

Slogan

Making a Rainbow Together

The slogan "Making a Rainbow Together" in Japanese reads *minna de kakeru niji*, and the rainbow is thought of as a bridge. *Kakeru* is a play on words: the same pronunciation means both "run" and "across."

Official Logo



The official logo is based on the Chinese character *hashiru* ("run") designed in the seven theme colors of the Osaka Marathon to depict an athlete racing at full speed, combined with the Osaka Marathon logo.

Features of the Osaka Marathon

Large-scale marathon with the participation of 30,000 people

The public marathon across the city of Osaka is conducted on a scale comparable to that of the five World Marathon Majors, or the London, Boston, Berlin, Chicago and New York marathons.

New festival unique to Osaka

The course lets athletes enjoy Osaka's mainstay landmarks as they race through the city, and various events are held on the days before, as well as the day of, the marathon to liven up the event. The Osaka Marathon allows athletes and non-athletes alike to enjoy a festive day.

Marathon for charity

In line with the slogan "Making a Rainbow Together," the organizers of the Osaka Marathon have assigned the marathon's seven signature colors to seven different types of charity. When applying for registration, all runners are asked to select a type of charity they wish to support. The event aims to meet global marathon standards, and its ultimate purpose is to nurture a culture of charity by providing all participating athletes, spectators, volunteers, and many other people involved in the event with an environment where they can participate in charity programs as well think about charity.

About Osaka

Osaka, a city located in the center of Japan. Not only is Osaka an economic center where the world's leading corporations have converged, but is also a lively and buzzing city where one can enjoy various urban scenes and entertainment throughout the year.



Source: Osaka Prefectural Government website

URL http://www.osaka-marathon.com/2011/index_en.html

Making a Rainbow Together

OSAKA MARATHON 2011

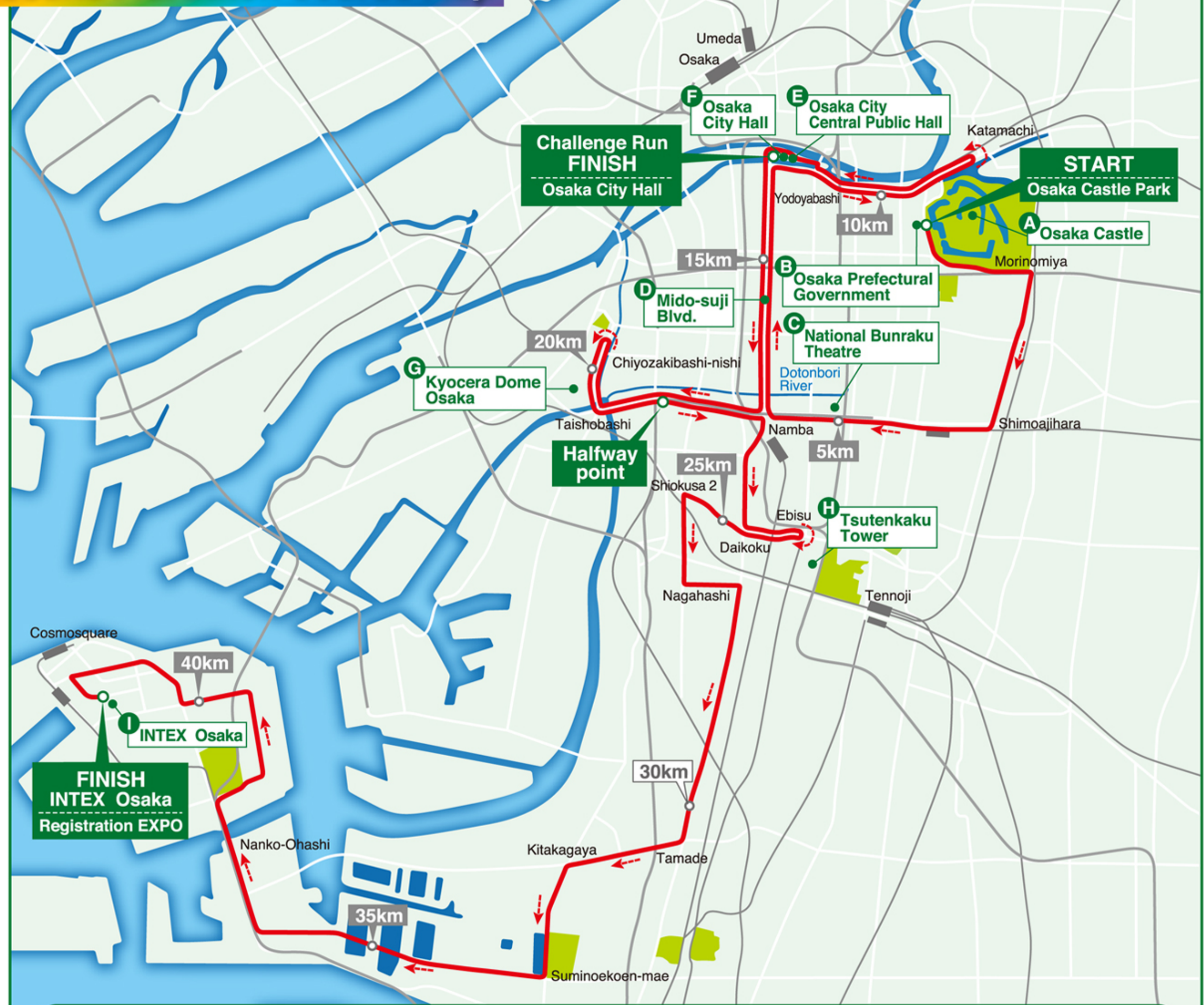
Sunday, October 30, 2011

08:55 / Wheelchair Race start

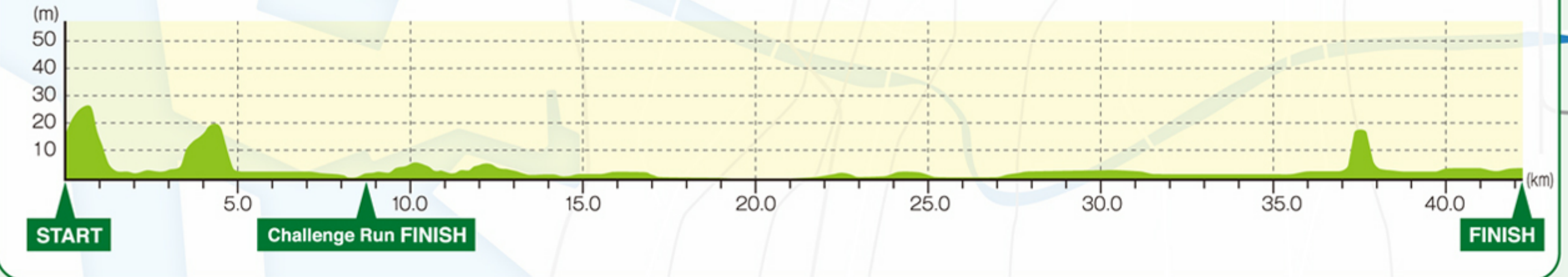
09:00 / Marathon and Challenge Run start



Osaka Marathon Course Map



Course altitude chart



A Osaka Castle



More than four hundred years have passed since the castle was originally built by Toyotomi Hideyoshi. The current stone walls, turrets, gates, and other old structures date back to the Edo period. The Main Tower, reconstructed in 1931, has become a symbol of Osaka. With seasonal flowers such as cherry and plum blossoms, the park attracts many people who come to relax.

B Osaka Prefectural Government



The third and current Osaka Prefectural Government building was constructed in 1926. It is the oldest government building presently used in Japan. With imposing marble pillars and a chandelier, the lobby is popularly used for on-location filming of movies and TV dramas.

C National Bunraku Theatre



The theatre is used primarily to stage *bunraku* puppet theatre, which is designated as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. The vicinity is also deeply connected with *bunraku*, being home to Kozu Shrine, a setting in the famous play *Natsumatsuri Naniwa Kagami*, and the grave site of Uemura Bunrakuken, the originator of *bunraku*.

D Mido-suji Blvd.



Lined with many office buildings, the main street makes up the center of economic and cultural activities in Osaka. The name frequently comes up in popular songs. Approximately 900 ginkgo trees, planted in 1937, form a green tunnel in spring and a golden one in autumn. The sidewalks are lined with bronze statues by famous sculptors from both Japan and abroad, offering a feast for the eyes.

E Osaka City Central Public Hall



The red brick structure completed in 1918 is surrounded by buildings featuring a myriad of modern and contemporary architectural styles such as the Osaka Prefectural Nakanoshima Library, the Museum of Oriental Ceramics, Osaka, and Osaka City Hall. The buildings blend in harmoniously with the river and trees in neighboring parks, attracting men and women of all ages as an urban oasis and captivating weekend painters and photographers with their scenic beauty.

F Osaka City Hall



Osaka City Hall is located in the Nakanoshima area, which is lined with historical buildings from the Taisho period, or early 20th century. The lobby is decorated with sculptures and stained glass from the former city hall building. The video information corner on the first floor offers free public viewings of a film called "Tourism in Invincible Osaka." The well-known Miotsukushi Bell is located on the roof of the building.

G Kyocera Dome Osaka



The multi-purpose leisure complex contains a dome-shaped stadium that is home to the Orix Buffaloes, a professional Japanese baseball team.

H Tsutenkaku Tower



The current tower, the second to be built, was completed in 1956 during the movie boom in Japan. Redevelopment in recent years has created a curious mixture of new and old in the area.

I INTEX Osaka



One of the largest international exhibition facilities in Japan, the complex is comprised of Buildings No. 1 through 6, which form three sides of a square.