

ENGLISH

(For kids)

Nagoya Castle



City of Nagoya

〈 History of Nagoya Castle 〉

Year	Event
1610	Construction of Nagoya Castle begins by order of Tokugawa Ieyasu.
1612	The Main Tower Keep is completed.
1615	Hommaru Palace is completed.
1752	The Main Tower Keep and its foundation are repaired in large scale during the Great Repair of the Horeki period.
1872	The Imperial Army's barracks are established at Nagoya Castle.
1891	Many of Nagoya Castle's structures are destroyed in the Mino-Owari Earthquake.
1893	Control of Hommaru Palace is transferred from the Imperial Army to the Imperial Household Agency, and the palace is referred to as the "Nagoya Detached Imperial Palace".
1930	Control of Hommaru Palace is transferred from the Imperial Household Agency to the city of Nagoya, and 24 structures are designated national treasures.
1945	The Main Tower Keep and Hommaru Palace are burned down in the Bombing of Nagoya.
1957	Reconstruction of the Main Tower Keep and Sub Tower Keep begins (with completion in 1959).
2009	Restoration of Hommaru Palace begins (partly reopened to the public in 2013).
2018	Restoration of Hommaru Palace is completed and the palace is fully opened to the public.
2021	Nishinomaru Okura Museum opens.

〈 Figures Associated with Nagoya Castle 〉

Tokugawa Ieyasu



Tokugawa Ieyasu relocated a town from Kiyosu, which had often experienced flooding, to the Nagoya (Atsuta) plateau in what is known as the "Kiyosu-goshi". He constructed Nagoya Castle as the key defense against threats from western Japan.

Tokugawa Yoshinao



As the ninth son of Ieyasu, Tokugawa Yoshinao moved to Nagoya Castle in 1614 and became the first lord of Owari Domain in 1616.

Tokugawa Iemitsu



As the third Tokugawa shogun, Tokugawa Iemitsu stayed at Nagoya Castle's Hommaru Palace in 1634. The Shogun Accommodation Facilities, the Bathing Room, and other spots were newly added for his stay.

Tokugawa Muneharu



Tokugawa Muneharu became the seventh lord of the domain in 1730. Opposing the Kyoho Reform, introduced by the eighth Tokugawa shogun Yoshimune to encourage people to practice economy, he promoted theater and dance and helped to develop Nagoya as a center of the arts.

Tokugawa Yoshikatsu



As the 14th lord of the domain, Tokugawa Yoshikatsu led Nagoya in the last days of the Tokugawa regime. In the Meiji period, he served as the second governor of Nagoya Domain. In 1870, he proposed that the Kinshachi of Nagoya Castle be presented to the Imperial Household Agency. In the following year, the Kinshachi were removed from the Main Tower Keep, but brought back in 1879.



Hommaru Palace Today

Hommaru Palace, burned down in WWII, was restored to its original state in 2018 thanks to photos and accurate plans from the past.



Main Hall (restored)



Entrance Hall (restored)

The Hommaru Palace of the Past

Praised as a masterpiece of castle palaces in the early modern period, the palace, as well as the Main Tower Keep, is the first castle structure to have been designated as a National Treasure. However, the palace was burned down in 1945 during WWII.



Main Hall



Entrance Hall

Main Tower Keep



Featuring five stories above and one under the ground, the tower is 55.6 m high including its stone wall. The structure was burned down in the Bombing of Nagoya in 1945, but reconstructed in 1959.

Hommaru Palace

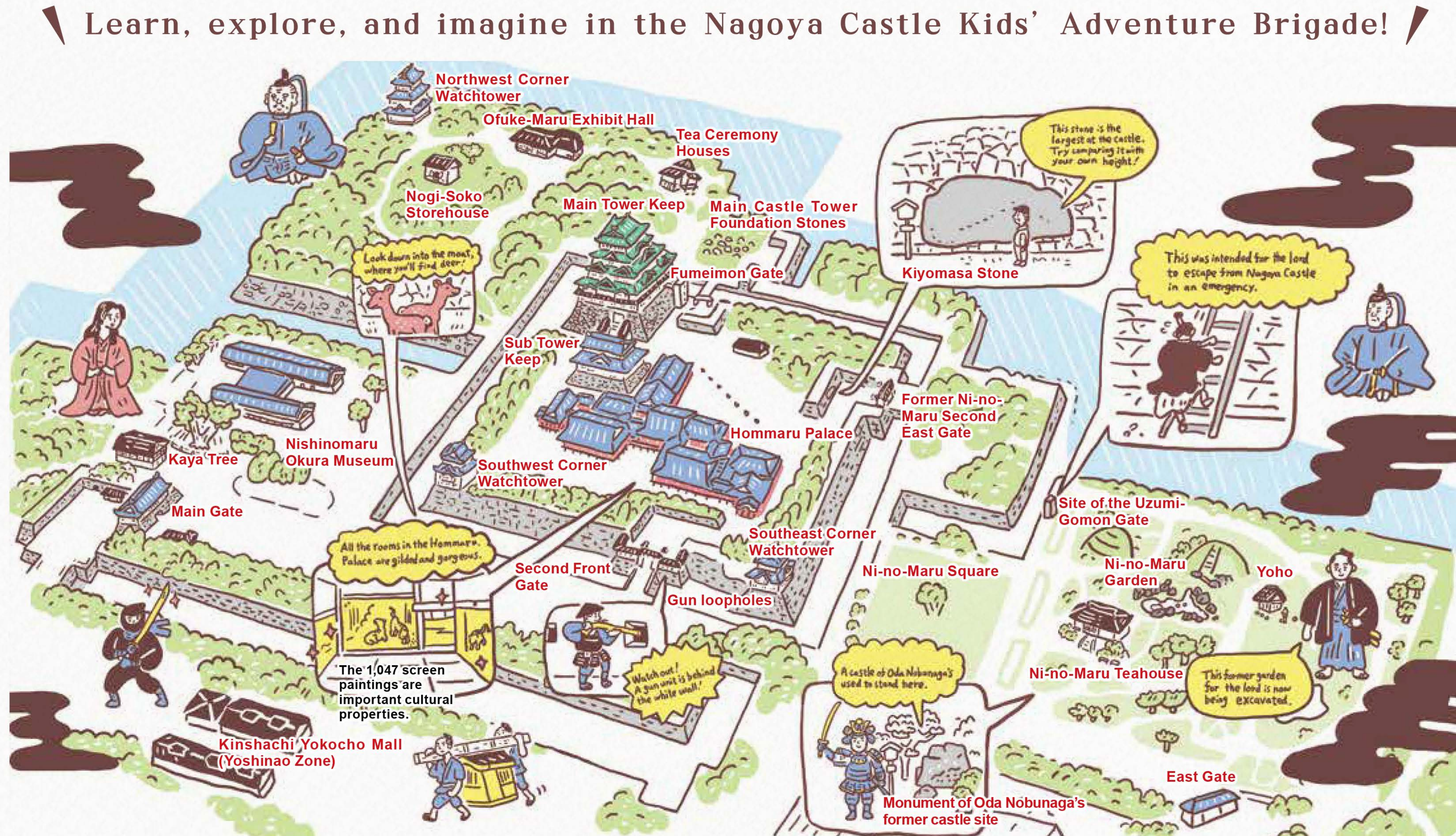


After its completion as the residence for the domain lord and the place for the domain's politics, this structure began to be used as a shogunate palace. Although it was burned down in the Bombing of Nagoya, it was restored in 2018.

Ni-no-Maru Garden



Constructed by the first lord of the domain, this garden was renovated on a large scale by the 10th lord of the domain. Presently, the garden is being restored to how it looked during the Edo period.



Southwest Corner Watchtower



Although this looks like a two-story structure, it is actually a three-story tower. Its roof tiles have been inscribed with the Imperial crest of the chrysanthemum (symbol of the Imperial Family).

Southeast Corner Watchtower



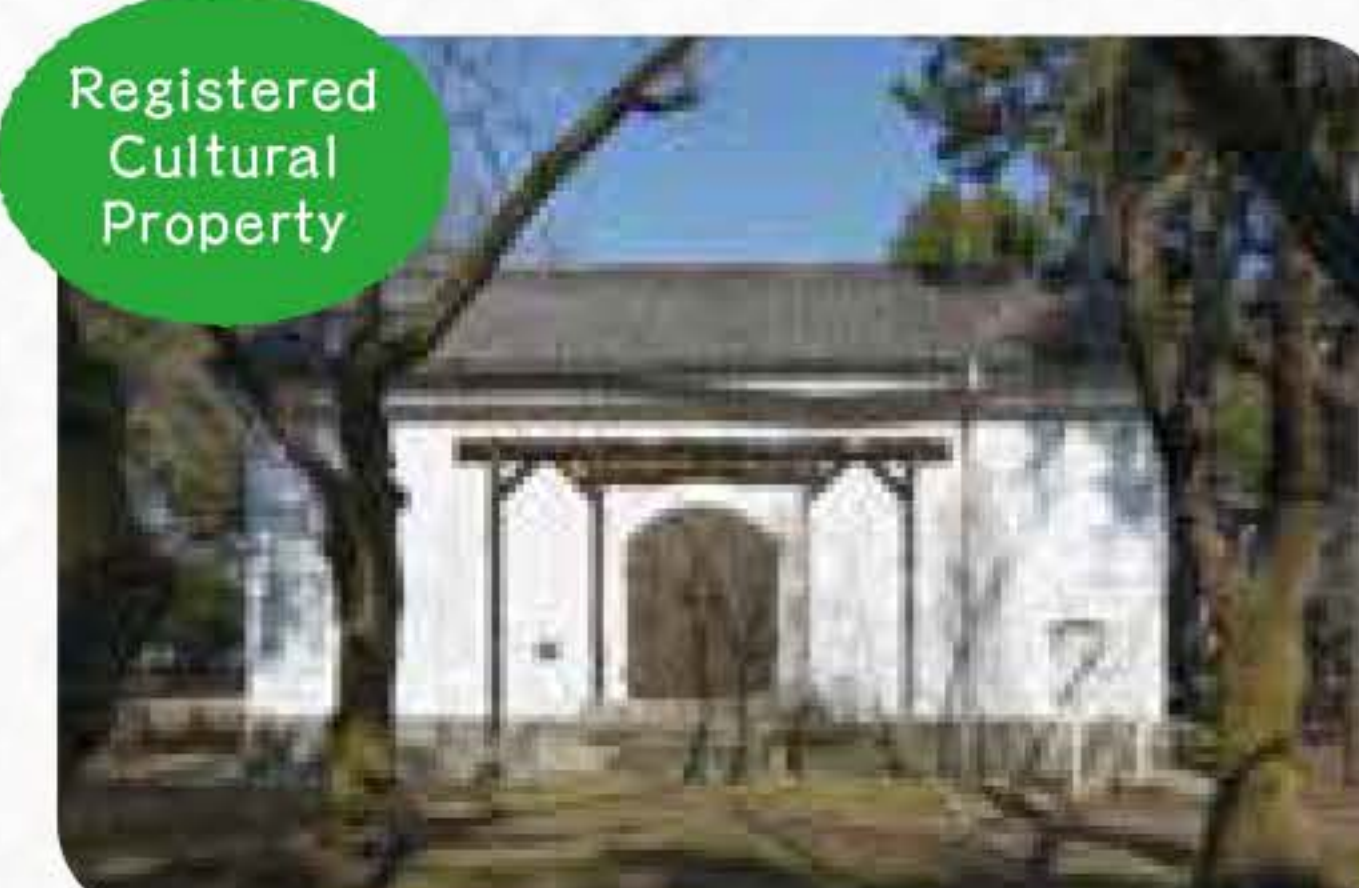
Although this looks like a two-story structure, it is actually a three-story tower. Its roof tiles have been inscribed with the hollyhock crest (symbol of the Tokugawa Family).

Northwest Corner Watchtower



This is a three-story structure. Wooden materials from other structures were used in its construction. The structure is also known as the "Kiyosu Watchtower".

Nogi-Soko Storehouse



This structure was constructed as a munitions depot for the army in the Meiji period. The screen paintings of Hommaru Palace were relocated here for protection from air raids, preventing them from being destroyed.



Second Front Gate

With its posts and doors covered with iron plates, the gate features gun loopholes in the plaster walls on both sides of the gate.



Former Ni-no-Maru Second East Gate

Originally located in the Ni-no-Maru Area, this gate was relocated to the former site of the Hommaru Second East Gate in 1972.

Explore the Attractive Features of Nagoya Castle!



If you take a close look, you will find many attractive features at Nagoya Castle. How many can you find?



Kinshachi

Kinshachi, the symbols of Nagoya Castle, have been modeled from an imaginary creature with the head of a tiger and the body of a fish.



Carved Seals

Daimyo lords carved their seals in stones to be shipped for use in the castle wall, distinguishing them as their property. Search for a wide variety of seals.



Tsurugi-bei (Sword Wall)

This wall was intended to prevent enemy entry. Could you have gotten over it?



Kaya Tree

National
Natural
Monument

This torreya tree is 200 years older than Nagoya Castle. It might know the castle better than anyone else.



Nishinomaru Okura Museum

This museum exhibits the castle's property, including the screen paintings of Hommaru Palace, which are designated National Important Cultural Properties.

● Website Information

<https://www.nagoyajo.city.nagoya.jp/en/>



Nagoya Castle General Administration Office

1-1 Hommaru, Naka-ku, Nagoya-shi 460-0031

Phone: (052) 231-1700 Fax: (052) 201-3646

