



Osaka Castle Toyotomi Stone Wall Museum

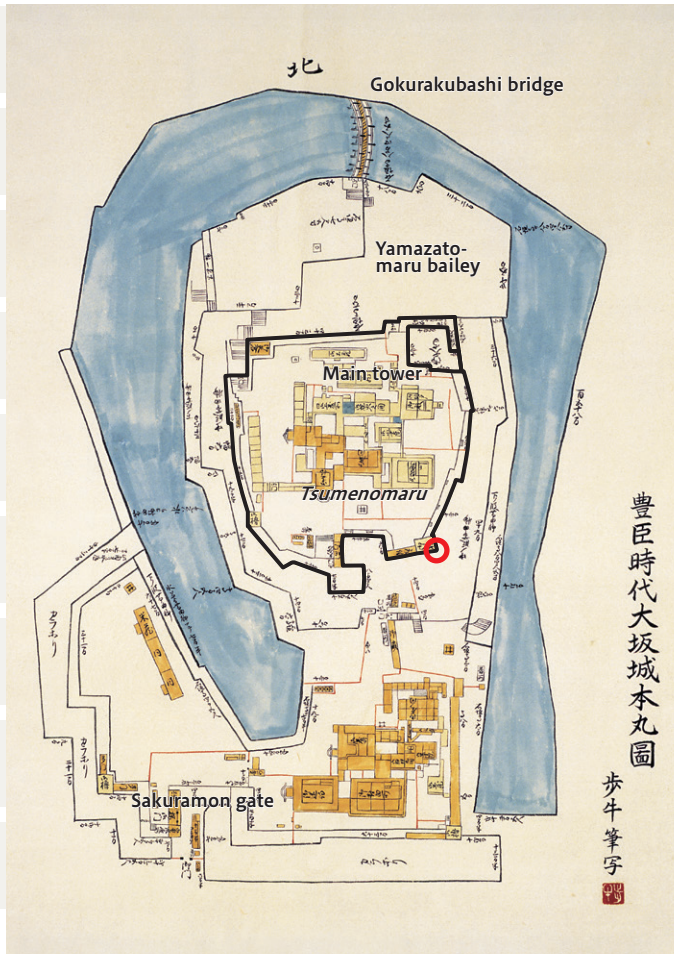


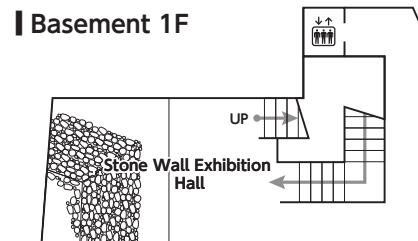
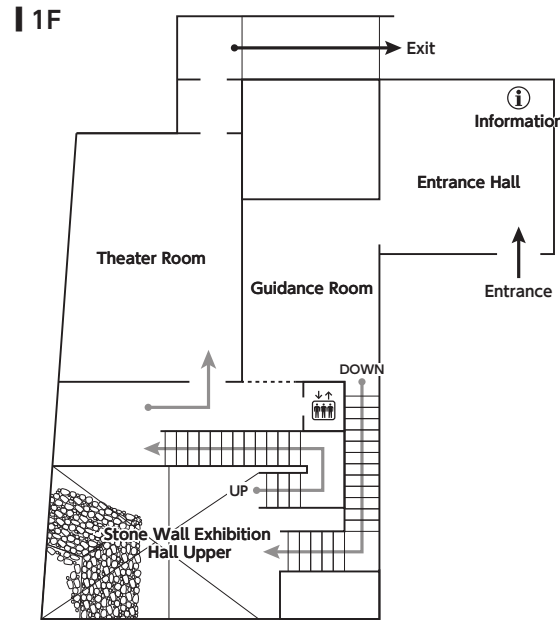
Illustration of Osaka Castle Hommaru (inner bailey) from the TOYOTOMI period

○ Circle indicates the stone walls on display at the Osaka Castle Toyotomi Stone Wall Museum

At the Osaka Castel Toyotomi Stone Wall Museum, the stone walls protecting the *tsumenomaru* (upper tier) are open to the public.

The *tsumenomaru* was a private space where Hideyoshi and his wife One, as well as mother and child Yodo-dono and Hideyori (Hideyoshi's son), lived. It was the most important central area of the *hommaru*.

Floor Map



- Guide video** Stone Walls Buried Underground: There Were Two Osaka Castles
- Stone wall commentary video** Highlights of the *Tsumenomaru* Stone Walls
- Theatrical video** "The Castle with the Greatest Stone Walls in Japan": Osaka Castle - Traces of Turmoil

Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (last admission: 5:30 p.m.)
Closed: New Year holidays (December 28 – January 1)

* The museum may be temporarily closed for maintenance, etc.
* Admission fee for Osaka Castle Museum is required to enter.

Osaka Castle
Museum Website

<https://www.osakacastle.net/>



- 1583: Toyotomi Hideyoshi begins construction of Osaka Castle
- 1598: Toyotomi Hideyoshi dies
- 1615: Summer War of Osaka. Fall of Osaka Castle
- 1620: Tokugawa government begins rebuilding Osaka Castle
- 1984: Stone walls of *tsumenomaru* of Toyotomi's Osaka Castle discovered
- 2025: Opening of Osaka Castel Toyotomi Stone Wall Museum

Osaka Castle, built by Toyotomi Hideyoshi, was a magnificent castle that was praised as "unrivaled within the three kingdoms (Japan, China and India)" and "the strongest in Japan". However, after Hideyoshi's death, the castle fell during the Summer War of Osaka. Later, when the Tokugawa government rebuilt Osaka Castle, they buried Toyotomi's castle underground with a large amount of earth, as if to erase the authority of the Toyotomi family. The stone walls and moats of Osaka Castle today all remain from when it was reconstructed by the government. The walls from the Toyotomi period cannot be seen above ground.



Folding Screen Illustrating the Summer War of Osaka, Important Cultural Property, Osaka Castle Museum Collection

At the Osaka Castle Toyotomi Stone Wall Museum, you can go underground to see the stone walls from the Toyotomi period that were revealed during an excavation in 1984. You'll experience a charm and power that differs from the stone walls reconstructed by the Tokugawa government, and the incredible mass of the earth that buried them.

Characteristics & Highlights of the Toyotomi Stone Walls



Natural-Face Masonry (*Nozurazumi*)

The walls were built using the simple and rough *nozurazumi* technique, in which natural stones are stacked with little processing.



Traces of Wartime Fire

Traces of the raging fires of the Summer War of Osaka can be seen on the surface of the stone walls.



Backfill Stone

Small stones have been packed behind the stone walls. This is a method to improve drainage.

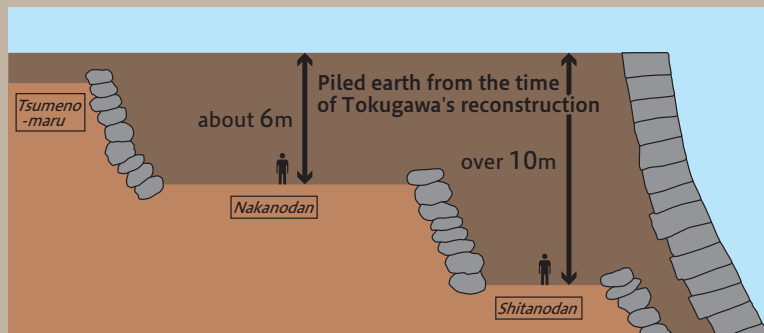


Repurposed Stone

Foundation stones from ancient temples were also transported in and stacked.

Alternated Stacking (*Sangizumi*)

The *sangizumi* technique involves alternately stacking rectangular stones to strengthen the corners of the stone walls. You can see what it originally looked like.



Burying by the Tokugawa Government

The *hommaru* (inner bailey) of Toyotomi's Osaka Castle had a three-tiered structure consisting of the *tsumenomaru* (upper tier), *nakanodan* (middle tier), and *shitanodan* (lower tier). When the Tokugawa government rebuilt the castle, it piled about six meters of earth up at the *nakanodan* tier, completely burying the Toyotomi period stone walls.