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Sports Entertainment City, **OSAKA**

Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau

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Published by
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Planned and produced by
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WELCOME TO OSAKA, THE SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT CITY

Sports covers a broad field, where everyone can share excitement and uplifting feelings that cross national borders and generations, whether by playing, watching, or enjoying sports. Osaka has high quality sports resources: in addition to the global companies that produce sports equipment and clothing, healthcare equipment, and health foods, Osaka's sports stadiums have a ripple effect on the restaurants and accommodation in their vicinity, which boosts the economy as well.

In 2019, the WBSC (World Baseball Softball Confederation) Congress was held and Osaka hosted the G20 Summit. Following the success of the 2019 Rugby World Cup, which was held at 12 locations across Japan including Osaka and Higashi Osaka, other international sports competitions and conferences are scheduled to take place in Osaka Prefecture soon, such as the 2021 Kansai World Masters Games (2022), and the AIMS (Association of International Marathons and Distance Races) General Assembly in 2023. In addition to that, the Osaka World Exposition will take place in 2025 under the theme 'Designing Future Society for Our Lives'.

Osaka, which aims to become a world-class international city of tourism and culture, sees holding world class business events as the driving force behind economic development and regional revitalization, and has made supporting them one of its key policies. The Osaka Prefectural Government, Osaka City Government, and local businesses are working together with the Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau to build a coordinated system to attract and run such events.

We invite you to hold international conferences and sports competitions in Osaka, the Sports and Entertainment City. The Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau will do its best to support your event.

I am looking forward to meeting you all.

Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau
President Hiroshi Mizohata



THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OSAKA

WHY CHOOSE OSAKA?

Osaka is the capital of its eponymous prefecture in the Kansai region of Japan's main island, Honshu. Due to its central location, Osaka has been an economic and cultural hub throughout its history. The city is easily accessible from all over the world via the nearby Kansai International Airport (KIX).



Key Facts

Population

Osaka Prefecture: 8,803,056 (estimated as of May 1, 2021)

Osaka City: 2,753,307 (estimated as of June 1, 2021)

Visitors

12.31 million foreign travelers visited Osaka in 2019

ACHIEVEMENTS

01

World's second most livable city

The Economist Intelligence Unit ranked Osaka as the world's second most livable city in 2021.

02

One of the world's top tourist destinations

Osaka was ranked the fifth most attractive city in the world by *Condé Nast Traveler* in 2019.

03

Highest growth rate of foreign tourists in the world

Osaka's annual number of foreign visitors increased by almost eight times from 2011 (1.58 million) to 2019 (12.31 million).

TOP REASONS TO CHOOSE OSAKA

01

Well connected

Kansai Airport has direct flights from 91 cities in 26 countries and regions (as of 2019), with the largest number of Asian routes in Japan. Osaka also has the largest domestic airport in western Japan (Osaka International Airport) and the largest train stations in western Japan (Osaka and Shin-Osaka stations).

02

Gateway to Japan

Visitors can reach Kyoto, Kobe and Nara within 30 minutes by train and reach Tokyo in two-and-a-half hours by shinkansen or one hour by plane.

03

Well equipped for international conferences and events

Osaka Prefecture offers a wide range of world class conference and event facilities, along with 1,672 hotels and *ryokan* (Japanese-style inns), catering to all budgets. Osaka has previously hosted major international cultural and

sporting events, such as the 1970 World Exposition, the APEC Summit (1994), the 11th World Athletics Championships (2007), the G20 Osaka Summit (2019) and the 2019 Rugby World Cup. In the future, Osaka will host the 2021 Kansai World Masters Games (2022), and the 2025 World Exposition.

04

Strong sporting history

Osaka is the home base of numerous sports teams in disciplines such as baseball, soccer, basketball and rugby, as well as the headquarters of sporting goods manufacturers, such as Mizuno and Descente.

05

Plenty to see and do

Osaka boasts tourist attractions such as Osaka Castle, Osaka Aquarium Kaiyukan, Universal Studios Japan and more.

06

Incomparable food culture

Osaka is known for its rich food culture, where you can enjoy both traditional street food and Michelin-starred restaurants. There's a reason Osaka's unofficial motto is 'Eat till you drop'.

How Osaka Will Support Your Business Event

The Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau (OCTB) supports you throughout the process of holding meetings, conferences and events in the city, providing assistance from the planning stage through to putting on the event.

Event Planning *OCTB will assist with:*

- Finding suitable venues and accommodation, including an estimated cost per location
- Creating event planning proposals and presentation materials
- Arranging official invitations for the Governor of Osaka Prefecture and/or the Mayor of Osaka City
- Contacting global head offices of participating organizations
- Inviting noteworthy international guests
- Coordinating location visits
- OCTB will also provide you with promotional photos and videos of Osaka, as well as subsidies and material support

Preparation *OCTB will assist with:*

- Engaging event management companies, travel agencies and other specialized businesses
- Creating event proposals for locations
- Public relations (advertisement on the OCTB website and social media accounts)

Running the Event *OCTB will assist with:*

- Providing guide maps and pamphlets about Osaka for attendees
- Welcome messages for arriving guests at Kansai International Airport
- Introducing volunteer interpreters

For more information, see these websites

Osaka Business Events Official Website

<https://mice.osaka-info.jp/en/page/mice-top>

Osaka Travel Information

<https://osaka-info.jp/en>

In case of emergency

<https://osaka-info.jp/en/page/emergency>

MEET THE OSAKA TOURISM AMBASSADORS



of the fans make Japanese baseball particularly special. Professional baseball in Japan is improving every year, and Japanese players are known for their speed and power.

The number of players active in US Major League Baseball increases all the time. It started with Hideo Nomo, and now we have Shohei Ohtani. I think their success has proven Japan has excellent athletes.

Osaka has a deep-rooted baseball culture, with many professional players born in the area. If you visit Japan, please make sure to watch a top-level baseball game. I look forward to seeing you in Osaka.'

Career highlights

2002 inducted in the Japanese Baseball Hall of Fame

Career statistics

Stolen bases 1,065 (Highest record in Nippon Professional Baseball history)
Hits 2,543 (5th highest record in NPB history)
Triple 115 (Highest record in NPB history)
Home runs 208 (98th highest record in NPB history)

YUTAKA FUKUMOTO

Retired Japanese professional baseball player and former member of the Hankyu Braves (1969-1988; now Orix Buffaloes)

'I am Osaka Tourism Ambassador Yutaka Fukumoto. The best thing about Osaka is its food, and I think it's the only place where you can eat high-quality food at a reasonable price. I especially recommend the beef. Another great trait of Osaka is

its people. Many of them are very kind, so you can easily make new friends.

In Japan, the spectator stands are very close to the ground, so the players can hear the cheers very well. The fans are dedicated and support their team in good times and in bad. When I played professional baseball, I used to talk to the fans over the net. The stadium's atmosphere and the passionate support

HIROTO KYOGUCHI

WBA light flyweight super champion (Boxing)

'Hi, my name is Hiroto Kyoguchi. I am currently based in the United States, participating in professional world boxing title fights.

Osaka, where I was born and raised, has produced more boxing world champions than any other Japanese city, as well as top athletes active in Major League Baseball and Serie A soccer league, plus Olympic medalists in swimming.

People in Osaka love the spirit and culture of sports, and the city has fostered an environment that raises excellent athletes. In the suburbs, there are riverbeds and green parks, and in the city center, there are gymnasiums and fields where national championships can be held. There are many opportunities for daily contact with sports. In addition, Osaka is famous as the Capital of Food and there are many inexpensive and delicious foods to choose from. It is no exaggeration to say that Osaka is a city for sports.'

Career statistics

15 fights
15 wins
10 wins by KO



WIMPIE VAN DER WALT

NTT Docomo Red Hurricanes Osaka rugby player

'In August 2021, I'll have been living in Osaka for eight years. I really like how friendly the people are in Osaka. I got lost in the city a couple of times, but there was always someone who came to my help. There are plenty of fun places in Osaka, so we can always go out and enjoy ourselves. The Red Hurricanes Osaka play with a lot of passion, and we have improved our game lately, in the hope of winning the upcoming season.'

Career statistics

Since 2013 NTT Docomo Red Hurricanes Osaka
2019 played for the Japanese national team during the Rugby World Cup 2019
18 caps as a member of the Japanese national team (as of July 2021)



©CEREZO OSAKA

AYUMU SEKO

Cerezo Osaka soccer player

'I am Ayumu Seko, a member of Cerezo Osaka. I am from Osaka, and I have belonged to the Cerezo Osaka (J1) soccer team since I was in the U-12 division. I've been to many great places and taken part in amazing games inside and outside of Japan, but personally I think Osaka is the best. There are lots of sightseeing spots and shopping opportunities. There's also a large variety of good food, such as okonomiyaki (savory pancakes), takoyaki (octopus dumplings), udon noodles and more. Our team's practice ground is located right next to Universal Studios Japan. It's a city that you can live in forever and never get tired of, so if you come to Osaka for sightseeing, I am sure you will want to come back in the future.'

Career statistics

Since 2018 Cerezo Osaka
National team:
Japan U-15, U-16, U-17, U-19, U-20, U-22, U-23
Tokyo 2020 Soccer U-24 national team

MEET THE OSAKA TOURISM AMBASSADORS



'I am T-Okada, an Osaka Tourism Ambassador and member of the Orix Buffaloes professional baseball team. Osaka, where I was born and raised, is a charming city that is both lively and peaceful. Famous tourist spots include the Dotonbori neighborhood and Tsutenkaku tower, where you can enjoy shopping, gourmet food, and Osaka's unique entertainment options. A short distance away from central Osaka, you will find lush parks and beautiful nature to relax. However, I would like you to visit Kyocera Dome Osaka, the home stadium of the Orix Buffaloes.'

Japan's professional baseball league started in 1936. It's a high-stakes sport of speed and power that has evolved its own distinctive customs and traditions. Look out for the unique Japanese style of cheering that unites the fans in the bleachers and fascinates even those who are unfamiliar with baseball. I will do my best to be remembered by you. I am looking forward to seeing you all in Osaka.'

T-OKADA (TAKAHIROY OKADA)

Orix Buffaloes baseball player

©ORIX BUFFALOES

Career statistics

- Since 2006 Orix Buffaloes
- 2010 Home Run King
- 2010 Best Nine Award
- 2014 Mitsui Golden Glove Award

REI GODA

Osaka Evessa basketball player

'Hello, I'm Rei Goda, an Osaka Tourism Ambassador and the captain of the professional basketball team Osaka Evessa of the B.League, a professional basketball league created in 2015. I was born and raised in Osaka.'

My team is known for its running strength, which makes the already fast-paced game of basketball even speedier. Osaka directs arena sports in its own unique way, and fans usually cheer with *harisen*, giant folded paper fans.

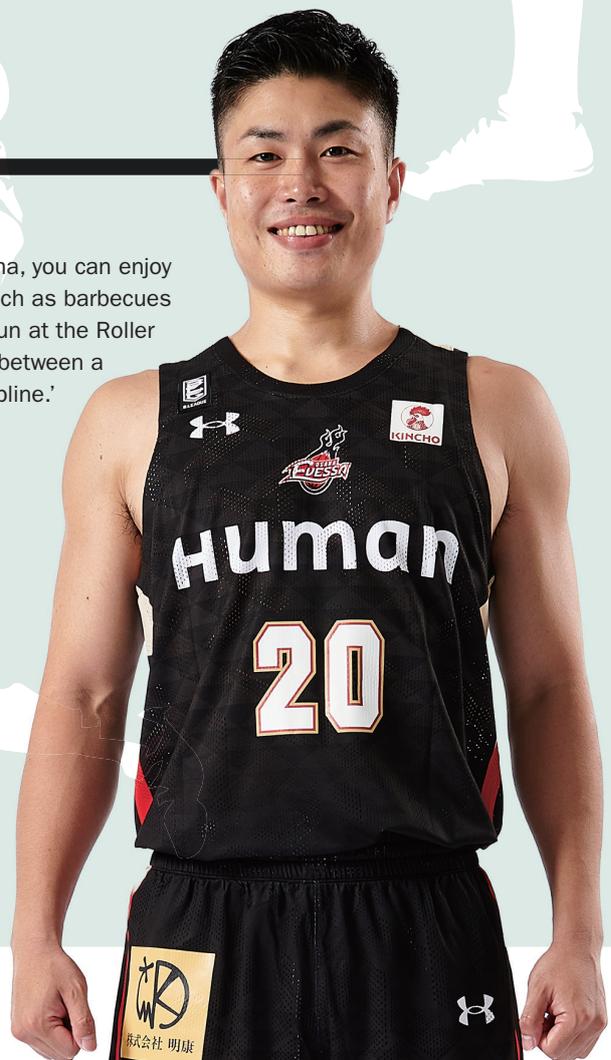
When you're in Osaka, I recommend visiting Maishima. It's a great place for sightseeing, with lots of spots to enjoy. There are three home stadiums for professional soccer, baseball, and basketball teams. The home stadium for Osaka Evessa is the Ookinii Arena

Maishima. In Maishima, you can enjoy different activities, such as barbecues and pottery, or have fun at the Roller Zip – it's like a cross between a rollercoaster and a zipline.'

Career statistics

- Since 2016 Osaka Evessa

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©ORIX BUFFALOES

SPORTS TEAMS

ORIX BUFFALOES



BACKGROUND

The Orix Buffaloes are a professional baseball team belonging to the Pacific League of the Nippon Professional Baseball Organization (NPB). The team was founded in 1936 and has been called the Orix Buffaloes since 2005, when it moved its home ballpark to Kyocera Dome Osaka. The team's philosophy is to provide excitement for fans and to contribute to the development of the local community.

TEAM INSIGHT

Buffaloes fans are very welcoming – even if you're new to baseball, you will have a great first experience watching a Buffaloes game from the bleachers surrounded by cheering fans. Look out for the special team snacks, only available at the ballpark.

HOME STADIUM

Kyocera Dome Osaka

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Ichiro Suzuki (1992-2000)
So Taguchi (1992-2001, 2010-2011)
Adam Jones (since 2020)

PAST TITLES

Japan Championship Series
1975, 1976, 1977, 1996

Pacific League Championship
1967, 1968, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978,
1984, 1995, 1996

MORE INFORMATION

Orix Buffaloes Official Website (Japanese only)
<https://www.buffaloes.co.jp>

OSAKA EVESSA



BACKGROUND

Osaka Evessa is named after Ebisu-sama (also called Ebessa in Osaka), one of the Seven Lucky Gods, in the hope that it will bring energy to Osaka, a city of kindness, laughter, and commerce.

TEAM INSIGHT

During Osaka Evessa games, fans use *harisen* (folded paper fans) to cheer for the team. Before the games start, fans practice cheering together, which is a lot of fun for first-time visitors. Osaka Evessa also uses projection mapping light displays and laser effects during games, so fans can enjoy a special show that goes beyond basketball.

HOME STADIUM

Ookini Arena Maishima

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Ira Brown (since 2019)

PAST TITLES

Basketball Japan League (bj League) Championship
2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08

MORE INFORMATION

Osaka Evessa Official Website (Japanese only)
<https://www.evessa.com>



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SPORTS TEAMS



©2018 CEREZO OSAKA

CEREZO OSAKA



BACKGROUND

Cerezo, formerly known as the Yanmar Diesel Soccer Club, joined the J.League in 1995. The word *cerezo* means cherry blossom in Spanish and the club is named after the blooms, which are the official city flower of Osaka. The club is rooted in the local community and hopes to become a top rugby team that can represent Japan on the world stage. The team's mascots are Lobby – an intelligent, keen-witted wolf with strong team spirit – and his mother, Madame Lobina.

TEAM INSIGHT

The president of the club is Hiroaki Morishima, a legend of Cerezo Osaka and a former player on the Japan national soccer team. During his active years as a player, Morishima wore the number eight on his back, which has since become a symbol of Cerezo Osaka. In the 2002 Japan-South Korea World Cup game, Morishima scored the final goal at his home ground, Yanmar Nagai Stadium. Morishima is beloved by everyone, including the fans, and he has become the friendly face of the club.

HOME STADIUM

Yodoko Sakura Stadium

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Shinji Kagawa (2006-2010)
Takumi Minamino (2012-2014)
Yoshito Okubo (2001-2004, 2006, from 2021)

PAST TITLES

J.League Cup
2017
Emperor's Cup
2017

MORE INFORMATION

Cerezo Osaka Official Website
<https://eng.cerezo.jp>

GAMBA OSAKA



BACKGROUND

Gamba Osaka, which has been a member of the J-League since 1993, was established as the soccer club of Matsushita Electric Industrial (now known as Panasonic) in the J-League's predecessor Japan Soccer League (1965-1992). Since winning the J-League title for the first time in 2005, the team has gained fans due to its offensive play.

TEAM INSIGHT

Gamba Osaka likes to say its home ground is the best soccer stadium in Asia. The building cost of the stadium was entirely funded by donations, and there's a clear view of the games from anywhere in the stands. The team's colors are blue and black, and when the team and a stadium full of fans wear the same uniforms, it's a sight to behold as they join forces to fight for victory.

HOME STADIUM

Panasonic Stadium Suita (formerly Suita City Football Stadium)

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Henri Patrick Mboma Dem (1997-1998)
Hwang Ui-jo (2017-2019)
Yasuhito Endo (2001-2020)

PAST TITLES

AFC Champions League
2008
J1 League division champions
2005, 2014
J.League Cup
2007, 2014
Emperor's Cup
2008, 2009, 2014, 2015

MORE INFORMATION

Gamba Osaka Official Website
<https://www.gamba-osaka.net/en>



©GAMBA OSAKA



NTT DOCOMO RED HURRICANES OSAKA



BACKGROUND

The Red Hurricanes Osaka is a rugby team based in Nanko, Osaka that was established in 1993. In 2020, the team made it into the top eight of the Top League (Japan's highest level rugby competition) for the first time. In the new Japan Rugby League One, starting in January 2022, the team is aiming to reach the top four.

TEAM INSIGHT

The Red Hurricanes Osaka are known for their persistence and determination in the face of any opponent. Their tenacity led them to the top eight in the last season, with fans cheering them on all the way.

HOME STADIUM

To be announced

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Junior Malili Muliaina (2011-2013)
Heinrich Brüssow (2013-2018)
TJ Perenara (2020-2021)

PAST TITLES

Top League Top 8
2020

MORE INFORMATION

Red Hurricanes Osaka Official Website (Japanese only)
<https://docomo-rugby.jp>

KINTETSU LINERS



BACKGROUND

The Kintetsu Liners, founded in 1929, are one of Japan's veteran rugby teams. The team is managed by a parent organization of Kintetsu Group Holdings, which owns more than 130 group companies including Kintetsu Railway. Their home base is the Higashi Osaka Hanazono Rugby Stadium, famous as the host of the National High School Rugby Tournament. In 2019, the Kintetsu Liners entered into a partnership agreement with an Australian Super Rugby team, the Melbourne Rebels, to help strengthen the Liners.

TEAM INSIGHT

Both the team and its home stadium were founded in 1929 and have been popular with locals in Higashi Osaka ever since. Kintetsu Liners fans are friendly and they cheer passionately, shouting encouragement and sharing laughter together. The Kintetsu Liners even have their own dedicated cheer squad and the team cares deeply about its fans and the community.

HOME STADIUM

Higashi Osaka Hanazono
Rugby Stadium

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Rico Gear (2010-2014)
Luke Thompson (2006-2020)
Will Genia (2019-2021)

PAST TITLES

All-Japan Rugby Football
Championship
1966, 1967, 1974

MORE INFORMATION

Kintetsu Liners Official Website
(Japanese only)
<https://www.kintetsu-g-hd.co.jp/liners>



KINTETSU LINERS



SPORTS TEAMS



JT MARVELOUS



BACKGROUND

Women's volleyball team JT Marvelous is a member of the volleyball V.LEAGUE. Founded in 1956, the team won the V.LEAGUE DIVISION 1 championship in both the 2019-20 and 2020-21 seasons, becoming the first team to win the title two years in a row. The team is closely connected to Hyogo and Osaka, and JT Marvelous supports the community with volleyball classes in the local area.

TEAM INSIGHT

JT Marvelous has a dedicated cheer squad to help bring team spirit to every match. Dressed in the team color, green, fans wave *harisen* (folded paper fans) and beat them in unison to show their support.

HOME STADIUM

Maruzen Intec Arena Osaka (Osaka Municipal Central Gymnasium)
Sumiyoshi Sports Center

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Yoshie Takeshita (2002-2012)
Kim Yeon-koung (2009-2011)
Brankica Mihajlovic (2017-2019)

PAST TITLES

V.PREMIER LEAGUE / V.LEAGUE DIVISION 1
2010-2011, 2019-2020, 2020-2021
Kurowashiki All Japan Volleyball Tournament
2011, 2012, 2015, 2016, 2018
Emperor's Cup and Empress' Cup All Japan Volleyball
Championship
2020

MORE INFORMATION

JT Marvelous Official Website (Japanese only)
<https://www.jti.co.jp/sports/marvelous/index.html>



PANASONIC PANTHERS



BACKGROUND

The Panasonic Panthers are a men's volleyball team based in Hirakata City, Osaka Prefecture. Founded in 1951, the team has a long history, and has become one of the country's leading volleyball teams in recent years, winning two consecutive league titles and more. The Panthers have also produced a number of players for the Japanese national team, and the team is keen to compete on the world stage, too.

TEAM INSIGHT

Panthers games are exciting thanks to the team's powerful serves, attacks, and blocks. Both children and adults can enjoy watching the games, and hearing the cheering fans in their home stadium motivates the Panthers and intimidates their opposition. The team values close communication with its fans and is known for its distinctive blue color, which matches Panasonic's corporate logo.

HOME STADIUM

Panasonic Arena

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Michał Jarosław Kubiak (since 2016)
Head Coach Laurent Tillie (since 2020)

PAST TITLES

Japan Volleyball League / V.LEAGUE / V.PREMIER LEAGUE
1971-1972, 2007-2008, 2009-2010, 2011-2012, 2013-2014,
2017-2018, 2018-2019

MORE INFORMATION

Panasonic Panthers Official Website
<https://panasonic.co.jp/sports/volleyball/en>



©BLAZERS SPORTS CLUB

SAKAI BLAZERS



BACKGROUND

The Sakai Blazers are a volleyball team based in Sakai, Osaka Prefecture. The team has participated in the Japan Volleyball League (now V.LEAGUE) since the first tournament in 1967, and has won the title 17 times, the most of any team in the league. The Sakai Blazers are one of the most prestigious teams in Japan, and many team players have participated in the Olympic Games.

TEAM INSIGHT

Not many teams can count a famous comedian as a key member of their cheer squad. Naoki (aka Fumio Inoue), who played volleyball during his teenage years, has supported the Sakai Blazers as their head cheerleader since 2001. At home matches, fans can cheer along with Naoki and also enjoy his comedy routine.

HOME STADIUM

Nippon Steel Sakai Gymnasium
Kanaoka Park Gymnasium
Ohama Arena

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Yoshihiko Matsumoto (since 2008)
Takashi Dekita (since 2013)
Tomohiro Yamamoto (since 2018)

PAST TITLES

Japan Volleyball League / V.LEAGUE / V.PREMIER LEAGUE
1967-1968, 1973-1974, 1974-1975, 1975-1976, 1976-1977,
1978-1979, 1979-1980, 1980-1981, 1982-1983, 1988-1989,
1989-1990, 1990-1991, 1996-1997, 1997-1998, 2005-2006,
2010-2011, 2012-2013

MORE INFORMATION

Sakai Blazers Official Website (Japanese only)
<https://www.blazers.gr.jp/web>



SUNTORY SUNBIRDS



BACKGROUND

The Suntory Sunbirds volleyball team was founded in 1973 and is based in Minoh, Osaka Prefecture. The team won consecutive V.LEAGUE championships from 1999 to 2004 and has produced a number of players who participated in the Olympic Games. The team name is composed of the word 'sun', which stands for the sun itself and also represents the 'sun' of Suntory. The name is also based on the image of 'a phoenix flapping its wings and rising towards the radiantly shining sun'. Meanwhile, the Sunbird itself represents the three key fitness qualities of spirit, technique, and physical strength.

TEAM INSIGHT

The Suntory Sunbirds attract a diverse group of fans across all ages and genders. During home games, matches are especially exciting, as fans cheer in unison to raise the team's spirit.

HOME STADIUM

Minoh Municipal First General Sports Ground, Sky Arena
Maruzen Intec Arena Osaka (Osaka Municipal Central Gymnasium)
Ookini Arena Maishima
Sumiyoshi Sports Center

NOTABLE PLAYERS

Dmitriy Muserskiy (since 2018)
Masahiro Yanagida (2015-2017, since 2020)

PAST TITLES

Japan Volleyball League / V.LEAGUE / V.PREMIER LEAGUE
1994-1995, 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003,
2003-2004, 2006-2007, 2020-2021

MORE INFORMATION

Suntory Sunbirds Official Website (Japanese only)
<https://www.suntory.co.jp/culture-sports/sunbirds>



SSK

BACKGROUND

SSK primarily manufactures and sells baseball equipment. The company was founded by Kyozo Sasaki in Kyoto in 1946 as a sports equipment store. In 1950, he moved the company to Matsuyamachi in Osaka, and changed its name to Sasaki in 1956. In 1987, the company changed its name to SSK to revamp the business and take on new challenges.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In November 2021, SSK will celebrate its 75th anniversary. Currently, SSK wants to revitalize its business by focusing on four main pillars: improving product distribution via its national logistics network, supporting local communities through sports facility management, increasing corporate events to enhance communication with partners, and supporting athletes to build new careers at sporting goods companies.

PRODUCTS

Along with its original brand SSK Baseball, the company also offers acts as a distributor of Danish lifestyle brand Hummel, German outdoor brand Schoffel and French boot brand Palladium.

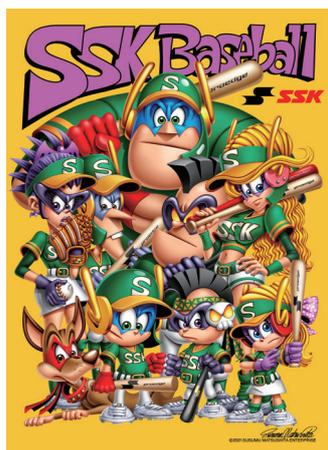
GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: 1-2-19 Uehonmachi Nishi, Chuo, Osaka

Official Website

(Japanese only):

<https://www.sksports.com>



ZETT

BACKGROUND

For over a century, Zett has been making and selling baseball equipment, clothes and other products. The company, formerly known as Watanabe Ryosan Shoten, was founded in 1919 in Osaka's Higashi ward and relocated to its current location in Osaka's Tennoji ward in 1977. It changed its name to Zett in 1980, in reference to the final letter of the English alphabet (zetto in Japanese).

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Zett has been working on expanding its online presence with an e-commerce platform and new B-to-C and B-to-B-to-C support services. In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, Zett has the exclusive rights in Japan to sell Buff, a multi-purpose neckwear product that can also be used as a face mask.

PRODUCTS

Aside from Zett's signature baseball products, the company also offers sportswear by Converse, along with other well known sports brands like Adidas, Puma and Descente.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: 1-2-16 Karasugatsuji, Tennoji, Osaka

Official Website (Japanese only): <https://zett.jp>

BRANDS



SWANS (Yamamoto Kogaku) SWANS JAPANESE QUALITY

BACKGROUND

Founded in 1911, Swans offers optical lenses, goggles and other protective eyewear for sports. It was founded by Haruji Yamamoto, who established the Yamamoto Eyeglass Lens Mfg in Osaka, initially selling swimming goggles.

Over the years, the company developed its lineup of sporting eyewear products before introducing its major innovation to the world in 1971: anti-fog goggles. In 1980, the company changed its name to Yamamoto Kogaku and became an official equipment supplier to athletes around the world, including members of the Japanese team at the Athens 2004 Olympics.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The company is now extending the scope of its manufacturing to include industrial and medical protective eyewear.

PRODUCTS

Swans products span a range of activities, including watersports, snowsports and dirt biking, along with sunglasses suitable for both sport and daily life. Signature products include Ridgeline goggles for snowsports that have special anti-fogging features and are also compatible with eyeglasses.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: 3-25-8 Chodo, Higashi Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture
Official Website: <https://www.swans.co.jp/en>



GOSEN

GOSEN®

BACKGROUND

Celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2021, Gosen specializes in synthetic strings principally for fishing lines, tennis and badminton rackets. Established in Osaka in 1951, the company was formerly known as Osaka Gosen Haenawa CO., LTD., but changed its name to Gosen in 1973 as the company began serving more international customers. Aside from synthetic strings, Gosen also manufactures sewing thread for seatbelts, airbags, and medical use.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Gosen has sponsored many famous tennis players over the years, such as Rod Laver, Jimmy Connors and Anna Kournikova, all of whom used Gosen racket strings. The company is aiming to support other top athletes with its world-leading products.

PRODUCTS

Overseas, Gosen is mainly known for its tennis strings and badminton rackets. The G-Tour series of tennis strings was developed to allow greater power and speed. Similarly, the badminton racket Gravitas provides greater power. The Gravitas 9.0-SX CL racket is a model that was developed specifically for the world's top athletes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: Nikke Osaka Building 4F,
3-3-10 Kawaramachi, Chuo, Osaka
Official Website:
<https://www.gosen.jp/eng>





TOYO FRAME

PANASONIC CYCLE TECHNOLOGY

Panasonic

BACKGROUND

Panasonic founder and CEO Konosuke Matsushita learned the basics of business when working in a bicycle shop as a young man. And after starting a successful business in electrical products, Matsushita returned to the bicycle industry, aiming to create bicycles in the same way his company developed new electronics. In 1979, Panasonic started the development of the first electric bicycle in Japan, paving the way for its current models of e-bikes.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Nowadays, Panasonic Cycle Tech focuses on developing its lineup of e-bikes to support different consumer needs, including a shopping model for use in urban areas, a child-carrying model, a commuting model for traveling to school or work, and a sports model.

PRODUCTS

The company's signature products include the electric mountain bike models XM-D2 V, XM2, and XU1. Plus, the sporty commuter model Jetter and the Hurrier, which is equipped with front suspension.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: 13-13 Katayamacho,
Kashiwara City, Osaka Prefecture
Official Website:
[https://industry.panasonic.eu/
products/devices/e-bike-systems](https://industry.panasonic.eu/products/devices/e-bike-systems)



TOYO FRAME

TF TOYO FRAME

BACKGROUND

Founded in Osaka, Toyo Frame has been producing bicycle frames since 1973. The company started as a subcontractor of the many bicycle manufacturers in the city. The bicycles produced by Toyo Frame are particularly recognizable with the company seal embedded into the frame.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Although its main products are for sports, in 2021, Toyo Frame is also working on developing its lineup of electric bicycles for everyday commuting and tourism, with the hope of attracting more people to cycling.

PRODUCTS

Toyo Frame's products enjoy an excellent reputation and its e-bike models allow people of all skill levels to ride through urban areas and rougher terrain. The all-terrain E-MTB is an electric powered bicycle originally developed for athletes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: 1000-80 Enmyocho, Kashiwara City, Osaka Prefecture
Official Website (Japanese only): <https://toyoframe.com>





MONT-BELL

mont-bell

BACKGROUND

Started in Osaka, Montbell has been designing, manufacturing and selling a wide range of high-quality outdoor gear and clothing since 1975. With the driving force of 'making products that we would want', the founder and CEO, Isamu Tatsuno, established the company with two friends. Using their passion for mountaineering and Mr. Tatsuno's expertise in textiles, the company quickly began making innovative outdoor products.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Going beyond just a design, production and retail business, Montbell also actively contributes to a variety of social causes through its '7 Missions'. With the rise of COVID-19 in 2020, Montbell began donating medical gowns, face shields and rain jackets to hospitals, schools, and other institutions to help frontline workers and those in need.

PRODUCTS

Montbell manufactures more than 4,000 different outdoor products under the concepts of 'Light and Fast' and 'Function is Beauty'. Aiming to find beauty in expert craftsmanship, it strives to make products as light as possible while compromising nothing in quality, helping keep you safe by letting you go further and faster.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: 2-2-2 Shinmachi, Nishi, Osaka

Official Website: <https://www.montbell.com>





PANASONIC STADIUM SUITA

SPORTS FACILITIES

PANASONIC STADIUM SUITA

BACKGROUND

Opened in 2016, Panasonic Stadium Suita is considered a top soccer stadium in Asia and can hold 40,000 spectators. Despite its size, the venue is compact, meaning the field is closer to the stands, offering a great sense of proximity to the players.

The stadium has the most up-to-date digital infrastructure, with over 200 digital signs and high-density Wi-Fi. Moreover, it uses environmentally friendly energy from its own solar panels and the building is designed to collect and store rainwater for later use.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

FIFA Club World Cup (2016)
Emperor's Cup Final (2016)
FIFA World Cup Asian Qualifier (2021)

CAPACITY

40,000

ADDRESS

3-3 Senribanpaku-koen, Suita City, Osaka Prefecture

ACCESS

Expo Memorial Park Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://suitacityfootballstadium.jp> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

Koen-Higashiguchi Station on the Osaka Monorail provides wheelchair-friendly access to the stadium. There are 15 parking spaces for wheelchair users in the Banpakukinen Koen Minami Parking Lot. At Entrance Gate 1, there is a dedicated elevator for wheelchair users, which goes directly to the bleachers. There are six accessible toilets on the concourse of the third floor, and two accessible toilets on the VIP fourth floor. There are 330 dedicated seats on the concourse of the third floor for wheelchair users to watch matches.

J-GREEN SAKAI

BACKGROUND

With 16 fields, J-Green Sakai is one of Japan's largest sports facilities centered on soccer. It has played host to major tournaments and matches featuring clubs from Asian countries, including Thailand, as well as other overseas clubs, such as Portugal and Spain. Aside from soccer, J-Green is also equipped for sports such as rugby and futsal.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

J.League U-16 World Challenge (2017)
JFA Premier Cup (2016)
Osaka High School Soccer Championship Tournament (Yearly)

CAPACITY

3,632 (main field)

ADDRESS

145 Chikkoyawatamachi, Sakai, Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture

ACCESS

Sakai Station
Sakaihigashi Station
Suminoekoen Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://jgreen-sakai.jp/en>

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

There are elevators throughout the facility, accessible parking spaces and a breastfeeding area.



SPORTS FACILITIES



YODOKO SAKURA STADIUM

BACKGROUND

Yodoko Sakura Stadium is dedicated to ball sports including soccer, rugby and American football. With plenty of LED lights and seating, the field is perfect for hosting international games and this July held the U-24 Japan national soccer team match.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Emperor's Cup JFA 101st All Japan Soccer Tournament (2021)

CAPACITY

Approximately 25,000

ADDRESS

1-1 Nagaikoen, Higashisumiyoshi, Osaka

ACCESS

Nagai Station
Tsurugaoka Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://www.nagaipark.com.e.aax.hp.transer.com/kyugijo>

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The stadium has spaces for up to 70 wheelchair users.



YANMAR STADIUM NAGAI

BACKGROUND

This five-story stadium boasts a 107m x 71m field covered in natural turf and a 400m long running track with nine lanes. It hosts sports including track and field, soccer, rugby, and American football, with two enormous video screens and lighting for night games.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Osaka International Ladies Marathon (since 1982)
FIFA World Cup (2002)
World Championships in Athletics (2007)

CAPACITY

47,816

ADDRESS

1-1 Nagaikoen, Higashisumiyoshi, Osaka

ACCESS

Nagai Station
Tsurugaoka Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://www.nagaipark.com.e.aax.hp.transer.com>

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

Nagai Station has an elevator to ground level and the surface from the station to the stadium is flat.





KYOCERA DOME OSAKA

KYOCERA DOME OSAKA

BACKGROUND

Kyocera Dome is the homeground of Osaka's Orix Buffaloes baseball team, and over the years it has hosted games featuring other major Japanese baseball teams like Hanshin Tigers, Yomiuri Giants and the Fukuoka Softbank Hawks. It is also used as a large-scale concert venue for both Japanese and international artists.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

MLB Japan All-Star Series (1997, 2003, 2008, 2012, 2018)
Nippon Professional Baseball Japan Championship Series (2001, 2020)
Nippon Professional Baseball Climax Series (2008, 2014)

CAPACITY

55,000 for arena events, 36,220 for baseball games

ADDRESS

3-2-1 Chiyozaki, Nishi, Osaka

ACCESS

Dome-mae Station
Dome-mae Chiyozaki Station
Taisho Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://www.kyoceradome-osaka.jp> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The stadium is equipped with elevators and ramps for wheelchair access and also offers designated indoor and outdoor seating.

HANAZONO RUGBY STADIUM

BACKGROUND

The Hanazono Rugby Stadium is the oldest dedicated rugby union stadium in Japan and is the homeground of the Kintetsu Liners rugby team. The stadium was fully renovated in 2018, gaining a large screen and lighting for night games. It hosted four matches of the 2019 Rugby World Cup and will be hosting more rugby games during the World Masters Games in 2021.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Rugby World Cup (2019)
National High School Rugby Football Tournament (since 1963)
Japan Rugby Top League (2003-2021)

CAPACITY

Around 27,345

ADDRESS

1-1-1 Matsubara-minami,
Higashi Osaka City,
Osaka Prefecture

ACCESS

Higashi-Hanazono Station
Yoshita Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://hanazono-rugby-hos.com> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has tactile paving for the vision-impaired, along with railings and elevators.



SPORTS FACILITIES



©OSAKA EVESSA

OOKINI ARENA MAISHIMA

BACKGROUND

Home to the B.League professional basketball team Osaka Evessa, this stadium hosts top-level sports, corporate events and concerts. Oookini Arena Maishima has hosted indoor sports including volleyball, basketball, badminton, table tennis, futsal, kendo, judo, karate, gymnastics and more.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Japan Basketball Association B.League (2020)
Japan Volleyball League Organization V.LEAGUE (2020)
Japan Table Tennis T.League (2020)

CAPACITY

Approximately 7,000

ADDRESS

2-2-15 Hokkoryokuchi, Konohana, Osaka

ACCESS

Sakurajima Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://human-arena.com> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The stadium is equipped with elevators, ramps and designated accessible parking.



©OSAKA EVESSA



EDION ARENA OSAKA

BACKGROUND

This centrally located arena features indoor sporting events such as basketball, volleyball, badminton and table tennis, as well as several martial arts tournaments including karate, judo, boxing and professional wrestling. Previously known as Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium, the Edion Arena Osaka also hosts the Sumo Haru (Spring) Basho tournament in March every year, one of the six major annual sumo *basho*.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Sumo Haru Basho (annual)
Japan Basketball Association B.League (2019)
World Wrestling Entertainment Live Osaka Tournament (2018)

CAPACITY

3,131

ADDRESS

3-4-36 Nambanaka, Naniwa, Osaka

ACCESS

Namba Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://furitutaiikukaikan.ne.jp> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The venue has elevators, designated accessible parking and a barrier-free bathroom for wheelchair users.





MARUZEN INTEC ARENA OSAKA (Osaka Municipal Central Gymnasium)

BACKGROUND

This large-scale stadium hosts a wide range of sporting events including volleyball, basketball, badminton, tennis, figure skating, martial arts, wheelchair basketball and blind soccer. Maruzen Intec Arena Osaka also hosts concerts, exhibitions, official ceremonies and circus performances year-round.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

IJF World Judo Tour Osaka Grand Slam (2018, 2019)
FIVB Volleyball Women's World Cup (2019)
International Women's Wheelchair Basketball Osaka Cup (2003-present)

CAPACITY

10,000 (main arena), 1,500 (sub-arena)

ADDRESS

3-1-40 Tanaka, Minato, Osaka

ACCESS

Asashiobashi Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

https://www.yahataya-park.jp/osaka_arena/index.html
(Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has elevators and a barrier-free map of Yahataya Park for wheelchair users.



TOWA YAKUHIN RACTAB DOME

BACKGROUND

At its main arena, this stadium hosts swimming competitions from late April to late August, indoor sports from late September to mid-November and ice hockey and figure skating from mid-December to late March. The smaller sub-arena and pool are open year-round for water and indoor sports competitions.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

National JOC Junior Olympic Summer Swimming Tournament – Water Polo (2016)
Japan Student Championship Swimming Tournament (2017)
NHK Trophy International Figure Skating Competition (2020)

CAPACITY

10,000 (main arena), 2,000 (sub-arena)

ADDRESS

3-7-16 Mitsushima, Kadoma City, Osaka Prefecture

ACCESS

Kadoma-Minami Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<http://www.namihayadome.gr.jp> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has elevators, ramps and a barrier-free bathroom for wheelchair users.



SPORTS FACILITIES



ITC UTSUBO TENNIS CENTER

BACKGROUND

This facility boasts 16 hard-surface tennis courts and four clay courts. All the courts have been used to host domestic and international tennis competitions, as well as accommodating local casual play. The center also has indoor studios where table tennis, karate, yoga and children's gymnastics classes take place.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Osaka Mayor's Cup Tennis Tournament (since 1978)
Toray Pan Pacific Tennis Tournament (2019)
Osaka International Wheelchair Tennis Tournament (2019)

CAPACITY

5,000 (center court), 500 (sub-center court)

ADDRESS

2-1-14 Utsubohonmachi, Nishi, Osaka

ACCESS

Honmachi Station
Awaza Station

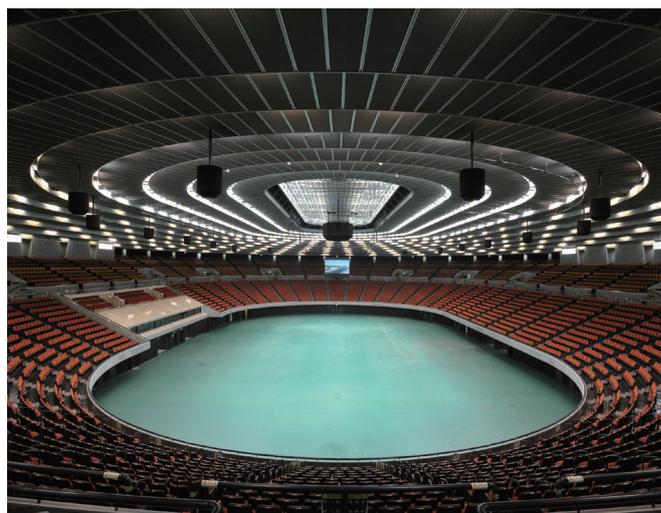
OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://utsubotennis.osaka> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The center has a wheelchair accessible entrance in the underground parking lot, and elevators and accessible toilets are available throughout the facility. There is also a dedicated space for wheelchair users to watch matches on the center court.

ITC UTSUBO TENNIS CENTER



OSAKA-JO HALL

BACKGROUND

The surface of this 3,500sqm arena is made with hard urethane resin, making it suitable for sports including tennis, volleyball, indoor track and field, wrestling, boxing and even sumo bouts. Aside from major sports tournaments, it also hosts large arena concerts and exhibitions.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

East Asian Games Volleyball (2001)
World Judo Championships (2003)
Japan Indoor Track and Field Osaka Tournament (annual)

CAPACITY

16,000

ADDRESS

3-1 Osaka-jo, Chuo, Osaka

ACCESS

Osakajo-koen Station
Osaka Business Park Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://www.osaka-johall.com/english>

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has one outdoor elevator, two indoor elevators, nine ostomate toilets and a dedicated seating area for wheelchair users.





MAISHIMA SPORTS CENTER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

BACKGROUND

This facility is designed to host a range of sports for those with disabilities, including wheelchair basketball, boccia, badminton, archery, rugby and tennis. It also has a bowling alley with sensors and voice guidance for the visually impaired, an air trampoline and an indoor pool.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Japan Wheelchair Twin Basketball Championship (1998)
Japan Boccia Championships (1999)
Kinki Blind Table Tennis Tournament (2002)

CAPACITY

150 (arena), 100 (indoor pool)

ADDRESS

2-1-46 Hokkoshiratsu, Konohana, Osaka

ACCESS

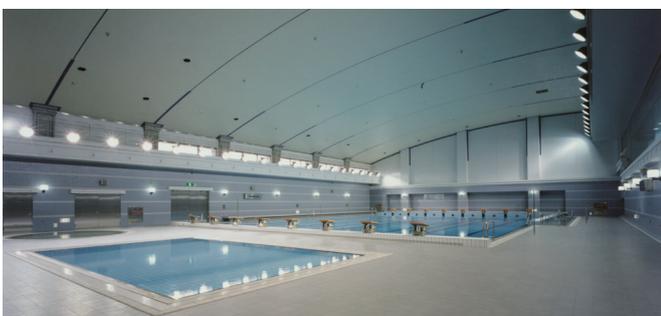
Sakurajima Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<http://fukspo.org/maishimassc> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has barrier-free bathrooms, changing rooms and a lowered water cooler for wheelchair users.



HIGASHI OSAKA WHEELCHAIR SPORTS COURT

BACKGROUND

This facility is Japan's first dedicated wheelchair sports court and was established to promote the wide world of wheelchair sports. It has been used for wheelchair handball, rugby, tennis, basketball and boccia, and has hosted wheelchair softball tournaments. Visitors can even rent one of 22 sports wheelchairs at the venue.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Higashi Osaka Hanazono Wheelchair Softball Tournament (2020)
Japan National Wheelchair Softball Team Training Camp (2021)

ADDRESS

1-1-1 Matsubara-minami, Higashi Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture

ACCESS

Higashi-Hanazono Station
Yoshita Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://hanazono-wheelchair-hos.com> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has ramps and a barrier-free bathroom for wheelchair users and those with disabilities.





OHAMA ARENA & OHAMA BUDOKAN

BACKGROUND

Newly opened in April 2021 after extensive renovations, the Ohama Arena and Ohama Budokan together form the single largest sports facility of its kind in southern Osaka. The Ohama Arena can be used for sports such as volleyball, basketball, gymnastics and handball. The Ohama Budokan is part of the same complex and is a martial arts hall for hosting judo, kendo and karate.

PAST TOURNAMENTS

Ohama Arena and Ohama Budokan plan to host the following competitions in the near future:

- V.LEAGUE (volleyball)
- National Handball Tournament
- National Judo Tournament

CAPACITY

Ohama Arena:
2,274 seats (main arena)
772 seats (small arena)
Both arenas can be connected as used as one

Ohama Budokan:
154 seats (judo hall)
154 seats (kendo hall)
Both halls can be connected as used as one

ADDRESS

5-7-1 Ohama Kitamachi, Sakai, Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture

ACCESS

Sakai Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://ohama-arena-budokan.com> (Japanese only)

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has elevators, dedicated seats for wheelchair users (24 in the main arena, four in the small arena, six in the judo hall and six in the kendo hall) and a barrier-free bathroom.



CONFERENCE FACILITIES



OSAKA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER

USE CASES

Osaka International Convention Center can be used for international conferences, ceremonies, concerts, exhibitions, receptions, exams, meetings and other events. The facility has a total of 28 different bookable venues, including the Main Hall and the 2,600sqm Event Hall. The first floor is connected to the neighboring Rihga Royal Hotel.

PREVIOUS EVENTS

International Association of Athletics Federations Congress (2007)

G8 Summit Finance Ministers' Meeting (2008)

G20 Osaka Summit 3rd Sherpa Meeting (2019)

CAPACITY

Main Hall: 2,754

Room 1001-1003: 1,044

Other rooms are also available according to number of participants.

ADDRESS

5-3-51 Nakanoshima, Kita, Osaka

ACCESS

Nakanoshima Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://www.gco.co.jp/en>

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has dedicated parking for wheelchair users, accessible toilets for ostomates, and nursing rooms.



KNOWLEDGE CAPITAL CONGRÈS CONVENTION CENTER

USE CASES

This convention facility is directly connected to JR Osaka Station, the largest train station in the Kansai region. The center offers a variety of event spaces, including a 1,700sqm main hall and medium and small conference rooms ranging from 70sqm to 620sqm. Congrès Convention Center has previously hosted events including international conferences, academic meetings, exhibitions, trade fairs, official ceremonies, lectures, seminars and more.

PREVIOUS EVENTS

MIPIM Japan - Asia Pacific (2016)

Sports Business Japan together with Stadia & Arena Japan (2018)

The Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (online; 2020)

CAPACITY

Hall A+B+C: 1,472

Rooms 1+2+3: 600

Smaller conference and meeting rooms are also available.

ADDRESS

Grand Front Osaka North Building B2F, 3-1 Ofukacho, Kita, Osaka

ACCESS

JR Osaka Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://www.congre-cc.jp/en>

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has parking space for wheelchair users, accessible toilets and elevators. The entire center is step-free, including access from JR Osaka Station.

CONFERENCE FACILITIES



OSAKA CITY CENTRAL PUBLIC HALL

OSAKA CITY CENTRAL PUBLIC HALL

USE CASES

Since its opening in 1918, Osaka City Central Public Hall has been deeply involved in the development of Osaka's cultural scene, holding operas and concerts by top international artists, as well as many lectures by prominent figures of the day.

In December 2002, the building was designated an Important Cultural Property of Japan for its beautiful exterior and interior design and for its long history. Even though it is an important cultural asset, the hall remains open to the public and is still used for major events.

PREVIOUS EVENTS

Lecture by Albert Einstein (1922)
Lecture by Helen Keller (1937)
Lecture by Mikhail Gorbachev (1997)
International Conference on Inertial Fusion Science and Applications (2019)

CAPACITY

Main hall: 1,161
Medium assembly hall: 500
Small assembly hall: 150
Special hall: 32
Conference rooms: 12-84

ADDRESS

1-1-27 Nakanoshima, Kita, Osaka

ACCESS

Yodoyabashi Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://osaka-chuokokaido.jp/english>

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

There is a Japanese audio guide in the elevator to the entrance and Japanese braille signage on the venue information board. English signage can be found at the information desk.

OSAKA GEIHIKIN

USE CASES

Located in the Nishinomaru Garden of Osaka Castle, Osaka Geihinkan was constructed to host the 7th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in November 1995, the first international conference in Japan to be held outside of Tokyo. The Japanese-style structure was modeled after the *Shiroshoin* (shogun's quarters) at Nijo Castle in Kyoto.

PREVIOUS EVENTS

APEC Summit (1995)
G20 Osaka Summit (2019)

CAPACITY

120 seats

ADDRESS

Within Osaka Castle Nishinomaru Park, 2 Osaka-jo, Chuo, Osaka

ACCESS

Tanimachi Yonchome Station
Temmabashi Station
Morinomiya Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://www.vmg.co.jp/party/agent/en>

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

There is a special entrance for wheelchair users.





RESEARCH CENTERS

DISC OSAKA

MIZUNO NEW R&D CENTER

BACKGROUND

This new research & development center from sporting goods brand Mizuno, set to be completed by 2022, is part of the company's initiative in approaching the next 100 years in business in a smart and socially responsible way.

In order to reach this goal, the research conducted at the center will involve close studies of biological data pertaining to how people move and think. Mizuno is motivated to improve the lives and exercise routines of everyday people as well as enhancing the performance of professional athletes. Accordingly, the center will also integrate information from external research institutes involved in brain science and ergonomics to better understand consumer needs.

ADDRESS

1-12-35 Nankokita, Suminoe, Osaka

ACCESS

Cosmosquare Station
Trade Center-mae Station
Nakafuto Station



DISC OSAKA

BACKGROUND

The Descente Innovation Studio Complex, otherwise known as DISC, is a research and development center for sportswear. The center was established in 2018 with one vision – to create the world's 'fastest' high-performance wear.

This goal has two meanings. The first one is that DISC intends to create sportswear to help people generate speed to win competitions. The second meaning refers to the company's aspiration to remain several steps ahead of its competitors.

DISC's research centre boasts an impressive array of facilities to test products in development, including an indoor-outdoor 250m running track, an artificial weather room where temperature and humidity levels can be controlled, an artificial rain room that replicates the shape and form of real raindrops, and even mannequins that can sweat.

ADDRESS

2-3-2 Saitoyamabuki, Ibaraki City, Osaka Prefecture

ACCESS

Saito-nishi Station

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://www.descente.co.jp/en>



MUSEUMS



HANAZONO RUGBY MUSEUM

BACKGROUND

Located in the Hanazono Rugby Stadium, the Hanazono Rugby Museum chronicles the sporting venue's long history from its establishment in 1929 all the way up to the 2019 Rugby World Cup. It also tells the story of how rugby became popular in Japan, and what the sport means to local communities.

Displays include the jerseys of rugby players at local schools who competed in the National High School Rugby Tournament, as well as autographed uniforms of professional rugby players from countries such as Argentina or Italy.

Until recently, the museum was only open irregularly and opportunities to see these items were rare, but following a renovation in 2018, the museum is now open every Wednesday to rugby lovers from all over the world. Visitors to the museum also have access to the stadium's south stand, and the concourse on the ground floor.

ADDRESS

1-1-1 Matsubara-minami, Higashi Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture

ACCESS

Higashi Hanazono Station
Yoshita Station

OPENING HOURS

Wednesdays 10am-12pm, 1pm-3pm.

ADMISSION

Adults ¥500, junior high and high school students ¥200, free for elementary school students and younger children.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE SUPPORT

English-language support is available.

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The facility has tactile paving for the vision-impaired along with handrails in toilets and throughout the museum. There is an elevator on the first floor.

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://hanazono-rugby-hos.com/museum-en>



MIZUNO SPORTOLOGY GALLERY

BACKGROUND

Established in 1992, the Mizuno Sportology Gallery is a museum that showcases the evolution of Japanese equipment for popular sports such as baseball and golf. In addition, the gallery chronicles the extraordinary life of Mizuno founder Rihachi Mizuno.

Displays include sporting goods that Mizuno has produced since its establishment in 1906, like uniforms worn by professional baseball players in the late Taisho era (1912-1926) or leather gloves made in the early Showa era (1926-1989).

ADDRESS

1-12-35 Nankokita, Suminoe, Osaka

ACCESS

Cosmosquare Station

OPENING HOURS

Monday-Friday, 10am-5.30pm.

Closed Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, New Year holidays, Golden Week and summer holidays.

ADMISSION

Free

FOREIGN LANGUAGE SUPPORT

The section containing records of Mizuno founder Rihachi Mizuno is written in English.

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

Elevators are available in the museum.

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://corp.mizuno.com/en/about>

ASICS SPORTS MUSEUM

BACKGROUND

ASICS built this museum in 2009 to commemorate its 60th anniversary based on its founding philosophy, *Anima Sana In Corpore Sano*, meaning 'a sound mind in a sound body'. The two-story museum was established for the purpose of developing sports culture, promoting healthy development in young people, and contributing to the local community.

ASICS Sports Museum offers an interactive, fully immersive experience showing the remarkable performance of athletes, sporting footwear and equipment. Visitors can virtually experience a competitive 100-meter dash, tennis or baseball match via a 138-inch LED screen. There is a miniature shoe-making workshop where visitors can learn the process that goes into producing ASICS footwear.

ADDRESS

7-1-1 Minatojima Nakamachi, Chuo, Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture (neighboring Osaka Prefecture)

ACCESS

Nakafuto Station (Kobe)

OPENING HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm.

Closed Sunday, Monday, national holidays, during summer season, year-end and New Year holidays.

ADMISSION

Free

Advance booking is required for all visitors to the museum
Shoe-making workshop ¥500 (workshops are in Japanese only)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE SUPPORT

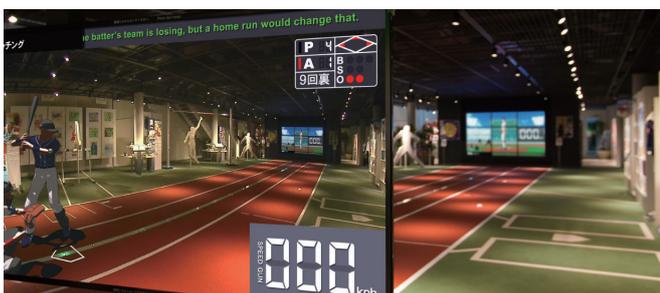
Some exhibits have English explanatory text. There is also English and simplified Chinese audio guidance available via smartphone.

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The main entrance features a ramp and an automatic door. There is an elevator to the 2nd floor and the museum has wheelchair accessible toilets.

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

https://corp.asics.com/en/about_asics/museum



KOSHIEEN HISTORY MUSEUM

BACKGROUND

The Koshien History Museum opened in 2010 to highlight the many memorable events in Japanese baseball and is attached to the Hanshin Koshien Stadium. Established in 1924, the Hanshin Koshien Stadium is the oldest baseball stadium in Japan, and has been the site of some of the most important games in Japanese history, including matches between popular teams, including the Hanshin Tigers, as well as high school baseball games.

In the museum's display cases, visitors can marvel at the high school gear and uniform of Hideki Matsui, who played for the New York Yankees, as well as many other items that are indispensable to the history of Japanese baseball. Another highlight is a section where you can see what it's like to get selected in a professional baseball team draft process.

ADDRESS

1-82 Koshiencho, Nishinomiya City, Hyogo Prefecture (neighboring Osaka Prefecture)

ACCESS

Koshien Station

OPENING HOURS

Tuesday-Sunday, 10am-6pm.

Closed Mondays (except game days and national holidays). The facility will be closed for renovation from September 5 2021 until the beginning of March 2022 (estimated).

ADMISSION

General admission: Adults ¥600, children ¥300 (junior high school students and younger)

Stadium tour: Adults ¥1,500, children ¥1,000

FOREIGN LANGUAGE SUPPORT

Information is available in English, Korean, and Traditional Chinese

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

The venue is accessible, featuring elevators and wheelchair accessible toilets.

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<https://koshien-rekishikan.hanshin.co.jp/global/en>



Getting to Osaka

Osaka is easy to access by air or rail. Better still, thanks to the city's central location, you can travel to some of Japan's other major tourist spots, including Kyoto, Kobe, and Nara, in just 30 minutes or less. Even going to Tokyo only takes 2 hours 30 minutes by shinkansen or 1 hour by plane.



For more information, visit www.osaka-info.jp/en

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