

THE TREASURES FROM
1300 YEARS AGO

ONE

ITINERARY MAP

TWO

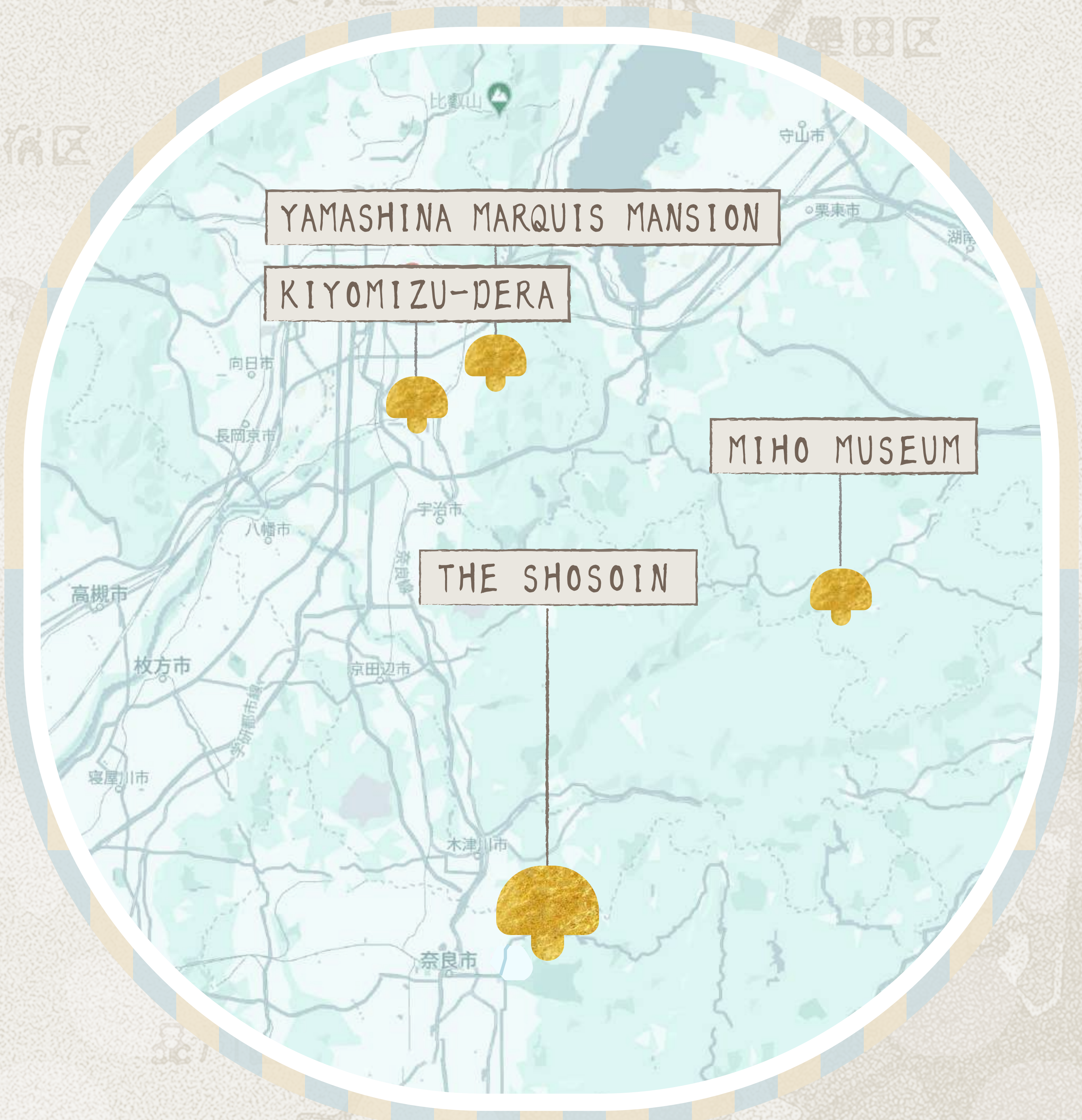
ITINERARY OVERVIEW

THREE

INTRODUCTION
TO ATTRACTIONS



ITINERARY
MAP



JAPAN NARA

★ A JOURNEY TO TREASURES
FROM 1300 YEARS AGO

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

~ The Shosoin 3 nights 4 days ~

01

Day 1

- 「Arrival in Japan」 including airport transfer only
- 「HOTEL」 THE MITSUI HOTEL KYOTO

02

Day 2

- 「Morning」 VIP Visit And Experience At Kiyomizu Temple
- 「Afternoon」 Sharing Session At The Yamashina Marquis Mansion
Guest Speaker Kitamura Shigeru
- 「HOTEL」 THE MITSUI HOTEL KYOTO

03

Day 3

- 「Morning」 Shosoin Exhibition Highlights Sharing Session
Guest Speaker Akihiko Nishimura
- 「Afternoon」 Exterior visit of Shosoin Repository
- 「Nightfall」 Attending the Shosoin Repository Exhibition
- 「HOTEL」 THE MITSUI HOTEL KYOTO

04

Day 4

- 「Morning」 Tea Ceremony And Cha-kaiseki Experience At
The Home Of Potter Yasuji Hoji
- 「Afternoon」 Visit To The Miho Museum
- 「HOTEL」 THE MITSUI HOTEL KYOTO





INTRODUCTION TO ATTRACTIONS

The Shōsō-in (正倉院) is the treasure house of Tōdai-ji Temple in Nara, Japan. The Shōsō-in houses artifacts connected to Emperor Shōmu (聖武天皇)(701 – 756) and Empress Kōmyō (光明皇后)(701 – 760). The Shōsō-in today holds around 9,000 items, excluding items that are yet to be classified. The treasures that were donated by Empress Kōmyō were stored in the Hoku Sō, the Northern part of the Shōsō-in. From the very beginning, this part of the Shōsō-in has been sealed by the imperial family. One was permitted to enter only with explicit permission of the imperial family. Ninety-five percent of the fine arts and crafts in the Shōsō-in were produced in Japan around the 8th century, with the remainder imported from the Tang Dynasty, Central Asia, India, Iran, etc. during the same period. The designs of these Japanese and East Asian treasures show Iranian, Greek, Roman, and Egyptian influences due to cultural exchange via the Silk Road.

Although these collections are not open to the public, selections are shown at Nara National Museum once a year in autumn.



THE SHOSŌIN

正倉院

KIYOMIZU

きよみずでら

TEMPLE

the oldest temple in Kyoto

Kiyomizu Temple is the oldest temple in Kyoto, having been rebuilt several times after being destroyed by fires. The iconic Kiyomizu stage, which hangs out in front of the main hall, is a national treasure of Japan.

The temple is surrounded by lush greenery, and in spring, cherry blossoms bloom brilliantly, while in autumn, the vibrant red maple leaves create a stunning landscape. In 1994, it was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



VIP VISIT

includes a guided tour by a Kiyomizu Temple monk, allowing you to explore areas not typically open to the public, such as the Buddha hall and courtyard.

The Kitamura family is a prestigious lineage with a history spanning over 150 years

four generations of the family have been involved in the restoration and replication of treasures at the Shosoin Repository. Kitamura Shigeru, the third-generation artisan, was honored as a "Living National Treasure" for his mastery of raden (mother-of-pearl inlay) craft, the highest recognition in this field. In his younger years, he was also known as a lacquerware artist, creating numerous works featuring raden inlay.



Today, as the fourth-generation member of the Kitamura family, he continues to be actively engaged in the restoration of treasures at the Shosoin Repository, gaining particular acclaim for his involvement in the replication of the purple sandalwood inlaid five-stringed lute in 2011. Only 62 artisans across Japan hold the title of "Selected Preserver of Important Intangible Cultural Heritage Techniques," highlighting their exceptional skills and dedication to preserving Japan's cultural heritage.



KITAMURA SHIGERU



AKIHIKO NISHIMURA

- GUEST SPEAKER -



Chief of the Shosoin Office at the Imperial Household Agency and Researcher

Graduated in 1988 with a degree in Fine Arts from Kyoto City University of Arts, and in the same year, joined the Shosoin Office, where he has served until becoming the head of the office. During his tenure, he actively promoted the use of visual media to make the structure and information about the Shosoin more accessible to the public. He has also authored several research books about the Shosoin. He is considered a pioneer in contemporary Shosoin treasure preservation.

SHOSOIN EXHIBITION

正倉院展

INTRODUCTION TO
ATTRactions



TEA CEREMONY
AND CHA-KAISEKI EXPERIENCE
AT THE HOME OF
POTTER YASUICHI HOJI



THANK YOU

