

What's Up Aichi

— Timely Tourist Information On Aichi Prefecture And The Surrounding Central Japan Region —

Celebrate Nagoya's Rich History Throughout the Fall

City's Biggest Festival to be Held October 3 and 4

Every autumn, Nagoya resurrects the warlords who hailed from the Aichi and shaped Japan's history. This year the **Nagoya Festival** will be held on October 3 and 4.

The stars of the 55th Nagoya Festival will once again be the region's proudest sons. Oda Nobunaga achieved unprecedented unification through his implementation of advanced warfare and cunning strategy. His successor, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, would build on Nobunaga's success to become the first *daimyo* to unify all of Japan. Ieyasu Tokugawa won out in Japan's most famous battle to take over leadership of the country after Hideyoshi's death. He established a shogunate that would rule Japan for the next two and a half centuries. All three heroes—or, rather, their modern day impersonators—are "unified" in the festival parade both days and are accompanied by a procession of loyal *samurai*.



Nagoya Festival brings the city's history to life

Also a draw to the parade are nine unique *kagura* that were built in the Edo period. The traditional floats are designated cultural assets of Nagoya, and each represents the pride of one of the city's neighborhoods. The float procession, held on Sunday, begins at Nagoya City Hall and ends in the Sakae district.

Premier Nagoya Sites Free on Festival Sunday

Visitors to the Nagoya Festival should also be sure to try to pack in a few visits to the city's most popular sites. The major attractions below will offer **free admission** on Sunday, October 4, the second day of the festival.

Nagoya Castle

http://www.nagoyajo.city.nagoya.jp/13_english/index.html

Boasting a 400-year history, the city's most iconic site and former residence of the Owari Clan of the Tokugawa family.

Nagoya City Science Museum

<http://www.ncsm.city.nagoya.jp/english/> Three exhibit halls—Science and Technology, Astronomy and Life Sciences—offer visitors a chance to witness the world's natural wonders.

Nagoya City Art Museum

Exhibits spanning local artists to the Mexican renaissance.

Orchid Hall

Two-hundred-fifty species of orchids and exhibits focusing on flower arrangement.

Shirotori Garden

Nagoya's largest traditional garden featuring seasonal flowers.

Agriculture Park

Countless treasures of the plant and insect kingdom.

Higashiyama Zoo and Botanical Gardens

http://www.higashiyama.city.nagoya.jp/14_english/index.html

Giraffes and koalas are the premier attractions among 550 animal species. The 134 meter Skytower provides breathtaking views of the city day and night.

Nagoya City Museum

A collection of the documents and artifacts that tell the long history of the city.

Tokugawa-en (Tokugawa Garden)

<http://www.tokugawaen.city.nagoya.jp/english/index.html>

Stunning garden inspired by the traditions of the Tokugawa court balances water, stone and plant life. Autumn visitors are treated to fragrant tea trees and colorful maples.



The West Lake Bridge at Tokugawa-en

Cultural Path Futaba Museum

<http://www.futabakan.city.nagoya.jp/english/index.html>

The sprawling former home of stage star Sadayakko Kawakami, "Japan's first actress," and her wealthy love interest. One of Nagoya's most unique tourist attractions.

Cultural Path Shumokukan

<http://www.shumokukan.city.nagoya.jp/english/index.html>

The house that pottery built. This former residence of ceramics exporter Tamesaburo Imoto is a rare chance to explore a tranquil traditional home in the heart of the city.

Togokusan Fruit Park

An impressive collection of fruit trees from around the world. Visitors enjoy picking seasonal fruits and will be awed by the array of shapes, sizes and colors found in the tropical fruit exhibit. Figs, chestnuts, apples and Asian pears are among the natural treats that can be enjoyed during the fall season.

Nagoya Castle Marks an Important Anniversary

This year is a momentous one for Nagoya's most recognizable landmark, Nagoya Castle, and visitors still have time to be a part of history.

The original construction of the castle was completed in 1612 and the castle stood as one of the city's most imposing structures for over three centuries. In 1945, however, the castle was almost entirely burnt down during World War II air raids.



Nagoya Castle, symbol of the city's rebirth

In 1959, Nagoya Castle was restored to its former glory. The castle's keep and its tireless guardians, the ornate *kinshachi* (golden dolphins) that adorn the main ridge of the structure, were resurrected and came to symbolize the city's emergence from the war and mark a new era for a city that would be key to Japan's post-war recovery.



Just one of the castle's many priceless artifacts

In celebration of the 50th anniversary, 100 or so rare treasures are on display at

Nagoya Castle through September 27. Included in the exhibit, which showcases properties of Nagoya Castle and the Nagoya Castle Promotion Association, are an ancient scroll painting depicting life around the castle that dates to the middle of the Edo era and ornate body armor from the late 16th century.

Upcoming Festivals

Takayama Autumn Festival, October 9, 10
Breathtaking floats and traditional puppets fill the mountain city of Takayama in Aichi's neighboring Gifu prefecture. One of Japan's biggest festivals.

Owaki Hashigojishi, October 11
The town of Toyoake invokes a rich harvest with death-defying stunts performed high above the ground. The highlight is a mid-air lion dance.

Doburoku Festival, October 15
Unfiltered *sake* flows plentifully at Okazaki City's Kumano Shrine.

Toyohashi Festival, October 17, 18
Toyohashi's biggest extravaganza. The highlight is a citywide dance involving 10,000 revelers.

Koran Kei Autumn Festival
Throughout November, the mountainous northeastern region of Aichi prefecture celebrates the season that turns its countless maple trees into a breathtaking sight. Evening illumination sets the forest around the town of Asuke aglow.

Yabusame Festival, November 23
At the Tado Shrine in Mie prefecture, just over the Aichi border, able archers and steady steeds work together to awe visitors. The serene shrine and the archers' traditional garb will take you back 1000 years.

i-REAL Mobility Devices on the Ground at Centrair

Since opening in 2004, Central Japan International Airport (Centrair) in Nagoya has been lauded as the most convenient and modern gateway to Japan. This summer, Centrair teamed up with Central Japan's best known company, Toyota Motor Corporation, to employ the automobile manufacturer's personal mobility devices and further modernize the travel experience, making the airport safer and more convenient for passengers.

Travelers utilizing Centrair are likely to encounter one of four **i-REALS**, environmentally friendly personal mobility vehicles that are a harbinger of Toyota's future product offerings. The personal mobility devices utilize an ultra-modern lithium ion battery and an in-wheel motor and emit no carbon dioxide. Much of the i-REAL, including its interior trim, seat cushions and panels, is made from plant-derived materials.



A Centrair employee takes the i-REAL for a spin

Centrair will utilize four i-REALS in total—three for security applications and one to provide information to travelers as a mobile information booth.

The security-focused Kei operates at brisk walking speeds during most tasks, increasing to almost 10 mph in the event of emergencies. Kei is also equipped with an Automatic External Defibrillator, making it ideal for life-or-death situations.

i-REAL Ann upends the paradigm of airport information being distributed from stationary booths. The computer-equipped Ann enables Centrair's staff to provide on-the-spot guidance about ground transportation and airport amenities to travelers. Ann is also ideal for escorting passengers through the airport.

Direct flights into Centrair depart from Honolulu and Detroit.

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