

Heijokyu-seki Rekishi Koen Map

(Nara Palace Site Historical Park)

Volunteer guides are present in the park.
(For details, please inquire at the reception area in either the Heijokyu Izanai-kan or the Heijokyu-seki Shiryō-kan).

1 Suzaku-mon Gate (South Central Gate)

The main gate of Nara Palace has been reconstructed. In the Nara Period, ceremonies such as welcomes for diplomatic envoys were held here. Closed Mondays (closed on the day after if a holiday).



2 Chuo-ku Chodo-in (Central State Halls Compound)

In the early Nara Period, officials carried out their duties here, and ceremonies were also held. Reconstruction work is making good progress.



3 Daiichiji Daigokuden (Former Imperial Audience Hall)

This is a reconstruction of a major Nara Palace building used only for special ceremonies such as the Emperor's ascension to the throne and the New Year's ceremony. Closed Mondays (closed on the day after if a holiday).



4 Daiichiji Daigokuden-in (Former Imperial Audience Hall Compound (under reconstruction))

This compound, including the Audience Hall, stretches for approximately 320 m north to south, and 180 m east to west. It is a special space which was used during the first half of the Nara Period for state ceremonies.



Reconstruction of the Nanmon (South Gate) of the Daiichiji Daigokuden-in will open to the public (From 2019)

5 Dairi (Imperial Palace)

This was the Emperor's private residence, and planted trees represent the pillars which supported this building. The Dairi well has also been reconstructed.



6 Kunai-sho ((Presumed) Ministry of the Imperial Household)

It is thought that this was the ministry which supported the Emperor. Roofed mud walls and buildings have been reconstructed.



7 Zoshushi Ido (Well of the Rice Wines and Vinegars Department)

It is thought that this was a special well used for making rice wine for religious rituals and festivals.



Enjoy the park and its natural environment

The Nara Palace Site wears very different mantles each season: cherry and plum blossom in spring; lush, verdant reeds in summer; and stunning foliage in autumn. Plants mentioned in Manyo poems can also be seen. Visitors will also be able to see numerous wild birds around the lakes and wetlands.



Think Back upon the Nara Period

- Recommended routes
- Visit the Reconstructed Buildings (rough guide) 1-2 hours
- Heijokyu Izanai-kan (About 3 minutes)
 - 1 Suzaku-mon Gate (About 12 minutes)
 - B Fukugenjigyo Joho-kan (About 3 minutes)
 - 3 Daiichiji Daigokuden (About 6 minutes)
 - 6 Kunai-sho (About 10 minutes)
 - 10 To-in Teien (About 20 minutes)
- Take a Look at the Exhibitions (rough guide) 1½ - 2½ hours
- Heijokyu Izanai-kan (About 6 minutes)
 - 14 Mibu-mon Gate, Shikibu-sho, Hyobu-sho (About 15 minutes)
 - 10 To-in Teien (About 6 minutes)
 - 12 Higashi-ku Chodo-in/Daiichiji Daigokuden (About 5 minutes)
 - 5 Dairi (About 3 minutes)
 - A Ikotenji-kan (About 3 minutes)
 - 7 Zoshushi Ido (About 5 minutes)
 - B Naizenshi/ Daizenshiki (About 5 minutes)
 - B Fukugenjigyo Joho-kan (About 6 minutes)
 - C Heijokyu-seki Shiryō-kan (About 15 minutes)
 - Heijokyu Izanai-kan

8 Daizenshiki ((Presumed) The Bureau of Imperial Cuisine)

This agency was responsible for all food served within the Nara Palace. Planted boxwood trees represent the pillars which supported the building.



9 Saki-ike Pond

This is thought to be the lake of the Nishiikenomiya Palace that appears in the *Shoku Nihongi* historical text.



10 To-in Teien (East Palace Garden)

This is said to be where Japanese gardens took root. The building and garden in which the Emperor and members of the aristocracy held banquets has been reconstructed. Closed Mondays (closed on the day after if a holiday).



11 Daiichiji Daigokuden (Latter Imperial Audience Hall)

A large audience hall used during the second half of the Nara Period. The view of Nara from the reconstructed platform is particularly impressive.



12 Higashi-ku Chodo-in (Eastern State Halls Compound)

Officials worked in this building during the second half of the Nara Period. Raised embankments represent the positions of the original 12 buildings.



13 Shikibu-sho and Hyobu-sho (Ministry of Personnel Affairs and Ministry of Military Affairs)

The Ministry of Personnel Affairs was responsible for managing officials, and the Ministry of Military Affairs was charged with managing everything to do with the military. The building has been partially reconstructed.



14 Mibu-mon Gate

This gate effectively became the main entrance to Nara Palace in the second half of the Nara Period.



15 Nanmen Ogaki (Southern Great Wall)

The roofed mud wall surrounding Nara Palace, approximately 4.3 km long east to west, and 4.8 km north to south, is gradually being reconstructed.



Take part in some events!

A wide range of events take place throughout the year: the Heijokyo Tempyo Festival which celebrates the transition of the seasons, the Garden Banquet held in the East Palace Garden on autumnal evenings, the Nara Otateyama Festival which brightens winter nights, and the open-to-all Heijokyo New Year Fun Run.



World Heritage and the temples of the Nara Period

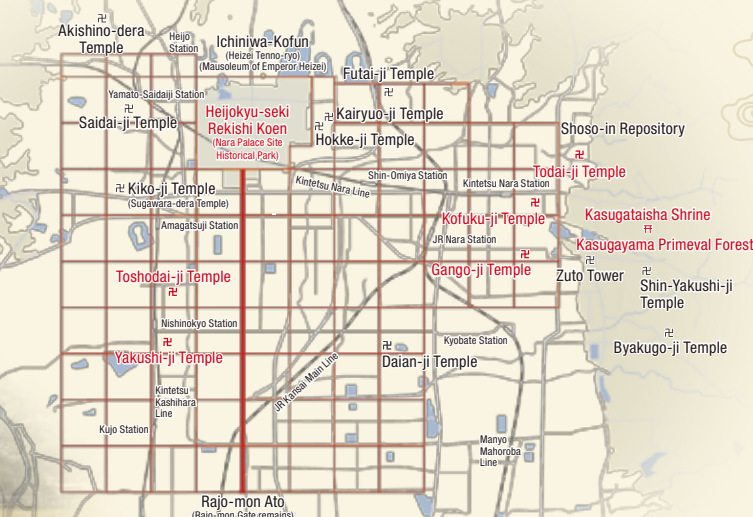
The Nara Palace Site is one of the eight assets which constitute the Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara. In addition to the world heritage sites, the area around the palace has numerous temples from the Nara Period and later periods. We hope you have a walk around and take a look.

There are many national treasure buildings, and sites designated as historical landmarks.

- Today-ji Temple
- Kofuku-ji Temple
- Kasugataisha Shrine
- Gango-ji Temple
- Yakushi-ji Temple
- Toshodai-ji Temple

Places designated as Special Historic Sites and Special Natural Monuments

- Nara Palace Site
- Kasugayama Primeval Forest



Have fun and learn about the Nara Palace site



A Ikotenji-kan (Excavation Site Exhibition Hall)

The remains of government offices from the Nara Period that were discovered through excavation are preserved and displayed here in the same state as when they were discovered. Other valuable artifacts and models of reconstructed buildings are also on display.

Opening hours: 9:00-16:30 (last admission at 16:00)
Closed Mondays (closed on the day after if a holiday) and between December 29 and January 3

Free admission



B Fukugenjigyo Joho-kan (Information Center for Reconstruction Project)

This facility provides a comprehensive overview of the reconstruction work on the buildings of the Daiichiji Daigokuden-in. Actual materials, tools and building methods are on display, and in addition to this, visitors can also enjoy a model of the reconstructed Daiichiji Daigokuden-in, an informational video and a hands-on exhibit.

Opening hours: 10:00-18:00 (last admission at 17:30)
Summer months (Jun.-Sep.): 10:00-18:30 (last admission at 18:00)
Closed on: Second Monday (closed on the day after if a holiday) in Feb., Apr., Jul., and Nov., and between December 29 and January 1

Free admission



C Heijokyu-seki Shiryō-kan (Nara Palace Site Museum)

The Nara Palace Site Museum displays more than 50 years of archeological research of the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties. The museum introduces its visitors to excavation processes, valuable archeological finds, and archeological science, as well as providing the latest information regarding their research.

Opening hours: 9:00-16:30 (last admission at 16:00)
Closed Mondays (closed on the day after if a holiday) and between December 29 and January 3

Free admission

The following acts are prohibited within Nara Palace Site Historical Park.

- Damaging or defacing facilities.
- Catching or removing fish, birds, trees, flowers, insects, or any other living organisms.
- Lighting fire or fireworks without permission.
- Removing any earth or stone, or otherwise altering the form or quality of the land.
- Allowing pets off leash, and not cleaning up and removing pet droppings.
- Entering the park in any vehicle other than areas where vehicle access is permitted.
- Engaging in advertising, promotion, or sales activities without permission.
- Holding any events, commercial photo or filming shoots, or flying drones without permission.
- Throwing away garbage such as waste paper or empty cans.
- Using golf equipment or radio-controlled aircraft in the park.

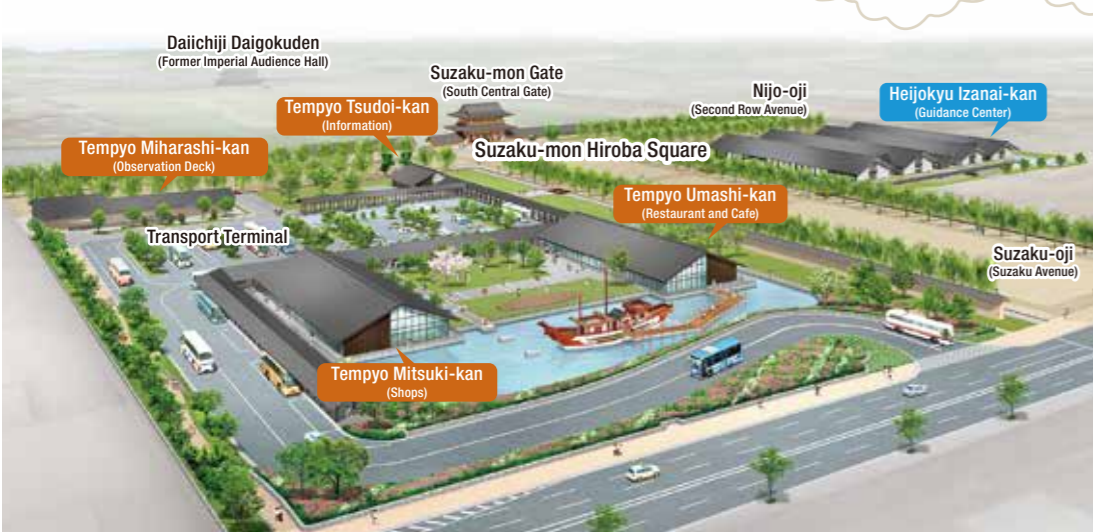
As well as the above, any other acts deemed by the facility administrators to be inappropriate with regard to use and administration of the park.



A vibrant place, revived after 1,300 years

Suzaku-mon Hiroba Square

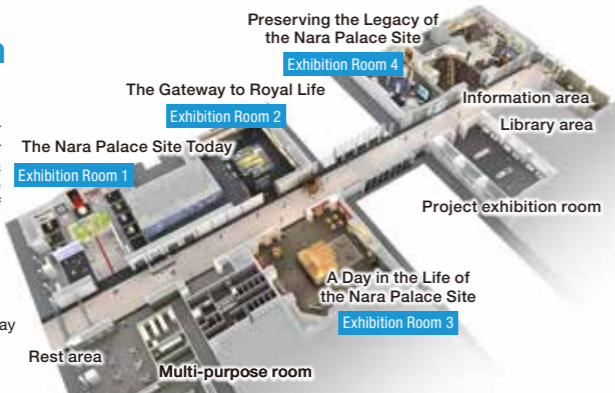
The square in front of Suzaku-mon Gate was a uniquely festive place for the people of Nara. The reconstruction and conservation of Suzaku Avenue and Nijo Avenue bring back to life this enormous square which so evokes life in the ancient world, and connects the Nara period with our own times, making it a focal point of the Nara Palace Site Historical Park.



Heijokyu Izanai-kan (Guidance Center)

Heijokyu Izanai-kan is an interpretive center which explains the significance and splendor of the Heijokyu-seki Rekishi Koen (Nara Palace Site Historical Park), and invites you to the palace site, which evokes the spirit of ancient times.

Opening hours: 10:00-18:00 (last admission at 17:30)
 Summer months (Jun.- Sep.): 10:00-18:30 (last admission at 18:00)
 Closed on: Second Monday (closed on the day after if a holiday) in Feb., Apr., Jul., and Nov., and between December 29 and January 1



◆ Main Park Facilities ◆

Tempyo Umashi-kan (Restaurant and Cafe)

Pass through the *kentoshi* envoy ship explanation area and visit a reconstructed ship. Relax in the park restaurant and cafe and enjoy the view over the park. We also have an event space in which we hold workshops and exhibitions.

Opening hours: 9:30-18:00 (restaurant and cafe are open until 22:00)
 Open throughout the year

Tempyo Mitsuki-kan (Shops)

A large selection of Nara Prefecture tourist information. On sale are local specialties and products from Heijo-kyo, the international city of the Nara Period.

Opening hours: 9:30-18:00 (items on sale until 21:00)
 Open throughout the year

Tempyo Miharashi-kan (Observation Deck)

Enjoy the view over the Nara Palace Site from the observation deck and observation room. Audio-visual presentations are shown in our VR theater. We also have a bicycle rental shop, and a jogging/cycle station.

Opening hours: 9:00-17:00
 Closed Mondays (closed on the day after if a holiday) and between December 28 and January 4

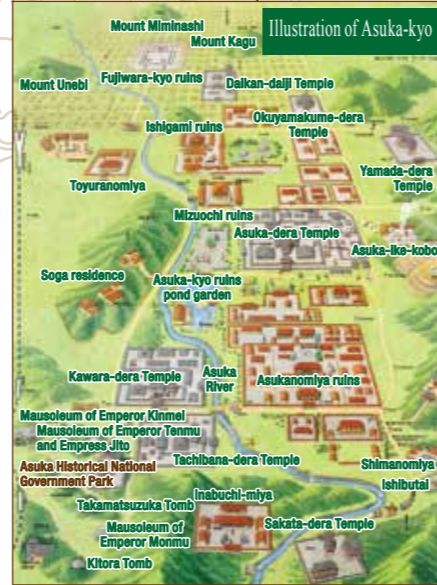
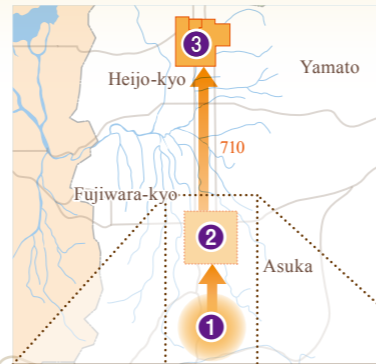
Tempyo Tsudoi-kan (Information)

Meeting point for school trips and tour groups, provides information about all the facilities in the park.

Opening hours: 9:30-18:00
 Open throughout the year

Transport Terminal

The gateway to Nara tourism – shuttle buses which connect all of the main attractions, group buses, taxis, etc. all stop here.
 Parking (paid): approx. 20 buses and 50 cars



The Three Capitals of Nara — The Road Leading to a New Imperial State

1 Asuka: The birthplace of an ancient state

Asuka flourished as Japan's political and cultural center, and home to the Emperor's palace, for just over a century, from 592, when Empress Suiko came to the throne, until 694, when the capital moved to Fujiwara-kyo.

A number of interpretive facilities tell the story of Asuka and its history and culture: Asuka Historical National Government Park, which houses numerous surviving historic sites, Asuka Historical Museum, and Nara Prefecture Complex of Man'yo Culture.



2 Fujiwara: The first planned city

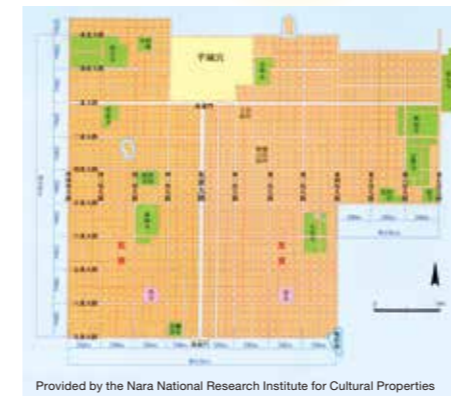
Fujiwara-kyo was Japan's first grid-plan city. Construction of the large city, spanning approximately 5.3 km from east to west and from north to south, began after it became the capital in late 694, with all political and economic systems set up by 701 when the Taiho Code was completed.

The enormous ruin is designated as a Special Historical Site. The results of excavations and research into the site are on display at the Exhibition Room of the Fujiwara Imperial Site and the Kashihara City Fujiwara Capital Site Reference Library.



3 Heijo: The establishment of a ritsuryo state

Heijo-kyo flourished as the largest city in Japan for 74 years, from 710, when it became the capital, until 784, when the capital moved to Nagaoka-kyo. Politics based on the *ritsuryo* system became thoroughly established, roads were built to connect Heijo-kyo with the rest of the country, and the system of a unified country under the Emperor was put in place.



Heijo-kyo and Heijokyu (Nara Palace)

Heijo-kyo, modeled on the Chinese city Chang'an, was built in a rectangular shape, approximately 4.3 km from east to west and 4.8 km from north to south, with an additional protruding section on its eastern side, called Gekyo, which was approximately 1.6 km wide from east to west, and 2.1 km from north to south. Nara Palace, situated on a 1 square kilometer site in the center of the northern edge of the city with an additional protruding section on its eastern side which was 250 m wide from east to west and 750 m long from north to south, was the central section of the city.

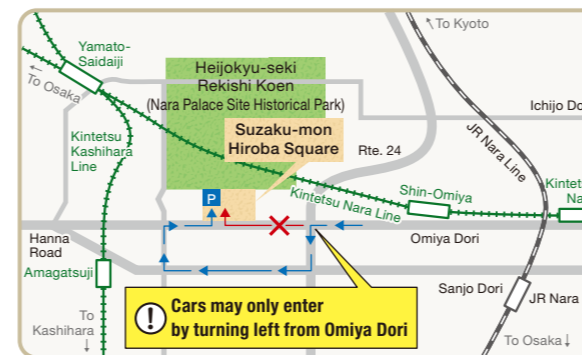


Maintenance of the Heijokyu-seki (Nara Palace Site)

The Nara Palace area was turned into rice fields after the capital moved to Nagaoka-kyo, but research was carried out in the late Edo and Meiji periods by Kitaura Sadamasa, Sekino Tadashi and Kita Sadakichi, and conservation works were started by local volunteers such as Tanada Kajuro and Mizobe Bunshiro. The palace site was later designated a special historical site, excavations and research were carried out by the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, and Nara Palace Site Historical Park will be opened on March 24, 2018.

◆ Access

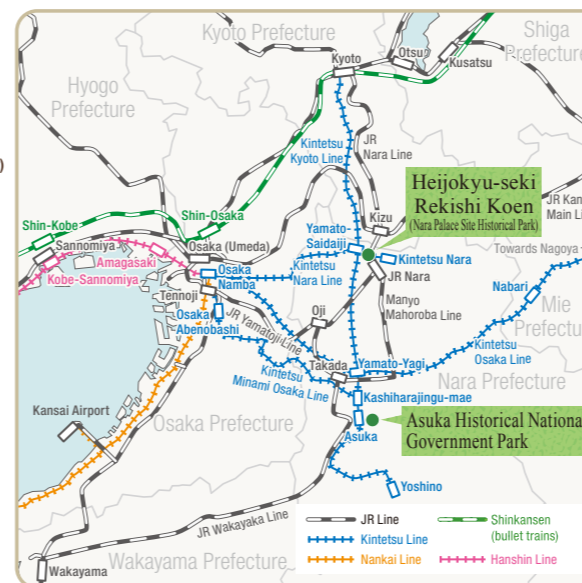
- Approx. 20 min. walk from Yamato-Saidaiji Station (south exit)
- Approx. 20 min. walk from Shin-Omiya Station
- From Kintetsu Nara Station/JR Nara Station (west exit)
 - *City bus bound for Gakuen-mae Eki Get off at Suzakumon-hiroba mae bus stop
 - *Gurutto bus (runs every 20 min. mainly at weekends and national holidays; fare ¥100) to Suzakumon-hiroba
- **Please use public transport when you visit the Heijokyu-seki Rekishi Koen (Nara Palace Site Historical Park)**



◆ Inquiries

Heijokyu-seki Rekishi Koen (Nara Palace Site Historical Park) / Heijokyu Izanai-kan (Guidance Center)
 Heijokyu-seki Management Center
 3-5-1 Nijo-Oji-Minami, Nara 630-8012
 URL: www.heijo-park.go.jp
 Tel: 0742-36-8780

Tempyo Mitsuki-kan, Tempyo Umashi-kan, Tempyo Miharashi-kan, Tempyo Tsudoi-kan, Transport Terminal
 Heijo-kyo Restoration Project (Prefectural Heijokyu-seki Rekishi Koen Management Office)
 4-6-1 Nijo-Oji-Minami, Nara 630-8012
 Tel: 0742-35-8201/Fax:0742-35-8204
<https://www.facebook.com/heijokyu4seki> (Japanese only)



平城宮跡歴史公園
 Nara Palace Site Historical Park

Heijokyu-seki Rekishi Koen

Guide Map

Feel the Nara Period