 75-771-8994

Website : <http://omen.co.jp/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-21:00hrs

- **WORLD:**

Address : Japan,  600-8001 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, Shimogyo Ward,  97

Location : 35.004271,135.77025000

Contact No : +81 75-213-4119

Website : <http://world-kyoto.com/>

Open / Close Time : Sunday-Thursday 20:00hrs-03:00hrs; Friday & Saturday – 20:00hrs-05:00hrs

- **L'EscaMoteur Bar:**

Address : Kyoto-shi Saiseki-dori Shijo sagaru 138 banchi 9, Saitocho, Shimogyo Ward, Kyoto, Kyoto Prefecture 600-8012, Japan

Location : 35.001834,135.769948

Contact No : +8I 75-708-85II

Open / Close Time : Tuesday-Sunday 20:00hrs-03:00hrs; Monday Closed

- **BUTTERFLY:**

Address : Japan, 604-8031 Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto, 1

Location : 35.007833200,135.76976990

Contact No : +81 75-211-5025

Website : <http://butterfly-kyoto.com/>

Open / Close Time : Sunday-Thursday 20:00hrs-03:00hrs; Friday & Saturday 20:00hrs-05:00hrs



Index**18. Average meal cost**

A normal meal in an inexpensive restaurant costs 700.00 yen and a three course meal for two people at a mid-range restaurant can be purchased at 4000.00 yen. You can have a combo meal in McDonald's at 635.00 yen and a fresh cappuccino can be purchased at 387.50 yen. 11.2 oz small bottle of water is available at 102.50 yen. 1 pint draught of domestic beer is available at 500.00 yen and in market you can have 0.5 litre bottle of domestic beer at 300.00 yen. 11.2 oz small bottle of imported beer can be purchased at 600.00 yen and in market the same amount beer is available at 435.00 yen. You can have mid-range bottle of wine at 1,100.00 yen.



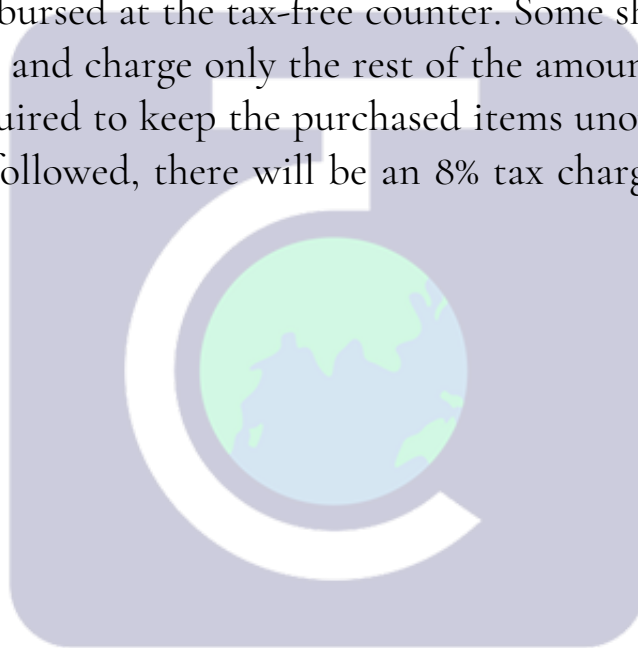
Index**19. Shopping**

There is a great collection of souvenir items in Kyoto like fans, traditional sweets, parasols, and carved wooden dolls. Wooden votive tablets in Shinto Shrines on which prayers are written and hung are also taken by some visitors as souvenirs. Kyoto incenses are also very famous and are available in the range of 400 yen - 2000 yen. Shijo Street is the largest shopping district with both traditional and high-end fashion brand stores, specialty food and craft shops, etc. Teramachi Street is famous for its manga and anime products. This covered shopping street has two-storied manga store, a popular chain of anime store, and a shop for collectibles. Shopping areas near Kiyomizudera sell samurai swords and excellent kimonos for a very high price that may come around 3,000,000 yen. Some other shopping centers in Kyoto include the Aeon Mall , Porta underground mall , Higashiyama, flea markets, etc.



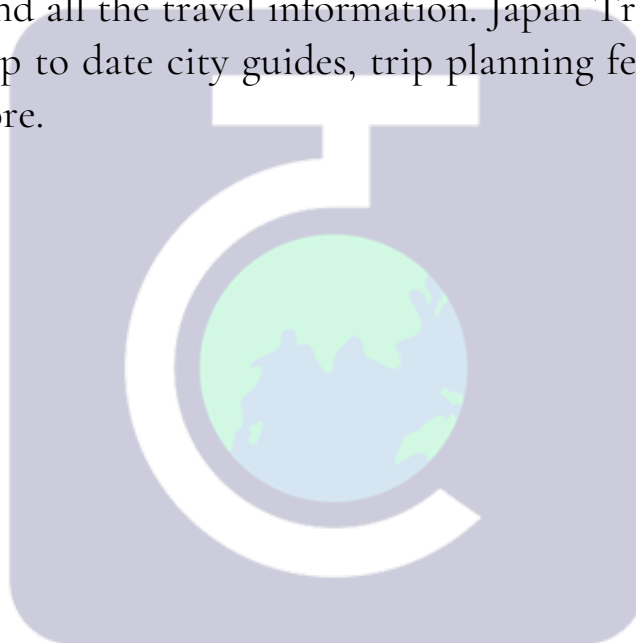
20. Tourist benefits

Japan has implemented VAT refund scheme for foreign tourists for their purchases within the country. In order to avail this scheme, the minimum purchase amount has to be 5001 yen. Tax-free logos are displayed at store front for the shops that participate in this scheme. The refund process is completed at the store itself on the same day of the purchase. You can pay the full amount and they get the tax reimbursed at the tax-free counter. Some shops deduct the VAT amount from the bill and charge only the rest of the amount from the customer. The travelers are required to keep the purchased items unopened and in specific packs. If this is not followed, there will be an 8% tax charged from them at the airport.



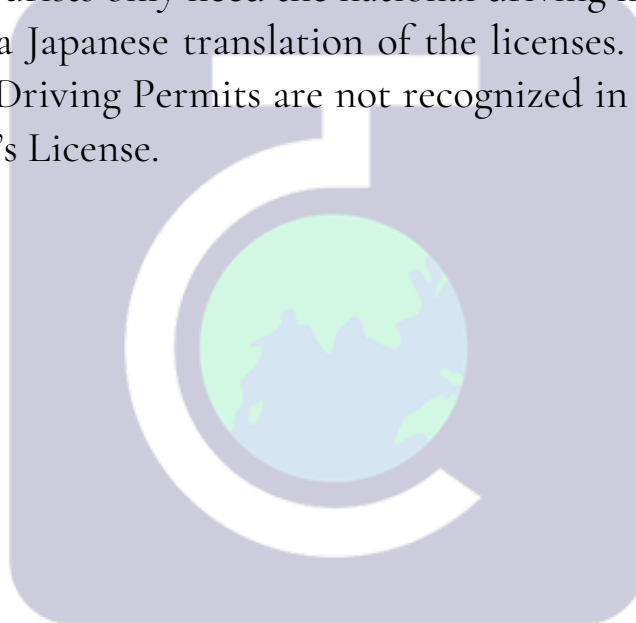
21. Essential local apps

There are many travel and local apps that help the tourists to easily find their destinations or nearest hotels without having to spend hours on asking for directions or depending on taxis for travel to an unknown place. Arukumachi KYOTO Route Planner app is really helpful to find available routes, timetables and fares for public transportation in Kyoto. You just have to enter the source and destination to find all the travel information. Japan Travel Guide for iPhone and iPads provides up to date city guides, trip planning features, neighborhood details, and much more.



22. Driving

Foreign visitors who want to drive around in Kyoto need to have an International Driving Permit which is based on the 1949 Geneva Convention. Only these permits are recognized by Japan. Some countries have bilateral agreements with Japan and the citizens from these countries can drive in Japan for one year even if their International Driving Permits are not based on the Geneva Convention stipulations. These tourists only need the national driving licenses issued by their home countries and a Japanese translation of the licenses. All the other visitors whose International Driving Permits are not recognized in Japan are required to get a Japanese Driver's License.



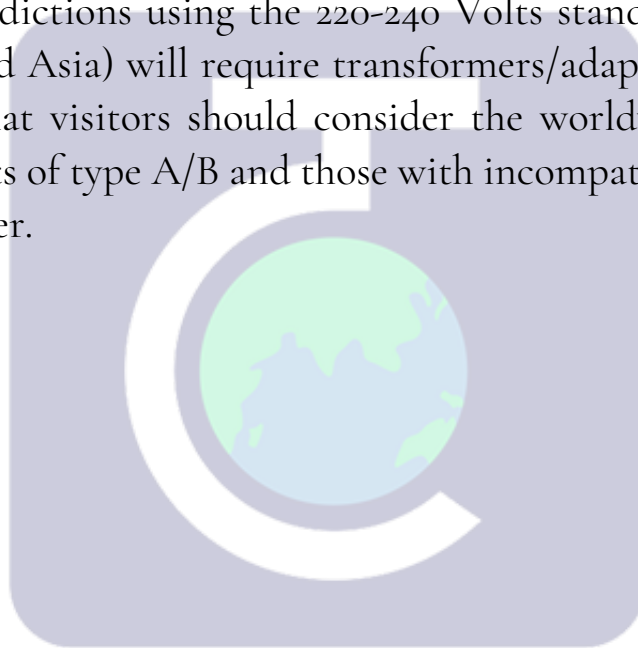
23. Travel essentials

Just like the rest of Japan, Kyoto uses a standard voltage of 100 volts with a frequency of 50/60 Hz. Some countries such as Canada, US and most states in South America use the 110-120 Voltage standards. Visitors from these countries can use their devices in Kyoto (100 v) as the voltage difference is quite minimal and most manufacturers take into account a voltage deviation of plus or minus 5%. Those from Jurisdictions using the 220-240 Volts standard (e.g. Africa, UK, Europe, Australia and Asia) will require transformers/adapters for their devices. It's recommended that visitors should consider the worldwide travel adapters. Kyoto uses the sockets of type A/B and those with incompatible plugs are advised to carry a plug adapter.



24. Essential clothes

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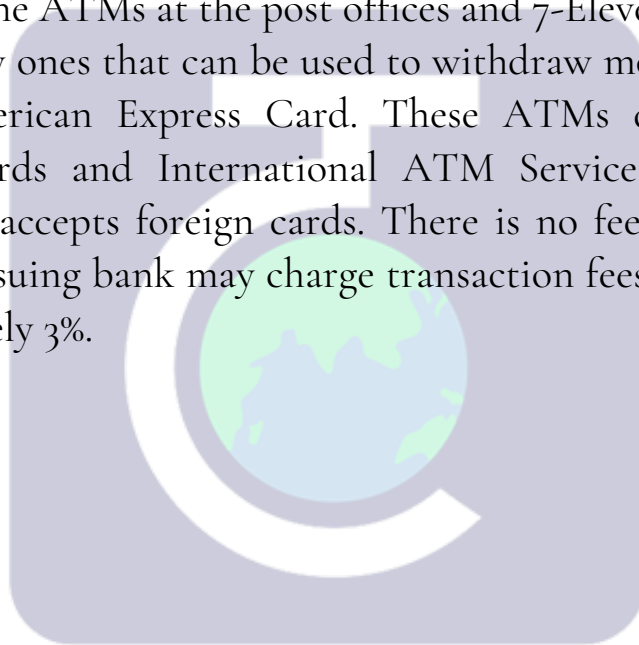
Index**25. Local currency**

Japanese Yen is the local currency of Kyoto. It is symbolized as ¥. 1 USD = 104.09 yen.



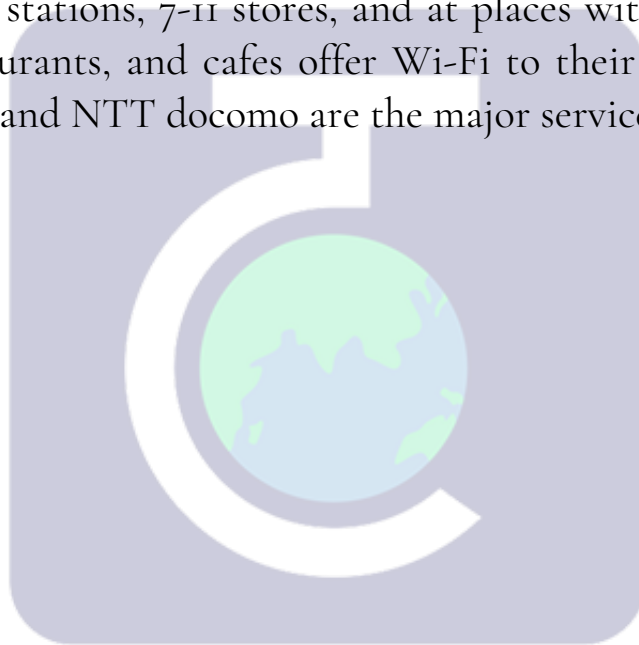
26. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Money exchange counters of major banks and exchange companies are open in airports. Within the city, there are banks, post offices, discount ticket shops, hotels, and department stores where you can exchange foreign currency at around 2% charge. The best rates are offered by the discount ticket shops. Banks and post offices also offer competitive rates. Most of the ATMs in Japan do not accept foreign cash cards. The ATMs at the post offices and 7-Eleven Department stores are probably the only ones that can be used to withdraw money using your Visa, Mastercard, or American Express Card. These ATMs display the logos of accepted foreign cards and International ATM Service Sign at the ATM. Citibank ATM also accepts foreign cards. There is no fee for using the ATM. However, the card issuing bank may charge transaction fees for each withdrawal which is approximately 3%.



27. Staying connected

There are data only SIM cards, and data and voice call cards available in Japan. Rental cards, mobile phones, and routers are also available in many shops. The rental charges can vary from provider to provider. On an average, daily rentals for data SIM cards with voice call cost 110 yen. Mobile phones are rented in the range of 260-540 yen. Call and data charges are based on usage. Free Wi-Fi is accessible at bus stops, subway stations, 7-11 stores, and at places with a 'KYOTO_ Wi-Fi' sticker. Hotels, restaurants, and cafes offer Wi-Fi to their patrons free of cost. Softbank, KDDI's au and NTT docomo are the major service providers across the entire Japan.



28. Time Zone

The city of Kyoto follows Japan Time Zone with UTC + 09:00 hours.



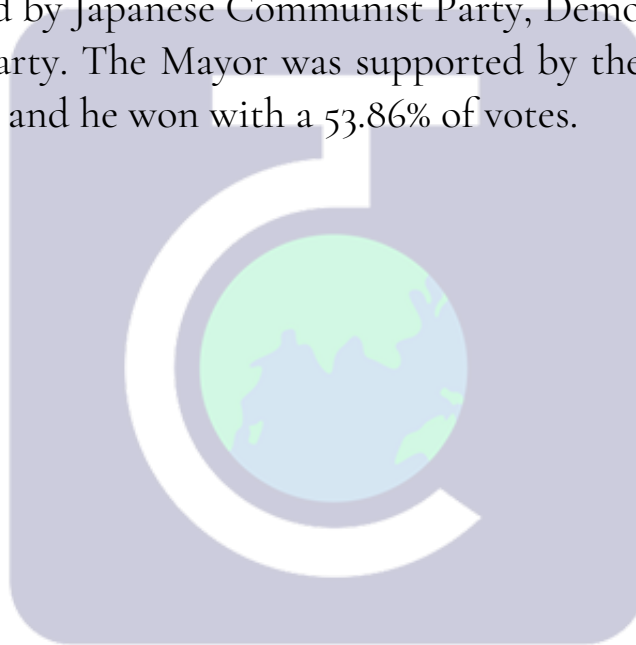
29. Languages

Tokyo accent and Kyoto-Osaka accent are used widely in Kyoto.



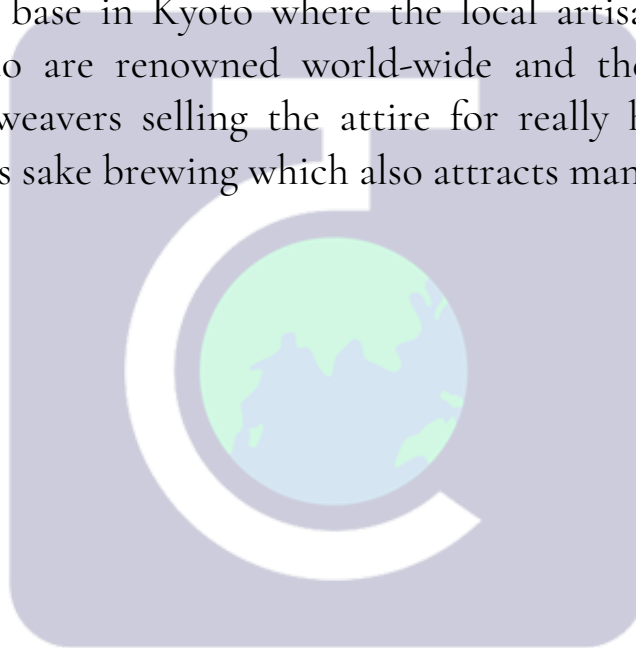
30. Political Scenario

This former capital of Japan is now the capital city of the Kyoto Prefecture. The city of Kyoto is made up of 11 wards. The government in Kyoto is led by the Mayor and the city council. The mayor is directly elected by the people. The current mayor is Daisaku Kadokawa. The city assembly consists of 69 elected members. The Liberal Democratic Party has the highest number of members in the assembly followed by Japanese Communist Party, Democratic Party of Japan, and New Komeito Party. The Mayor was supported by the major parties in the elections held in 2012 and he won with a 53.86% of votes.



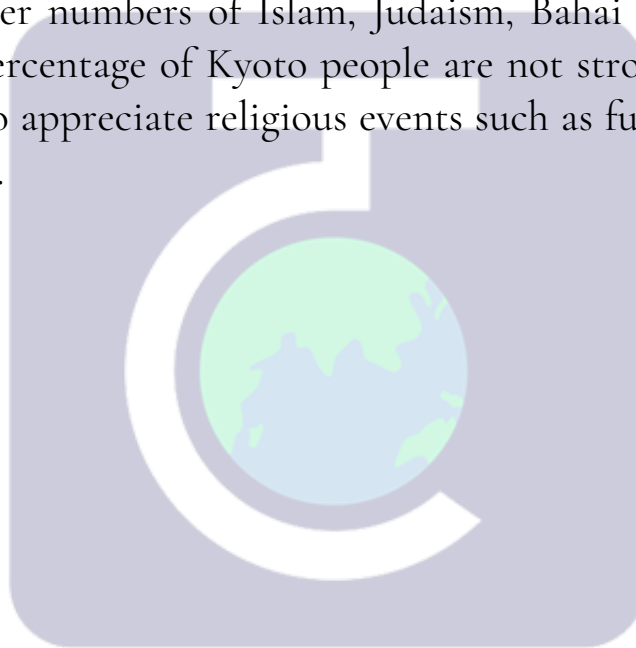
31. Economic Scenario

The economy of Kyoto thrives on information technology and electronics. Companies like Nintendo, Horiba, Nissin Electric, TOSE, etc. are headquartered in the city. Tourism also plays a major role in sustaining the economy of Kyoto. The cultural heritage of the city has made it a popular destination for both international as well as domestic visitors. The traditional Japanese Crafts industry has a large base in Kyoto where the local artisans run small plants. Kimonos from Kyoto are renowned world-wide and the city has numerous traditional kimono weavers selling the attire for really huge prices. Another traditional industry is sake brewing which also attracts many visitors.



Index**32. Religious belief**

Buddhism and Shinto are the two major religions in Kyoto. While the Shinto religion is as old as the Japanese History, Buddhism was introduced in 6th Century and became very popular gaining more followers than Shinto. Currently there are around 1,600 Buddhist temples and 400 Shinto shrines in Kyoto. This translates to an approximate percentage of 35% Buddhism, 11% Shinto, 9% Christians and smaller numbers of Islam, Judaism, Bahai Faith and Hinduism. Although a bigger percentage of Kyoto people are not strongly affiliated to any religion, they seem to appreciate religious events such as funerals, marriages and other rites of passage.



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33. Visa requirements

Tourists are required to carry a valid passport and visa with them to enter Japan. The visa types can vary as per the country of origin of the traveler Japan has entered into Reciprocal Visa Exemption Arrangements with 66 countries. Depending on from which of these 66 countries the tourist is coming, the maximum duration of visa free stay varies from 15 days to 90 days. However, all the tourists from these countries have to get a Temporary Visitor's Visa with a validity of up to 90 days. They should also not involve in any activities that will bring them monetary benefits. All the tourists from countries that do not have Reciprocal Visa Exemption Arrangements with Japan are required to get the regular tourist visa. You can get more information from http://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html.



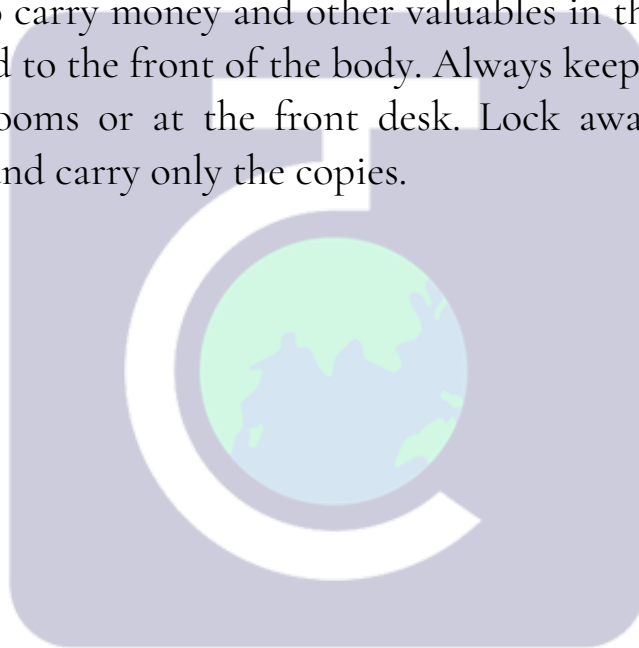
34. Essential vaccination

There are few cases of disease outbreaks in Kyoto but it is wise to get vaccinated against rabies, hepatitis A & B, Japanese Encephalitis and other routine vaccination such as diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, annual flu shot, polio and varicella vaccines.



35. Theft and Safety

Japan is one of the safest places on earth for international travelers. Crime rate is practically nil and attacks on foreign visitors are very rare. However, tourists have to take precautions while moving around in busy streets and tourist spots. As with any tourist place, Kyoto also has its share of petty thieves and bag snatchers. Be alert and be aware of your surroundings and keep a vigil on your belongings. It is always advisable to carry money and other valuables in the front pockets or in bags that are attached to the front of the body. Always keep your valuables in the safe of your hotel rooms or at the front desk. Lock away the original travel documents in a safe and carry only the copies.



Index**36. Embassy/Consulate**

There are various foreign embassies and consulates in Kyoto. To have more information on the same, visit <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/japan>.



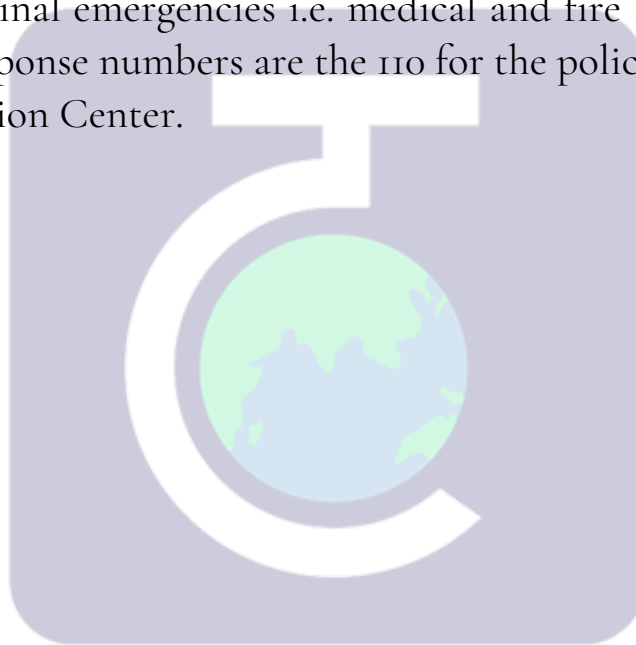
37. Accessibility

Kyoto is a friendly destination to those with physical disabilities. Truncated domes (Tactile paving) are common in major sidewalks and train stations to help the blind navigate. Eighty percent of the buses around the city are wheelchair accessible (portable ramps and wheelchair pictogram). Most attraction sites e.g. temples and shrines have handles and ramps to assist those using wheelchairs.



38. Emergencies

Although Kyoto is significantly safe, it's recommended that you consider some precautionary measures such as locking up your valuables, securing a health and insurance cover (before you travel) and carrying enough medication for recent prescriptions. Emergency hospitals in Kyoto include the Japanese Red Cross Kyoto Daini Hospital and National Hospital Organization Kyoto Medical Center . In case of non-criminal emergencies i.e. medical and fire accidents call the 119. Other emergency response numbers are the 110 for the police and 03-3201-3331 for the Tourist Information Center.



39. Do's and Don'ts

Do's • Remove your hats and sunglasses when entering shrines or temples • Give seats to those who need priority seating such as the disabled, pregnant ladies, elderly and those carrying babies. • Dress decently when visiting the temples and shrines. • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. • Remove your shoes when entering a private home, temples and traditional accommodation places. Don'ts • Do not take photographs near train tracks. • Don't leave your bicycle outside the designated bicycle parking area. Offenders are fined up to 2,300 yen. • Do not cycle while under influence. Anti-drunk cycling laws are very harsh in Kyoto. • Don't carry your own food and drinks to the restaurants. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/ unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import. • Littering is highly prohibited especially in key attraction sites. It attracts a fine of 30,000 yen. • Do not smoke outdoors as you risk being fined 1,000 yen. • Do not blow your nose in public.

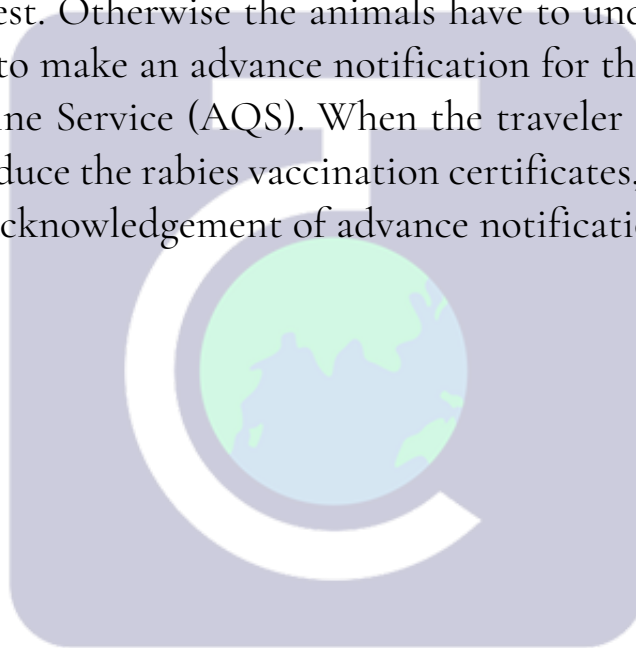
Index**40.Tipping basics**

Japanese culture is absolutely not a tipping culture. Tipping in hotels, restaurants and taxis may be offensive and therefore not recommended. Just say thank you "domo arigato" or bow your head slightly which is more appreciated. However, tour guides who are used to tips may appreciate a small amount.



Index**41.Pet info**

Japan has set specific regulations and procedures regarding the import of pets into the country along with foreign tourists. The procedures must be performed prior to the travel from the country of origin. The animal has to be micro chipped. Two anti-rabies vaccinations must be given to the pet after that. If the animal is coming from a country that Japan regards as rabies-free there is no need for a further blood test. Otherwise the animals have to undergo the Blood Titer Test. The owner has to make an advance notification for the import of animal to the Animal Quarantine Service (AQS). When the traveler lands at any Japanese airport, he has to produce the rabies vaccination certificates, International Health Certificate, and the acknowledgement of advance notification to the AQS.



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Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Why Choose Kyoto ? For those who are looking for a unique mix of Japanese history, culture, and nature, Kyoto will be the ultimate choice. Probably the most beautiful city in Japan, Kyoto is steeped in a golden past and an ever bustling modern world. The many temples and shrines, and imperial palaces and villas within the city offer not just a serene place for worship but marvels of architecture and art that had flourished in the glorious past of the city. Kyoto is a city of opposites. At one place there is the traditional buildings and heritage sites; at the other end there stands modern technological products like electronics, anime, manga, and games. If it is cherry blossoms and kimonos that come to your mind when thinking about Japan, then you have all of that here in plenty. If you are ready to spend a fortune, you can get the best kimonos that you cannot find anywhere in Japan. Cherry blossom viewing is an event here and if you visit the city during the season, the whole city with its parks, shrines, and gardens and the villages and mountain regions will be blanketed in the pink blooms that lend the places a surreal fairy tale look and feel. If that is not enough, there is plum blossom viewing too. And, while in Kyoto, never forget to visit one of its Ramen specialty eateries and Yatsushashi shops where the best of these snacks can be found. Some of the best experiences of a great nightlife are possible in Kyoto. Plenty of bars serve drinks of all varieties. And, if drinking is not enough, you can take a tour of the famous breweries where the traditional sake is made.

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