



Waterways Recommended Photo Spots

There are many places along Osaka's waterways where splendid photos featuring bridges can be taken. Two representative spots are presented here. You can also try to find a nice spot yourself!

Around Osaka Castle

Shin-Shigino Bridge is a great spot for taking a photo of Osaka Castle. Shigino Bridge, which was a "kogibashi" (a bridge of strategic importance constructed by the Tokugawa shogunate), originally stood here, and so the railings of Shin-Shigino Bridge have been given "giboshi" (ornamental tops). There is no shortage of other nice photo spots in this area, including Gokuraku Bridge inside Osaka Castle Park.

- 3 minutes walk from Osaka Business Park Station, Subway Nagahori Tsurumi-ryokuchi Line
- Access also possible from JR and Keihan Lines

Central Public Hall and surroundings

In the area around the Central Public Hall, not only are there important cultural assets such as Oe Bridge and Yodoya Bridge, and historical bridges such as Suisho Bridge and Naniwa Bridge, there are also many historical retro-style buildings, such as Nakanoshima Library and the Osaka Branch of the Bank of Japan. This is the best spot for capturing photos featuring bridges and buildings.

- Near Exit No. 1, Naniwa-bashi Station, Keihan Nakanoshima Line
- 5 minutes walk from Exit No. 26, Kitahama Station, Subway Sakaisuji Line and Keihan Main Line

Shinsaibashi Diversion and Preservation

Shinsai Bridge, which is thought to have been constructed by Shinsai Okada in the early Edo Period, was originally made of wood and had to be reconstructed every time there was a flood or fire. In 1873, it was reconstructed as Japan's fifth iron bridge, and then later, it was relocated to other places, with its name changing accordingly to Sakaigawa Bridge, Shinchifune Bridge, and Suzukake Bridge. It is currently located in Tsurumi-Ryokuchi Park, with the name Ryokuchi-Nishi Bridge, and is now the oldest iron bridge in Japan. In 1909, Shinsai Bridge was reconstructed as a stone double-arch bridge. The railings and gas lamps constructed at that time can still be seen today at their original location.

Shinsai Bridge around 1873

Ryokuchi-Nishi Bridge

Railing and bronze gas lamp dating back to Meiji Period

Bridge-lovers Corner

This and That about Osaka's Bridges

The 808 Bridges of Naniwa

How many bridges are there in "Aquapolis Osaka"?

The expression "The 808 Bridges of Naniwa" seems to have been used metaphorically to indicate that there were a large number of bridges, not to mean that there were exactly 808. There were about 200 bridges in the Edo Period.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, there was a period when the number of bridges was about 1,500, but this number subsequently decreased as rivers and canals were filled in. At present, the Osaka City Public Works Bureau manages 764 bridges (as of 2009), and if the number of bridges managed by the national or prefectural government is added to this, the total comes to more than 808.

01 Dojima-Hashi Bridge

This steel arch bridge was constructed in 1927. It was bombed during the war, and traces of the bombing can still be seen today.

02 Watanabe Bridge

This important bridge has supported the prosperity of Nakanoshima and Dojima. It was reconstructed in its current form in 1966 as part of a high-tide countermeasure project.

10 Barazono Bridge

In order to match the rose gardens of Nakanoshima, the design of this bridge reflects consideration of the landscape in the stone-pitched concrete arches, the railings, and the lighting.

11 Tenjin Bridge

This bridge, with its magnificent arches, was constructed in 1934. Its north end is adorned with a name plaque. It is one of the "3 Great Bridges of Naniwa".

12 Temma Bridge

This steel girder bridge was constructed in 1935. Together with Shin-Temma Bridge directly above it, it forms a pair referred to as the "Temma Double Bridge" and is one of the "3 Great Bridges of Naniwa".

13 Kawasaki Bridge

This cable-stayed bridge, which is used by pedestrians and cyclists, is lit up at night. Please note that this bridge is closed off during the Tenjin Festival.

14 Sakuranomiya Bridge

Commonly known as the "Ginbashi" (Silver Bridge), this was the largest arch bridge in Japan at the time of its construction in 1930. In 2006, Shin-Sakuranomiya Bridge was constructed on its north side.

15 Gempachi Bridge

This bridge was named after the "Gempachi Wataishi" river ferry that had operated since the early Edo Period. There is a monument at the center of the bridge on the pedestrian sidewalk.

16 Osaka-jo Shin Bridge

Constructed in 1983 to coincide with the 400th anniversary of the building of Osaka Castle, this bridge is used for access to Osaka-jo Hall.

06 Naniwa Bridge

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01 Aijigawa Bridge Monument

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30 Matsushima Bridge

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29 Chiyosaki Bridge

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33 Aijigawa Tunnel

This riverbed tunnel, a rare feature in Japan, enables the passage of pedestrians and cyclists, and also used to allow the passage of automobiles. It was constructed in 1944.

34 Yotsubashi Monument

Yoshinoya Bridge, Sumiya Bridge, Kamitsunagi Bridge, and Shimotsunagi Bridge, which were all located at the junction of the Nishi-Yokobori and Nagahori Rivers, are collectively referred to as "Yotsubashi" (Four Bridges).

03 Oe Bridge

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17 Gokuraku Bridge

This bridge functioned as an Edo Period "kogibashi", a bridge constructed by the Tokugawa shogunate at a strategically important thoroughfare. The "giboshi" (ornamental tops) on the railings and the "yagura-yashiki" (townhouse with tower) design of the main pillars convey a sense of history.

18 Hommachi Bridge

Constructed in 1913, this is the oldest active bridge in Osaka. The dignified, renaissance-style stone supports convey a sense of history.

19 Kunosuke Bridge

During the Edo Period, this was an example of a "machibashi", bridges privately built and maintained by townsfolk such as metal casters and blacksmiths. Constructed in its current form, with steel arches, in 1926.

21 Aiau Bridge

In the Edo Period, this bridge would have been immersed in an exciting atmosphere, with a theater district and tea-house district nearby. Today it functions as a piazza over the water.

20 Nippom Bridge

This bridge was a "kogibashi" (a bridge of strategic importance constructed by the Tokugawa shogunate) on the old Kishu Highway. The railings incorporate a square "masu" design that conveys the image of a theater district.

23 Ebisu Bridge

This bridge, which comes to symbolize all the hustle and bustle of Osaka's Minami area, is used by over 100,000 pedestrians every day. It was reconstructed in 2007.

24 Dotombori Bridge

This bridge leads Mido Avenue over Dotombori River. Constructed in 1936, it is the widest bridge in Osaka (43.6 m).

25 Shin-Ebisu Bridge

The railings of this bridge, constructed in 2008, incorporate panels consisting of Japanese paper held between planes of glass. These panels make a fantastic sight at night when illuminated.

26 Ukiwa Bridge

This suspension bridge connects Minatomachi River Place and the Minami-Horie area. Constructed in 2008, its design and name were based on ideas collected from the general public.

22 Tazaemon Bridge

This bridge gets its name from Osaka Tazaemon, a kabuki playhouse founder. The current design conveys the image of a timber bridge.

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