



# Osaka, the Second Capital of Japan.

## Vision for the Second Capital Guide Book



Vision for the Second Capital PR Character  
Nyaniwa Fukumaru

Born and raised in Osaka,  
I ate too much takoyaki so I became like one!

I bring good fortune to your life in Osaka!

### Why should Osaka be the Second Capital of Japan?

01

#### Increasing Japan's points of importance

For Japan to become more of a major player in the world, not only Tokyo but also Osaka and other cities across the country must utilize their individual characteristics to promote growth.

Japan's continual growth

02

#### Supporting Japan's capital functions

Japan is a country prone to major disasters, and establishing Osaka as a support center for the functions offered by Tokyo—also Japan's economic and political hub—will reduce the risk of simultaneous disasters disrupting necessary services.

Secondary source of capital functions during an emergency

Introducing all the best Osaka has to offer. Let's make Osaka the Second Capital of Japan!



Our goal is to make Osaka a comfortable, convenient, and safe place to live and work while also inspiring residents to take on new challenges. Let's aim to be Japan's Second Capital filled with happiness.

Osaka has long been a bustling economic center known for its friendly residents and energetic merchants. We plan to make the most of that uniqueness and potential in promoting the Vision for the Second Capital with the goal of making Osaka the official Second Capital in the 2050s. Our goal is to establish Osaka as the official Second Capital by the 2050s. Our goal is to create an exciting city where everyone can feel motivated and excited, and a city that attracts newcomers to promote economic growth. We also hope to establish Osaka as the city that can support Japan during serious disasters in the Tokyo metropolitan area. Osaka will pursue this challenge, bringing good fortune not only to Osaka but to many other cities throughout Japan.

### Osaka's Second Capital Vision



01

Economic growth

Osaka aims to become a global economic city by leveraging the city's unique historic potential as a city of commerce.

02

Secondary source of capital functions

Osaka aims to become a city that can offer support alongside Tokyo to anywhere in Japan, both when disaster strikes and for day-to-day needs.

03

Enhanced administrative/political infrastructure

With the help of Osaka Prefecture and the City of Osaka, our goal is to strengthen cooperation among municipalities throughout the prefecture and to expand this cooperation throughout the Kyoto-Osaka-Kobe area.

# How Osaka Can Become the **Second Capital** of Japan

The following diagram highlights Osaka's strengths, past initiatives, and future initiatives—all of which support the city's bid to become Japan's Second Capital. More detailed information can also be found starting on page 05 of this guide book.

Initiatives to make Osaka the Second Capital by the 2050s have already begun!



## Future initiatives

We will begin enhancing Osaka's urban functions to global standards, establish an administrative structure centered around Osaka Prefecture and the City of Osaka, and promote economic policies that encourage growth.

Improving convenience and safety in Osaka

Promoting transportation network development and urban planning for a **more convenient, safer city** > p. 07

Highlighting Osaka's appeal as an exciting, inspirational destination

Bringing out Osaka's bright, energetic spirit to create an economic hotspot where everyone can grow > p. 09

Promoting Osaka as an interesting place to live and work

Solving various social issues while establishing Osaka as a city that **people enjoy living and working in** > p. 11

Original Osaka initiatives and national lobbying

Promote Osaka as the Second Capital through joint efforts from Osaka Prefecture and City > p. 13

Secondary source of capital functions

Utilizing Osaka's strengths—including economic prowess—to further enhance the city's reliability > p. 14

## Establishing Osaka as Japan's Second Capital by the 2050s!



Economic growth

Enhanced administrative/political infrastructure

Secondary source of capital functions

- Osaka will be a city comparable to Tokyo in many ways.
- Adopting a new form of decentralized governance, multiple cities will join forces to further growth across Japan.

## Past initiatives

Second Capital Osaka has already begun > p. 05

### Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan

Preparations are already underway for Expo 2025, the upcoming World Expo in Osaka with the theme of "Designing Future Society for Our Lives."

### Road and rail accessibility improvements

Recent initiatives to improve convenience in Osaka include the extension of the Yodogawa-Sagan Route and the introduction of the Naniwasuji Line, an underground heavy rail line.

### Park improvements with cooperation from the private sector

Work is being done to expand the city's restaurants and stores and to redesign the plazas in front of stations to create a more welcoming space.

### Improvements and increased investment initiatives in childcare and education

Investments in Osaka's working-age population—including subsidies for secondary studies and cram schools as well as free tuition for private high schools—are readily available.

## Osaka's strengths

By reaffirming and strengthening Osaka's unique appeal, we can create a Second Capital with unique characteristics that cannot be found in Tokyo. > p. 06

### Transportation network development and urban planning

Osaka is home to important international hubs for people and goods such as Kansai International Airport and the Port of Osaka!

### Appeal as a business/work destination

Osaka offers a wide variety of work locations, many with lower business costs than Tokyo.

### Academic research and higher learning

Osaka features a variety of universities and research institutes in various fields.

### Lifestyle/recreation

Osaka is a city that boasts a rich history with unique traditions, culture, and natural settings.

## Plus...

Making the most of Osaka's friendly nature and **unique, energetic spirit**

A strong foundation to start from.



We're making things happen!



# Second Capital Osaka has already begun.

Here are some of our past initiatives toward establishing Osaka as the Second Capital of Japan!



By reaffirming and strengthening Osaka's unique appeal, we can create a Second Capital with unique characteristics that cannot be found in Tokyo.

We're making the most of Osaka's unique energy and friendly nature!



## Past initiatives

\*This is only a partial list of Osaka's past initiatives. Visit the Second Capital Promotion Bureau website for more information.

### Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan

- Preparations are underway for Expo 2025, the upcoming World Expo in Osaka with the theme of "Designing Future Society for Our Lives." This event will help Japan achieve its "Society 5.0" national strategy and offer hope for the post-COVID era.



Provided by: Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition

### Road and rail accessibility improvements

- Efforts to increase convenience throughout Osaka include extending the Yodogawa-Sagan Route, constructing the Naniwasuji Line, and enhancing other urban infrastructures.



Source: Excerpt from the Yodogawa-Sagan Route extension pamphlet

### Park improvements with cooperation from the private sector

- Work is currently underway to promote the expansion of restaurants and stores around Osaka Castle Park, redesign the plazas in front of stations around the park, and introduce an intra-park transportation system.
- Tennoji Park was recently renovated with the Ten-Shiba open lawn space.



Ten-Shiba © Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau

### Improvements and increased investment initiatives in childcare and education

- Financial resources generated through fiscal restructuring and other measures are being used to invest in Osaka's working-age population, including subsidies for secondary studies and cram schools as well as free tuition for private high schools.



## Osaka's strengths

\*This is only a partial list of Osaka's strengths. Visit the Second Capital Promotion Bureau website for more information.

### Transportation network development and urban planning

- Work is currently underway to extend the Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line and Osaka Monorail Main Line, and construction of the Naniwasuji Line is also in progress.
- Osaka is home to important international hubs for people and goods such as Kansai International Airport and the Port of Osaka!
- Development around Shin-Osaka Station is currently underway to promote the area as the world's leading wide-area transportation terminal thanks to the upcoming Linear Chuo Shinkansen and extended Hokuriku Shinkansen lines.



Minoh-kayano Station (perspective drawing)

### Appeal as a business/work destination

- Home to an impressively sized market, the Kansai area offers a sprawling economy comparable to that of the Netherlands, as well as a well-balanced industrial infrastructure.
- Land prices, office rental costs, and other business costs are lower than in Tokyo, making Osaka an appealing location for introducing new businesses.

#### Economic scale of Osaka and Kansai area

Osaka's gross prefectural product: Approx. 362 billion USD	GDP of United Arab Emirates: Approx. 378 billion USD
Kansai's gross regional product: Approx. 775 billion USD	GDP of the Netherlands: Approx. 834 billion USD

Source: 2020 edition Economic Data Book on Naniwa (Osaka) (2017 nominal values)

### Academic research and higher learning

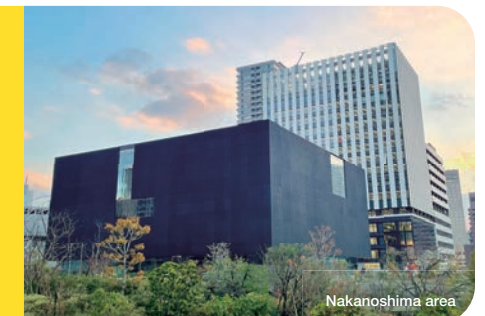
- Osaka is second only to Tokyo in number of universities, including the recently opened Osaka Metropolitan University.
- Osaka is home to various research and development centers in various fields of life science and energy.



Morinomiya Campus (OMU)  
© University Public Corporation Osaka / Takenaka Corporation, Yasui Architects & Engineers Group

### Lifestyle/recreation

- Osaka includes a World Heritage site, an extensive transportation network, numerous commercial facilities, and a comfortable living environment with a wide selection of food, various cultural attractions, and abundant nature.
- Osaka is held in high regard even overseas as a comfortable, attractive place to live.



Nakanoshima area

Improving convenience and safety in Osaka

# Promoting transportation network development and urban planning for a **more convenient, safer city**

We are working hard to improve Osaka's infrastructure to make life more convenient and easier for everyone!



## Supporting growth by enhancing transportation networks



In addition to promoting the extension of the Osaka Monorail Main Line and the introduction of the Naniwasuji Line, Osaka is dedicated to offering convenient access to urban transportation through the introduction of MaaS, a service that offers a combination of the most appropriate modes of transportation. By integrating the operation of Kansai International Airport and Osaka International Airport, Osaka aims to improve convenience and comfort for travelers while also strengthening its international and transportation networks.

## Toward becoming a smart city



Osaka aims to provide cutting-edge DX services by strengthening its infrastructure with involvement from both the municipal government and the private sector and by promoting advanced data utilization. This will lead not only to the improved wellbeing of residents but also to a shift in lifestyle and solutions to various social issues.

## Aiming for next-generation mobility



Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry website ([https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/mono\\_info\\_service/mono/robot/181220uamroadmap.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/mono_info_service/mono/robot/181220uamroadmap.html))

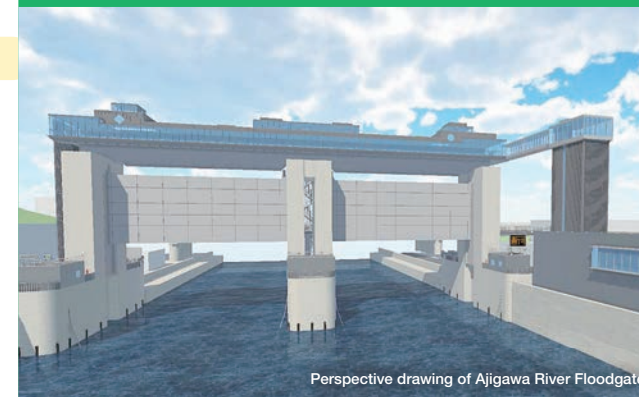
Osaka plans to implement next-generation mobility services including automated driving, flying cars, and MaaS, and to utilize various features of Super City-type National Strategic Special Zones well ahead of other cities.

## From urban development to next-level urban areas planning for improved usability



Osaka's current hub areas include the Shin-Osaka and Osaka station areas, both part of the Umekita 2nd Project currently under development. However, the prefecture is working to create other central hubs throughout the urban region, including in the Osaka Castle, Namba/Tennoji/Abeno, and Midosuji areas. Plans for a base area in Sakai's city center area as well as other areas are also ongoing to create a wide variety of working and living location choices.

## Strengthening safety and crisis management functions for improved handling of disasters



Perspective drawing of Ajigawa River Floodgate

In addition to promoting centralized next-generation firefighting services, Osaka is dedicated to improving safety and security by adopting various measures for earthquakes, tsunamis, and other disasters, including seawall liquefaction countermeasures and renovations of the three major floodgates.

## Optimizing residential infrastructures through expansive joint development projects



Maishima Plant

To strengthen waterworks infrastructures, Osaka is promoting the integration of the Osaka Water Supply Authority with various municipal waterworks companies, and expanded cooperation among regional municipalities. Additional efforts to ensure the sustainability of sewage and waste disposal businesses are also underway, including expanded cooperation over a wide area, joint development initiatives, and human resource development.

Highlighting Osaka's appeal as an exciting, inspirational destination

# Bringing out Osaka's bright, energetic spirit to create an economic hotspot where everyone can grow

Our goal is to make life easier for everyone coming to the Osaka area!



## Toward becoming a state-of-the-art model prefecture



Source: "Expo 2025 Action Plan," Osaka Prefecture and City of Osaka (Revised: December 2022)

Osaka intends to harness its unique culture of taking on new ventures even in the face of failure to create a city that encourages the development of new services and products.

## Aiming to become an international city of finance



Osaka Exchange © Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau

Osaka is dedicated to developing ways of attracting businesses to meet a diverse array of financial needs. Osaka is also engaged in promoting development of cutting-edge financial products and markets to attract investment from around Asia and beyond.

## Development of a hotspot for innovative ideas



Private sector example: QUINTBRIDGE

Osaka is dedicated to working with both the business community and universities to create a location where a wide variety of people, including the ambitious younger generation, can interact, refine new ideas for new businesses and solutions to social issues, and implement those ideas and solutions in society.

## Support for the growth of start-up companies



From startup companies just getting their footing to companies working with experienced entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, and other risk-takers, Osaka supports the acceleration of growth through various funding and business alliance initiatives.

## Development of a common business infrastructure



In cooperation with the Osaka Business Development Agency and other entities, Osaka is developing education and training initiatives for use by small- and medium-sized businesses and startups as other initiatives for linking market data and other data through the Osaka Regional Data Exchange Network (ORDEN).

## Improving human resource mobility in growth areas



Osaka is re-evaluating the business community with advanced human resource-matching tools while promoting "re-learning" to better determine the needs of employers, recruitment information, and other factors to increase the mobility of human resources to growth areas.

## Creating innovation



Source: Development Company for Project to Construct and Operate Nakanoshima Cross on Site in Nakanoshima 4-chome  
\*The above perspective drawing is current as of May 2021 and is subject to change.

Osaka's rich offering of academic research in life sciences and other fields combined with its comprehensive industrial areas will pave the way for a wide range of innovations, including in health and medical fields and green technology.

## Encouraging development of a diverse tourism industry



2025 Japan International Exposition Osaka Pavilion Promotion Committee

In addition to providing health tourism and experience-based programs available only in Osaka, the Integrated Resort (IR) project aims to build on the tourism industry in Osaka by taking advantage of the prefecture's world-class one-stop MICE (business event center) offerings.

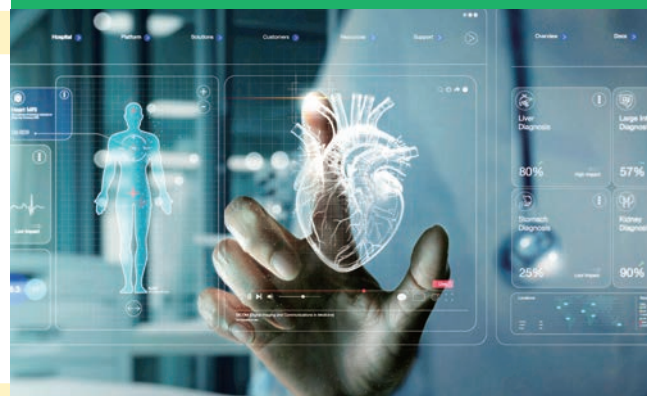
Promoting Osaka as an interesting place to live and work

# Solving various social issues while establishing Osaka as a city that people enjoy living and working in

Osaka has something for everyone, from raising children to working!



## Readily available cutting-edge international medical services



Osaka utilizes the tools available for Super City-type National Strategic Special Zones toward the development of an area where advanced medical services such as telemedicine and AI/robotic medical support services are readily available to everyone.

## Creation of an environment where everyone can thrive



Osaka Shigoto Field

Osaka provides a wide variety of options and opportunities for everyone interested in working, giving women, people with disabilities, elderly individuals, foreigners, and anyone else the opportunity to be an active part of society.

## Looking beyond carbon neutrality



In addition to achieving carbon neutrality (decarbonization) by 2050, Osaka is dedicated to even loftier goals through increased awareness among residents and businesses. Osaka is also promoting the development of environmentally friendly communities through increased adoption of homes and buildings with near-zero energy consumption.

## “10 years younger” — Improved health expectancy



By harnessing the power of digital information to encourage daily health activities for residents, Osaka aims to provide advanced services that utilize big data related to health, medical care, and nursing care.

## Improved childcare and educational environments



Osaka aims to ensure a safe, secure environment for raising children and receiving education, including by reducing child-rearing and education burdens and providing a wide variety of community support. Meanwhile, in addition to improving basic academic skills in children, Osaka is also promoting the development of human resources capable of being active both in Japan and overseas.

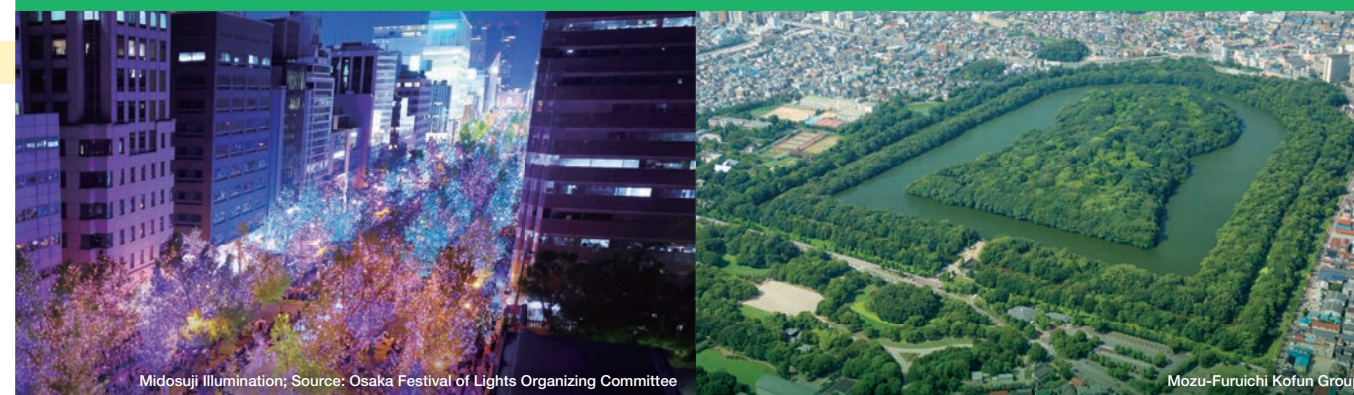
## Advanced urban greenery



Umekita 2nd Project, Source: GRAND GREEN OSAKA Developers

Osaka offers an abundance of nature in its inner-city suburbs, and efforts are also underway to promote the greening of Osaka's urban areas, including the green spaces being created through the Umekita 2nd Project urban development project.

## Recognition as a world-class international tourist destination



Midosuji Illumination; Source: Osaka Festival of Lights Organizing Committee

Moza-Furuichi Kofun Group

Osaka's goal is to achieve the highest global standard as the foremost international tourist destination in Asia, with efforts spearheaded by the Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau. This includes utilizing Osaka's unique artistic and cultural strengths to create a welcoming environment where everyone can enjoy themselves. Other methods for highlighting and promoting Osaka's numerous attractions include promoting sports exchanges and hosting events designed to give participants a taste of Osaka's unique appeal. Osaka is also dedicated to establishing itself as a “Creative City” that residents can find joy in and be proud of.

Promote the Second Capital through joint efforts from Osaka Prefecture and City as well as national lobbying activities.

Let's join forces with other cities and aim to be a **Second Capital** that can support Japan!



Grand Front Osaka



Osaka Castle © Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau



Shinsekai © Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau



Osaka Bay area



Osaka Metro



Dotonbori



Okawa River cherry blossoms © Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau



Mezu-Furuichi Kofun Group

**Original Osaka initiatives and national lobbying**

In addition to collaboration between Osaka Prefecture and the City of Osaka, our goal is to cooperate with nearby cities and other cities throughout the area and to encourage the Japanese Government to support Osaka's efforts toward becoming the Second Capital of Japan, including by adopting regulatory reforms.

**Secondary source of capital functions**

We are encouraging private companies with head offices in Tokyo to establish new locations in Osaka to take advantage of its efforts to improve security and its inherent economic value. We are also lobbying to establish ourselves as a secondary destination for a variety of national institutions.



Let's work together to make Osaka the official Second Capital of Japan!

