

## Jidai Matsuri Festival (Festival of the Ages)

Jidai Matsuri, or the "Festival of the Ages," began relatively recently. It had its start in 1895 to commemorate the 1,100th anniversary of the founding of the city. Around 2,000 participants dress in the various styles of the different historical epochs and proceed from the south gate of the Imperial Palace to nearby Heian Shrine. Ox carts, horses and lots of youngsters playing flutes make this autumn festival a colorful occasion and a good photo opportunity for those who arrive early at the Imperial Palace Park.

Jidai Matsuri, or "Festival of the Ages," is sponsored by Heian Shrine and is one of the three great festivals of Kyoto. The festival is held on October 22, and its highlight is a procession of people dressed in costumes representing various periods of Kyoto's 1,200-year history.



<http://www.kyokanko.or.jp/3dai/jidaimap03.html>