

# Kyoto: Japan's Cultural Heartland



Kyoto flourished as the capital city of Japan from 794 to 1868, and to this day, possesses a rich cultural heritage that draws visitors from around the world. It is home to 17 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, many world-famous temples and shrines, ornate gardens, and traditional festivals.

Founded on a community of skilled artisans and craftspeople versed in aesthetics developed over a millennium, modern-day Kyoto is also the birthplace of frontier technologies and international business successes. It is a city in which one can find the best of both the ancient and modern.

Students and researchers at Kyoto University find that the vibrant backdrop of Kyoto City brings constant inspiration and new discoveries in their daily lives and academic endeavors.



Spring  
The picturesque Philosopher's Walk pathway

Summer  
A float decorated with paper lanterns during the Gion Festival

Autumn  
Kiyomizu-dera Temple

Winter  
Bamboo forest in Arashiyama



Kyoto University's Seifuso Villa, classified as an Important Cultural Property by the Government of Japan



Bon Odori (traditional dance)



Tea ceremony