Museum Collection Exhibitions in The Collection Galleries

1F-1 Sculpture

Kyoto's Sculptures of Buddhist and Shinto Deities January 2-March 23, 2025

1F-2

Feature Exhibition

Serpentine Delights: Celebrating the Year of the Snake January 2–February 2, 2025

Feature Exhibition

Celebrating the Japanese Doll Festival

February 15-March 23, 2025 (Closed February 4-14, 2025)

1F-3 Calligraphy

Ink Traces: Calligraphy by Zen Priests January 2-February 9, 2025

Indigo Blue Sutra Manuscripts: Ornamenting the Buddha's Sacred Words February 11-March 23, 2025

1F-4

Feature Exhibition

Yamashiro Smiths of the New Era: Blades of the Mishina and Horikawa Schools January 2-March 23, 2025

1F-5 Metalwork

Special Viewing

Rediscovered Swords: Masterful Blades That Transcend the Ages January 2-March 23, 2025

1F-6

Feature Exhibition

Yamashiro Smiths of the New Era: Blades of the Mishina and Horikawa Schools January 2-March 23, 2025

Upcoming Exhibitions

Special Exhibition Commemorating Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai Japan, an Artistic Melting Pot April 19-June 15, 2025

April 19–June 15, 2025 Heisei Chishinkan Wing

Special Exhibition

Song and Yuan Buddhist Painting: Early Chinese Masterpieces in Japan

September 20-November 16, 2025 Heisei Chishinkan Wing

Cover: The Poetry Contest of the Twelve Zodioc Animals, Vol. 1, detail. Important Cultural Property. Tachi (Slung Sword) Blade. Inscription: "Kuniyasu." By Kuniyasu. Important Cultural Property. Noh Costume, Surihaku (Woman's Narrow-Sleeved Inner Robe) with Triangle Scales, detail. Kyoto National Museum. Deep Vessel with Perforated Rim. Kyoto National Museum. Hina Dolls, Jirázaermo Type. Irie Hakó Collection, Gift of Irie Yüschirö. Kyoto National Museum.

English translations by Melissa M. Rinne, Senior Specialist, and Chloe Pearce, Research Fellow

ADMISSION

January 2-March 23, 2025:

Admission to the Museum Collection Galleries

Adult ¥700 Univ. Student ¥350

Admission is free for high school students and those under age o-17 and for visitors with disabilities with one caregiver. Please show ID.

Admission is reduced by 500 yen for Campus Members (including faculty) able to produce ID.

December 3-28, 2024, and March 25-April 17, 2025:

Admission to the Museum Gardens and Outdoor Exhibits: Adult ¥300 Univ. Student ¥350

Admission is free for high school students and those under age o-17, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities with one caregiver, and Campus Members including faculty. Please show ID. Guide booklet is provided with adult admission only.

HOURS

December 3,2024-April 17, 2025:

Tuesdays-Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays 9:30 am-5:00 pm (Entrance until 4:30 pm)

Fridays

9:30 am- 8:00 pm (Entrance until 7:30 pm)

CLOSED ON MONDAYS

*When Monday is a national holiday, the museum remains open on Monday and closes the following day (Tuesday). *The museum will also be closed December 29, 2024 to January 1, 2025. JANUAR

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ACCESS

VIA JR OR SUBWAY

Get off at Kyoto Station. From bus platform D2 in front of the station, take City Bus #206 or #208 to the "Hakubutsukan Sanjusangendo-mae" bus stop. Walk about one minute to the museum.

VIA KEIHAN RAILWAY

Get off at Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo/Nanajo Street (about seven minutes) to the museum.

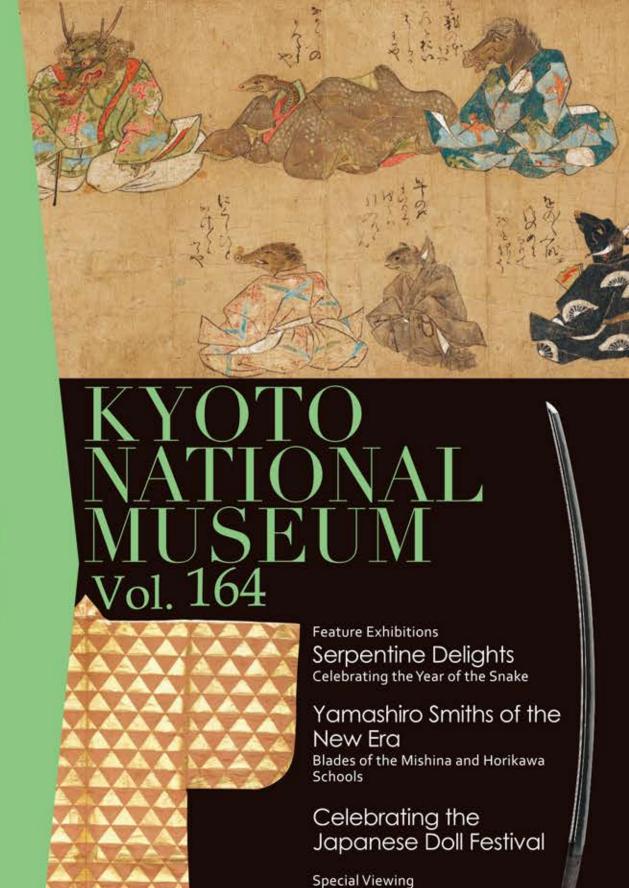
VIA HANKYU RAILWAY

Get off at Kyoto-Kawaramachi Station. Walk east over the bridge to the Keihan Railway Gion-Shijo Station. Take an Osaka-bound Keihan train to Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo/Nanajo Street (about seven minutes) to the museum.

KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM

527 Chaya-cho, Higashiyama-ku Kyoto, Japan 605-0931 Tel. (075) 525-2473 https://www.kyohaku.go.jp/





Rediscovered Swords

Ages

Masterful Blades That Transcend the















Feature Exhibition Serpentine Delights Celebrating the Year of the Snake January 2-February 2, 2025, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-2

2025 marks the Year of the Snake in the Chinese zodiac. How do you feel about snakes? Are they cute, mysterious, or perhaps a little creepy?

Throughout history, people have been both fascinated and frightened by these long-bodied creatures. In many cultures, snakes have been seen as deities of water and symbols of abundance, believed to possess special

As you explore this New Year's exhibition, please feel free to take a worksheet and enjoy discovering the many types of snakes slithering throughout the galleries! (Mizutani Aki, Curator of Education)



Important Cultural Property
The Poetry Contest of the Twelve Zodiac Animals, Vol. 1, detail



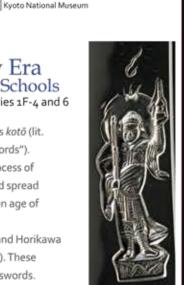
Important Cultural Property
Catalogue of Early Chinese Characters (Zhuanli wenti), detail landscroll, ink on paper Bishamon-do Temple, Kyoto



| Textile with Lions, Snakes, and Flowering Plants, detail Stencil-dyed and hand-painted cotton (chintz) with gold Kyoto National Museum



Noh Costume, Surihaku (Woman's Narrow-Sleeved nner Robe) with Triangle Scales Silk satin with pasted metallic foil



Deep Vessel with Perforated Rim

Feature Exhibition

Yamashiro Smiths of the New Era Blades of the Mishina and Horikawa Schools January 2-March 23, 2025, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 1F-4 and 6

Swords made prior to the Keichō era (1596-1615) are known as kotō (lit. "ancient swords"), which were followed by shinto (lit. "new swords"). Production of these new shinto blades emerged during the process of rebuilding Kyoto, which had been ravaged by various wars, and spread throughout the country, ultimately culminating in a new golden age of Japanese smithing.

This exhibition introduces blades by the luminary Mishina and Horikawa schools, each based in Yamashiro province (present-day Kyoto). These masterworks exemplify the elegance and dynamism of shintö swords. (Suekane Toshihiko, Curator of Japanese Metalware)

Tantō (Dagger) Blades By Kunihiro (dates unknown). Forged steel. Left; inscription: "Fujiwara no Kunihiro, a resident of Hyūga province / A day of the 8th month of Tenshō 17."

Gift of Katö Kiyonobu. Kyoto National Museum

Gift of Matsui Hideo. Kyoto National Museum Right; inscription: "Shinano no Kami Kunihiro, a resident of Hyūga province / ious day of the 2nd month of Tenshō 19."





Three magnificent swords designated as Important Cultural Properties have recently come into the collection of the Kyoto National Museum. The blades were crafted by master smiths representing key regions of sword production-Yamashiro, Bizen, and Bitchü. Yet these swords are relatively unknown, as they have not been exhibited to the public for nearly a half century. This special viewing celebrates the reemergence of these masterpieces, while showcasing the Kyoto National Museum's efforts to protect and preserve Japan's extraordinary cultural heritage.

Masterful Blades That Transcend the Ages

January 2-March 23, 2025, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-5

(Suekane Toshihiko, Curator of Japanese Metalware)

Important Cultural Property Tachi (Slung Sword) Blade By Kuniyasu (dates unknown). Forged steel On view January 2-26

Special Viewing

Rediscovered Swords

mportant Cultural Property Tachi (Slung Sword) Blade Inscription: "Yoshikage, resident of Osafune in Bizen province." By Yoshikage (dates unknown). Forged steel voto National Museum view January 28-February 24

Feature Exhibition

Celebrating the Japanese Doll Festival February 15-March 23, 2025, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-2

The Japanese custom of displaying hina dolls on the third day of the third month began in the Edo period (1615-1868). The Doll Festival (Hina Matsuri) is known as a day to pray for the health and happiness of girls, but it originated as a ritual of purification, when the accumulated defilements from the daily lives of actual children would be transferred onto surrogate figurines. These were eventually linked with child's play and evolved into the elaborate hina doll sets displayed in the home.

This exhibition traces the evolution of hina dolls in Kyoto, beginning with styles popular during the Edo period and culminating in lavish doll sets featuring elaborate palace structures.

(Yamauchi Maiko, Curator of Textiles, Costume, and Japanese Dolls)



Hina Dolls, Standing Yüsoku bina Type Wood with shell white (gofun), silk, cotton, ink, pigments, et al.

Museum Collection Exhibitions in The Collection Galleries

3F-2 Ceramics

Ninsei and Kyoto Ware: Ceramics Techniques of Omuro Kiln Fragments January 2-March 16, 2025 (Closed March 18-23, 2025)

3F-2 Archaeological Relics

Japanese Sue Ware and Korean Ceramics Archaeological Artifacts of Japan January 2-March 16, 2025 (Closed March 18-23, 2025)

2F-1 Illustrated Handscrolls

Shrines of Hachiman and Itsukushima January 2-February 9, 2025 Words Within Images: The Intertwining of Text and Illustration February 11-March 23, 2025

2F-2 Buddhist Paintings

Twelve Devas Screens and the World of Esoteric Buddhist Ritual January 2-February 9, 2025 Parinirvana: Picturing the Death of the February 11-March 23, 2025

2F-3 Medieval Paintings

The Beauty of Pine, Bamboo, and Plum January 2-February 9, 2025 Paintings of Agriculture February 11-March 23, 2025

2F-4 Momoyama-Edo Paintings Japan's Women Painters

January 2-February 9, 2025 Artists' Sketches February 11-March 23, 2025

2F-5 Chinese Paintings

The Prosperity and Paintings of Yangzhou, the "Salt City": Landscape with Pavilions by Yuan Jiang and Wang Yun January 2-February 9, 2025 Paintings by Qi Baishi from the Suma Collection February 11-March 23, 2025

