

**ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIOPOLITICAL HETERODOXY**



**TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION GUIDE**



**HESTIA 2020**

**Ryukoku University Kyoto, Japan**

**March 6-8**

# VENUE



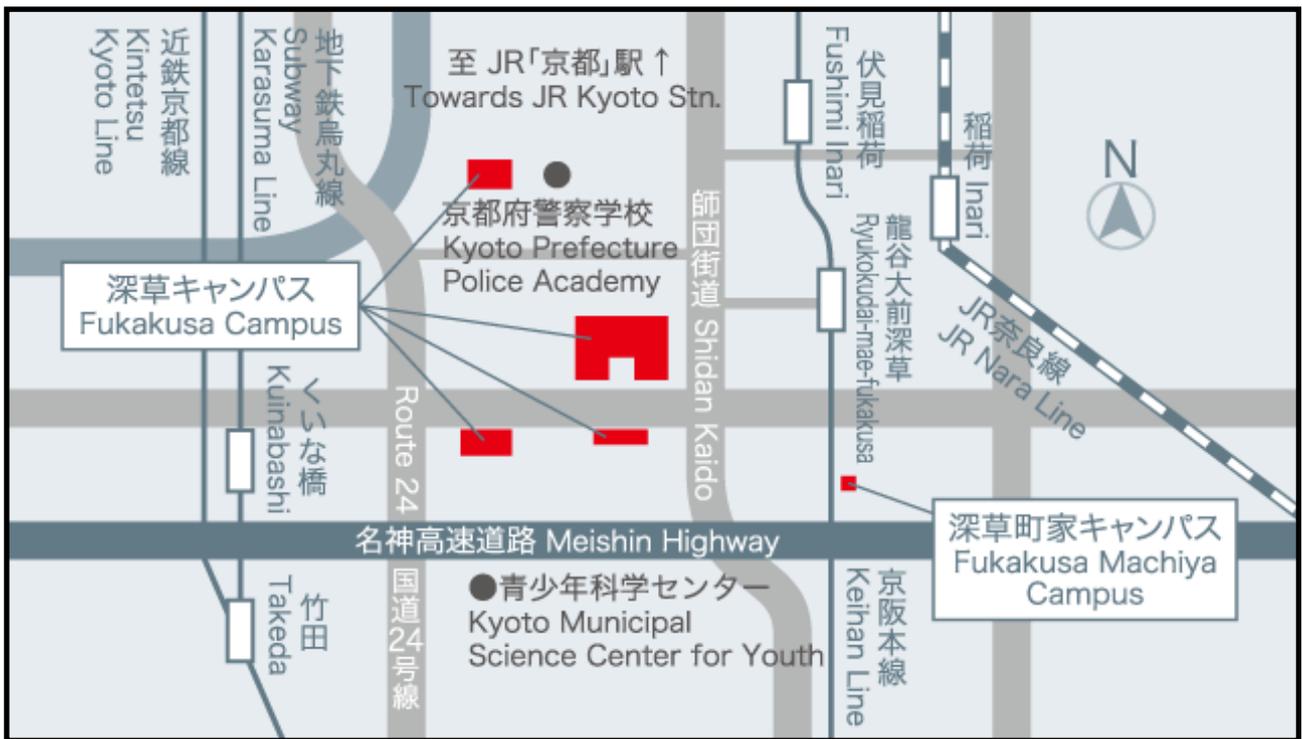
Hestia 2020 will be held at Ryukoku University in Kyoto City. Beginning life as a school for Buddhist monks, the university now supports over 20,000 students on three campuses with a primary focus on the social sciences.

The conference will be at the Fukukusa campus on the south side of the city and within easy access of the main shopping district and many famous tourist sites.

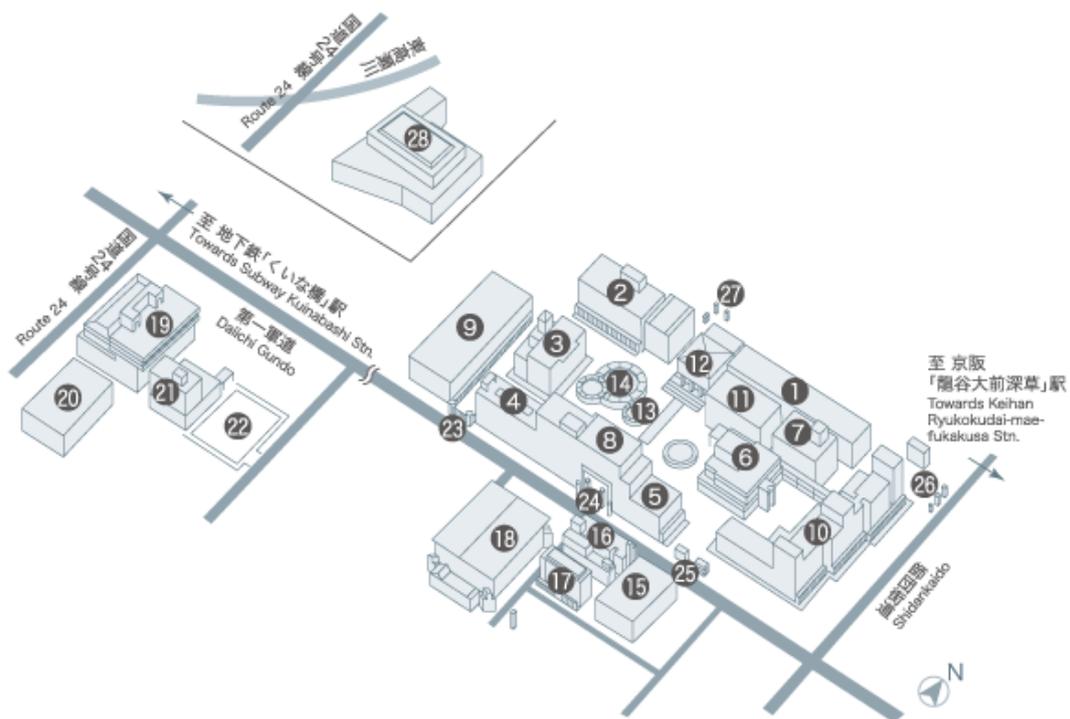


龍谷大学  
RYUKOKU UNIVERSITY

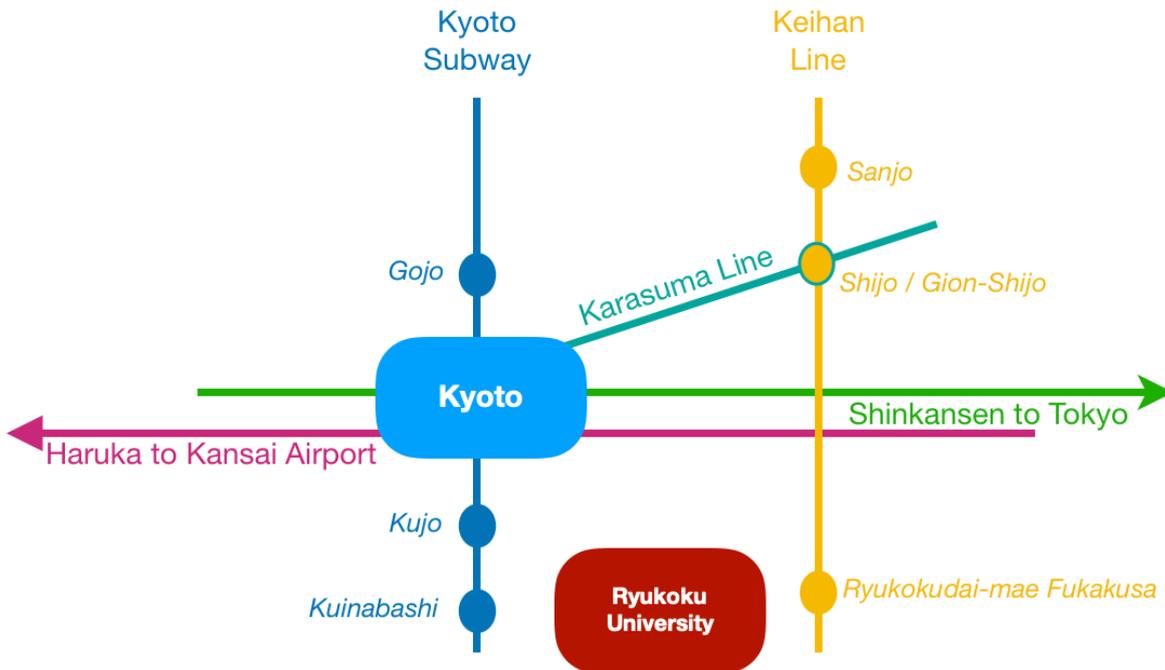
## Ryukoku University's Fukakusa Campus



The conference will be held primarily in Building 1, the Wagen-kan (和顔館).



# ACCESS



From Tokyo Narita Airport the **Narita Express** to Tokyo, and then a **Shinkansen bullet train** to Kyoto will cost ¥17,000 and take 3.5 hours.

From Kansai International Airport the **JR Haruka Limited Express** reaches Kyoto Station directly in 70 minutes with tickets costing ¥3,430.

Ryukoku University (Fukakusa Campus) is located in the southern part of Kyoto (<https://www.ryukoku.ac.jp/english2/about/location.html>).

The campus is about 2 minutes walk from the **Ryukokudai-mae Fukakusa** station, which is on the **KEIHAN** train line. It is also about 10 minutes walk to **Kuinabashi** station on the city's **SUBWAY** line. On either line, it takes just a few minutes to reach downtown Kyoto.

Should you need detailed travel advice either from the airport or within Japan, please contact us at [enquiries@sociohex.com](mailto:enquiries@sociohex.com).

# HOTELS

There are a wide variety of good hotels in the city in many price ranges and those mentioned below (with links to their TripAdvisor page) are only a small sample.

At the upper end you have:



## International Chains

**The Ritz-Carlton** is beside the Kamogawa River near Sanjo station.

**The Hyatt Regency** on the East side of the river near Shichijo Station.

## Established Japanese Hotels

**Hotel Okura** is located in the city centre close to shopping areas.

**Hotel Granvia** is directly above Kyoto Station.

## More Reasonably Priced

**Kyoto Hana Hotel** is located in the city center's main shopping district.

**Hotel Vitsa Premio** in the same area.

**Super Hotel Shijo-kawaramachi** also in the general same area.

## For Convenience

**Urban Hotel Kyoto** is a standard business hotel close to the venue.

**Inari Ohan** is a small traditional Japanese hotel also within walking distance.

In general, those close to the venue will be convenient but the immediate area is not that interesting. Close to Kyoto station will be easiest for entering and leaving the city. Around Sanjo and Gion-shijo are the best for shopping and sightseeing. Again, these are only a sample and you should easily be able to find a hotel to match your budget and needs. However, the Keihan train line, which runs along the Kamogawa River, is convenient for both the conference venue, shopping and sightseeing so a hotel close to that might be best.

# KYOTO

Although Kyoto is only the 7th largest city in Japan (with 1.4 million people), its importance is far greater and is often viewed as Japan's cultural capital.

For over one thousand years (from 794 to 1868) it was Japan's capital and when the base of political power moved to Tokyo, many of the city's aristocratic families turned to artistic pursuits to preserve their status leading to the Kyoto's reputation as a beacon of traditional Japanese culture.

During the Second World War it was one of the few cities spared from bombing and, as a result, is now home to 17 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, over 1600 Buddhist temples and 400 Shinto shrines.

The city is also famous for its high quality 'kaiseki' cuisine and traditional Japanese food of all kinds can be found in its most refined form in Kyoto's restaurants.



# SIGHTS

There are too many places worth seeing to list them all here but, if time allows, some suggestions would be:

## **Nijo Castle**

Built in the 17th century to signify the power of Japan's first Shogun, Tokugawa Ieyasu. In 1867 it was the site of the official return of power from the Shogunate to the Emperor.



## **Gion**

A district in the heart of the city that, in parts, looks just as it did hundreds of years ago, complete with the Maiko and Geisha who reside among its narrow streets.



## **Kiyomizu-dera**

A 1200 year old temple sitting on the mountains overlooking the forests surrounding Kyoto city. The temple rests on massive 40 foot pillars and the all-wooden buildings were made without using a single nail.



## **Fushimi Inari**

This ancient temple sits on a low mountain but must be reached by following winding pathways lined by almost 10,000 bright orange Torii gates.



You also have **Ginkaku-ji**, **Kinkaku-ji**, **Ryoanji Temple**, **Nishiki Market**, **Sanjusangendo Hall**, the **Philosophers Walk**, the **Imperial Palace**, and more.

# ADVICE

## **Weather**

The weather in March is cool but warming with temperatures averaging around 13°C (56°) as the city sees the start of Spring. It is generally dry with only scattered showers.

## **Visas**

Japan has visa exemptions with over 50 countries, however, please make sure you are coming from one of those, or, if not, to secure the proper paperwork.

## **Currency**

Japanese money is the Yen (¥) and comes in coins of 1 (*ichi*), 5 (*go*), ten (*juu*), and 50 (*go-juu*) size. As well as notes of 1,000 (*sen*), 5,000 (*go-sen*) and 10,000 (*ichi-man*) size. At present ¥1000 is roughly \$9.1 and €8.2.

## **Electricity**

Japan uses a 100 Volt domestic supply which is different from both North America (110V) and Europe (220V). The former will work without an adaptor but it is safer to make use of one.

## **Communication**

You should check with your cellphone provider to see if your service will be usable in Japan. If not rental cell-phones can be acquired at the airport or ordered at your hotel. Wifi is becoming more common in Japan but is still limited in many places. Pocket Wifi devices can also be rented at the airport.

## **Contact**

For any other questions you may have, please contact us at [enquiries@socihex.com](mailto:enquiries@socihex.com).



**We look forward to seeing you in Kyoto this March!**

**ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIOPOLITICAL HETERODOXY**



**HESTIA 2020, KYOTO, JAPAN**

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