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 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.

World’s No.1 tourist destination
87 million tourists visited Kyoto in 2018 (3.6 million from abroad)

17 UNESCO cultural heritage sites
Numerous world-famous temples, shrines, and ornate gardens

Japan’s No.1 “student city”
(based on student-to-population ratio)
University students account for 10% of the city’s population

Ranked 12th most livable city in the world

Advanced technology and a tradition of enterprise
Home to many world-leading companies and a flourishing spirit of industry-government-academia collaboration

*1 Wanderlust Reader Travel Awards (2018)
*2 Kyoto City Informatization Promotion Office: Estimated population (2017)
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