

Submissions Collection Office for the Restoration of Matsue Castle's Otemon: Guidelines for Operation

1. Goals

City of International Tourism and Culture

Matsue Castle, the symbol of Matsue, was built at the start of the Edo Period and remains to this day. It is one of just 12 original castles left in Japan and is a designated national treasure. Structures other than the main castle tower on the castle grounds were destroyed at the start of the Meiji Period when all castles in Japan were ordered to be destroyed. The restoration of these structures, such as the middle watchtower, southern watchtower, and drum watchtower, was completed by 2001. Matsue has continued to maintain the entirety of the castle with a focus on the castle tower. In an effort to increase the appeal and value of the castle, Matsue is prepared to offer 5 million yen for information vital to the reconstruction of Otemon, the main gate of the castle and one of its essential elements.

2. Submission Window

April 1st, 2026 to March 31st, 2027

However, if the required information is found, the submissions will immediately end.

3. Responsible Party

Matsue City

4. Materials that Meet the Criteria for the Contest

Old photos or blueprints that can form the foundation of the reconstruction of Otemon.

5. People Eligible for the Reward Money

Whoever provides the relevant materials.

6. Establishment of an Inspection Committee

A panel of experts will be assembled to determine whether the materials submitted are valid and useful for the reconstruction of Otemon.

7. Reward Money

1 Amount if the submission is recognized as valid by the inspection committee

.....5 Million Yen

2 Amount if the submission is not recognized as valid by the inspection committee

.....0 yen