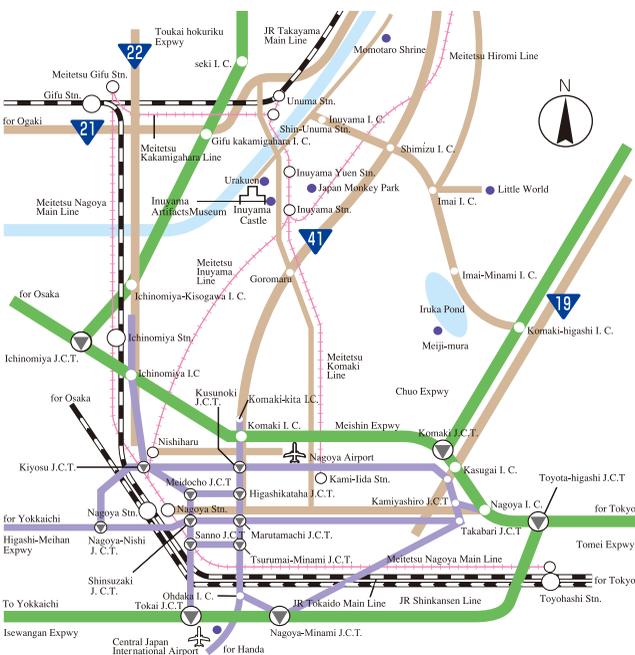
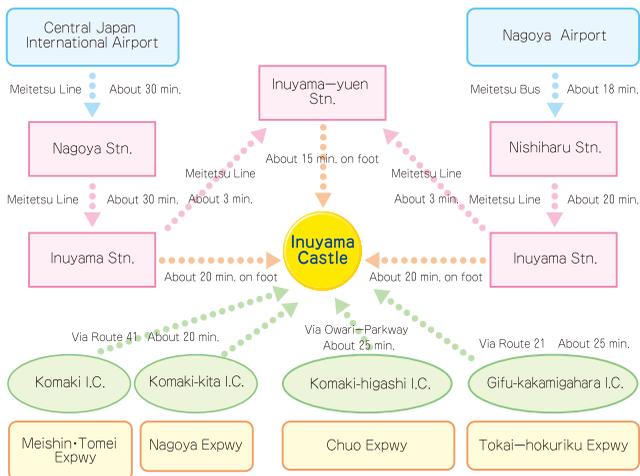


● Access to Inuyama Castle



Classification	Admission fee
Individual : Adults	1,000 yen
Individual : Children (ages 6-15)	200 yen
Group : 30-99 persons	Adults 900yen・Children (ages 6-15) 180yen
Group : 100-299 persons	Adults 800yen・Children (ages 6-15) 160yen
Group : 300 or more	Adults 700yen・Children (ages 6-15) 140yen
Opening hours 9a.m.~5p.m. (Admission until 4:30p.m.)	Closed December 29 - 31

NATIONAL TREASURE

大山城

INUYAMA CASTLE

白帝城

An encounter with Japan's medieval past...

Inuyama (Hakutei) Castle

A National Treasure



◆ Inquiry ◆

For further information about Inuyama Castle,
 please call The Inuyama Castle Administrative Office :
 Tel.0568-61-1711 Fax 0568-61-5611
 65-2 Kita-Koken, Inuyama, Inuyama City 〒484-0082
 The Inuyama Tourist Information Center : Tel.0568-61-6000
 For tourist information about Inuyama City
 URL <http://www.inuyama.gr.jp>

History of Inuyama Castle

Inuyama Castle was built at its present location around 1537 by Oda Yojirou Nobuyasu, an uncle of Oda Nobunaga (one of Japan's greatest samurai warriors who attempted to unify the nation during the period of the Warring States). It is the oldest standing castle in Japan.



In the years following its construction, lordship of the castle changed frequently. The largest configuration of the castle was completed around the time of the Battle of Sekigahara in the year 1600. In 1584, during the Battle of Komaki Nagakute, Toyotomi Hideyoshi and his army of 120,000 strong from Osaka entered the castle, from which he waged war against Tokugawa Ieyasu and Oda Nobukatsu, whose forces were spread over Komaki Mountain.

Lordship of the castle was bestowed on Naruse Masanari in 1617 during the Edo Period and was maintained by Naruse and his descendants until the Meiji Period.

In 1871 (Meiji 4), during the rule of Naruse Masamitsu, the castle's 9th lord, Inuyama Castle lost most of its administrative and political status as well as its military significance due to the abolition of the clan system and the establishment of the prefectures. Consequently, most of the castle's surrounding buildings were torn down. The central keep and the stone wall, as you see them today, were the only structures left intact.

In 1891 (Meiji 24), the west side of the main keep and turrets on the southeast were destroyed by the Great Nobi Earthquake. And the castle was handed over to a former lord of Inuyama Castle, Masamitsu, on the condition that he would oversee extensive repairs to the castle.

In 1961, extensive reconstruction work on the castle began. And the castle restoration was completed four years later in 1965 (Showa 40).

In 1935, Inuyama Castle was designated as a National Treasure.

In 2004, it was decided that the castle would be maintained under a new foundation, "Inuyamajou Hakutei Bunko".



The castle tower configuration

Total floor area

698.775m² (including gateways on the lower ground levels one and two)

Structural form

Castle with watchtower

Exterior appearance

Three tiered (four storeys in the main castle tower and a two-storey-high stone wall).



First floor

"Nando-no-Ma" (storage closet chamber), area:282.752m²
The center portion of the first storey is partitioned into four chambers, with a raised floor of 7-sun (about 21 cm) in the south-west section. "The Jodan-no-Ma" faces south and serves as a special chamber. It was a sitting chamber for the lord of the castle. The 8-mat chamber north to the "Jodan-no-Ma" is called the "Mushagakushi" (warrior's hiding-place) and is a barrack for warriors who guarded the road in case of any emergency.

The two chambers on the east are 6-mat and 8-mat closet chambers. The four chambers are surrounded with 2-ken (3.64 m) wide wooden floors called "Mushabashiri". During recent reconstruction work, an attached turret at the southwest corner and the "Ishi-Otoshi-no-Ma", or stone-throwing chamber, were completely restored because two of them had been destroyed by the Great Nobi Earthquake of 1891.

Second storey

"Bugu-no-Ma" (armory), area:246.006m². The center area is the armory and storage shelves are installed along every wall except the one facing south.

Third storey

"Hafu-no-Ma" (gable chamber), area:81.936m². 77 years after the donjon was constructed in 1537, extension work on the "Kara-hafu" (Chinese gable) was commissioned during the 70 year rule of lord Naruse and his son.

Fourth storey

"Koran-no-Ma" (balcony chamber), area 49.835m². A gallery and balconies installed on all sides command an exquisite view of the city.

Stone walls of castle tower

The process that was used to lift the unprocessed natural stones into place was called "Nozura-Zumi". The process did not allow for the creation of a steep stone gradient.

Height of stone walls: about 5 meters

Height of castle tower: about 19 meters