

About the renovation of O-torii(Grand Gate)

1, What is O-torii?

- The first O-torii of Itsukushima shrine was constructed in 1168 supported by Taira-no Kiyomori. The present O-torii, which is the eighth, was constructed in 1875.
- It is made of camphor tree. The main post in the east is made of wood from Miyazaki prefecture and the one in the west is made of wood from Kagawa prefecture.
- It is designated as a World Cultural Heritage and an Important Cultural Property.

2, The details of the renovation

- The renovation includes changing the roofing, repairing the Hen-gaku (nameboards) repainting the pillars, maintenance of wooden part and repairs with resin on the bottom part.
- The investigation of damage of the pillars
(damage of the hardwares, the wood, hollowing inside the pillars and so on)
- Steps of the renovation: considering results of the investigation→considering how to reinforce → asking for opinion of expert committee→ approval of the Agency for Cultural Affairs→ renovation

3, O-torii during the renovation

<p>① 2019.6.3~7.10</p>  <p>Put up the scaffoldings around principal posts and sodebashira (side) posts.</p>	<p>②2019.7.20~undecided</p>  <p>Put up the scaffoldings around whole Otorii.</p>	<p>② 2019.8.26~undecided</p>  <p>Put up the scaffoldings for the construction vehicles (makeshift-piers) from Nishi-no-Matsubara to Otorii.</p>
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- These pictures are images. The gate will be covered with coarse-woven mesh-sheet and the silhouette can be seen depending on the place you stand.
- The fence of rope will be set around the scaffoldings of the gate and makeshift piers.
- Kangensai-festival is annually held on June 17 in Japanese old calendar. In 2019, the date of Kangensai-festival is July 19. The scaffoldings will be removed from July 10 to 19 this year but still the fence of rope will remain partly.

4, Condition of O-torii in the events

Term	Event	Condition
2019.7.19	Kangen-sai Festival 2019	usual
2019.8.24	Miyajima Water Fireworks Festival 2019	②
2020.8.6	Kangen-sai Festival 2020	②To make the path of the ships for the shinto ritual, only the center part of the scaffolding will be removed.
2020.8~	Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games	②

5, Notice

- The O-torii will be renovated by Itsukushima-shrine based on the opinions of expert committee with approval of the government.
- The investigation related to the renovation is necessary for conserving and keeping the World Heritage and based on the guidance and opinions from expert committee and the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
- The term and details of the construction could be changed in the process of investigation and construction.

Thank you for your understanding.