

Museum Collection Exhibitions in  
**The Collection Galleries**

**1F-2 Feature Exhibition**

**The Shimazu Clan of Satsuma and Tōfuku-ji's Sokushū-in Temple**

December 16, 2025–January 25, 2026

Sokushū-in is one of the many subtemples found within the precincts of Kyoto's massive Tōfuku-ji Temple complex. It was established in 1387 by Gōchū Genjū (1318–1388), the 54th abbot of Tōfuku-ji, in honor of Lord Shimazu Ujihisa (1328–1387). Sokushū-in then served as a family temple of the Shimazu Clan for generations.

Many of the cultural properties part of the temple's long history were scattered during the chaos of the Meiji Restoration in the late 1800s. However, in fiscal year 2022, the museum received a generous donation of historical documents and decorative arts once belonging to Sokushū-in. This Feature Exhibition commemorates the remarkable re-emergence of these works after some 150 years, drawing primarily on historical documents to introduce a selection of these precious materials.

(By Hada Satoshi, Chair of the Department of Exhibitions and Public Relations)

**1F-3 Calligraphy**

**Ink Traces: Calligraphy from Tōfuku-ji Temple**

December 16, 2025–January 25, 2026

**1F-4 Textiles and Costume**

**Auspicious Motifs in Japanese Textiles**

December 16, 2025–February 1, 2026

**1F-5 Metalwork**

**Sacred Offerings: Mirrors, Keman Ornaments, and Armor**

December 16, 2025–February 1, 2026

**1F-6 Lacquerware**

**Elegance Crafted in Kyoto: The Minoya Lacquer Collection**

December 16, 2025–February 1, 2026

## Exhibition Schedule

**Feature Exhibition**

**Celebrating the Japanese Doll Festival**

February 7–March 15, 2026

Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-2

**Special Exhibition**

**Kitano Tenjin: Legends of a Shinto God**

April 18–June 14, 2026

Heisei Chishinkan Wing

Cover: Guanyin (Avalokiteśvara), detail. By Muqi. Daitoku-ji Temple, Kyoto. National Treasure. Nine Star Deities of the North Dipper, detail. Hōgon-ji Temple, Shiga. Important Cultural Property. The Four Sleepers, detail. Inscription by Pingshi Ruzhi, Huanguo Ziwen, and Mengtang Tan'e. Tokyo National Museum. Important Cultural Property. The works listed above are on view October 23–November 16, 2025. Kosode (Kimono) with Horse Race at Kanigama Shrine, detail. Gift of Nagata Shichirō, Kyoto National Museum. On view December 16, 2025–January 25, 2026. Bamboo and Tiger, detail. By Ogata Kōrin. Kyoto National Museum. Ogata Kōrin's Karuta Playing Cards. By Ogata Kōrin. The works listed above are on view December 16, 2025–February 1, 2026.

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

## ADMISSION

**September 20–November 16, 2025:**

Special Exhibition Admission

**Adult ¥2000 (¥1800)**

**Univ. Student ¥1200 (¥1000)**

**High School Student ¥700 (¥500)**

Fees in parentheses are for groups of 20+.

Admission is free for visitors under age 15, junior high school students, and for visitors with disabilities and one caregiver. Please show ID.

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

\*During special exhibition periods, all visitors must pay special exhibition admission.

**November 18–December 14, 2025:**

Admission to the Museum Gardens and Outdoor Exhibits

**Adult ¥300 Univ. Student ¥150**

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

**December 16, 2025–March 22, 2026:**

Admission to the Museum Collection Galleries

**Adult ¥700 Univ. Student ¥350**

Admission is free for visitors under age 17, high school students, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities and one caregiver, and Campus Members (including faculty). Please show ID.

## HOURS

**September 20–November 16, 2025:**

Tuesdays–Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays

9:00 am–5:30 pm (entrance until 5:00 pm)

Fridays

9:00 am–8:00 pm (entrance until 7:30 pm)

**November 18, 2025–March 22, 2026:**

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 on December 29, 2025–January 1, 2026.

## 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/>



NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2025

# KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM Vol. 167

Special Exhibition  
Song and Yuan Buddhist Painting  
Early Chinese Masterpieces in Japan

New Year's Feature Exhibition  
Pony Tales  
Celebrating the Year of the Horse

Feature Exhibition  
Ogata Kōrin's Karuta Playing Cards  
and the Konishi Family Archives



Special Exhibition  
**Song and Yuan Buddhist Painting**  
 Early Chinese Masterpieces in Japan  
 September 20–November 16, 2025, Heisei Chishinkan Wing

Japan is home to some of the most significant early Chinese Buddhist paintings in the world. Japanese monks and envoys who traveled to Song (960–1279) and Yuan (1271–1368) dynasty China—renowned for its sophisticated Buddhist artistic tradition—brought numerous works back across the sea. These masterpieces were typically enshrined in temples, where they were preserved for hundreds of years. Chinese Buddhist paintings served not only as devotional objects but also as important models for Japanese artists, becoming deeply integrated into Japanese culture. The paintings imported between the eleventh and fourteenth centuries are of particularly high artistic quality. This exhibition explores the distinctive characteristics and rich diversity of Song and Yuan Buddhist paintings, delving into the enduring allure of these rare treasures that have been cherished in Japan for centuries.

(By Morihashi Natsumi, Associate Curator of Chinese Painting)

National Treasure  
**Peacock Wisdom Sovereign (Mahāmāyūrī)**  
 China, Northern Song dynasty, 11th–12th century  
 Hanging scroll; ink and colors on silk  
 Ninna-ji Temple, Kyoto (on view September 20–October 19, 2025)



Feature Exhibition  
**Ogata Kōrin's Karuta Playing Cards and the Konishi Family Archives**

December 16, 2025–February 1, 2026, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-4, 5

Archival materials related to Ogata Kōrin (1658–1716) provide invaluable insight into the celebrated Rinpa artist. Passed down within the Konishi family into which his son Junichirō was adopted, they include not only records of the Kariganeya, a prominent Kyoto textile business run by the Ogata family, but also documents concerned with household finances and daily life, along with a broad range of Kōrin's original sketches and designs.

The Kyoto National Museum was recently entrusted with the "Kōrin Karuta," a renowned set of *karuta* playing cards hand-painted by Kōrin which illustrate the poetry anthology *Ogura hyakunin isshu* (One Hundred Poets, One Poem Each). The museum's collection includes sketches for this very card set. This exhibition showcases the Kōrin *Karuta* along with the corresponding sketches and other related materials from the Konishi Family Archives. Together, these works reveal the foundational elements of Kōrin's artistry and highlight the importance of these precious materials.

(By Fukushi Yūya, Chair of the Department of Conservation Administration)

Important Cultural Property  
**Sketches of Karuta Playing Cards**  
 From the Konishi Family Archives  
 By Ogata Kōrin (1658–1716)  
 One of 235 sheets; ink on paper  
 Japan, Edo period, 18th century  
 Kyoto National Museum



**Ogata Kōrin's Karuta Playing Cards**  
 By Ogata Kōrin (1658–1716)  
 Japan, Edo period, 18th century  
 Ink, colors, and gold foil on paper



National Treasure  
**Guanyin (Avalokiteśvara), Gibbons, and Crane**  
 By Muqi (dates unknown)  
 China, Southern Song dynasty, 13th century  
 Three hanging scrolls; ink and light colors on silk  
 Daitoku-ji Temple, Kyoto (on view October 21–November 16, 2025)



New Year's Feature Exhibition  
**Pony Tales**  
 Celebrating the Year of the Horse

December 16, 2025–January 25, 2026, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-1–3

2026 marks the Year of the Horse in the Chinese zodiac. Have you ever encountered a horse up close? Although now there are less chances to see them, in the past horses were a part of everyday life in Japan. They carried people, hauled heavy loads, and completed all kinds of hard work. A fast and beautiful horse was every warrior's dream.

This exhibition showcases Cultural Properties depicting horses. We invite you to take a worksheet and enjoy the many kinds of horses galloping through the galleries.

(By Mizutani Aki, Curator of Education)



**Kosode (Kimono) with Horse Race at Kamigamo Shrine**  
 Silk crepe with yūzen dyeing and embroidery  
 Japan, Edo period, 18th century  
 Gift of Nagata Shichirō  
 Kyoto National Museum



Museum Collection Exhibitions in  
**The Collection Galleries**

**3F-1 Ceramics**  
 Polychrome Porcelain from the Late Ming and Early Qing Dynasties  
 Ceramics of Japan and East Asia  
 December 16, 2025–March 15, 2026

**3F-2 Archaeological Relics**  
 Archaeological Materials from Northern Kyoto  
 Archaeological Artifacts of Japan  
 December 16, 2025–March 15, 2026

**2F-1–3 New Year's Feature Exhibition**  
 Pony Tales  
 Celebrating the Year of the Horse  
 December 16, 2025–January 25, 2026

**2F-4, 5 Feature Exhibition**  
 Ogata Kōrin's *Karuta* Playing Cards and the Konishi Family Archives  
 December 16, 2025–February 1, 2026

**1F-1 Sculpture**  
 Buddhist Sculpture of the Heian Period  
 Shinto Deities and Guardian Pairs of Lions and Lion-Dogs  
 December 16, 2025–March 22, 2026