

History—Tradition (Foundation ⇒ Birth of Department Store)

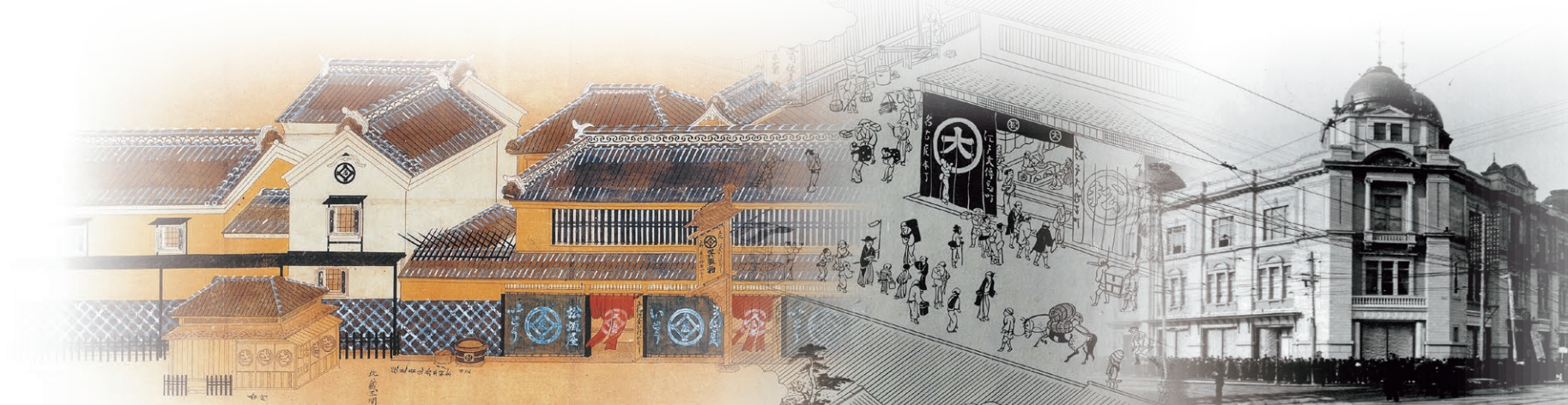
History Serves as Proof of Resilience

Daimaru and Matsuzakaya that were founded as a kimono fabric store and a kimono fabric and fancy goods wholesale store, respectively.

Their long journey spanning 300 or 400 years was by no means smooth.

They converted to department store operators 100 years ago after overcoming a number of crises and expanding their stores.

By maintaining unchanging values while continuously adapting to changing times, they truly embody “sustainability.”



1717

Shimomura Hikoemon Shokei opened a kimono fabric store “Daimonjiya” in Fushimi, Kyoto. (Foundation of Daimaru)

1700-

1726

Opened Osaka store “Matsuya” in Shinsaibashisuji, Osaka, and began cash-only, fixed-price sales (current location of Shinsaibashi store).

1728

Opened Nagoya store in Honmachi 4-chome, Nagoya, and it was the first to be called “Daimaruya” (closed in 1910).

1737

Distributed to all stores the hanging scrolls with the store creed of “Service before Profit” on it.

Completed the construction of the new Kyoto flagship store in Funayacho, Higashinotoin, Kyoto.

1743

Opened Edo store in Odenmacho 3-chome, Edo (closed in 1910).

1757

Built the Kiba Villa on the banks of the Han'ei Bridge in Kiba 4-chome, Fukagawa, Edo, and enshrined the Han'ei Inari Shrine on the premises (still standing in the Core Building).

1787

Edo store achieved the highest sales in Japan as a kimono fabric dealer.

1800-

1837

The Oshio Rebellion broke out. Daimaru escaped burning at the hands of mobs due to its reputation as a philanthropic merchant.

1900-

1907

Established Kabushiki Goshi Kaisha Daimaru Gofukuten with a capital of ¥500,000.

1908

Newly built and opened Kobe branch in Motomachi 4-chome, Kobe.

1912

Opened new three-story reinforced wooden Kyoto store on Shijo-dori (current location) as a department store.

1913

Revised and registered the trademark.

1920

Established Kabushiki Kaisha Daimaru Gofukuten with a capital of ¥12mn.

1922

First implemented a weekly holiday system in the department store industry.

1927

Opened the department store's first Dyeing and Hygiene Testing Laboratory (now Consumer End-Use Research Institute) in Osaka store (now Shinsaibashi store).

1928

Changed the company name to Kabushiki Kaisha Daimaru.

1953

Signed an exclusive contract with Christian Dior, marking the first partnership with a foreign designer in Japan.

1959

Launched private label men's clothing “Trojan.”

1961

Achieved the highest sales in Japan's retail industry (consecutively from H2 of 1960 to H2 of 1968).

1964

Signed an exclusive contract with Givenchy.

1983

Umeda store opened in Osaka Terminal Building “Acty Osaka.” Adopted a new CI and created a new logo.

1997

Kobe store (hit by the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995) was restored and made its grand reopening.

1999

Fully launched management reform (store-based sales reform and gaisho reform). (Next year, HR reform and back-office reform were launched.)

2000-

2003

Sapporo store opened.

2007

Merged with Matsuzakaya Holdings Co., Ltd. and established a holding company J. Front Retailing Co., Ltd.



1611

Ito Ranmaru Sukemichi opened a kimono fabric and fancy goods wholesale store in Honmachi, Nagoya.

1600-

1659

Opened a kimono fabric and fancy goods wholesale store in Chayamachi, Nagoya.

1700-

1736

Changed the trade to a silk and cotton kimono fabric retailer.

1740

Became a kimono fabric purveyor to the Owari Tokugawa clan.

1745

Opened a purchasing office in Muromachi Nishikikoji, Kyoto.

1768

Acquired Matsuzakaya in Ueno, renamed it “Ito Matsuzakaya,” and entered into Edo.

1800-

1805

Opened a cotton wholesale store Kamedana in Odenmacho, Edo.

1868

Ueno store was used as the headquarters of imperial army during the Ueno war.

1875

Acquired a kimono fabric store Ebisuya and entered into Osaka.

1881

Opened Ito Bank (predecessor of former Tokai Bank) in Chayamachi Kado, Nagoya.

1900-

1907

Reorganized Ueno store into Goshi Kaisha Matsuzakaya Ito Gofukuten.

1910

Established Kabushiki Kaisha Ito Gofukuten (capital: ¥500,000) and opened a department store in Sakaemachi, Nagoya.

1917

Completed the new main building of Ueno store.

1923

Osaka store (Nipponbashisuji) reopened (relocated to Tenmabashi in 1966, closed in 2004).

1924

Ginza store opened.

1957

Designated cattleya as a symbol flower.

1972

Added the north wing to Nagoya store.

1991

Added the south wing to Nagoya store and opened “Matsuzakaya Museum.”

2000-

2003

Nagoya store built a new south wing and became one of the largest department stores in Japan.

2006

Established a holding company Matsuzakaya Holdings Co., Ltd.

2007

Merged with The Daimaru, Inc. and established a holding company J. Front Retailing Co., Ltd.

History—Innovation (Reorganization ⇒ Portfolio Transformation)

Create New Value through Fusion

Changes in the times are more and more accelerated.

The landscape rapidly changed when the bubble economy burst in the 1990s and there was an urgent need for industry reorganization.

Against this backdrop, Daimaru and Matsuzakaya Holdings carried out management integration to expand both companies' strengths and achieve renewed growth.

Furthermore, to expand its retail operations, the Company made Parco a consolidated subsidiary in 2012 and made it a wholly owned subsidiary in 2020.

A genuine fusion of diverse cultures is taking place right now.

2007

The Daimaru, Inc. and
Matsuzakaya Holdings Co., Ltd. merged to
form J. Front Retailing Co., Ltd.



J. FRONT RETAILING



Phase of Business Integration and Reorganization

Phase of Building Foundations

Phase of Changing the Business Structure

Phase of Promoting the Portfolio Transformation

Phase of Change

2007 ▶ 2013

2007

Daimaru Tokyo store relocated and expanded in Phase I.

2008

Daimaru Credit Service, Inc. was renamed JFR Card Co., Ltd.

Daimaru Design & Engineering Co., Ltd., Daimaru Mokko Co., Ltd., Matsuzakaya Seiko Co., Ltd., and Refex Japan, Inc. merged into J. Front Design & Construction Co., Ltd.

Dimples' Co., Ltd. absorbed Daimaru Sales Associates Co., Ltd.

Integrated the information systems of The Daimaru, Inc. and Matsuzakaya Co., Ltd.

2009

Restaurant Peacock Co., Ltd. absorbed Shoei Foods Co., Ltd. to form J. Front Foods Co., Ltd.

Matsuzaka Service Co., Ltd. was renamed JFR Service Co. Ltd.

Opened the north wing of Daimaru Shinsaibashi store.

JFR Service Co. Ltd. absorbed Daimaru Lease & Service Co., Ltd.

2010

The Daimaru, Inc. and Matsuzakaya Co., Ltd. merged to form Daimaru Matsuzakaya Department Stores Co. Ltd.

J. Front Design & Construction Co., Ltd. absorbed DHJ Co., Ltd.

The Daimaru Tomonokai, Inc. absorbed Matsuzakaya Tomonokai Co., Ltd. to form Daimaru Matsuzakaya Tomonokai Co., Ltd.

2011

“Keicho Kosode” from the Matsuzakaya Collection was designated as a national important cultural property.

Daimaru Umeda store reopened with increased floor space.

2012

Acquired a 33.2% stake in Parco Co., Ltd. and converted it into an equity method associate.

Reached a basic agreement with Shanghai Xin Nan Dong Project Management Co., Ltd. and Shanghai New World Co., Ltd. to provide technical support and cooperation in opening and operating a new department store in Huangpu District, China.

Established JFR PLAZA Inc. through joint investment with StylingLife Holdings Inc.

Increased a stake in Parco Co., Ltd. to 65% through TOB and converted it into a consolidated subsidiary.

PARCO

Dimples' Co., Ltd. was spun off to establish Daimaru Matsuzakaya Sales Associates Co. Ltd.

Daimaru Tokyo store expanded in Phase II.

2013

Sold all shares of Peacock Store Ltd., a supermarket operator, to Aeon Co., Ltd.

Acquired a 70.52% stake in Forest Co., Ltd. and converted it into a consolidated subsidiary.

2014

FY2014–FY2016 Medium-term Business Plan started.

Became affiliated with Rakuten R-Point Card service.

Opened the new building of Fukuoka PARCO.

Invested in Cool Japan Fund.

2015

Increased floor space of the main building of Fukuoka PARCO.

Opened Nagoya PARCO midi.

Acquired a 22.6% stake in Senshukai Co., Ltd. and converted it into an equity method associate.

Opened Shanghai New World Daimaru Department Store.

Decided to rebuild the main building of Daimaru Shinsaibashi store.

Invested in Scrum Ventures.

2016

Decided to rebuild Shibuya PARCO.

GENTA was created in the north wing of Matsuzakaya Nagoya store.

Opened Sendai PARCO 2.

Opened Daimaru Kyoto store Gion Machiya.

2017 ▶ 2020

2017

FY2017–FY2021 Medium-term Business Plan started.

Voluntarily adopted the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Transferred the business of JFR Online Co. Ltd.

Opened GINZA SIX.

Transitioned to a Company with Three Committees (Nomination, Audit, and Remuneration Committees).

Transferred shares of Forest Co., Ltd.

Opened Ueno Frontier Tower and PARCO_ya Ueno.

JFR PLAZA Inc. was dissolved and liquidated.

2018

Accepted purchase of own shares by Senshukai Co., Ltd.

2019

Opened Kinshicho PARCO.

Opened SAN-A Urasoe West Coast PARCO CITY.

Opened the new main building of Daimaru Shinsaibashi store.

Opened new Shibuya PARCO.

Commenced TOB to convert Parco Co., Ltd. into a wholly owned subsidiary.

2020

Daimaru Matsuzakaya Department Stores Co. Ltd. absorbed The Shimonoseki Daimaru, Inc. and converted it into a directly managed store.

Converted Parco Co., Ltd. into a wholly owned subsidiary.

Cancelled the Medium-term Business Plan and began to formulate FY2021–FY2023 Medium-term Business Plan.

Transferred the Real Estate Business of Daimaru Matsuzakaya Department Stores Co. Ltd. to Parco Co., Ltd.

Opened Shinsaibashi PARCO in the north wing of Shinsaibashi store.

2021 ▶ 2023

2021

Transferred all shares of J. Front Foods Co., Ltd.

FY2021–FY2023 Medium-term Business Plan started.

Transferred all shares of Neuve A Co., Ltd.

Daimaru Matsuzakaya Department Stores Co. Ltd. absorbed Daimaru Matsuzakaya Sales Associates Co. Ltd.

2022

Partially transferred shares of Dimples' Co., Ltd.

Established JFR MIRAI CREATORS Fund, a CVC fund, jointly with Ignition Point Venture Partners Inc.

Acquired a 50.8% stake in XENOS Co., Ltd. and converted it into a subsidiary.

2023

Established J. Front City Development Co., Ltd.

Invested in Financie, Inc.

Daimaru Matsuzakaya Department Stores Co. Ltd. signed business partnership agreement with Central Pattana Public Company Limited of Central Group in Thailand.

Excluded StylingLife Holdings Inc. from the scope of equity method associates.

2024 ▶ 2026

2024

FY2024–FY2026 Medium-term Business Plan started.

Established Pride Fund, a business succession fund, with Development Bank of Japan Inc. and Ignition Point Venture Partners Inc. (Apr)

Entered into a comprehensive business partnership with WealthPark Co., Ltd. (Apr)

Daimaru Matsuzakaya Department Stores Co. Ltd. acquired shares of Shinsaibashi Kyodo Center Building K.K., which owns the south wing of Daimaru Shinsaibashi store, and converted it into a consolidated subsidiary. (Jul)

Decided the major renovation of Daimaru Umeda store. (Oct)

2025

J. Front City Development Co., Ltd. invested in the special purpose company acquiring Shinsaibashi Building. (Jan)

Established JFR & KOMEHYO PARTNERS Co., Ltd. with Komehyo Co., Ltd. to enter the reuse business. (Mar)

Terminated business partnership with Shanghai Xin Wan Commercial Operation Co., Ltd. (Dec)

2026

J. Front City Development Co., Ltd. decided to acquire Kobe Former Foreign Settlement Building No. 25. (Jan)

J. Front Design & Construction Co., Ltd. and Parco Space Systems Co., Ltd. merged to form J. Front Prime Space Co., Ltd. (Mar)

J. Front City Development Co., Ltd. invested in a special purpose company acquiring Huli Minatomirai. (Mar)

Opening QUARTZ SHINSAIBASHI. (Apr to fall)

Opened The Landmark Nagoya Sakae and HAERA. (Jun)