

# 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.



Bon Odori  
(traditional dance)



Tea ceremony



Kintsugi  
(ornamental pottery repair)

Cultural activities for international students



## World's No.1 tourist destination \*1

85 million tourists visited Kyoto in 2019 (3.9 million from abroad)



## 17 UNESCO World 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 \*2



## Ranked 17<sup>th</sup> most livable city in the world \*3



## 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 (2020)

Kyoto Prefecture Tourism Office: Tourist Survey (2019)

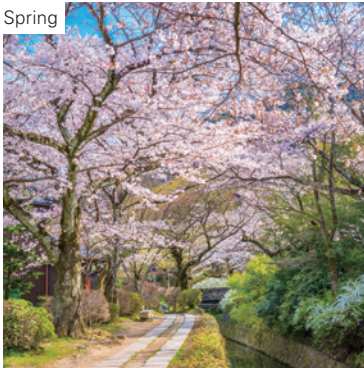
\*2 Kyoto City Data System Promotion Office: Estimated population (2019)

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology: School Basic Survey (2019)

\*3 Monocle\* Quality of Life Survey: Top 25 Cities (2019)



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



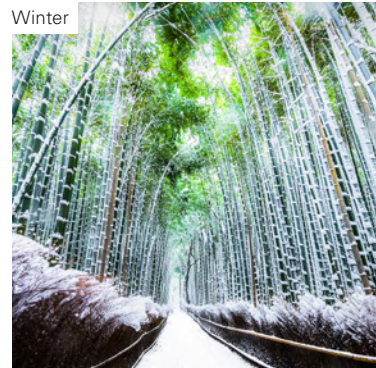
The picturesque Philosopher's Walk pathway in Kyoto



A float decorated with paper lanterns during the Gion Festival



Kiyomizu-dera Temple



Bamboo forest in Arashiyama