



EYEWITNESS TRAVEL

TOP 10 TOKYO

PARKS AND GARDENS ■ SKYSCRAPERS ■ MARKETS
HOTELS ■ SHOPS ■ SAKE BARS ■ RESTAURANTS
ITINERARIES AND WALKS ■ MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES



YOUR GUIDE TO THE **10 BEST** OF EVERYTHING



EYEWITNESS TRAVEL

TOP 10 TOKYO

STEPHEN MANSFIELD





Top 10 Tokyo Highlights

Welcome to Tokyo.....	5
Exploring Tokyo.....	6
Tokyo Highlights.....	10
Imperial Palace Grounds.....	12
Senso-ji Temple.....	14
Sumida River.....	16
Edo-Tokyo Museum.....	18
Ueno Park.....	20
Tokyo National Museum.....	24
Koishikawa Korakuen Garden.....	28
Meiji Shrine.....	30
Yanaka.....	32
Odaiba Island.....	34



The Top 10 of Everything

Moments in History.....	38
Historic Buildings.....	40
Places of Worship.....	42
Museums.....	44
Art Galleries.....	46
Gardens and Parks.....	48
Modern and Contemporary Buildings.....	50
Off the Beaten Path.....	52
Children's Attractions.....	54
Pop Culture Venues.....	56
Entertainment Venues.....	58
Clubs.....	60
Restaurants.....	62
Cafés and Bars.....	64
Markets, Stores and Shopping Streets.....	66
Tokyo for Free.....	68
Festivals and Events.....	70

CONTENTS



Tokyo Area by Area

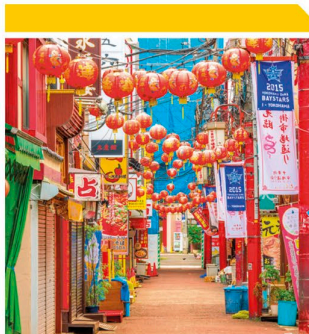
Central Tokyo	74
Ginza	80
Ueno, Asakusa, and Oshiage	86
Roppongi and Akasaka.....	94
Aoyama, Harajuku, and Shibuya	100
Shinjuku.....	106
Farther Afield	112

Within each Top 10 list in this book, no hierarchy of quality or popularity is implied. All 10 are, in the editor's opinion, of roughly equal merit. Throughout this book, floors are referred to in accordance with American usage; i.e., the first floor is at ground level.

Front cover and spine *The Chureito Pagoda with Mount Fuji in the background*

Back cover *The illuminated skyline of Tokyo Bay*

Title page *Giant artwork depicting Kabuki actor, Senso-ji temple*



Streetsmart

Getting To and Around Tokyo	120
Practical Information.....	122
Places to Stay.....	128
General Index.....	134
Acknowledgments	139
Phrase Book.....	141

The information in this DK Eyewitness Top 10 Travel Guide is checked regularly.

Every effort has been made to ensure that this book is as up-to-date as possible at the time of going to press. Some details, however, such as telephone numbers, opening hours, prices, gallery hanging arrangements and travel information, are liable to change. The publishers cannot accept responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of this book, nor for any material on third-party websites, and cannot guarantee that any website address in this book will be a suitable source of travel information. We value the views and suggestions of our readers very highly.

Please write to: Publisher, DK Eyewitness Travel Guides, Dorling Kindersley, 80 Strand, London WC2R 0RL, Great Britain, or email travelguides@dk.com



Welcome to Tokyo

Everything that is both traditional and modern about Japan is found in Tokyo. It's a city of amazing architecture and fashion, delicious cuisine, and cutting-edge technology. Artistic and cultural traditions have been honed to perfection but the city is also a master of innovation and reinvention. With *Eyewitness Top 10 Tokyo*, it's yours to explore.

You may have in mind the Tokyo of popular imagination, a perpetually buzzing, utterly contemporary metropolis, illuminated by neon. But this is also a city of tranquil gardens and ancient temples and shrines, such as the **Koishikawa Korakuen Garden** and the **Meiji Shrine**. Prepare to be beguiled by the beauty of traditional arts and crafts available to view in museums or buy in shops that have been tended by the same families for generations.

And then there is the food. The famous fish market may have moved to a new location in Toyosu but many specialist food stores remain in the Tsukiji area, an ideal introduction to Japan's unique culinary culture. The tastes of Edo – the old name for the capital – linger in the backstreets of **Yanaka** and the precincts of **Asakusa**. Best of all, despite its sprawling size and millions of inhabitants, Tokyo works like a dream. Public transportation is fast, efficient, and inexpensive. Polite service is a given, as are clean streets that are safe to walk any time of the day or night.

Whether you're coming for a weekend or a week, our Top 10 guide brings together the best of everything the city can offer, from the glitz of **Ginza** to the street fashion of **Shibuya**. The guide gives you tips throughout, from seeking out what's free to avoiding the crowds, plus nine easy-to-follow itineraries designed to help you visit a clutch of sights in a short space of time. Add inspiring photography and detailed maps, and you've got the essential pocket-sized travel companion. **Enjoy the book, and enjoy Tokyo.**

Exploring Tokyo

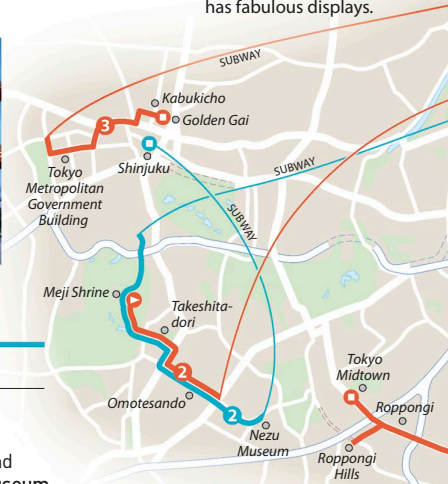
Don't be fazed by Tokyo's crowds and hyperactivity. The following itineraries include the very best sights in this fascinating, multi-layered city. There's also time for shopping, relaxing, and savoring Tokyo's delicious culinary scene.



The Edo-Tokyo Museum has fabulous displays.



The interior of Senso-ji temple is just as beautiful as its exterior.



Two Days in Tokyo

Day 1

MORNING

Take a crash course in art and culture at **Tokyo National Museum** (see pp24–7). After, stroll around **Ueno Park** (see pp20–21) and the bustling **Ameyoko Market** (see p67).

AFTERNOON

Explore the **Edo-Tokyo Museum** (see pp18–19) before enjoying a bird's-eye view of the city from **Tokyo Skytree** (see p89). Meander through Asakusa and the grounds of the **Senso-ji Temple** (see pp14–15). Board the water bus and cruise down the **Sumida River** (see pp16–17). Afterwards, catch a show at **Kabuki-za Theater** (see p81).

Day 2

MORNING

Discover the moats, stone walls, and gardens of the **Imperial Palace** (see pp12–13). Then take in the excellent collection at the **National Museum of Modern Art** (see p12) and the **Crafts Gallery** (see p13).

AFTERNOON

Crunch down the gravel pathway to **Meiji Shrine** (see pp30–31), and then

go shopping on Harajuku's **Takeshita-dori** (see p56) and tree-lined **Omotesando** (see p101). The nearby **Nezu Museum** (see p100) has a serene garden with a teahouse. In the evening, enjoy the electric vibe of **Shinjuku** (see pp106–11).

Four Days in Tokyo

Day 1

MORNING

Have breakfast in **Tsukiji Outer Market** (see p66), then tour the **Hama Rikyu Garden** (see p82). View the old wooden gates fronting **Zojo-ji temple** (see p97) with **Tokyo Tower** (see p96), an icon of the city, in the background.

AFTERNOON

Enjoy the galleries and museums of **Roppongi** and then browse the shops of **Roppongi Hills** (see p94) and **Tokyo Midtown** (see p95), where there are also great places to eat and drink.



Ueno Park is a green oasis overlooked by modern towers.

Day 2

MORNING

Pay your respects at **Meiji Shrine** (see pp30–31), and then browse quirky styles on **Takeshita-dori** (see p56) and high fashion along **Omotesando** (see p101). Cross town for lunch in Asakusa and to view the sights around **Senso-ji** (see pp14–15).

AFTERNOON

Ascend **Tokyo Skytree** (see p89), learn about the city's history at the **Edo-Tokyo Museum** (see pp18–19), and sail into Tokyo Bay on a cruise down the **Sumida River** (see pp16–17).

Day 3

MORNING

Tour the grounds of the **Imperial Palace** (see pp12–13) and then visit the Marunouchi district, home to the contemporary architecture of the

Tokyo International Forum (see p82) and the grand early 20th-century **Tokyo Station** (see p76).

AFTERNOON

Meander around the lovely 17th-century **Koishikawa Korakuen Garden** (see pp28–9). Catch the sunset from the free observation deck of **Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building** (see p109) in Shinjuku, and then hit the **Kabukicho** (see p106) entertainment area and the warren of drinking dens in **Golden Gai** (see p107).

Day 4

MORNING

Get acquainted with the shrines, temples, and traditional shops of **Yanaka** (see pp32–3). Afterwards, check out the collection at the **Tokyo National Museum** (see pp24–7) and stroll around **Ueno Park** (see pp20–21).

AFTERNOON

Ride the train to **Odaiba Island** (see pp34–5) to marvel at robot technology at the fascinating **National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation** (see p35). Finish your day at the extraordinary bathhouse **Oedo Onsen Monogatari** (see p34).

Top 10 Tokyo Highlights

Detail on the elaborate exterior of the main hall, Senso-ji Temple



Tokyo Highlights	10	Tokyo National Museum	24
Imperial Palace Grounds	12	Koishikawa Korakuen Garden	28
Senso-ji Temple	14	Meiji Shrine	30
Sumida River	16	Yanaka	32
Edo-Tokyo Museum	18	Odaiba Island	34
Ueno Park	20		



TOP 10 Tokyo Highlights

The easternmost of the great Asian cities, Tokyo is a city of perpetual change, and one that embraces transformation. More interested in the future than the past, it nevertheless carries its history and traditions into the present. This intensely cultural capital is one of the world's most energetic and creative cities. The following ten sights are a must for any first-time visitor, but there is always something new to discover.



Senso-ji Temple

The grounds of this temple are packed with attractions, beginning at Kaminari-mon ("Thunder Gate") and the commercial corridor of Nakamise-dori (see pp14-15).

2

1 Imperial Palace Grounds

Part "Forbidden City," part public park, the palace grounds are encircled by moats, stone walls, ancient bridges, keeps, and gardens – elements in the history of the original city (see pp12-13).



0 km 1
0 mile



3 Sumida River

An excursion starting under its famous bridges is a journey through the history and development of the city (see pp16-17).



4 Edo-Tokyo Museum

Blending history, art, and architecture, this stunning museum traces the history of the city from Edo Castle to the 1964 Tokyo Olympics (see pp18-19).

5 Ueno Park

A compendium of Japanese cultural history, this park contains mausoleums, temples, museums, a zoo, and a lotus pond. With 1,000 cherry trees, the park is at its best when blossoms are out in spring (see pp20-21).





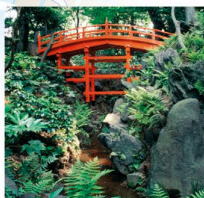
6 Tokyo National Museum

The world's largest collection of Japanese art and archeology, plus Chinese, Korean, and Central Asian art treasures (see pp24–7).



7 Koishikawa Korakuen Garden

Tokyo's oldest garden has many features, including a heart-shaped pond and quaint bridges – all rife with symbolism (see pp28–9).



8 Meiji Shrine

Sited in a forest, the exquisite Shinto architecture of shrine buildings and an iris garden embody the theme of nature (see pp30–31).



9 Yanaka

Set around a leafy cemetery, this neighborhood retains the atmosphere of historic Tokyo, with its temples, shrines, and traditional shopping streets. (see pp32–3).



10 Odaiba Island

With high-tech buildings, exhibition sites, museums, fashion malls, a Ferris wheel, and a man-made beach, the artificial island of Odaiba is a place of entertainment and experiment (see pp34–5).



TOP 10 Imperial Palace Grounds

Located at the center of one of the largest cities in the developed world, the Imperial Palace grounds sit amid a galaxy of busy urban areas. This enormous compound contains the magnificent residence of the emperor, along with a variety of moats, stone walls, watchtowers, gates, and fairytale bridges. The public areas of the grounds are also home to several museums, galleries, and beautiful Japanese gardens. This is a solemn spot, resonating with cultural meaning, and is among the few places where one can witness the incredible persistence of history.

1 Sakurada-mon Gate

This entrance to the outer gardens was erected in 1457. A survivor of earthquakes, fires, and air raids, the entrance consists of two structures: one, a broad inner gate, is angled at 90-degrees to thwart intruders.



3 Ote-mon Gate and Nijubashi Bridge

South of Ote-mon gate, the 1888 reconstructed Nijubashi Bridge (**above**) is a graceful sight. The bridge is a popular backdrop for photos.

5 Shiomizaka

Stone walls line the path up to the "Tide View Slope." The small promontory once commanded fine views of the sea and Mount Fuji.

2 National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo

More than 12,000 works by Japanese and Western artists are exhibited here, dating from the 19th century to the present day. Works include the beautiful *Mother and Child* by Uemura Shoen (**above**).

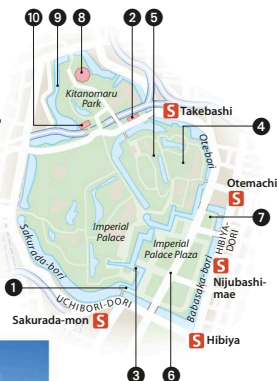
Imperial Palace East Gardens

Designed by Kobori Enshu in the early 17th century, these gardens (**right**) feature stone lanterns, bridges, ponds, swathes of flowers, and towering zelkova trees.



6 Imperial Palace Plaza

The plaza's pristine lawns, cherry trees, and stands of ornamental black pines were laid out in 1899. The gravel concourse acts as a firebreak. From the plaza are the best views of Nijubashi bridge.



TRAUMAS IN THE GARDENS

The tranquil gardens of today's palace grounds have known their fair share of drama. Victims of the great 1923 earthquake sheltered here. During the war, several members of Japan's officer corps, inconsolable at news of their nation's defeat, came here in August 1945 to commit ritual suicide. In the 1950s and 1960s, the plaza witnessed violent political demonstrations.



8 Nippon Budokan

The colossal octagonal roof of the Budokan, or Japan Martial Arts Hall, features onion-shaped finials covered in gold leaf. Its ornamental elements resemble those seen in traditional Japanese temples.

10 Crafts Gallery

The former headquarters of the Imperial Guard, this 1910 government-listed structure is now a gallery showcasing the work of Japanese craftspeople.



7 Wadakura Fountain Park

The sprays and jets of this aquatic park, built in 1961 to commemorate the wedding of the present emperor and empress, were refurbished in 1995.

9 Chidorigafuchi

The stone walls of the shogun's former castle contrast with the inky waters of Chidorigafuchi moat (above), which is home to turtles, carp, cormorants, egrets, and gliding swans.

NEED TO KNOW

MAP K1-M4 ■ Chiyoda, Chiyoda-ku ■ www.kunaicho.go.jp/eindex.html

Adm: for museums and galleries

■ All museums in the complex are closed on

Mondays (except for public holidays). Try to visit the grounds early: the tour groups turn up by mid-morning. The best plum and cherry blossom viewing is in February and late April, and azaleas and dogwood in mid-May.

■ Picnics are permitted in Kitanoamaru Park, but it's better to cross the road south of the palace grounds for Hibiya Park, where an outdoor café serves sandwiches, noodles, and even decent British fish and chips.

TOP 10 Senso-ji Temple

Rebuilt countless times since its founding in 628, Senso-ji is the oldest temple site in Tokyo and the capital's spiritual epicenter. The current temple, dedicated to Kannon, the Goddess of Mercy, is a fireproof replica of an earlier version built in 1692. One of the liveliest spots in the city, its grounds attract throngs of visitors, who come to pray inside its cavernous main hall with its opulent, golden altar and priceless collection of 18th- and 19th-century votive paintings. This religious sanctuary lies at the heart of a busy commercial and entertainment district.



1 Kaminari-mon Gate

The “Thunder Gate” is flanked by two gods: Fujin and Raijin. A red paper lantern with the character for “thunder” emblazoned on it hangs within **(above)**.

3 Niten-mon Gate

The 1618 ox-blood-colored gate on the east side is a designated an Important Cultural Treasure. Its pillars and walls are covered with votive papers stuck there by the faithful.



4 Giant Straw Sandals

Two large straw sandals hang on the Hozomon Treasury Gate. Made for deities with feet of mythic size, they symbolize the traditional footwear of the Buddhist pilgrim.

5 Nakamise-dori

The main avenue to the city's holiest sanctuary is packed with more than 150 stalls and booths selling traditional goods and souvenirs.



2 Incense Burner

A giant bronze incense burner **(above)** stands in front of the main hall. The faithful burn pink sticks of incense, wafting the smoke over their clothes for good luck.

NEED TO KNOW

MAP R2 ■ 2-3-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3842-0181

■ www.senso-ji.jp

Open 24 hrs daily

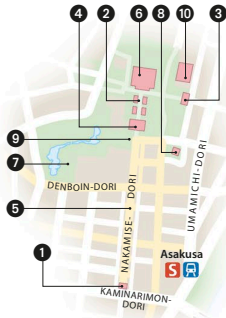
■ The temple grounds get crowded, so make an early start on the sights.

■ Combine a trip to the temple with a Sumida River cruise from Azuma Bridge.

■ Grab an outside table at one of the many local backstreet restaurants to the west of the temple for an early lunch.

6 Senso-ji Main Hall

Senso-ji temple's main hall (**below**) has a lavish interior, the centerpiece of which is a richly decorated gold and lacquer altar. Walls have votive paintings and the ceiling has a colorful dragon motif surrounded by angels and lotuses.



MYSTERY OF THE GOLDEN KANNON

On March 18, 628, two fishermen brothers found a golden statue of the goddess Kannon in their nets. The 2-inch (5-cm) image is today enshrined in Senso-ji. At the moment of discovery, according to legend, a golden dragon danced from heaven to earth. A Golden Dragon Dance is held in the temple grounds every spring and fall to mark the occasion.



9 Nade Jizo

This bronze bodhisattva statue (**above**), a figure of compassion, is believed to relieve ailments if you rub the part of its body that troubles you.

7 Denbo-in Garden

This tranquil garden (**below**) was designed in the early 1600s by the Zen gardener Kobori Enshu. Tea ceremonies are performed in a small pavilion beside the pond.

8 Benten Mound

Dedicated to Benten, goddess of beauty and the arts, a red shrine sits atop a hill built over an ancient burial mound. A bell rings for the opening of the temple grounds.



10 Asakusa Jinja

At the entrance to the 1649 shrine's main hall sit protective lion-dog statues (**above**), which honor two men who found an image of the goddess Kannon in their fishing nets.



TOP 10 Sumida River

The Sumida River, Tokyo's premier waterway, has long been a symbol of the city. While its water and embankments are a setting for commerce, festivals, gardens, bridges, and ferries, its literary associations form a rich body of lore. The girders, shackles, and bolts of older bridges, with their sweeping arches, stone stanchions, and wrought-iron lanterns, lend a sense of continuity to the ever-changing Tokyo. Low-hulled sculls operated by oarsmen have now given way to waterbuses and pleasure boats.



1 Kiyosu Bridge
Built in 1928, this blue bridge (**above**) was inspired by one that once crossed the Rhine in Cologne. Its eight lanterns are lit at twilight.

3 Tsukuda-jima
The first residents of this island congregated at the Sumiyoshi Shrine, which is dedicated to Sumiyoshi Myojin, protector of seafarers.

4 Yanagi Bridge
This green bridge, standing proudly at the heart of an old geisha district, has bolted plates in the southern Chuo Ward and north-facing panels in Taito Ward. House boats and fishing boats are moored here.



2 Asahi Beer Hall
Set above Azuma Bridge, Philippe Starck designed this striking black building (**above**) in the form of an inverted pyramid. Even more surreal is the rooftop installation known as the *Flamme d'Or*.

5 Komagata Bridge
The curving blue girders and stone stanchions of this 1927 bridge combine strength and elegance. The span's eight lanterns are lit at twilight, creating one of the city's most romantic nighttime scenes.



6 Eitai Bridge

Convicts were once loaded onto boats from this bridge (**above**) and shipped off to Japan's penal colonies. It offers sweeping scenic river views.



RIVER FIREWORKS

Since 1732, the Sumida River around Asakusa has hosted spectacular firework displays. On the last Saturday in July, tens of thousands of pyrotechnical wonders illuminate the night sky between the Sakura and Umayu bridges as firework manufacturers strive to outdo each other. Arrive very early to secure prime view spots (or book a cruise on a boat), as the festival attracts around one million spectators.

9 Umayu Bridge

This imposing steel structure is named after the shogun's horse stables, once located west of the bridge. Bas-relief horses appear on the ornamental pillars.



7 Basho Inari Shrine and Statue

Dedicated to the haiku poet Matsuo Basho (1644–94), this shrine leads to an elevated garden with a seated statue of him.

8 Hama Rikyu Garden

Features of the original garden can be seen in the tidal pond, in islets linked by wooden bridges, and in a tea pavilion. The pond is home to saltwater fish.

NEED TO KNOW

Asakusa Pier: MAP R2
Hama Rikyu Pier: MAP N6

■ The best way to see the river highlights is to take a water bus (see p120) between Asakusa and Hama Rikyu Garden, or a little farther on to Odaiba Island. Enthusiasts of the poet Basho can stroll just north of the Basho Inari

Shrine to the Basho Memorial Museum, a research center with manuscripts, calligraphy, and illustrations of scenes from his life.

■ Next to Ryogoku JR station, Popeye Bar is an excellent place to stop for German- and Japanese-style snacks and craft beer.

10 Tokyo Skytree

The world's tallest free-standing tower has observation decks at two levels, along with a restaurant. It dazzles most when illuminated at night (**above**).

TOP 10 Edo-Tokyo Museum

Charting the history of Edo and Tokyo, the Edo-Tokyo Museum is housed in an elevated building that resembles an intergalactic space station floating on stilts. Its height, which dwarfs every other building nearby, matches that of Edo Castle, and the raised edifice is modeled after a traditional Japanese rice storehouse. More modern touches include the red escalator that rises from the terrace to the underbelly of the cantilevered upper stories, and the panels coated with fluorine resin. Highlights include a replica of Nihonbashi bridge and an evocative reconstruction of the 1945 air raids that ravaged Tokyo.

1 **Ginza Streetscape**

This museum exhibits a number of small-scale models such as this one (right) of the Ginza district during the Meiji era (1868–1912). This shows Ginza during a time when Western-style architecture had started to make a big impact on Tokyo.



2 **Photos of Edo-Meiji Periods**

By the Meiji era, sepia-toned images of samurais and rickshaw pullers became outdated. These gave way to photos of Western-style hotels, trams, exhibition sites, and factories along the Sumida River.

3 **Life of Craftsmen and Townspeople**

The life of ordinary people can be seen in the seventh-floor models of townspeople's residences, and the well-crafted mock-ups of the commercial city on the fifth floor.

4 **Districts**

Models on the sixth floor show the Edo-era residential districts. The fifth floor features villages and river islands connected to Edo.

5 **Daimyo Lodgings**

The sixth-floor model of the grand estates of *daimyo* (feudal lords) was skillfully reconstructed from old prints and plans.

6 **Nihonbashi Bridge**

The sixth floor leads directly onto a reconstructed section of Nihonbashi bridge. The carpentry and joinery of the original bridge, which was rebuilt several times, can be seen in the replica.

7 **Portable Festival Floats**

Exquisite *omikoshi* (left) are crafted for use at traditional festivals. The portable floats are gold-plated and encrusted with precious stones.





9 Row House Tenement

Today's living conditions in Tokyo may be a little cramped, but during the Edo period townspeople had to make do with inconceivably small homes (**left**). An example of a typical tenement row house from this era can be viewed on the fifth floor of the museum.



8 Kabuki Theater

This superb replica of the Nakamura-za Kabuki theater recreates stage scenes from the mid-17th century, animated by life-size models (**above**) of all-male actors.

10 Woodblock Printing

Re-creations of a printing shop and Edo-era bookstore on the fifth floor are complemented by display cases containing printing equipment, books, and woodblock prints.

NEED TO KNOW

MAP H3 ■ 1-4-1

Yokoami, Sumida-ku
 ■ 3626-9974 ■ www.edo-tokyo-museum.or.jp
 ■ Ryogoku, Toei Oedo subway, JR Sobu line

Open 9:30am–5:30pm
 Tue–Sun (to 7:30pm Sat)
 and public holidays

Adm

■ A small, refundable deposit is required for borrowing earphones that provide audio commentary.

■ Volunteer guides are available for tours in English, French, German, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean. Call the museum at least 2 weeks in advance to reserve a guide.

■ The Japanese restaurant-café Sakura-Saryo on the seventh floor serves modern takes on Edo-period recipes

Museum Guide

Ticket counters are on the first floor beneath the main building, and outside on the third-floor terrace to the left of the main building.

An escalator takes visitors up to the permanent exhibitions on the fifth and sixth floors. The sixth floor focuses on the Edo-period city, and the fifth floor explores Edo's later years and transition to Tokyo.

Descend to the first floor for special exhibitions and the impressive museum store.

There is also a Sumida Ward souvenir store featuring local crafts.

TOP 10 Ueno Park

Home to one of the most impressive concentrations of high art in the city, Ueno Park sits at the center of a down-to-earth working-class residential and entertainment district. With its temples, shrines, cherry trees, a magnificent lotus pond, statues, and tombs, the park is like a miniature model of Japan. The hill, on which the upper part of the park sits, was once a great religious center. During the Meiji and Taisho periods, this historical stage served as a venue for large-scale art and industrial exhibitions, paving the way for the venerable museums and galleries that occupy the park today. Huge numbers gather here during the spring cherry-blossom season.

1 Ueno Zoo

Built in 1882, the zoo (right) is home to pandas, Indian lions, Sumatran tigers, and other impressive critters. A monorail ride leads to a tamer petting section.



2 Toshogu Shrine and Kara-mon Gate

This opulent shrine, dedicated to the first shogun, Tokugawa Ieyasu, was renovated in 1651. A row of stone and copper lanterns leads to the shrine.

NEED TO KNOW

MAP F1-F2 ■ Ueno Park, Taito-ku

Open 24 hrs daily

■ Those interested in art can combine a visit to the park with a trip to the Taikan Yokoyama Memorial Hall, the painter's private house, which stands opposite Shinobazu Pond.

■ The causeway leading from the large *torii* (gate) to Benten island is lined with stalls. This is a great place to sample traditional snacks and light dishes.

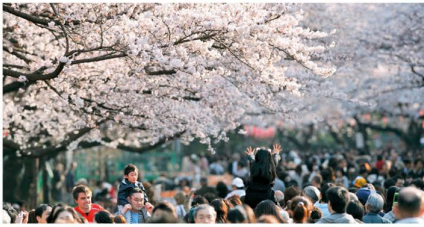
3 National Museum of Western Art

Originally designed by Le Corbusier, exhibits range from 15th-century religious pieces to works by Miro and Pollock.

4 Gojo Tenjinsha and Hanazono Inari Fox Shrines

Winding paths lead through red *torii* (gates) (right) to Gojo and Hanazono shrines. Inari fox statues stand inside.





5 Cherry Trees

Every spring, the park hosts Tokyo's largest cherry-blossom party (**above**). Beer, sake, dancing, and karaoke are the main highlights.



6 Saigo Takamori Statue

The bronze statue, unveiled in 1898, is a tribute to Takamori, a powerful samurai who led a major rebellion in the 19th century. He is shown wearing a summer kimono, walking his dog.

7 Five-Story Pagoda

Covered with bronze roof tiles to protect it from fire, the current pagoda was built in 1640. The 120-ft- (37-m-) tall vermilion structure is located inside the zoo.

8 Shitamachi Museum

Displaying everyday items such as kitchenware and furniture, this museum also features re-creations of Edo-era stores and tenements.



MEIJI RESTORATION

A fierce battle between supporters of the deposed shogun and the new forces of the Meiji restoration was fought on Ueno Hill in 1868. Heavy rains flooded Shinobazu Pond, with men combating in knee-deep water, while a cannon shot from a teahouse on one side of the water and another from a cave dedicated to Inari exploded over their heads. Over 300 men died in the conflict.

9 Benten-do

This temple honors the Goddess of Beauty (**left**). The ceiling inside the hall is painted with dragons, and the walls with murals of fall flowers.

10 Shinobazu Pond

The pond's southern section is filled with beautiful pink lotuses during the summer. A clump of reeds provides a habitat for herons, grebes, and thousands of other water fowl.








TOP 10 Tokyo National Museum

Occupying a major part of the northern reaches of Ueno Park, the colossal Tokyo National Museum was known in the prewar period as the Imperial Household Museum. This magisterial museum, set among courtyards, fountains, and trees, is divided into four main galleries: Honkan, Heiseikan, Toyokan, and Horyu-ji Treasures. These contain not only the most important collection of Japanese art and archeology in the world, but a treasure trove of Asian antiquities as well. The main galleries display almost 3,000 items at any one time – a huge amount to see in one visit. A garden on the side of the Honkan gallery opens for the cherry blossom and fall foliage seasons.

Japanese Paintings and Prints

The Honkan features paintings from the classical Heian to Muromachi periods, as well as fine examples of mural, screen, and paper door art, and Zen-inspired ink landscapes. The highlight of the Edo era is the work of its *ukiyo-e* woodblock print artists (right).



 **Ceramics** Japanese ceramics (above) in the Honkan are represented by Kyoto and Imari ware. The Toyokan has Chinese ceramics from the Song to Qing dynasties.

 **Lacquerware** Included among the Japanese National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties exhibited in the Honkan Gallery are *maki-e* lacquerware items dating from the Heian to Edo periods.

 **Horyu-ji Treasures** This invaluable art collection of over 300 objects, including a forest of standing bodhisattvas from Horyu-ji temple, Nara, is exhibited in the Gallery of Horyu-ji Treasures.



8 Textiles
The Toyokan has a sumptuous collection of textiles from China, Korea, Southeast Asia, India, the Middle East, and Egypt. Exquisite Indonesian brocade work made from gold thread can also be seen here (left). The Honkan Gallery houses Japanese textiles.

NEED TO KNOW

MAP F1 ■ 13-9 Ueno Park, Taito-ku ■ 3822-1111 ■ www.tnm.jp

Open 9:30am–5pm
Tue–Sun (last Sat in Mar–first Sun in Dec:
9:30am–6pm Sat, Sun and public holidays)

■ Adm

■ The museum shop on the first floor of the Honkan sells items linked to museum exhibits and motifs.

■ The Hotel Okura's garden terrace in the Horyu-ji Gallery is a pleasant setting for lunch. There are cheaper options at the stalls and cafés in Ueno Park.

Museum Guide

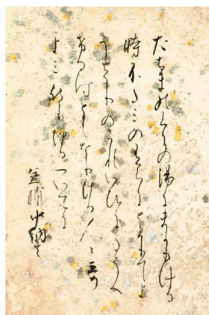
The main gate to the museum complex, consisting of four major galleries, lies at the north end of Ueno Park. The central gallery, the Honkan, is straight ahead, beyond the pond. The Toyokan is on the right, and the Heiseikan is to the left, behind the Honkan. The Gallery of Horyu-ji Treasures lies to the left of the main gate, behind the Hyokeikan, a grand building open only for special exhibits and events.

5 Japanese Archeology

The Heiseikan, dedicated to Japanese archeology, houses relics from the Jomon period (c.10,000–300 BC) onward. The chronology of Japanese arts can be found here.

6 Asian Arts

The Toyokan is the gallery to see Asian art. The collection includes fine examples of Korean metalwork, Khmer pottery, Hindu statuary, and cave paintings from the grottoes of Xingling.



7 Calligraphy

The master calligraphy in the Honkan includes *bokuseki*, executed by Zen priests (above). Even if the meanings of the Chinese characters elude you, the beauty of the brushwork will not.

9 Arms and Armor

The equipment once owned by the country's military elite is displayed in the Honkan. Often excessively embellished, this includes the warriors' attire: armor, helmets, saddlery, and sword mountings.



10 Religious Sculptures

Religious sculptures (left) are scattered throughout the galleries. Bronze, gilt, and sandstone sculptures from Pakistan are exhibited in the Toyokan. The Honkan displays Buddhist statues from India and Japan.

Galleries and Outdoor Features



Exterior of the Honkan gallery, which contains Japanese art and artifacts

1 Honkan

The main gallery and centerpiece of Ueno Park was designed by Jin Watanabe. The present Honkan was completed in 1938 in the "Imperial Crown" style of architecture. The features are Japanese, but the building materials are undeniably Western.

2 Toyokan

Asian artworks and archeological exhibits are housed in a light, modernist building. Parts of the collection may sometimes be shown elsewhere within the complex.



Teahouse in the museum garden

3 Museum Garden and Teahouses

The site is open to the public during the spring cherry-blossom or fall leaf-viewing seasons. Those who are in Tokyo around this time should not pass up the chance to see the secret pond-garden and teahouses on the north side of the Honkan.

4 Heiseikan

Built in 1993 – with a sleek courtyard, auditorium, and lounge – this modern gallery houses pottery, burial statues, and artifacts from the ancient world.

5 Shiryokan

The Shiryokan is a research and information center, where visitors can browse through archives, books, magazines, monochrome and color photographs, and other materials linked to art history.

6 Gallery of Horyu-ji Treasures

The minimalist 1999 design of this gallery is the work of Yoshio Taniguchi, whose overseas projects include the ground-breaking Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) in New York.

7 Black Gate

A rare structure from the Edo period, the Kuro-mon is topped with a heavy hip-and-gable style roof. Old roof tiles and foundation stones are kept in the rear of the gate.

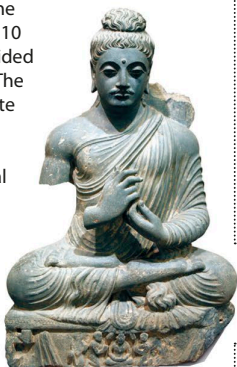
8 Azekura Sutra Store

Buddhist sutras were once kept in stores like this one, transported in 1882 from Gango-ji temple in Nara. Constructed of logs, the inner walls

ASIAN ART THEMES

With over 110,000 objects in its collection, the Tokyo National Museum regularly rotates its exhibits. The Toyokan consists of 10 exhibition rooms divided by regional themes. The themes listed opposite the Toyokan are part of its permanent collection, but individual displays change.

This Gandharan sculpture is one of the highlights of the collection housed in the Toyokan.



STONE AGE TOKYO

Early settlers lived along the ridges and bluffs of the present-day Yamanote Hills. From here, they had ready access to plentiful supplies of fish and shellfish. A pre-Bronze Age site – the Omori shell mound – in southwest Tokyo was discovered in 1877 by the American zoologist Edward Sylvester Morse. The event marked the beginning of Japanese archeology.

TOP 10 ASIAN ART THEMES

- 1 Indian and Gandharan Sculpture (13th–2nd century BC)
- 2 Ancient Asian Bronze Drums (6th–5th century BC)
- 3 West Asian Textiles (19th century)
- 4 Chinese Archeology (2nd–1st century BC)
- 5 Chinese Textiles (15th–17th century)
- 6 Chinese Ceramics (Three Kingdoms period–Tang dynasty)
- 7 Chinese Ceramics (Song–Qing dynasty)
- 8 Chinese Stone Reliefs from Shangdong (1st–2nd century)
- 9 Korean Ceramics (9th–10th century)
- 10 Central Asian Religious Cave Paintings (Tang dynasty)

of this tiny storehouse are decorated with murals depicting bodhisattvas and protective deities.

9 Hyokeikan

A prized example of a Meiji-era Western-style building, the white stone walls and green domes of this Important Cultural Property are an impressive if somewhat sober sight.

10 Statue of Edward Jenner

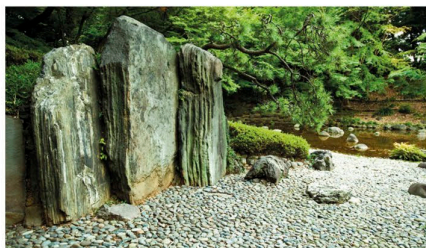
British physician Edward Jenner (1749–1823) was the pioneer of vaccination. This memorial statue by Yonehara Unkai, a pupil of sculptor Koun Takamura, was erected in 1896 as a tribute to Jenner and his great achievement.

The Hyokeikan, built in 1909



TOP 10 Koishikawa Korakuen Garden

Established in 1629, Tokyo's oldest surviving garden was commissioned by Tokugawa Yorifusa, lord of the Mito branch of the Tokugawa family. Its designer, Tokudaiji Sahei, was aided by the Confucian scholar, Zhu Shunshui, a Chinese refugee from the fall of the Ming dynasty. The garden was once a recreational space for the Tokugawa clan to entertain guests, clamber up its miniature hills, float in barges on its pond, and stage poetry parties. It is now open to the public.



4 Tsuiji Walls
The current wall is a reinforced concrete imitation of the original *tsuiji* plastered walls, but moss and staining from Tokyo's steamy summers have given the newer walls a patina of age.

5 Symbolic Rice Field

Created to show the hardships faced by peasant farmers, a rice field lies to the north of the garden. School kids plant and harvest the crop.

6 Kuhachiya House

Standing in the middle of a glade of red pines, this thatched-roof building is modeled on an Edo-era drinking house.

1 Mount Lu and Lotuses

Miniature landscapes here recall famous places in poetry and mythology. Below this imitation of Mount Lu in China (**above**) is a sacred lotus pond.

2 Horai-jima Island

The island at the pond's center represents the Taoist paradise of Horai-jima. The idea of a "heavenly isle" in a garden was conceived by the Chinese Emperor Wu.

3 Engetsukyo Bridge

A stroll along the winding, tree-sheltered paths leads to the Chinese-style Engetsukyo (**below**), the "round moon bridge," arguably the oldest ornamental stone bridge in Tokyo.

NEED TO KNOW

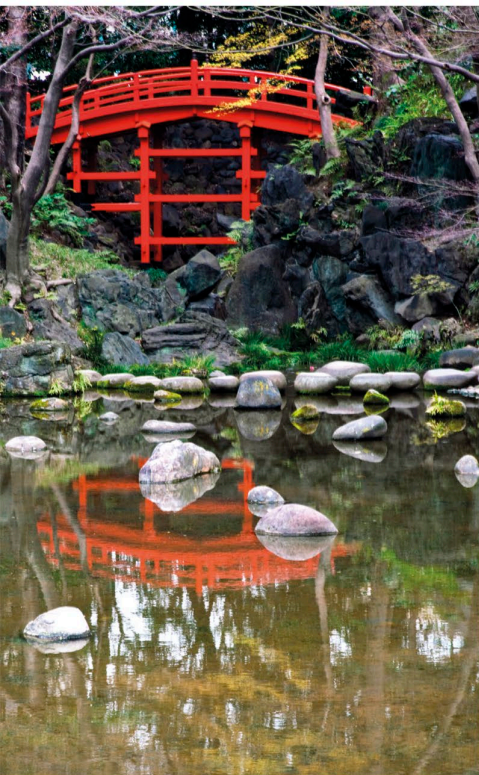
MAP E2 ■ 1-6-6 Koraku, Bunkyo-ku ■ 3811-3015
■ www.tokyo-park.or.jp/english/park

Open 9am-5pm ■ Adm

■ **Try to get to the garden when it opens at 9am, before the amusement park next door gets into full swing. In the fierce summer months the garden is much cooler at this time as well.**

■ **Kantoku-tei, a teahouse with a room facing onto Oigawa River, serves *omatcha* (powdered green tea) along with a traditional Japanese sweet.**





JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY

The dual purpose of the ceremony is to create a spirit of modesty and to express deep hospitality among tea guests. Stepping stones leading to the teahouse are designed to slow down guests, to decrease the pace of ordinary life. The very low entrance requires guests to stoop, a gesture of humility that places everyone on an equal social footing.

- 9 Inner Garden**
 Apart from a long-gone Chinese gate, everything else remains the same as when the Mito family used this Chinese-style inner garden as a sanctum and place of study.



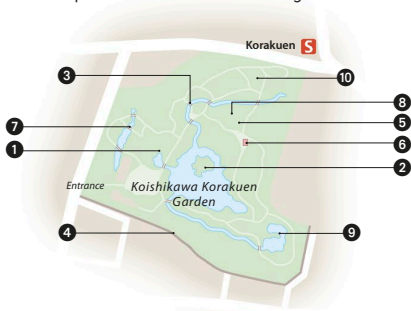
10 Plum Orchard and Yatsu-hashi

An attractive plum orchard **(above)** just to the north of the pond comes into fragrant white blossom in early February. Nearby, a zigzag, eight-span *yatsu-hashi* bridge runs through a small marsh.

7 Tsutenkyo Bridge

Spanning a deep ravine and supported on piles, the bridge **(above)** is a replica of a structure in Tofuku-ji, a temple complex in Kyoto. Its reflection in the shallow river amplifies its size.

- 8 Iris Garden**
 Planted in the marsh surrounding the zigzag bridge, purple and white Japanese and rabbit-ear irises bloom during the June rainy season. An ancient system of sluice gates and dikes irrigates the marsh.



TOP 10 Meiji Shrine

Dedicated to the memory of Emperor Meiji (1852–1912) and his wife, Empress Shoken, Meiji Shrine is a fine example of restrained Shinto architecture. Completed in 1921, the shrine was destroyed in an air raid in 1945. The current reconstruction is indistinguishable from the original. The gravel paths and courtyards of the grounds host cultural events, ranging from Noh and Kyogen drama, court dances, and music performances to horseback archery, winter ice sculptures, and calligraphy shows.



1 Torii
The 39-ft (12-m) main gate (**above**) is Japan's largest *torii*. It was constructed from 1,500-year-old Japanese *hinoki* cypress trees transported from Alishan mountain in Taiwan.

2 Ichi no Torii
Meaning "first gate," this *torii* is positioned at the main entrance to Meiji Shrine. *Torii* symbolize the perch where a mythological cock sat before it announced the dawn that lured the sun goddess Amaterasu from her cave. The 16-petal chrysanthemum medallions at the top of the gate are a symbol of the imperial family.

3 Main Shrine

This elegant and classic Shinto-style shrine (**right**) can be entered through one of three decorated, wooden gates.

4 Imperial Treasure House

This collection of personal artifacts belongs to the Meiji royalty. A painting by the Italian artist Ugolini depicts the emperor in European military dress, with a vase standing on a table at his side. The same vase stands next to the painting in the museum.



EMPEROR MEIJI

In 1867, two British emissaries, Sir Harry Parkes and Algernon Mitford, were granted an audience with the 15-year-old emperor in his palace in Kyoto. What they found was a vision of medieval sovereignty: a boy dressed in white brocade and silk trousers, his teeth lacquered black, eyebrows shaved, and cheeks painted red. Less than a year later, he would proclaim the Meiji era and by the end of his reign, Japan was an industrialized nation, strong enough to have defeated Russia in 1904–5.

NEED TO KNOW

MAP B5 ■ 1-1

Kamizonocho, Yoyogi,
Shibuya-ku ■ 3379-5511
■ www.meijijingu.or.jp/english ■ Harajuku,
Harajuku JR Yamanote
Line; Meiji-Jingumae,
Chiyoda Line

Main Shrine: dawn to dusk

Iris Garden: 9am–4pm
(to 4:30pm Mar–Oct); Adm

Imperial Treasure House:

Sat–Sun, public holidays
and festival days; Adm

■ **Comfortable shoes are recommended for the shrine, with a 10-minute walk along a gravel path.**

■ **The boundary of adjacent Yoyogi Park (see p49) has stalls selling snacks, light meals, and other refreshments.**

5 Votive Tablets

Hung on prayer boards in front of the shrine (right), *ema* (votive tablets sending prayers to the god) are still popular, especially among students petitioning for divine help in passing exams. Another *ema* is usually hung in gratitude, if a wish is fulfilled.



8 JR Bridge

The bridge leading to the shrine is a free zone for performance artists, some of whom enjoy dressing up in rococo hairstyles and gothic makeup.



6 Traditional Wedding Processions

Along with the many other rituals and dedicatory ceremonies held at the shrine, Shinto weddings (above) are quietly formal in manner and attire, but visually dazzling. Most weddings take place on Saturday afternoons.

7 Evergreen Forest

Much of the grounds are densely forested. More than 120,000 trees and shrubs form a natural garden of Japanese flora.

9 Souvenir Store

Amulets, incense, talismans, lucky arrows, key rings strung with a tiny shrine bell, and models of *tanuki* (raccoon-dog deity) are sold here.

10 Meiji Shrine Iris Garden

A wooded path leads into a sunken garden (below), bordered by misty woods and thatched gazebos. In early June, purple, pink, and white irises bloom in the water garden.



TOP 10 ★ Yanaka

An oasis of calm, seemingly frozen in time, Yanaka is a far cry from the idea of Tokyo as a metropolis of the future. The area, a short stroll north of Ueno Park but easily accessed from Nippori Station on the JR Yamanote line, is where some 60 temples and shrines relocated after a fire devastated the capital's downtown area in 1657. They remain there today alongside the elegiac Yanaka Cemetery, the last resting place of many of the city's luminaries, and Yanaka Ginza, a traditional shopping street straight out of Tokyo's past.

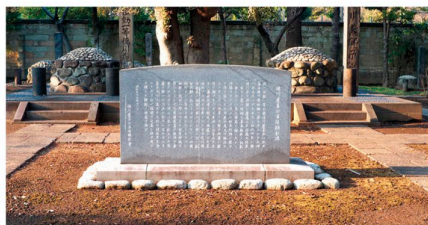


1 Yanaka Ginza
Global chains are banished from this shopping street in favor of butchers, green-grocers, cafés (**above**), *soba* restaurants, and crafts shops such as Yanaka Matsunoya, which sells artisan-made household goods.

4 Daien-ji Temple
This temple has a Buddhist and a Shinto hall. Its Chrysanthemum Festival is held here annually on October 14–15, when dolls made from flowers are displayed and puppet performances take place.

6 Tenno-ji Temple
Founded in 1274, this temple contains the Great Buddha of Yanaka (**above**), a fine bronze statue cast in 1690.

2 Suwa Shrine
At New Year, the grounds of this 1202 shrine on the edge of a plateau are strung with lanterns showing the animal zodiac sign for the coming year.



3 Zensho-an Temple
Every August, this Zen meditation temple displays its collection of painted scrolls depicting supernatural folk tales.

5 Yanaka Cemetery
The graves of the last shogun (**above**), Tokugawa Yoshinobu (1837–1913), and the infamous murderess Takahashi Oden are among the many famous figures buried in this cemetery.



8 **Isetatsu** This 1864 shop (left) creates *chiyogami* – patterned *washi* (Japanese handmade paper) once popular with the samurai class. Today, the paper is used for decorative purposes and origami.



GREAT BUDDHA OF YANAKA

Tokyoites have a special affection for their very own Great Buddha of Yanaka. The 16-ft (5-m) statue belongs to Tenno-ji temple, a sanctuary that was damaged during the Battle of Ueno (1868) (see p21). The fact that the statue survived added to its mystic appeal. Cast in bronze in 1690, this Chinese-style figure has finely carved facial features, representing the Shaka-nyorai Buddha. It stands in a tranquil corner of the temple precincts, among lush surroundings.

10 Asakura Museum of Sculpture

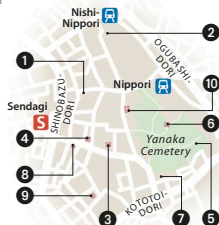
The former home and studio of sculptor Fumio Asakura (1883–1964) contains many of his graceful statues.

7 Ueno Sakuragi Atari

Get a glimpse of life in the Edo period: three traditional wooden houses built in 1938 have been converted into a beer hall, a bakery, two shops, and a community space.

9 Daimyo Clock Museum

This interesting museum displays timepieces made for the privileged classes during the Edo era. The 12 signs of the Chinese zodiac were used to indicate the hour.



NEED TO KNOW

MAP F1

Ueno Sakuragi Atari:

www.uenosakuragiatar.jp

Open 8am–8pm Tue–Sun

Isetatsu:

www.isetatsu.com

Open 10am–6pm

Daimyo Clock Museum:

3821-6913.

Open 10am–4pm Mon–Sat. Closed Jul–Sep.
Adm

Asakura Museum of Sculpture: 3821-4549.

Open 9:30am–4:30pm Tue–Wed, Fri–Sun.
Adm

■ Yanaka is full of free art galleries. Drop by SCAI –

The Bathhouse (see p47), which is located in a former bathhouse; Oguraya (7-6-8 Yanaka), set in a building dating from 1847; and Edokoro (1-6-17 Yanaka; www.allanwest.jp), the studio of artist Allan West, who makes gilded screens and scrolls.

TOP 10 Odaiba Island

When coastal mega-cities run out of space, they inevitably turn toward the sea. An aerial view of Tokyo reveals a city stretched to its limits, coming to a congested stop at the waterfront. Geometrically precise islands appear, seemingly lowered into place like space panels. As well as exhibition pavilions, indoor shopping malls, game centers, cafés, restaurants, and surrealistic constructions of Odaiba Island, visitors are intrigued by the structures on this landfill that seem to hail from the future rather than the past.



1 Rainbow Bridge

At night this graceful bridge (**above**) is illuminated and in summer fireworks displays are held on the waters around the bridge's stanchions.

DEFENDING THE BAY

Man-made islands were built as cannon batteries by the Edo-era Tokugawa government to protect Tokyo from foreign invasion. The fear was well founded. In the 1850s, heavily armed American steamships, led by Commodore Perry, moored close offshore (see p38). In all, five islands were built. Today, only Battery Island Nos. 3 and 6 remain.

2 Palette Town

This complex includes the Venus Fort shopping mall, a Ferris wheel illuminated at night with rainbow colors, and the Toyota car showroom Mega Web, where you can enjoy simulated rides.

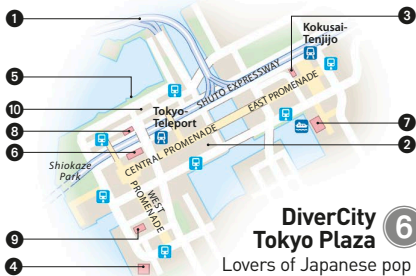
3 RiSuPia

Electronics giant Panasonic shows off its latest gadgets and has a great hands-on science and discovery center which is a fun distraction for kids and adults.

4 Oedo Onsen Monogatari

Dip into tepid to scalding natural spring waters, indoor and outdoor tubs, a steaming sand bath, sauna, foot massage pool, or bed of hot stones at this rejuvenating hot-spring complex (**below**).





5 Odaiba Marine Park

A man-made beach and a replica of New York's Statue of Liberty are among the attractions of this park, along with mesmerizing views of the city skyline and Rainbow Bridge.

DiverCity Tokyo Plaza 6

Lovers of Japanese pop culture will delight at the statue of the anime robot Gundam in front of this mega-shopping mall, which has a Gundam-themed exhibition hall.

7 Tokyo Big Sight

The megalithic exhibition center has an eighth-floor Observation Lounge. The gravity-defying structure consists of four inverted pyramids standing on a seemingly narrow base.

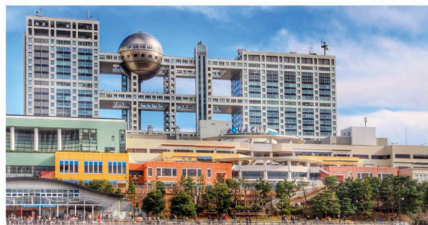
9 National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation

Laid out in a futuristic building, this museum focuses on space, life sciences, and cutting-edge technology (**below**).



10 Decks and Aqua City

Decks is a wooden boulevard of outdoor patios and restaurants. Next door, Aqua City has restaurants, a cinema, video arcade, and theater.



8 Fuji TV Building

Two blocks of this Kenzo Tange-designed building (**above**) are joined by girder-like sky corridors and a titanium-paneled sphere, making it resemble a hi-definition, wide-screen TV set.

NEED TO KNOW

MAP D2

Palette Town: 3529-1821; www.palette-town.com

RiSuPia: 3599-2600. **Open** 10am–6pm Tue–Sun. Adm

Oedo Onsen Monogatari: 5500-1126. **Open** 11am–9pm. Adm

National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation: 3570-9151.

Open 10am–5pm Mon, Wed–Sun. Adm

Tokyo Big Sight: 5530-1111

Fuji TV Building: 5500-8888. **Open** 10am–6pm daily. Adm

DiverCity Tokyo Plaza: 5927-9321; www.divercity-tokyo.com/en. **Open** 10am–11pm

■ The island gets packed on weekends. Weekdays are usually quieter.

■ Grab a bite to eat at the *Thé Chinois Madu*, a teahouse in Venus Fort.

The Top 10 of Everything

Moments in History 38

Historic Buildings 40

Places of Worship 42

Shinjuku Gyoen Garden in fall



Museums	44	Entertainment Venues	58
Art Galleries	46	Clubs	60
Gardens and Parks	48	Restaurants	62
Modern and Contemporary Buildings	50	Cafés and Bars	64
Off The Beaten Path	52	Markets, Stores, and Shopping Streets	66
Children's Attractions	54	Tokyo for Free	68
Pop Culture Venues	56	Festivals and Events	70



TOP 10 Moments in History

1 Founding of Senso-ji Temple

Discovered by two fishermen in their nets in 628, the golden image of the goddess Kannon was enshrined at the site of present-day Senso-ji. The temple has been rebuilt several times, and after air raids in 1945 a replica was put up in ferroconcrete.



Senso-ji in 1904, before the air raids

2 Ota Dokan's Fort

The Musashino Plain was developed into a martial domain with the arrival of Ota Dokan, a minor feudal lord, in 1456. Dokan's fortress was built on a site named Edo, meaning "estuary mouth." A statue of the city founder stands at the Tokyo International Forum in Yurakucho.

3 Founding of Edo

The development of Edo village into Japan's de facto military capital began when future shogun Tokugawa Iyasu arrived there in 1590. The land was reclaimed, water courses expanded, residences built, and a huge citadel, Edo Castle, was erected.

4 Long-Sleeves Fire

In 1657, priests at Hommyo-ji temple in Hongo burned a "cursed" kimono owned by three girls who had died before becoming old enough to wear it. A gust of wind tore it away, starting fresh fires that claimed the lives of over 100,000 people.

5 47 Ronin Incident

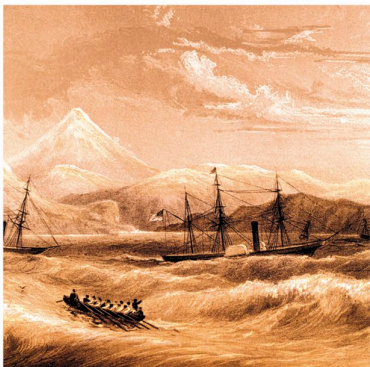
In 1701, Lord Asano was ordered to commit ritual suicide for drawing his sword at court. His retainers, who had become *ronin*, or masterless samurai, avenged Asano's death by putting to death his opponent, Lord Kira, and placing his decapitated head on their master's grave. The act led the authorities to order the 47 loyal retainers to commit suicide.

6 Perry's "Black Ships"

On July 8, 1853, Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry sailed four heavily armed ships into Edo Bay, to open Japan to diplomatic and trade relations. The "black ships" were a display of superior Western technology, a reminder of the astonishing progress that had bypassed the country.

7 Great Kanto Earthquake

At 11:58am on September 1, 1923, as people prepared lunch on charcoal braziers and gas burners, an earthquake measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale convulsed the city. Over 140,000 people were crushed or burned to death, and 45 percent of the buildings were destroyed. This horrific event obliterated many traces of the past.



Lithograph of Perry's "black ships"

8 Tokyo Air Raids

US raids on Tokyo during World War II exacted a heavy toll on civilian lives. Tokyo suffered 102 raids in all, the worst on the night of March 9–10, 1945, when over 300 B-29 bombers, loaded with oil, jellied gasoline, and napalm, swooped over tightly packed residential areas to the east, killing between 80,000 and 100,000 civilians.



Pole vault, 1964 Tokyo Olympics

9 1964 Tokyo Olympics

The first games to be held in Asia and telecast live overseas, the summer Olympics of 1964 saw the city reborn from the ashes of World War II, with modern stadiums, an expressway, and the start of the Shinkansen bullet train services.

10 Aum Shinrikyo Subway Attack

On March 20, 1995, members of the death cult movement Aum Shinrikyo, under orders from their leader, Shoko Asahara, placed plastic bags containing liquid sarin gas on the carriage floors on five subway lines. This act of domestic terrorism, the worst in modern Japanese history, killed 12 passengers and hundreds more were injured.

TOP 10 FAMOUS TOKYOITES

1 Katsushika Hokusai

A famous woodblock artist of the Edo period, Hokusai (1760–1849) published 30,000 sketches and 500 books.

2 Soseki Natsume

Regarded by many as Japan's greatest writer, Natsume (1867–1916) set several of his novels in Tokyo.

3 Ichiyo Higuchi

The face of the prodigious writer Higuchi (1872–96), who died from tuberculosis, graces the ¥5,000 Japanese note.

4 Kafu Nagai

A fine chronicler of the Tokyo demimonde, Nagai (1879–1959) traced the transformation of the city.

5 Junichiro Tanizaki

Tanizaki (1886–1965) explored themes of sexuality, Western modernity, and materialism in his novels.

6 Yasujiro Ozu

Legendary film director Ozu (1903–63) described the collapse of the Japanese family in *Tokyo Story*.

7 Akira Kurosawa

Kurosawa (1910–98), Japan's best-known film auteur, inspired Steven Spielberg and George Lucas.

8 Yoko Ono

Ono (b. 1933) was a reputed artist, musician, and experimental filmmaker long before she met John Lennon.

9 Hayao Miyazaki

Miyazaki (b. 1941) is the Oscar-winning director of *Spirited Away* and many other classics of Japanese animation.

10 Ryuichi Sakamoto

Sakamoto (b. 1952), a prolific composer, wrote the music for Bernardo Bertolucci's Oscar-winning film, *The Last Emperor*.

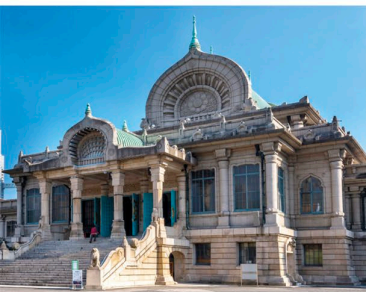


Great Wave by Katsushika Hokusai

TOP 10 Historic Buildings

1 Hongan-ji Temple MAP N5 ■ 3-15-1 Tsukiji, Chuo-ku ■ 3541-1131

Even in a city known for its architectural hybrids, this temple, inspired by Indian architecture, is extraordinary. Its designer, Chuta Ito, traveled all over Asia, and paid homage to the Indian origins of Buddhism in this 1935 building.



Imposing façade of Hongan-ji temple

2 National Diet Building MAP K4 ■ 1-7-1 Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5521-7445 ■ Open 8am- 5pm Mon-Fri ■ Closed public holidays

Home to the Japanese Diet, or parliament, this building was completed in 1936. It has a pyramid-shaped dome and is divided into two main chambers – the Lower and Upper Houses. Weekday tours include the Public Gallery, Emperor's Room, and Central Hall, with its floor mosaic of a million pieces of marble.

3 Crafts Gallery The finely finished Meiji-era structure, which houses the Crafts Gallery, originally served as the headquarters of the Imperial Guard. Built in a style that came to be known as "19th-century Renaissance," it is one of the few protected buildings in a city notorious for its weak preservation ethic (see p76).

4 Kyu Iwasaki-tei Mansion MAP F2 ■ 1-3-45 Ikenohata, Taito-ku ■ 3823-8340 ■ Open 9am-5pm ■ Adm

A fine example of Meiji-era syncretism, this grand 1896 wooden residence was built by English architect Josiah Conder in a mix of Jacobean, Gothic, and Pennsylvanian country styles. Original features include coffered wood ceilings, stone fireplaces, parquet flooring, and Japan's first Western-style toilet.

5 Bank of Japan The bank's solid Neo-Classical outline was designed by Kingo Tatsuno, Japan's first Western-style architect. The 1896 building stands on the old site of the shogunate's former mint. A guided tour in English introduces the structure, its history, and present-day function (see p75).

Chamber of the National Diet Building





A splendid cupola adorns Tokyo Station's main hall

6 Tokyo Station
Threatened with demolition on many occasions, the Tokyo Station building has survived thanks to the efforts of preservation groups over the years. Its future now seems assured. Designed by Kingo Tatsuno, the 1914 structure is faced with locally made bricks and reinforced with steel shipped from Britain and the United States (see p76).

7 Gokoku-ji Temple
MAP C1 ■ 5-40-1 Otsuka, Bunkyo-ku ■ 3941-0764
The temple grounds have interesting features, including a belfry and a rare two-story pagoda. The main hall, with its colossal wooden pillars, massive copper roof, and dark interior full of priceless Buddhist artifacts, is the centerpiece of this grand complex.

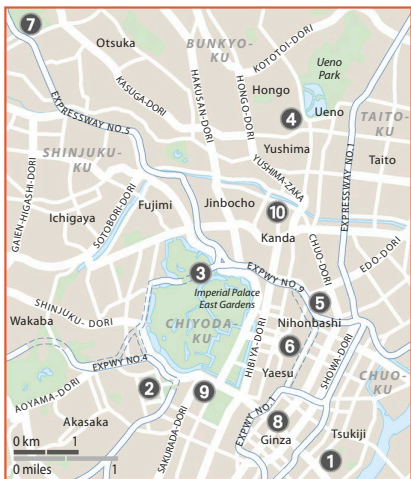
8 Hattori Building
MAP M4 ■ 4-5-11 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3562-2111 ■ Open 10:30am–7pm

The 1932 structure, created by Jin Watanabe, is a Ginza landmark. It is also known as the Wako Building, after the jeweler it houses. With its curving frontage and clock tower, the building appears as a backdrop in several old movies. The grand interior is just as impressive.

9 Ministry of Justice Building
MAP L4 ■ 1-1-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3580-4111

Although not open to the public, the building's exterior, well renovated in the 1990s, is worth a look. A German company, Ende and Böckmann, designed this 1895 redbrick structure in a style that mixes formal elegance with functionality.

10 Nikolai Cathedral
The 1891 cathedral was lucky to survive the 1923 earthquake, with only its onion domes destroyed. A new green dome was placed on top of the cruciform Russian Orthodox church after the disaster, and impressive stained-glass windows were installed (see p43).



TOP 10 Places of Worship

1 Senso-ji Temple

This massive religious edifice is the focus of life in the Asakusa district. The sweeping roof of the main hall is visible from Kaminarimon, the great gate to the temple. Inside the main hall, burning candles, incense sticks, and votive plaques add to the air of sanctity (see pp14–15).



Richly decorated Senso-ji temple

2 Sengaku-ji Temple

MAP C1 ■ 2-11-1 Takanawa, Minato-ku ■ 3441-5560 ■ Open 7am–6pm (to 5pm Oct–Mar)

The graves of the 47 loyal *ronin* (retainers), who committed suicide after avenging their master's death (see p38), can be found in this temple, which dates from 1612. The main hall was obliterated in the 1945 air raids but has been faithfully reconstructed.

3 Kanda Myojin Shrine

MAP F3 ■ 2-16-2 Soto-Kanda, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3254-0753

Founded in 730, but first built on this site in 1616, this temple has been

rebuilt many times. The current reconstruction of the 1616 design, has a copper roof, copper *torii* gate, and an ornate main entrance gate.

4 Nezu Shrine

MAP E1 ■ 1-28-9 Nezu, Bunkyo-ku ■ 3822-0753

Established in 1706 by the fifth shogun, Tsunayoshi, Nezu Shrine is dedicated to Inari, the goddess of rice. The shrine grounds have retained most of the original structures. Tall cedars, ginkgo trees, and a carp pond create a strikingly natural setting. A painted gate, orange *torii* (gates), and bright banners add color.

5 Yushima Seido Temple

MAP F3 ■ 1-4-25 Yushima, Bunkyo-ku ■ 3251-4606 ■ Open 9:30am–5pm (to 4pm Oct–Mar)

One of the few Confucian temples in Tokyo, Yushima Seido was founded in 1632. The current site and its great stone-flagged courtyard date from 1935. A statue of Confucius is located near the main gate.

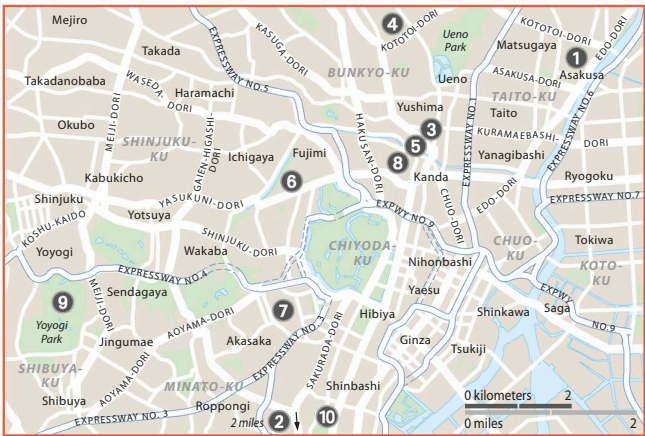
6 Yasukuni Shrine

MAP D3 ■ 3-1-1 Kudankita, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3261-8326 ■ Open 9am–4:30pm

Politics and religion coexist uncomfortably at Yasukuni Shrine, dedicated to the souls of Japan's war

The entrance to Kanda Myojin Shrine





dead. Built in 1869, the shrine has some interesting features including an imposing *torii* gate, cherry trees, a pond-garden, and teahouse.

7 Hie Shrine

Reconstructed in 1958 after the Tokyo air raids, the 1659 building originally served as the protective shrine of Edo Castle. In gratitude, successive shoguns donated lavish gifts of swords and sacred horses to the shrine. A line of orange *torii* gates forms a colorful tunnel through the grounds (see p95).

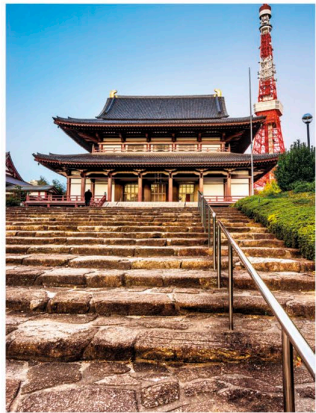
8 Nikolai Cathedral

MAP F3 ■ 4-1 Kanda-Surugadai, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3295-6879 ■ Open 1-4pm Tue-Sat (to 3:30pm Oct-Mar)

Built with funds provided by a Russian czar and designed by English architect Josiah Conder, this late 19th-century Russian Orthodox church is an interesting anomaly among the temples and shrines of the city. It was named after its founder St. Nikolai Kassatkin, a 19th-century missionary who converted thousands of Japanese in the northern island of Hokkaido.

9 Meiji Shrine

Dedicated to the souls of the Meiji Emperor and his consort, this shrine was built in the pure Shinto



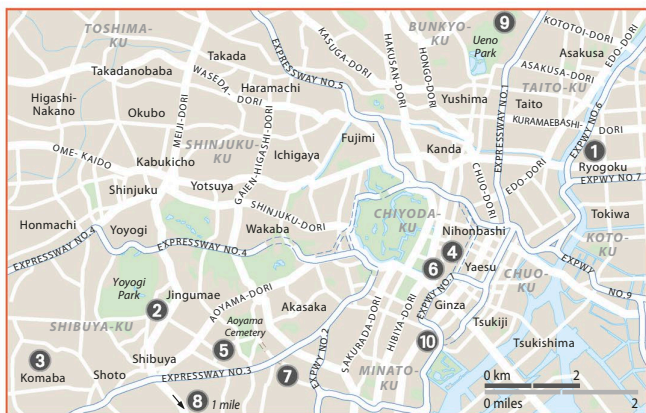
A 1970s reconstruction, Zojo-ji

architectural style. This is reflected in everything from its gravel forecourt, cypress pillars, and the clean lines of the main hall to the copper roof that floats majestically above it all (see pp30-31).

10 Zojo-ji Temple

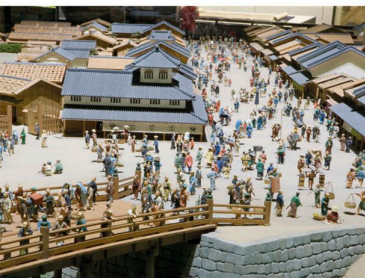
The venue for the funerals of six Tokugawa shoguns, this temple is best visited for its main gate, Sangedatsu-mon, which dates from 1605, and Daibonsho, a 15-tonne bell. There's also a Himalayan cedar planted by former US president Ulysses S. Grant in 1879 (see p97).

TOP 10 Museums



1 Edo-Tokyo Museum

This fabulous museum traces the history of Edo and Tokyo, charting its growth from a fishing village to today's megacity. Displays and models cover both the creation of the city and the natural and man-made disasters that have reshaped it (see pp18–19).



Model displayed Edo-Tokyo Museum

2 Ukiyo-e Ota Memorial Museum of Art

This fascinating museum's extensive private collection of *ukiyo-e* woodblock prints is constantly displayed in new exhibitions. The images present a colorful cross-section of life in the city of Edo, from its streets and fish markets to the pleasure quarters (see p101).

3 Japan Folk Crafts Museum

MAP C1 ■ 4-3-33 Komaba, Meguro-ku
■ 3467-4527 ■ Open 10am–5pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm ■ www.mingeikan.or.jp

This museum displays a large collection of woodwork, ceramic ware, textiles, metal, glass work, and furniture created by largely anonymous artists from Japan, China, Korea, and Taiwan.

4 Intermediatheque

On the second and third floors of the Kitte shopping mall, resembling more of a high-design boutique than a traditional museum, Intermediatheque displays eclectic items from the collection of the University of Tokyo. Cabinets of curiosities sit alongside contemporary installations and art. Adding to the quirkiness, gramophone record concerts are occasionally held (see p76).

5 Nezu Museum

In an elegant building designed by Kengo Kuma, this art museum displays treasures from Japan, China, and Korea in changing exhibitions. Its ornamental gardens feature bronze sculptures and a contemporary-style teahouse (see p100).

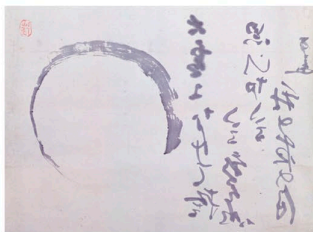


Exhibit at Idemitsu Museum of Arts

6 Idemitsu Museum of Arts

Housing one of the finest private collections of Japanese and Asian art in Tokyo, this museum regularly rotates its exquisite Chinese, Korean, and Japanese ceramic ware and ancient pottery shards, calligraphy, and gold-painted screens. The collection includes over 15,000 items (see p82).

7 Mori Art Museum

MAP T5 ■ 6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 5777-8600 ■ Open 10am–10pm Wed–Mon (to 5pm Tue) ■ Adm ■ www.mori.art.museum

There's no permanent collection here, but the enormous gallery spaces atop Roppongi Hills' Mori Tower regularly host some of Tokyo's biggest blockbuster art shows, with the likes of Takashi Murakami regularly showing.



Archeological relic, Tokyo National Museum

8 Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography

MAP C1 ■ Ebisu Garden Place, 1-13-3 Mita, Meguro-ku ■ 3280-0099 ■ Open 10am–6pm Mon–Fri ■ Adm (only for special shows) ■ www.syabi.com

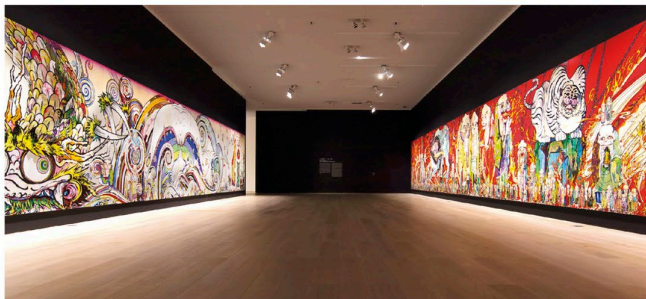
The big names in Japanese and Western photography are shown at this premier photography and video art space. Five floors follow the history of photography, displaying 30,000 images and photo-related items. Special exhibitions, featuring some of the world's best photographic work, run through the year.

9 Tokyo National Museum

This huge museum offers the world's largest collection of Japanese art and antiquity. Permanent Japanese exhibits are displayed in the Honkan; archeological relics in the Heiseikan Gallery; Chinese, Korean, and Central Asian arts in the Toyokan Gallery; and Buddhist sculpture and scrolls in the Gallery of Horyu-ji Treasures (see pp24–7).

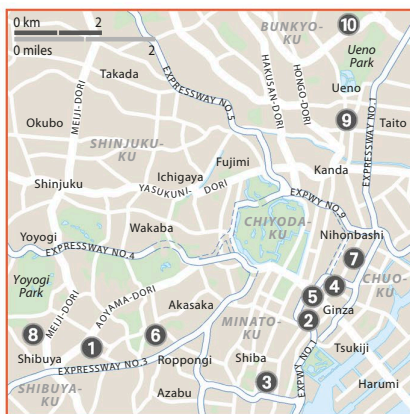
10 ADMT Advertising Museum Tokyo

The highly creative ad work on display at this venue is sponsored by Dentsu, Japan's largest advertising operation. Exhibits cover the long history of commercial art in Japan. A TV room makes it possible to view commercials (see p83).



Creative exhibition at the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo

TOP 10 Art Galleries



3 The Tolman Collection

MAP E6 ■ 2-2-18 Shiba Daimon, Minato-ku
 ■ 3434-1300 ■ Open 11am–7pm Wed–Sun
 ■ www.tolmantokyo.com

This gallery has 2,000-plus contemporary Japanese prints, aquatints, etchings, lithographs, and woodblocks. Signed and numbered editions of work by artists such as Shingo Araki and Miki Gojo are also included.

4 Gallery Koyanagi

MAP N4 ■ 1-7-5 Ginza, Chuo-ku
 ■ 3561-1896 ■ Open 11am–7pm Tue–Sat ■ www.gallerykoyanagi.com

Leading Japanese and international photo and print artists showcase their works in this spacious commercial gallery tucked away on the eighth floor of an office building.

1 Spiral

MAP B6 ■ 5-6-23 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 3498-1171
 ■ Open 8am–11pm

Designed by leading architect Fumihiko Maki, this gallery presents art, music, film, and theater. A spiral ramp above a first-floor café leads visitors into the main gallery spaces.

2 Shiseido Gallery

MAP M5 ■ Tokyo Ginza Shiseido Bldg, B1, 8-8-3, Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3572-3901 ■ Open 11am–7pm Tue–Sat (to 6pm Sun)
 ■ www.shiseidogroup.jp/gallery

The Shiseido Gallery features contemporary Japanese and international artists, retrospectives, and fashion-linked exhibitions.

5 Ginza Graphic Gallery

MAP M5 ■ DNP Ginza Bldg, 1F, 7-7-2 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3571-5206
 ■ Open 11am–7pm Mon–Fri (to 6pm Sat) ■ www.dnp.co.jp/gallery/ggg_e

Reopened April 2016 following restoration, the Ginza is sponsored by DNP, one of Japan's largest printing outfits. The gallery features work by Japanese graphic designers.



Colorful artwork showcased at the Shiseido Gallery



The dramatic glass building housing the National Art Center, Tokyo

6 National Art Center, Tokyo

Covering 516,668 sq ft (48,000 sq m), this massive space for art comprises 12 exhibition rooms that host a variety of shows curated by NACT as well as by art associations from across Japan (see p95).

7 Zeit-Foto Salon

MAP N4 ■ Kyohei Bldg,
1F, 3-5-3 Kyobashi, Chuo-ku ■ 3535-7188 ■ Open 10:30am–6:30pm
Tue–Fri (to 5:30pm Sat) ■ www.zeit-foto.com

This is one of the oldest photo galleries in Tokyo, with a huge collection of images encompassing 19th-century prints and the work of 20th-century masters in the field, such as Man Ray and Lee Friedlander. Controversial Japanese artists, including photographer Ryoko Suzuki, and big international names ensure that the shows are always stimulating.

8 Tokyo Wonder Site

MAP Q5 ■ 1-19-8 Jinnan,
Shibuya-ku ■ 3463-0603 ■ Open
11am–7pm Tue–Sun ■ www.tokyo-ws.org

A Tokyo Metropolitan Government-run operation, Tokyo Wonder Site aims to promote new, emerging artists and cultural events. With exhibitions on its three floors turning over at a rapid pace, this gallery represents a thriving art scene.

9 3331 Arts Chiyoda

MAP F2 ■ 6-11-14 Sotokanda,
Chiyoda-ku ■ 6803-2441 ■ Open
noon–7pm Wed–Mon ■ www.3331.jp

A short stroll from the anime, manga, and computer-geek nexus of Akihabara, the exhibitions, interactive installations, and art workshops in this former school are guaranteed to be fun and eclectic.



Art workshop, 3331 Arts Chiyoda

10 SCAI – The Bathhouse

MAP F1 ■ Kashiwayu-Ato,
6-1-23 Yanaka, Taito-ku ■ 3821-1144
■ Open noon–6pm Tue–Sat
■ www.scaithebathhouse.com

This gallery is located in a converted Edo-period bathhouse in the endearing old district of Yanaka. It showcases well-known experimental Japanese artists and introduces foreign artists.

TOP 10 Gardens and Parks



1654. Standing near the garden entrance is a large black pine, planted in 1704, a miraculous survivor of earthquakes, fires, and air raids. The most interesting feature of this large garden is a tidal pond that brings in saltwater fish (see p82).

3 Hibiya Park

Part of a feudal estate converted into a military parade ground, Hibiya Park was Japan's first Western-style park when it opened in 1903. A lawn, rose garden,

bandstand, and theater occupy the center of the park. A pond, with its original fountain in the shape of a heron, and a giant wisteria trellis are tucked away in the western corner (see p81).

4 Mukojima Hyakka-en Garden

MAP D1 ■ 3-18-3 Higashi-Mukojima, Sumida-ku ■ 3611-8705 ■ Open 9am-5pm ■ Adm

This little-visited Edo-period garden was completed in 1804 close to Sumida River (see pp16-17), a district of temples and teahouses serving as the focal point for a refined social and cultural life.

5 Kiyosumi-teien Garden

MAP H4 ■ 3-3-9 Kiyosumi, Koto-ku ■ 3641-5892 ■ Open 9am-5pm ■ Adm

Rare rocks were shipped from all over the country in steam ships to create this garden, which was once part of an estate owned by a rich timber merchant. A traditional tea-house overlooks a large pond and islets, where you can spot fish and turtles. Another eye-catching feature is an artificial hill, shaped into the likeness of Mount Fuji.

1 Canadian Embassy Garden

MAP C5 ■ Canadian Embassy, 4F, 7-3-38 Akasaka, Minato-ku ■ 5412-6200 ■ Open 9:30am-5pm Mon-Fri

Built across an upper terrace of the building, this stone garden was created by Masuno Shunmyo, one of the most innovative garden designers working in Japan today. The stone garden symbolizes, through the use of stones brought from Hiroshima to represent the ancient rocks that form the Canadian Shield, the relationship between Japan and Canada.

2 Hama Rikyu Garden

An original Edo-period garden, Hama Rikyu dates from



Hama Rikyu Garden



Koishikawa Korakuen Garden

6 Koishikawa Korakuen Garden

Tokyo's oldest garden recreates famous scenes in miniature from Japan and China. A simple grass-covered knoll represents Mount Lu in China's Jiangxi Province, while a shallow stream stands in for Oikawa River in Kyoto (see pp28-9).

7 Shinjuku Gyoen

Excelling at variety, this garden was completed in 1772. The current garden, a multicultural masterpiece, is divided into French, English, and Japanese sections. An old, domed botanical greenhouse holds tropical plants (see p107).

Spring blossom, Shinjuku Gyoen

8 Rikugi-en Garden

MAP C1 ■ 6-16-3

Hon-Komagome, Bunkyo-ku ■ 3941-2222 ■ Open 9am-5pm ■ Adm

Completed in 1702, this garden was named after the six principles used in the composition of Oriental poetry. While the garden's hidden symbolism is not easy to decipher, its curvaceous landscapes, simple Zen-style teahouses, and profusion of trees can be appreciated by all.

9 Yoyogi Park

MAP A5 ■ 2-1 Yoyogi-

Kamizono cho, Shibuya-ku ■ 3469-6081 ■ Open daily

A wide open area of grassy lawns and recreational facilities popular with families, cyclists, joggers, and skateboarders, Yoyogi Park makes a great spot for an impromptu picnic. A small botanical garden and bird sanctuary add interest and live music concerts are held here every Sunday (see p57). The park forms one of the largest forested areas of Tokyo.

10 Institute for Nature Study and Park

MAP C1 ■ 5-21-5 Shirokanedai,

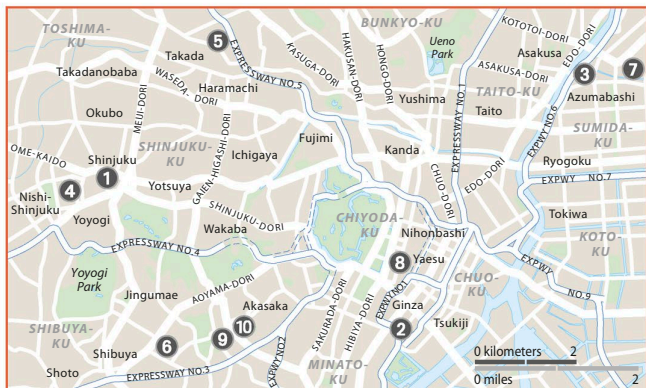
Minato-ku ■ 3441-7176 ■ Open May-

Aug: 9am-5pm Tue-Sun; Sep-Apr: 9am-4:30pm ■ Adm

A carefully preserved section of the Musashino Plain, the Institute for Nature Study's park is home to a variety of birds, insects, and turtles in addition to 8,000-plus trees. A small museum at the entrance traces Tokyo's declining greenery.



TOP 10 Modern and Contemporary Buildings



Mode Gakuen Cocoon Tower

1 Mode Gakuen Cocoon Tower

MAP U2 ■ 1-7-3 Nishi Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku

One of the slickest high rises to adorn Tokyo's cityscape, this 2008 building in Shinjuku was designed by Kenzo Tange Associates. Its criss-cross exterior pattern, rising up 50 floors, takes inspiration from a silkworm cocoon.

2 Nakagin Capsule Tower

MAP M5 ■ 8-16-10 Ginza, Chuo-ku

Kisho Kurokawa (1934–2007) is one of the founders of what became known as the Metabolist movement in architecture. His seminal Tokyo building is the Nakagin Capsule Tower from 1972, made out of 140 interchangeable concrete “pods.”

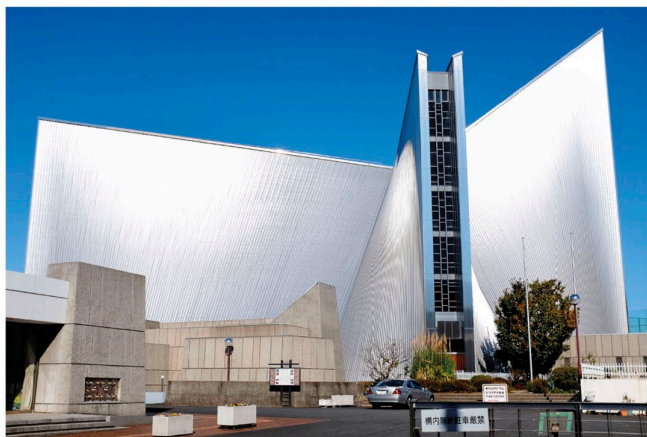
3 Asahi Beer Hall

MAP S3 ■ 1-23-1 Azuma-bashi, Sumida-ku

The 1989 building was designed by Philippe Starck. It's also known as Super Dry Hall and *Flamme d'Or*, after the giant golden sculpture on its roof, which is meant to symbolize the frothy head of the brewing company's beer.

4 Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building

Stand back in the semicircular Citizen's Plaza, at the foot of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building, to fully admire the symmetry of Kenzo Tange's 48-story, twin-towered creation. It cleverly channels Paris's Notre-Dame Cathedral via a very 20th-century Japanese prism (see p109).



St. Mary's Cathedral, designed in the shape of a cross

5 St. Mary's Cathedral
 MAP C1 ■ 3-16-15 Sekiguchi,
 Bunkyo-ku ■ 3945-0126

After the original Gothic Catholic cathedral here burned down during World War II, it was redesigned in 1964 by Kenzo Tange, who was also the architect responsible for the Olympic Stadium at Yoyogi.

6 Prada Aoyama Building

Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron made a splash on the designer-shopping avenue Omotesando in 2003 with this six-story boutique for the famous Italian fashion house. Covered in rhomboid-shaped green-glass windows, it looks like it has been bubble-wrapped (see p104).

7 Tokyo Skytree

Hard to ignore, Tokyo Skytree is the world's tallest free-standing tower, visible from many parts of the city.

For all its modernity, it is built along similar principles to those used by

**Tokyo Skytree
 looming high
 above the city**

architects for centuries in order to protect temple pagodas against earthquakes (see p89).

8 Tokyo International Forum

Rafael Viñoly's 1996 construction is symbolic of the end of 20th-century architecture in Tokyo. The construction is made up of several performance halls and a convention center hanging off an elliptical enclosure made of nearly 3,000 panels of tempered glass (see p82).

9 National Art Center, Tokyo

Kisho Kurokawa's final hurrah is this 2007 exhibition space forming one point of the Roppongi Art Triangle. The undulating glass-and-steel façade is amazing, but even better is the soaring lobby dominated by two giant inverted cones (see p95).

10 21_21 Design Sight
 MAP D5 ■ 9-7-6 Akasaka,
 Minato-ku

Like an iceberg, Tadao Ando's 21_21 Design Site is a building mainly underground with its presence announced only by the sharp-edge steel plate roofs of two low pavilions. The exhibition halls are made from Ando's trademark polished concrete.



TOP 10 Off the Beaten Path



Items for sale, Shimokitazawa

1 Shimokitazawa MAP C1

Fashionable youth fill the warren of narrow streets southwest of Shibuya on weekends for clothing, thrift stores, music clubs, and small experimental theaters.

2 Ikebukuro MAP C1

This northern district, set around a train station, offers mega department stores, Otome Road's manga and anime shops, and the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed school Myonichikan.

3 Daikanyama and Naka-Meguro MAP C1

One stop southwest of Shibuya, Daikanyama and Naka-Meguro are

Cherry tree-lined Meguro River

among the most pleasant areas of the city to browse trendy boutiques, convivial bars, and cafés. The cherry tree-lined Meguro River is also a prime viewing spot during *hanami* (cherry blossom) season.

4 Kyu-Furukawa Gardens MAP C1 ■ 1-27-39 Nishigahara, Kita-ku ■ 3910-0394 ■ Open 9am–5pm

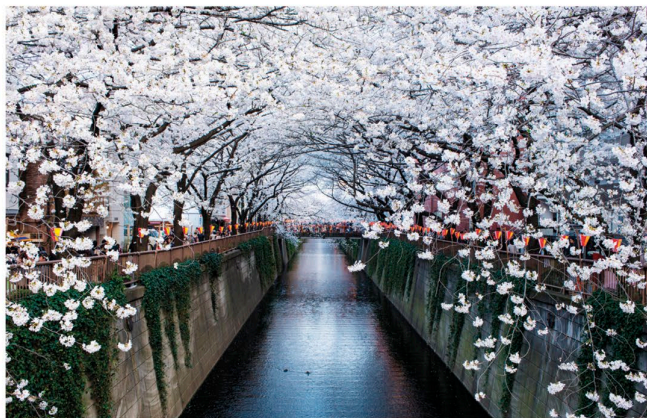
Rose beds and azalea bushes are a feature of Kyu-Furukawa Gardens. Admire them while sipping *matcha* (green tea) in the teahouse.

5 Toden Arakawa Streetcar Line

The last of central Tokyo's streetcar lines still operates between Waseda and Minowabashi, arcing 7.5 miles (12 km) across the north of the city. It's a retro treat that costs just ¥170 and a relaxing insight into less touristy parts of Tokyo.

6 Tennozu Isle MAP C2

East of Shinagawa, towards Tokyo Bay, Tennozu Isle came on the radar several years ago when one of its old waterside warehouses became the home of TY Harbour Brewery. The same company has since launched the area's bakery café, Breadworks. There are several commercial art galleries opening here, as well as street-art festivals being held.



7 Ningingyocho

MAP G4

Between Nihonbashi and the Sumida River is this *shitamachi* (old town Tokyo) district of small temples, shrines, traditional shopping, and dining. Check out the craft stores along retail parade Amazake Yokocho.

8 Ryogoku

MAP G3 ■ National Sumo

Stadium: 1-3-28 Yokoami, Sumida-ku; 3623-5111 ■ Museum: open 10am-4:30pm Mon-Fri ■ www.sumo.or.jp

Tournaments lasting 15 days are held at this neighborhood's National Sumo Stadium in January, May, and September; at other times of the year, the building has a small sumo museum. Ryogoku is also home to the fascinating Edo Tokyo Museum (see p18-19).



Sumo wrestlers prepare to compete

9 Japanese Sword Museum

MAP A4 ■ 4-25-10 Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku ■ 3379-1386 ■ Open 10am-4:30pm Tue-Sun ■ Adm ■ www.touken.or.jp

Over 30 of the 120 Japanese swords here are designated National Treasures and are arguably the finest instruments of death ever made.

10 Kagurazaka

MAP D3 ■ 1-10 Akagi-

Motomachi, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3260-5071

Once a thriving geisha quarter, Kagurazaka's charming narrow cobbled streets, shops, and cafés evoke old-time Tokyo. The area's Akagi Shrine, however, received a contemporary makeover in 2010 by prominent architect Kengo Kuma.

TOP 10 HOT SPRINGS AND BATHS



Guests at Oedo Onsen Monogatari

1 Maenohara Onsen

MAP C1 ■ 3-41-1 Maenochō, Itabashi-ku ■ 5916-3826

An open-air hot spring.

2 Toshimaen Niwano-yu

MAP C1 ■ 3-25-1 Koyama, Nerima-ku ■ 3990-4126

Spa with multiple zones, inside and out, including mixed bathing.

3 Komparu-yu

MAP M5 ■ 8-7-5 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3571-5469

An old *senjo* (ornate bathhouse).

4 Rokuryu Onsen

MAP F1 ■ 3-4-20 Ikenohata, Taito-ku ■ 3821-3826

A *senjo* featuring amber-colored water.

5 Take-no-Yu

MAP D6 ■ 1-15-12 Minami-Azabu, Minato-ku ■ 3453-1446

Revamped *senjo* not far from Roppongi.

6 Jakotsu-Yu

MAP R2 ■ 1-11-11 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3841-8645

Spa with a Mount Fuji mural in the bathing hall.

7 Oedo Onsen Monogatari

MAP D2 ■ 2-6-3 Aomi, Koto-ku ■ 5500-1126

Hot-spring theme park in Odaiba.

8 Shimizu-yu

MAP C6 ■ 3-12-3 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 3401-4404

A *senjo* just steps from Omotesando.

9 Spa LaQua

MAP E1 ■ Tokyo Dome City, 1-3-61 Koraku, Bunkyo-ku ■ 5800-9999

Fancy spa complex next to Tokyo Dome.

10 Kamata Onsen

MAP B2 ■ 2-23-2 Kamata-Honcho, Ota-ku ■ 3732-1126

A *senjo* with retro-appeal.

TOP 10 Children's Attractions

- 1 Tokyo Sea Life Park**
 MAP B1 ■ 6-2-3 Rinkai-cho,
 Edogawa-ku ■ 3869-5152 ■ Open
 9:30am–5pm Thu–Tue ■ Adm ■ www.tokyo-zoo.net/english/kasai/main.html
 The highlight of this large aquarium, on the east side of Tokyo Bay, is the huge doughnut-shaped tank housing sharks, tuna, and a myriad of other species. There are also penguins, auks, and puffins here.



Underwater tank, Tokyo Sea Life Park

- 2 Drum Museum**
 MAP Q3 ■ 2-1-1 Nishi-Asakusa,
 Taito-ku ■ 3842-5622 ■ Open 10am–
 5pm Wed–Sun ■ Adm
 This interactive museum has a collection of over 600 *taiko* (drums) from all over the world. The highlight are the Japanese festival drums. Skins with a blue sticker can be played, but with care, while those with a red mark cannot be touched. A stickerless drum can be played freely.

A vibrant display at the Kite Museum



- 3 Ghibli Museum**
 Hayao Miyazaki's animations, surreal landscapes, whimsical characters, and fanciful sets can be seen here. Kid's will love the "wonderland" atmosphere (see p116).

- 4 KidZania**
 MAP G6 ■ Lalaport Toyosu,
 2-4-9 Toyosu, Koto-ku ■ 0570-064-
 012 ■ Open 9am–3pm, 4–9pm ■ Adm
 ■ www.kidzania.jp

Children under 12 can experience the working world of adults by role-playing in dozens of jobs, such as TV anchor, pizza chef, barber, banker and cop in a realistic city setting. They even get paid in "kidZos", the official currency of KidZania.

- 5 Ueno Zoo**
 MAP F1 ■ 9-83 Ueno Koen,
 Taito-ku ■ 3828-5171 ■ Open
 9:30am–5pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm
 ■ www.tokyo-zoo.net/english/ueno

Japan's oldest zoo, built in 1882, Ueno Zoo is home to over 400 different species, including pandas, gorillas, Indian lions, apes, and Sumatran tigers. There is a monorail ride above the zoo to a children's animal petting zone.

- 6 Kite Museum**
 Displayed at this delightful museum are around 3,000 kites, shaped variously as squid, sumo wrestlers, and Mount Fuji. Some are illustrated with the faces of manga characters, samurai warriors, and Kabuki actors (see p77).

7 National Science Museum

The model of a giant whale greets visitors to this museum, which has dinosaur displays, exhibits on botany, fossils, asteroids, and oceanography, among other attractions (see p87).

8 Tokyo Disney® Resort

Mickey and pals will pull out all the stops for kids (and adults) in this fantasyland of castles, magic mountains, haunted mansions, Polynesian villages, and steamboat rides (see p116).

9 Tokyo Dome City

MAP E2 ■ 1-3-61 Koraku, Bunkyo-ku ■ 5800-9999 ■ Open 10am–9pm ■ Adm ■ www.tokyo-dome.co.jp/e

This amusement park has a free-fall parachute ride, Sky Flower, but the highlight is the rollercoaster Thunder Dolphin. LaQua, the park's other section, features a selection of eateries, shops, and spas.



Ferris wheel, Tokyo Dome City

10 National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation

Known more simply as Miraikan, this museum in Odaiba is packed with hands-on attractions to entertain and educate both adults and kids. The exhibits have excellent English translations. The star attraction is a demonstration by Asimo, the walking robot (see p35).

TOP 10 KIDS' SHOPPING



Kiddyland, set over five floors

1 Kiddyland

MAP S4 ■ 6-1-9 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku ■ 3409-3431
Store filled with cuddly character models and games.

2 Crayon House

MAP C5 ■ 3-8-15 Kita-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 3406-6308
A family center with toys and books.

3 Hakuinkan Toy Park

MAP M5 ■ 8-8-11 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3571-8008
The latest models, characters, and games plus some great restaurants.

4 BorneLund

MAP S4 ■ 1-3-12 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku ■ 5411-8022
Good-quality imported toys.

5 Yamashiroya Toy Shop

MAP F2 ■ 6-14-6 Ueno, Taito-ku ■ 3831-2320
A six-floor shop stuffed with toys.

6 Tsukumo Robot Kingdom

MAP F3 ■ 1-9-7 Soto-Kanda, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3251-9977
Specialists in small robotic animals.

7 Aso Bit City

MAP F3 ■ 1-15-18 Soto-Kanda, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5298-3581
Fun electronic goods, train sets, and manga characters.

8 Sayegusa

MAP M5 ■ 7-8-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3573-2441
Children's clothes and accessories.

9 Pokémon Center Mega Tokyo

The best merchandise of the "Pocket Monsters" anime series (see p56).

10 Kuramae–Asakusabashi Toy Street

MAP G3 ■ Kuramae, Taito-ku
Wholesalers showcase their wares along this traditional toy street.

TOP 10 Pop Culture Venues



Performers dressed as robots entertain customers in Robot Restaurant

1 Robot Restaurant
 MAP B3 ■ 1-7-1 Kabukicho,
 Shinjuku-ku ■ 3200-5500 ■ Open 6pm–
 11pm ■ www.shinjuku-robot.com

The lively crowd don't come here for the food, but for the over-the-top performance by robots and outrageously dressed girls and guys bathed in a sea of flashing lights.

2 Takeshita-dori
 MAP B5 ■ Takeshita-dori,
 Shibuya-ku

Packed with garish boutiques, subculture junk, cutesy accessories, lurid kitsch, and fetish costumery, this loud, abrasive but fun street is frequented by Japan's extreme youth.

3 Design Festa Gallery
 MAP R4 ■ 3-20-18 Jingumae,
 Shibuya-ku ■ 3479-1442
 ■ www.designfesta.com/en

The Design Festa event encourages freedom of expression through art and design, and has been held twice a year since 1994. This gallery, run by the organizers of the event, is open for temporary exhibitions all year round.

**4 Pokémon Center
 Mega Tokyo**
 MAP C1 ■ Sunshine City Alpha 2F,
 3-1-2 Higashi-Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku
 ■ 5927-9290 ■ Open 10am–8pm
 ■ www.pokemon.co.jp

This is the biggest of several stores in Tokyo selling Pokémon-related

merchandise. Expect to find no end of themed clothes, figures, toys, and snacks as well as Pokémon statues.

**5 Tokyo Anime Center
 Akiba Info**
 MAP F3 ■ 4th floor, UDX Building
 4-14-1 Soto-Kanda, Chiyoda-ku
 ■ Open 11am–7pm Tue–Sun ■ 5298-
 1188 ■ www.animecenter.jp

All things anime, manga, and electronic converge in the streets around Akihabara, a gathering place for *otaku* (geeks) and lovers of Japanese pop culture. For an English map of the area drop by this center.

6 Tokyo Big Sight
 MAP D2 ■ Tokyo International
 Exhibition Center, 3-11-1 Ariake,
 Koto-ku ■ 5530-1111

Arguably Asia's largest art festival, the biannual, two-day Design Festa (see p70) is held at the Tokyo Big Sight, and attracts over 50,000 visitors.



Tokyo Big Sight, home to Design Festa

7 Ghibli Museum

Make sure you book ahead to visit this popular and charming museum, which brings to life the characters and fantasy environments of the animated movies created by Hayao Miyazaki and his colleagues at Studio Ghibli (see p116).

8 Sunday in the Park

Tokyo's theater of dress spills over from busy Harajuku into Yoyogi Park every Sunday, where you may chance upon costumes reflecting every trend since the 1950s. Live bands set up during the afternoon along the sidewalk between the park and Olympic pavilions (see p49).

9 Center Gai

MAP B6 ■ Shibuya, Shibuya-ku

A bustling pedestrian street crammed with inexpensive bars, cafés, and restaurants as well as stores selling music records, cell phones, clothes, and jewelry. Center Gai is the epicenter of Japanese youth culture – full of teens and early twentysomethings.



Shoppers thronging Center Gai

10 Nakano Broadway

MAP C1 ■ 5-52-15 Nakano, Nakano-ku ■ 3388-7004 ■ Open noon–8pm, some shops may vary

A smaller and less frantic version of Tokyo's *otaku* mecca, Akihabara, Nakano Broadway is anime and manga heaven. The complex is a short walk from Nakano Station, packed with shops selling everything from comics to game consoles to collectible figurines.

TOP 10 CULTURAL PHENOMENA



Hello Kitty attraction

1 Hello Kitty

Launched in 1974, this helplessly naive but adorable creature has a button nose and, inexplicably, no mouth.

2 Cosplay

Cosu-pure, or costume play, refers to cross-dressing in outfits worn mainly by manga or anime characters.

3 Capsule Hotels

Architect Kisho Kurokawa's 1972 Nakagin Capsule Building inspired the idea of the capsule hotel.

4 Maid Cafés

Young women in white tights, pink hair, lace caps, and aprons respectfully serve tea and cakes.

5 Purikura

These photo booths provide instant digital photos that can be enhanced with all manner of designs to create manga-style selfies.

6 Manga Kissa

For a cup of coffee at a *kissa*, short for *kissaten* (café), manga fans can access hundreds of comic books.

7 Hip Fashion Minorities

Harajuku and Shibuya are full of cyber-punks and "Gothic Lolita" – girls in black makeup and Victorian frills.

8 Otaku

Otaku – geeks or nerds – are passionate about anime, manga, video games, and cute female star merchandise.

9 Love Hotels

There are over 20,000 short-stay love hotels in Tokyo alone, which feature various fantasy themes.

10 Pachinko

Pachinko, or Japanese pinball, is considered lowbrow, but there are parlors on most shopping streets.

TOP 10 Entertainment Venues



Performance of *The Rose of Versailles* at Takarazuka Theater

- 1 Takarazuka Theater**
 MAP M4 ■ 1-1-3 Yurakucho,
 Chiyoda-ku ■ 5251-2001
 ■ www.kageki.hankyu.co.jp

Established in 1914, the Takarazuka stages sentimental plays featuring an all-female cast, unlike Kabuki, which is an all-male preserve. *The Rose of Versailles*, with its rich costumes and dashing heroes, is a favorite. Synopses are provided in English.

- 2 National Theatre**
 MAP D4 ■ 4-1 Hayabusa-cho,
 Chiyoda-ku ■ 3265-7411
 ■ www.ntj.jac.go.jp

The two stages at this performing arts complex regularly stage a variety of traditional entertainment, including Kabuki, Bunraku (puppetry), court music, and dance. English language earphone guides are available.

- 3 New National Theater**
 MAP A4 ■ 1-1-1 Honmachi,
 Shibuya-ku ■ 5351-3011

The three stages – Playhouse, Opera House, and the Pit – cater to different audiences. Interpretations of Western classics by cutting-edge Japanese directors are highly regarded, though most foreign visitors prefer the more visual events like modern dance.

- 4 Bunkamura Theater Cocoon**

MAP A6 ■ 2-24-1 Dogenzaka,
 Shibuya-ku ■ 3477-9111

Housed in the huge Bunkamura culture and arts center, the Cocoon hosts concerts, musicals, and opera. A medium-sized theater, it is best known for performances of contemporary dance, ballet, and its long involvement with flamenco dance and music troupes from Spain.

- 5 National Noh Theatre**
 MAP B4 ■ 4-18-1 Sendagaya,
 Shibuya-ku ■ 3230-3000 ■ www.ntj.jac.go.jp

The traditional performing art of Noh, based on ancient tales of avenging spirits and wandering ghosts, is very abstract to modern audiences, more like contemporary dance than a play. Read the English leaflet provided to make sense of the plot.



Musicians at a concert at Suntory Hall

- 6 Suntory Hall**
 MAP D5 ■ 1-13-1 Akasaka,
 Minato-ku ■ 3505-1001 ■ www.suntory.co.jp/suntoryhall

Suntory Hall is said to have the best acoustics in Tokyo. This classical music concert hall sees top local and international performers gracing its stage. Head here at lunchtime to enjoy free recitals on its pipe organ.

7 Asakusa Engei Hall

MAP R2 ■ 1-43-12 Asakusa,
Taito-ku ■ 3841-6545

Traditional comic storytelling takes place here. The seated narrators perform alone, with the barest of props, usually just a fan. Although it is exceedingly difficult for foreigners to follow, it is worth a visit for the atmosphere at least.



A show at Kabuki-za Theater

8 Kabuki-za Theater

Reconstructed in 2013, this Baroque Japanese revivalist-style building stages Kabuki shows. Full dramas of three to four acts can extend throughout an afternoon or evening. Single-act tickets provide a shorter, more accessible entrée into Kabuki for the first timer (see p81).

9 Shimbashi Enbujo

MAP N5 ■ 6-18-2 Ginza,
Chuo-ku ■ 3541-2600

This theater stages period dramas, whose plots are strong on the conflict between love and duty. "Super Kabuki," a modern dramatic form devised by veteran actor Ennosuke Ichikawa, guarantees to keep even non-Japanese audience members alert.

10 Tokyo Dome

MAP E2 ■ 1-3-61 Koraku,
Bunkyo-ku ■ www.tokyo-dome.co.jp/e

Known locally by its nickname as the "Big Egg," this central Tokyo stadium is the home of top baseball team Yomiuri Giants; attending a game during the season is great fun. The venue is also used for pop concerts.

TOP 10 FILMS SET IN TOKYO

1 Stray Dog (1949)

A rare chance to see what Tokyo's downtown streets looked like in the post-war era.

2 Tokyo Story (1953)

Yasujiro Ozu's classic, set mostly in a working-class area of the city, explores the collapse of the Japanese family.

3 Godzilla (1954)

Awakened by the A-bomb, the giant lizard stumbles through the city until pacified by Japanese scientists.

4 Diary of a Shinjuku Thief (1968)

Nagisa Oshima's film explores the minds of young Japanese radicals in this audacious film.

5 Shall We Dance? (1996)

Tokyo night scenes form the backdrop to this story of a salaryman who finds a higher purpose in ballroom dancing.

6 Lost in Translation (2003)

A fine performance from Bill Murray, but Sofia Coppola's stereotypical view of Tokyo is oddly dated.

7 Tokyo Godfathers (2003)

An animated classic that traces a tale of redemption for three tramps and the baby they discover in a Tokyo trash can at Christmas.

8 Babel (2006)

Oscar-nominated Rinko Kikuchi plays the mute Chieko in the Tokyo strand of this globetrotting movie.

9 Tokyo Sonata (2008)

How a middle-class Tokyo family reacts when the father loses his job and tries to keep it a secret.

10 Tokyo Tribe (2014)

Yakuza gang violence, martial arts action, and hip-hop music all collide in this fast-paced fantasy set in a divided Tokyo of the future.



Scene from Tokyo Godfathers

TOP 10 Clubs

- 1 Shinjuku Pit Inn**
 MAP W3 ■ Accord Bldg, B1,
 2-12-4 Shinjuku ■ 3354-2024
 ■ Adm ■ www.pit-inn.com

One of the oldest jazz clubs in Tokyo, this medium-sized venue's musical tastes tend toward fusion and new direction jazz. Traditional bands also get an airing. International and local acts perform here. One drink is included in the entry fee.



Jazz musician, Shinjuku Pit Inn

- 2 SuperDeluxe**
 As well as live music gigs by some of Tokyo's less mainstream singers and bands, this long-running events space is also known for its PechaKucha evenings, where talks are given in a 20-slide format, shown for 20 seconds each (see p98).

- 3 Sound Museum Vision**
 MAP B6 ■ 2-10-7 Dogenzaka,
 Shibuya-ku ■ Adm ■ www.vision-tokyo.com

This huge labyrinthine club in a basement has a very impressive sound system, delivering mainly techno, house, and hip-hop music. The place is divided into different rooms for different moods.

- 4 Club Quattro**
 MAP B6 ■ 32-13-4
 Udagawacho, Shibuya-ku ■ 3477-8750
 ■ See website for schedule ■ Adm
 ■ www.club-quattro.com/shibuya

This intimate venue has been going strong for decades now, and during that time it has built a solid reputation with music fans for its approach to scheduling the top indie acts from Japan and overseas.

- 5 Unit**
 MAP C2 ■ 1-34-17 Ebisu-Nishi,
 Shibuya-ku ■ 5459-8630 ■ See website
 for schedule ■ Adm ■ www.unit-tokyo.com

The top established club within walking distance of either Ebisu or Daikanyama. A basement venue with unusually high ceilings, it puts on a wide range of gigs and DJ sets, and plays hosts to everyone from Japanese indie-rock bands to international stars.

- 6 Womb**
 MAP A6 ■ 2-16 Maruyamacho,
 Shibuya-ku ■ 5459-0039 ■ Open
 9pm-5am ■ Adm ■ www.womb.co.jp

Devotees of techno, house, and drum'n'bass will love this club, which has one of the largest dance floors in the city. A huge mirror ball hangs over the dance area, adding to an already impressive lighting system. Air-jet blasters keep things cool on the dance floor, and the club sprawls over four levels, each with its own bar.



Dancers on the stage at Womb



A popular jazz band performs at Blue Note Tokyo

7 Blue Note Tokyo

MAP S5 ■ 6-3-16 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 5485-0088
 ■ Call for timings of shows ■ Adm
 ■ www.bluenote.co.jp

Cognoscenti claim this Tokyo branch – Japan’s most famous jazz club – is just as good as sister venues in Paris or New York. Some of the world’s hottest acts play here; the sets cover jazz, fusion, world music, and soul.

8 WWW

MAP Q5 ■ 13-17 Udagawacho, Shibuya-ku ■ 5458-7685 ■ See website for schedule ■ Adm
 ■ www.shibuya.jp

Live gigs take place all through the week with a wide range of local and international pop and rock artists. This central Shibuya venue was formerly a cinema.

9 Salsa Sudada

MAP T4 ■ Fusion Bldg, 3F, 7-13-8 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 5474-8806
 ■ Open 6pm–6am
 ■ Adm Fri, Sat

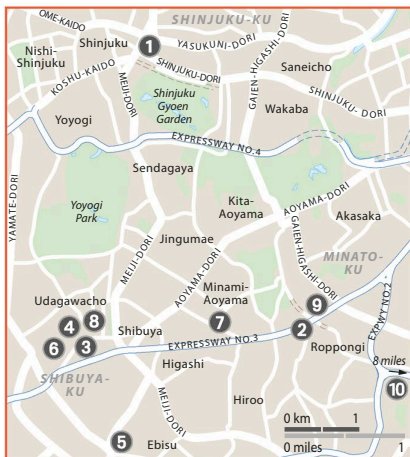
Salsa dancing has long been a fixture on the Tokyo club scene. Salsa Sudada is one of several Latin clubs in the city, attracting a crowd of local patrons, as well as Brazilian, Colombian,

and Peruvian expatriates. Dance lessons are held every night at this extremely popular place.

10 AgeHa

MAP H6 ■ 2-2-10 Shin-Kiba, Koto-ku ■ 5534-1515 ■ Open Fri, Sat, occasional weekday events ■ Adm
 ■ www.ageha.com

Tokyo’s largest nightclub has a huge main dancefloor and hosts famous DJs and live music. The outdoor spaces include a tented dance floor, a beach-themed seating area, and a bar-side swimming pool. It’s at the end of the Yurakucho subway line, but the club runs buses to and from Shibuya Station all night.



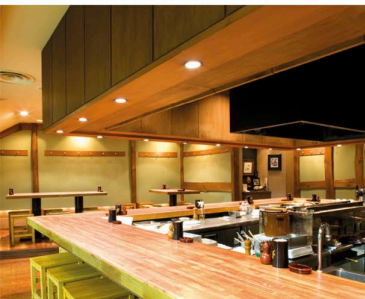
TOP 10 Restaurants



Low tables with *tatami* mats, Asakusa Imahan

1 Asakusa Imahan
This early exponent of beef dishes opened its first restaurant in 1895. The specialty is *shabu-shabu*, wafer-thin slices of prime beef cooked at your table in a pot of boiling water and served with seasonal vegetables. Seating is at low tables on *tatami* mats (see p91).

2 Bird Land
MAP M4 ■ Tsukamoto Sozan Bldg, B1F, 4-2-15 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 5250-1081 ■ Closed Sun & Mon ■ ¥¥
The fame of this grill rests on its high-quality *yakitori*, sticks of charcoal-broiled chicken doused in a slightly sweet soy-based sauce. The chicken cuts here are closer to the lighter Chinese kebabs than the Turkish or Central Asian varieties.



The sophisticated interior of Bird Land

3 Yoshiba
MAP H3 ■ 2-14-5 Yokoami, Sumida-ku ■ 3623-4480 ■ Open 11:30am–2pm, 5–10pm Mon–Sat ■ ¥¥
Wrestlers from the nearby sumo stables come here for *chankonabe* – a robust stew of vegetables, chicken, and fish. It's the staple diet of sumo wrestlers and the main dish served.

4 Kanda Yabu Soba
MAP F3 ■ 2-10 Kanda-Awajicho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3251-0287 ■ Open 11:30am–8pm ■ ¥¥
In an old wooden building, this venerable restaurant serves classic Edo-period, handmade *soba* (buckwheat noodles) along with vegetable and pickle side dishes.

5 Hantei
MAP F1 ■ 2-12-15 Nezu, Bunkyo-ku ■ 3828-1440 ■ Closed Mon ■ ¥¥
Hantei specializes in delectable *kushiage*, deep-fried skewers of meat, fish, and vegetables served with small side dishes. Items are served six at a time, and the menu is set.

6 Maru
MAP M5 ■ 6-12-15 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 5537-7420 ■ Open 11:30am–2pm, 5:30–11pm Mon–Sat ■ ¥¥¥
This sleek restaurant, on the second floor, has a long counter table facing

onto an open kitchen. It's a stylish place to sample the *kaiseki* style of fine dining at an affordable price.

7 Sushi Ouchi

MAP A6 ■ 2-8-4
Shibuya, Shibuya-ku
■ 3407-3543 ■ Open
11:40am–1:40pm,
5:30–10pm ■ ¥¥

At this sushi haven, the chef uses only natural ingredients and eschews MSG, chemical additives, and coloring. Even the soy sauce, vinegar, miso soup, and green tea that go with yellowtail, tuna, or conger eel are organic.

8 Higashi-Yama

MAP C2 ■ 1-21-25 Higashiyama,
Meguro-ku ■ 5720-1300
■ Open 11:30am–3pm Tue–Sat,
6pm–1am Mon–Sat ■ ¥¥¥

For a contemporary take on

Japanese fine dining, it's worth

searching out this sophisticated

restaurant in the south of Tokyo.

Opt for one of the tasting-course

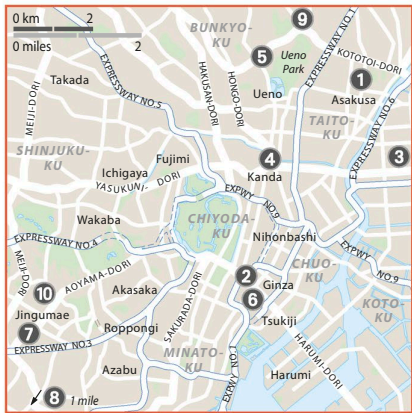
menus with exquisite dishes served

on beautiful plates and bowls.

9 Sasanoyuki

MAP G1 ■ 2-15-10 Negishi, Taito-
ku ■ 3873-1145 ■ Closed Mon ■ ¥¥

Many Tokyoites consider Sasanoyuki to be the city's finest tofu restaurant.



It has an illustrious history, with connections to the imperial family and the high priest at Kanei-ji temple during the Edo period, when the restaurant opened. The atmosphere is relaxed and the service unfussy.

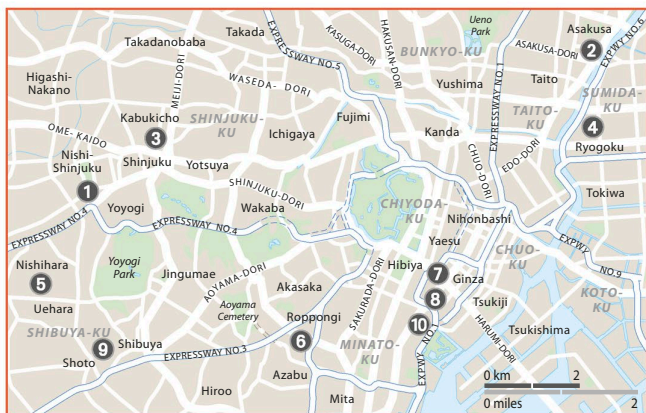
10 Maisen

The popular Maisen chain is famous for its delicious *tonkatsu* (deep-fried pork cutlets with their own brand of dipping sauce), served with rice, a bed of shredded cabbage, and miso soup. Seafood alternatives include delicately fried shrimp and oysters served with a drizzle of lemon. The Shibuya-ku Maisen, located in an old converted bathhouse, is perhaps the most atmospheric branch to dine in (see p105).



Customers dining at the busy Maisen branch in Shibuya-ku

TOP 10 Cafés and Bars



New York Bar in the Park Hyatt hotel

1 New York Bar
 MAP T3 ■ 3-7-1-2 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 5323-3458
 ■ Open 5pm–midnight Sun–Wed (to 1am Thu–Sat)

You don't need to be staying at the Park Hyatt to enjoy its sophisticated bar, which featured prominently in the movie *Lost in Translation*. There's a cover charge after 8pm (7pm Sunday), and live music nightly featuring jazz from top artists.

2 Kamiya Bar
 MAP R3 ■ 1-1-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3841-5400 ■ Open 11:30am–10pm Wed–Mon

The oldest Western-style bar in town, this Tokyo institution was established in 1880. The bar was set up by Kamiya Denbei, who also built

Japan's first brandy distillery. Once favored by writers and artists, the bar still serves its signature *denki-bran*, a cocktail made with cognac, gin, and wine.

3 Golden Gai
 This quarter, filled with scores of tiny bars housed in two-story wooden buildings, has hung on in Shinjuku since just after World War II. Most bars have a theme and only some are welcoming to tourists, but it's still well worth a visit (see p107).

4 Popeye
 MAP G3 ■ 2-18-7 Ryogoku, Sumida-ku ■ 3633-2120 ■ Open 5–11:30pm Mon–Sat ■ www.40beersontap.com

This convivial bar, handily located near the Sumo Stadium, does its best to cater to Tokyo's unquenchable thirst with some 70 beers on tap, including the city's best selection of Japanese beers.

5 Sasagin
 MAP A5 ■ 1-32-15 Uehara, Shibuya-ku ■ 5454-3715 ■ Open 5–11:45pm Mon–Sat

This is a great place to sample different types of Japanese sake.

Tastes range from the syrupy sweet to the highly rated acerbically dry. Top-grade sake, such as the divine *dai-ginjo*, is served chilled.

- 6 Pink Cow**
 MAP U4 ■ Roi Bldg, B1F, 5-5-1
 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 6434-5773
 ■ Open 5–11pm Tue–Sun
 ■ www.thepinkcow.com

Popular with the ex-pat crowd, this American-owned, lively bar and gallery space serves up good cocktails. It is not a bad place for dinner either, with reasonably priced international fare.

- 7 Cha Ginza**
 MAP M4 ■ 5-5-6 Ginza,
 Chuo-ku ■ 3571-1211 ■ Open
 11am–6pm Tue–Sun

A shortened version of the Japanese tea ceremony here includes whisking the creamy brew into a bubbly froth and serving it with a Japanese sweet. The second floor serves *sancha* (ordinary green leaf tea).

- 8 Café de l'Ambre**
 MAP M5 ■ 8-10-15 Ginza,
 Chuo-ku ■ 3571-1551 ■ Open
 noon–10pm Mon–Sat (to 7pm Sun)

One of Tokyo's longest running traditional *kissaten* (coffee shops) has shown a loving dedication to the coffee bean since 1948. Make your choice from the 30-odd blends – including quite a few aged varieties – they're some of the most delicious you'll find anywhere.



Rows of beer taps at Goodbeer Faucets

The retro ambience of the place is priceless and makes for an unforgettable visit.

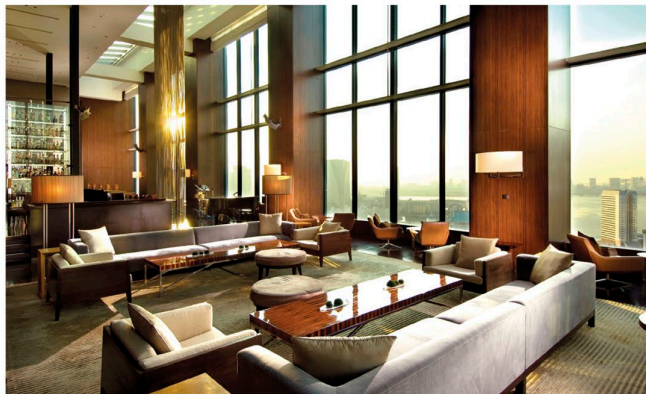
- 9 Goodbeer Faucets**
 MAP A6 ■ Crossroad Bldg,
 2F, 1-29-1 Shoto, Shibuya-ku ■ 3770-
 5544 ■ Open 2pm–midnight
 ■ goodbeerfaucets.jp

The craft beer scene in Japan has blossomed in recent years. This centrally located spot is a superb place offering more than 40 craft beers on tap in a stylish, sophisticated setting. The food here is also a cut above the usual pub fare.

- 10 TwentyEight**
 MAP M6 ■ Conrad Tokyo,
 1-9-1 Higashi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku
 ■ 6388-8745 ■ Open 8am–midnight

Located on the 28th floor of the Conrad Tokyo hotel, this romantic spot offers stellar cocktails, gentle jazz piano music, and spectacular views over Tokyo Bay.

Great views from TwentyEight



TOP 10 Markets, Stores, and Shopping Streets



Grand Mitsukoshi in Nihonbashi

1 Mitsukoshi
 MAP P2 ■ 1-4-1 Nihonbashi
 Muromachi, Chuo-ku ■ 3241-3311
 This is the head branch of Japan's oldest department store business, founded in 1673. Aside from the many items on sale, it's worth visiting for its grand interior decorations, including a giant statue of the Goddess of Sincerity dominating the ground floor. Get there early to see the hundreds of uniformed staff who bow respectfully to customers as they open the store each day.

2 Toyosu Fish Market
 MAP H6 ■ 6-chome Toyosu,
 Koto-ku ■ www.shijou.metro.tokyo.jp/index.html

In November 2016, Tokyo Metropolitan Central Wholesale Produce Market, better known as Tsukiji Fish Market, moved to these sparkling, state-of-the-art premises, across Tokyo Bay in Toyosu. This is the location of the famous early-morning tuna auctions.

3 Tsukiji Outer Market
 The fish market may have moved but there are still hundreds of vendors in the Tsukiji Outer Market, which has styled itself as the premier place to go food shopping in central Tokyo. There's plenty to see and taste here among the intricate streets, so pick up a map from the Information Center (Plat Tsukiji) or download it from the website (*see p82*).

4 Naka-dori
 MAP F4 ■ 1-chome to 3-chome
 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku

This tree-lined, flag-stoned street is Marunouchi's main commercial spine, along which you'll find many international and local fashion boutiques as well as contemporary sculptures. The trees are illuminated with thousands of LED bulbs every winter.

5 Takeshita-dori
 It's great for people watching and trend-spotting, but avoid this narrow Harajuku shopping street if you're not keen on crowds. The stores here have their fingers firmly on the pulse of teen fashions, hence it's almost always busy (*see p102*).

6 Venus Fort
 MAP D2 ■ Palette Town,
 1 Aomi, Koto-ku ■ 3599-0700
 ■ Open 11am–9pm (11pm for
 some restaurants)

A cross between a mall and a theme park, Venus Fort was built to re-create the atmosphere of an 18th-century northern Italian city, with a changing, artificial twilight sky. The main focus among its many boutiques and stores is on cutting-edge brands in fashion, jewelry, and cosmetics.

Shoppers at Venus Fort



7 Ameyoko Market

MAP F2 ■ Ueno Station

From modest beginnings as a postwar black market specializing in sweets made from potato, Ameyoko has developed into an amazing street with over 500 stalls and small stores built under the JR railway tracks. A favorite spot for very fresh food goods, especially fish.

8 Yanaka Ginza

This shopping street may be quite small, but it's lined with some 70 independent businesses. Yanaka Ginza is characterized by the Edo period and offers a rare slice of traditional shopping. Look out for sculptures of cats on the buildings, a nod to the many strays that pad around the area (*see p32*).



Wickerwork for sale, Yanaka Ginza

9 mAach ecute

MAP F3 ■ 1-25-4 Kanda-Sudacho, Chiyoda-ku ■ Open 11am–9pm Mon–Sat (to 8pm Sun) ■ www.maach-ecute.jp

The decommissioned Manseibashi station and the arches under the train tracks have been transformed into this stylish shopping and dining complex. Browse chic home goods and artisan foods from across Japan.

10 Coredo Muromachi

MAP P2 ■ 2-2-1 Nihonbashi-Muromachi, Chuo-ku ■ 5927-9321 ■ Open 11am–11pm ■ www.31urban.jp/lng/eng/muromachi.html

This stylish retail complex is split over three buildings. Zone in on Coredo Muromachi 3 for contemporary Japanese home and fashion design as well as gourmet foods.

TOP 10 ARTS STORES



Itoya, a stationery emporium

1 Bingo-ya

MAP C1 ■ 10–6 Wakamatsu-cho, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3202-8778
A selection of local folk arts and crafts.

2 Tokyu Hands

MAP R5 ■ 12-18 Udagawa-cho, Shibuya-ku ■ 5489-5111
DIY, crafts, hardware, and home items.

3 Takumi

MAP M5 ■ 8-4-2 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3571-2017
Folk crafts, ceramics, and traditional toys.

4 Japan Traditional Crafts

Aoyama Square
MAP C5 ■ 8-1-22 Akasaka, Minato-ku ■ 5785-1301
Traditional Japanese crafts.

5 Blue & White

MAP J6 ■ 2-9-2 Azabu-Juban, Minato-ku ■ 3451-0537
Items in indigo-dyed blue and white.

6 Hara Shobo

MAP E3 ■ 2–3 Kanda-Jinbocho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5212-7801
Woodblock prints and illustrated books.

7 Itoya

MAP C3 ■ 2-7-15 Ginza, Chuo-ku, ■ 3561-8311
Nine floors with all kinds of stationery.

8 Sagemonoya

MAP C3 ■ Palais Eternal Bldg, 704, 4-28-20 Yotsuya, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3352-6286
Sells hanging purses and pipe cases as well as carved wood sculptures.

9 Oriental Bazaar

MAP S4 ■ 5-9-13 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku ■ 3400-3933
Gifts and souvenirs on Omotesando.

10 2k540 Aki-Oka Artisan

MAP C3 ■ 5-9 Ueno, Taito-ku ■ 6806-0254
A lively market selling traditional and contemporary crafts.

TOP 10 Tokyo for Free

- 1 Shrines and Temples**
Religious sites rarely charge admission and there are literally thousands of free temples and shrines in Tokyo. Most architecturally interesting are Senso-ji temple (*see pp14–15*) and Meiji Shrine (*pp30–31*).



Contrasting architecture in Tokyo

- 2 Architecture**
Few cities are as adventurous in their architectural style as Tokyo, making it a pleasure to admire buildings old and new. Contrast the grand dames, such as Tokyo Station (*see p41*), with more modern constructions such as the Prada Aoyama Building (*see p51*).

- 3 Public Art**
Roppongi Hills (*see p94*) and Tokyo Midtown (*see p95*) are scattered with interesting pieces of

sculpture and public art. In Shinjuku (*see pp106–9*), check out the artworks surrounding Shinjuku I-Land, including pieces by Roy Lichtenstein.

- 4 Museums**
Yebisu Beer Museum: MAP C2; 4-20-1 Ebisu, Shibuya-ku; 5423-7255; www.sapporoholdings.jp/english/guide/yebisu; open 11 am–7 pm Tue–Sun ■ **Meguro Parasitological Museum:** MAP C2; 4-1-1 Shimo-Meguro, Meguro-ku; 3716-1264; 10 am–5 pm Wed–Sun; www.kiseichu.org

There's no charge to enter the Yebisu Beer Museum – which tells the story of the famous Japanese beer – or the quirky Meguro Parasitological Museum – where you'll find jars filled with such stomach-churning exhibits as the world's longest tapeworm.

- 5 Viewing Observatories**
For a great city view, the free 45th-floor observation deck at the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building (*see p50*) is hard to beat. The glittering vistas from the upper floors of the Shibuya Hikarie (*see p103*) are equally seductive.

- 6 Yoyogi Park**
The chief location for the 1964 Summer Olympics, Yoyogi Park (*see p49*) has become one of Tokyo's most beloved open spaces. It's very lively

Relaxing in Yoyogi Park



on Sundays, when bands perform and rockabilly dancers mingle with a rainbow array of fashion tribes around the entrance near Meiji Shrine.

7 Origami Kaikan
MAP F2 ■ 1-7-14 Yushima,
Bunkyo-ku ■ 3811-4025 ■ Open
9am–6pm Mon–Sat ■ www.origami-kaikan.co.jp

Learn about the gentle art of paper folding at Origami Kaikan, a building that includes free exhibitions and demonstrations as well as a workshop, where you can watch artisans creating all sorts of things from paper.



Aerial view of Shibuya Crossing

8 Shibuya Crossing
The statue and mural of Hachiko, Tokyo's most famous canine, gets lost amid the crowds flowing around Shibuya Station. The crossing (also known as Shibuya Scramble) here, enveloped by giant LCD screens and neon lights, is one of Tokyo's most iconic sights (see p103).

9 Walking Tours
The city offers 10 different free guided tours starting from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building (see p109). Itineraries include a tea ceremony and a trip out to a nature park in the suburbs. For details visit www.gotokyo.org/en/tourists/guideservice/guideservice.

10 Ginza's Galleries
Ginza is all about high-end, fashionable shopping, but it costs nothing to enjoy the free shows at the area's many commercial art galleries (see pp80–83).

TOP 10 BUDGET TIPS BOX



Trend spotting in Harajuku

1 Bargain Accommodation

Opt for chain business hotels, such as Toyoko Inn (www.toyoko-inn.com) or members of the Japanese Inn Group (www.japaneseinn.com).

2 Public Transportation

Use the prepaid Suica or Pasma cards to ride trains, subways, and buses around Tokyo.

3 Eat Lunch

Set lunches at many restaurants are a bargain at around ¥1000 or less.

4 Flea Markets

Pick up bargain souvenirs from flea markets at Nogi Shrine (see p95) and Yasukuni Shrine (see p42).

5 Trend Spotting

Catch the latest trends by engaging in some people-watching in Harajuku, Shibuya, or Akihabara.

6 Happy Hours

Many bars offer happy hours before the night gets into full swing.

7 Discount Card

The Grutt Pass (www.rekibun.or.jp/grutto) provides free or discounted admission to some 70 museums and attractions.

8 Festivals and Events

Consult the weekly magazine *Metropolis* (www.metropolisjapan.com) for listings of upcoming free festivals and events.

9 Wi-Fi

Download the Japan Connected app (www.ntt-bp.net/jcfw/en.html) to access free Wi-Fi across Tokyo.

10 Tokyo Cheapo

Check Tokyo Cheapo (www.tokyo-cheapo.com) for more ideas on how to make your yen go further.

TOP 10 Festivals and Events



Festivities on New Year's Day

1 New Year's Day

Jan 1-4

Millions of Japanese welcome the New Year with visits to Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples throughout Tokyo. The most popular venues are Meiji Shrine (see pp30-31) and Senso-ji temple (see pp14-15), where bells are rung to celebrate the New Year.

2 Coming-of-Age Day

MAP B5 ■ 1-1 Kamizonochō,
Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku ■ 3379-5511
■ 2nd Mon in Jan

The age of consent in Japan is 20, which is a milestone celebrated in Tokyo by ceremonies at major shrines. Meiji Shrine (see pp30-31), where an archery display is held to mark the event, is one of the most popular venues.

3 Water Purification Rites

MAP F3 ■ Kanda Myojin Shrine
■ Jan 10-12

Cleansing rituals are held at several shrines throughout Tokyo in winter. Young men and women whose 20th birthdays fall in the same year stand in pools full of blocks of ice and douse themselves with freezing buckets of water.

4 Tokyo Marathon

MAP A4 ■ Feb

The Japanese take pride in their marathon runners, particularly women, who have won gold medals in past Olympics. Competing is a

serious business, with very strict entrance rules and requirements. The run begins at the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building.

5 Horseback Archery

MAP S2 ■ Sumida Park,
Taito-ku ■ Mid-Apr

Yabusame, or horseback archery, was integral to the samurai arts of war. During this event, men in samurai gear charge their mounts through Sumida Park, aiming to strike three targets in rapid succession.

6 Design Festa

May/Nov

This biannual event, Asia's largest art festival, features 7,000 Japanese as well as international artists, musicians, and performers from every conceivable genre. Drawing over 50,000 visitors, Design Festa also presents fashion shows, *cosplay* exhibitionists, and live bands. The 2-day extravaganza of creativity is held at Tokyo Big Sight (see p56).



Design Festa display

7 Sanja Festival

MAP R2 ■ Senso-ji Temple,
2-3-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3842-0181
■ 3rd weekend of May

Tokyo's largest festival honors two brothers who found a statue of Kannon, the Goddess of Mercy, in their fishing nets (see p15). The spirits of the brothers and the shrine's deities are carried in portable shrines through the streets.

8 Kanda Matsuri
 MAP F3 ■ Kanda Myojin Shrine, 2-16-2 Soto-Kanda, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3254-0753 ■ Mid-May

One of Tokyo's three major festivals, the Kanda Matsuri is held in odd-numbered years. It features music, and dance, but the highlight is the Heian-period costume parade, a procession of floats and *mikoshi* (portable shrines).



Kanda Matsuri parade

9 Sumida River Fireworks
 Last Sat in July

Around 1 million Tokyoites converge on the riverbanks near Asakusa to see over 20,000 fireworks light up the skies and the Sumida River. The best views are from Komagata Bridge or between Shirahige and Kototoi bridges (see pp16–17).

10 Seven-Five-Three Festival

Nov 15

Children who have reached the ages of three, five, or seven are dressed up in pint-sized traditional kimonos and taken to shrines to pray for their well-being at this delightful event. The numbers signify ages once considered milestones when child mortality was high. The occasion is also a great photo opportunity.

Children dressed for Seven-Five-Three Festival



TOP 10 FLOWER AND PLANT EVENTS



Visitors viewing the irises

- 1 Plum Blossom Viewing**
 MAP F2 ■ Late Jan–early Mar
 The blossoms at Yushima Tenjin Shrine attract Tokyoites.
- 2 Cherry Blossom Viewing**
 Early–mid-Apr
 Crowds picnic under the pink blossoms in parks and gardens.
- 3 Peony Displays**
 MAP F2 ■ Mid-Apr
 Pink, red, and yellow peonies can be viewed at Ueno Park's Toshogu shrine.
- 4 Azalea Festival**
 MAP E1, L2 & M2 ■ Apr 10–May 15
 ■ Adm
 Azaleas bloom at Nezu Shrine and the Imperial Palace East Gardens.
- 5 Iris Viewing**
 MAP B5 & D1 ■ Early–mid-Jun
 Visit the stunning iris gardens at Meiji Shrine and Horikiri.
- 6 Lotus Blossoms**
 MAP F2 ■ Mid-Jul–Aug
 An array of pink lotuses bloom in Shinobazu Pond in Ueno Park.
- 7 Chinese Lantern Plant Fair**
 MAP R1 ■ 3842-0181 ■ Jul 9–10
 Popular fair held in Senso-ji temple.
- 8 Morning Glory Fair**
 MAP C1 ■ Jul 6–8
 Vendors sell potted morning glories in the grounds of Kishimojin Temple.
- 9 Chrysanthemum Festival**
 MAP B4 & C4 ■ Late Oct–mid-Nov
 Shinjuku Gyoen garden has an exhibition of chrysanthemums.
- 10 Fall Leaves**
 Late Nov
 Red maples, russet fall leaves, and yellow ginkgoes bloom in the parks and old Edo-period gardens.

Tokyo Area by Area

The Shinjuku skyline, emblazoned
with neon signs



Central Tokyo	74
Ginza	80
Ueno, Asakusa, and Oshiage	86
Roppongi and Akasaka	94
Aoyama, Harajuku, and Shibuya	100
Shinjuku	106
Farther Afield	112

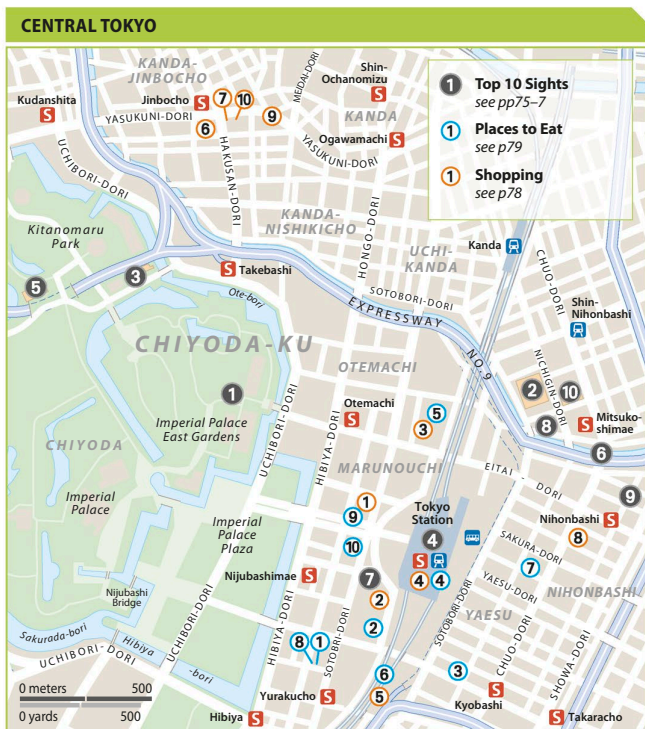


TOP 10 Central Tokyo



The historic city and the site of Edo Castle, with its moats, stone ramparts, and bridges, once defined the imperial power structure with the merchant classes to the east, and samurai and lords to the south and west. In some ways, the power structure has remained visibly intact, with the Imperial Palace (on the site of the former Edo Castle) at the center; parliament, law courts, and police headquarters to the south; and the financial center to the east. The area has been transformed by a series of fires, earthquakes, air raids, and developers, yet the outlines of the core city remain intact. Modern-day central Tokyo has also developed as a lively tourist attraction with excellent sightseeing and shopping options around every corner.

Light on the decorative Nihonbashi Bridge





Imperial Palace East Gardens, with a view of the tea pavilion

1 Imperial Palace East Gardens

MAP L2 ■ Chiyoda, Chiyoda-ku
 ■ Open 9am–4:30pm Tue–Thu,
 Sat & Sun

Designed by Kobori Enshu in the 17th century, the gardens were opened to the public in 1968. The nucleus of this design can be seen in the pond area, with its waterfall, stone lantern, bridge, tea pavilion, and pebbled beach. The garden is resplendent with plum blossoms, spring cherry, and azaleas in spring; irises and lilies in summer; and bush clover, camellias, and maple leaves in the fall.

2 Bank of Japan

MAP N2 ■ 2-1-1 Nihonbashi-Hongokucho, Chuo-ku ■ 3279-1111
 ■ English-language tour: 3–4pm Tue

The bank was aptly built on the site of the shogun's former gold mint. Kingo Tatsuno, who designed Tokyo Station, was responsible for this earlier 1896 building. The Bank of Japan is divided into two sections – the New Building and the Old Building. The former is where financial transactions occur, the latter, with a few offices, is more of an architectural exhibit. The building represents the first Western-style building designed by a Japanese architect.

3 National Museum of Modern Art (MOMAT)

MAP L1 ■ 3-1 Kitanomaru-koen, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5777-8600 ■ Open 10am–5pm Tue–Thu, Sat & Sun (to 8pm Fri) ■ Adm ■ www.momat.go.jp/english

View exhibitions that draw on this museum's excellent collection of over 9,000 works from leading Japanese artists, past and present, plus some important European pieces. The range of art is impressive, including gilded screens, woodblock prints, and striking video works.



Painting by Édouard Manet at MOMAT



The elegant red-brick Tokyo Station

4 Tokyo Station
MAP N3 ■ 1-9-1 Marunouchi,
Chiyoda-ku

Designed by Kingo Tatsuno, this 1914 red-brick building recently underwent a major restoration that brought back its twin cupolas. Rendered in Queen Anne style, it is said to be modeled on Station Amsterdam Centraal. The south side of the building is occupied by a hotel and the north by the small but interesting Tokyo Station Gallery, hosting regularly changing exhibitions.

BUILDING EDO CASTLE

When completed in 1640, Edo Castle was the largest citadel in the world, with 30 bridges, 28 armories, 21 watch-towers, and 110 gates. Gigantic slabs of stone were shipped from Izu Peninsula to make impregnable walls. More than 100 men were hired to drag the stones from the ship. The stones have survived; the wooden castle has not.

5 Crafts Gallery
MAP K1 ■ 1-1 Kitanomaru-
koen, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5777-8600
■ Open 10am–5pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm

Beautifully finished in brick and stonework, the 1910 building housing this museum once served as the headquarters of the Imperial Guard. Today, it showcases *mingei*, folk craft products representing a mid-20th-century movement that saw beauty through the use and aging of objects. There are fine examples of pottery, textiles, ceramics, lacquer, glass, metal,

and bamboo ware. Exhibitions tend to focus on single themes, with individual artists using traditional methods and materials.

6 Nihonbashi Bridge
MAP P2 ■ Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku

Occupying a special place in Tokyo's history, Nihonbashi is shown in many *ukiyo-e* woodblock prints. The current structure dates from 1911. In the run-up to the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, waterways were filled in and a system of overhead expressways built. Distances throughout Japan are still measured from the bronze pole here, called the Zero Kilometer marker.

7 Intermediatheque
MAP M3 ■ 2-7-2 Marunouchi,
Chiyoda-ku ■ 5777-8600 ■ Open
11am–6pm Tue–Thu & Sun (to 8pm
Fri & Sat) ■ Adm ■ www.intermediatheque.jp/en

This is one of Tokyo's most eclectic and interesting museums, displaying key pieces from the collection of the University of Tokyo – from dinosaur skeletons to contemporary art.

8 Currency Museum
MAP N2 ■ 1-3-1 Nihonbashi-
Hongokucho, Chuo-ku ■ 3277-3037
■ Open 9:30am–4:30pm Tue–Sun

Operated by the Bank of Japan, this museum has a dizzying variety of currencies from the past and present on display, along with money-related items from around the world. There are also some hands-on exhibits.



Nihonbashi Bridge



Exhibits adorned with beautiful artwork at the Kite Museum

9 Kite Museum
 MAP P3 ■ Taimeiken 5F, 1-12-10 Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku ■ 3275-2704
 ■ Open 11am–5pm Mon–Sat ■ Adm
 ■ www.taimeiken.co.jp/museum.html

Displaying around 3,000 kites from all over the world, the museum focuses on Japan and China. The Japanese kites are adorned with real and mythological figures, as well as animals and natural landscapes, such as waves and sacred mountains. Kite frames are made from bamboo, and the sails from *washi*, a strong paper made from a type of mulberry tree. Picture outlines are painted in black India ink to restrict the flow of color pigments.

10 Mitsui Memorial Museum
 MAP P2 ■ 2-1-1 Nihonbashi-Muromachi, Chuo-ku ■ 5777-8600
 ■ Open 10am–5pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm
 ■ www.mitsui-museum.jp

Treasures of Japanese and Asian art collected down the generations by the Mitsui family are displayed in this elegant museum, housed in the grand, early 20th-century Mitsui Main Building. Among the delightful items displayed is a reconstruction of the interior of the celebrated Joan tea-ceremony room.

A DAY EXPLORING HISTORICAL SITES



MORNING

Arrive at Kudanshita Station around 10am after the commuter crowds have dispersed. Exit the station on Yasukuni-dori avenue and take a sharp left, where the 1930s Kudan Kaikan Hotel stands, a blend of nativist and Art Deco styles. Return to the main road and walk uphill to Yasukuni Shrine (see p42), a fine piece of Shinto architecture. Forego the military museum in favor of strolling the pleasant grounds, full of cherry trees. Have lunch beside the garden pond.

AFTERNOON

Return to the main road, cross, and follow the signpost to Tayasumon, a wooden gate leading into Kitanomaru Park (see p12). Before seeing the gate, note an old Meiji-era tower. Past the gate, linger outside the octagonal Budokan (see p12), the martial arts hall where the Beatles once played concerts. Follow the road south and visit the Crafts Gallery, housed in the former headquarters of the Imperial Guard. Afterwards, stroll around the pretty Imperial Palace East Gardens (see p75), the site of Edo Castle, the shogun's citadel. Here, you can climb the ruins of a keep for a view of the gardens. Press on south toward Babasaki Moat, home to white swans, egrets, and turtles. Cross busy Hibiya-dori and walk toward the nearby Tokyo Station, a superb 1914 structure. Have a drink at the Mandarin Bar in the Mandarin Oriental Tokyo hotel (see p128).

Shopping

1 Shin-Marunouchi Building

MAP M3 ■ 1-5-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5218-5100

The expansive shopping mall housed in this skyscraper boasts more than 150 stores and eateries, ranging from boutiques and jewelers to bakeries.



Interior of the Kitte shopping mall

2 Kitte

MAP M3 ■ 2-7-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3216-2811

The old Central Post Office building was saved and incorporated into this shopping mall. It offers an excellent selection of local retailers specializing in fashion, household goods, and traditional crafts with a contemporary twist.

3 Oazo

MAP N2 ■ 1-6-4 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5218-5100

This dazzling glass complex of stores, restaurants, and cafés also has a massive English bookstore, Maruzen.

4 Tokyo Character Street

MAP N3 ■ B1 First Avenue Tokyo Station, 1-9-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3210-0077

Lovers of Japanese pop culture should zone in on this collection of

stores devoted to beloved comic book and TV characters, including Hello Kitty and Ultraman.

5 Muji

MAP M4 ■ 3-8-3 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5208-8241

This all-purpose, “no-brand goods” store has become a byword for stylish, good-value clothes, furnishings, and housewares.

6 Hara Shobo

MAP E3 ■ 2-3 Kanda-Jinbocho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5212-7801

This specialist offers a huge variety of woodblock prints. These range from affordable prints that cost around ¥10,000 to pieces that are worthy of being exhibited at museums.

7 Ebisu-do Gallery

MAP E3 ■ Inagaki Bldg, 4F, 1-9 Kanda-Jinbocho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3219-7651

This gallery specializes in *ukiyo-e* woodblock prints. Originals start at ¥25,000, but you can pick up a good reproduction for only ¥3,000.

8 Yamamoto Yama

MAP P3 ■ 2-10-2 Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku ■ 3281-0010

In addition to fine-quality Japanese and Chinese teas, tea-ceremony instruments, such as bamboo whisks, iron water pots, and ceramic tea bowls, can be bought here.

9 Ohya Shobo

MAP E3 ■ 1-1 Kanda-Jinbocho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3291-0062

Established in 1882, this store sells *ukiyo-e* woodblock prints and antique books at reasonable prices.

10 Isseido

MAP E3 ■ 1-7 Kanda-Jinbocho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3292-0071

Dating from 1913, this antiquarian bookstore retains all its original Art Deco features. The second floor has old English books and rare maps.

Places to Eat

PRICE CATEGORIES

Price ranges are for an average-size dinner for one. Lunchtime menus are usually less expensive.

¥ under ¥2,000 ¥¥ ¥2,000–¥10,000
¥¥¥ over ¥10,000

1 Brasserie aux Amis

MAP M3 ■ Shin-Tokyo Bldg, 1F, 3-3-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 6212-1566 ■ ¥¥

Dine on rustic brasserie food in a charming setting and wash down your *plat du jour poisson* with a drink from the long wine list.

2 Bar de España Muy

MAP M3 ■ Tokyo Bldg Tokia, 2F, 2-7-3 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5224-6161 ■ ¥¥

Relax at this fun tapas bar serving Catalan-style food. Try the black squid with a glass of cava.

3 Dhaba India

MAP N3 ■ Sagami Bldg, 1F, 2-7-9 Yaesu, Chuo-ku ■ 3272-7160 ■ ¥

This Southern Indian eatery offers thali sets and masala dosas served with basmati rice.



Masala dosas at Dhaba India

4 Tokyo Ramen Street

MAP N3 ■ B1 First Avenue Tokyo Station, 1-9-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ ¥

Ramen restaurants run stalls with variations on the popular noodle dish.

5 En

MAP N2 ■ Oazo Bldg, 5F, 1-6-4, Marunouchi, Oazo, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5223-9896 ■ ¥¥

Feast on a fine selection of regional Japanese cuisine and simple dishes, such as grilled salmon belly and smoky eggplant.

6 Aroya Tabeta

MAP M3 ■ 3-7-11 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5219-6099 ■ ¥

This modest eatery specializes in tasty Thai green and red curries and fried noodles.

7 Yukari

MAP N3 ■ 3-2-14 Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku ■ 3271-3436 ■ Closed Sun ■ ¥¥

Known for its delicately prepared fish dishes with mouthwatering relishes and seasoning. Try the conger eel, snapper, and crab with Japanese citrus.

8 Roast Chicken House

MAP M3 ■ New Tokyo Building, B1, 3-3-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5220-5588 ■ Closed Sun & public holidays ■ ¥¥

As the name suggests, the specialty at this restaurant is succulent, free-range date chicken. Wines, sake, and juices are organic.

9 Salt

MAP M3 ■ Shin-Marunouchi Bldg, 6F, 1-5-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5288-7828 ■ ¥¥

Crisp Australian wines are perfect complements for the fusion fish dishes that are served here.

10 Breeze of Tokyo

MAP M3 ■ Marunouchi Bldg, 36F, 2-4-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5220-5551 ■ ¥¥

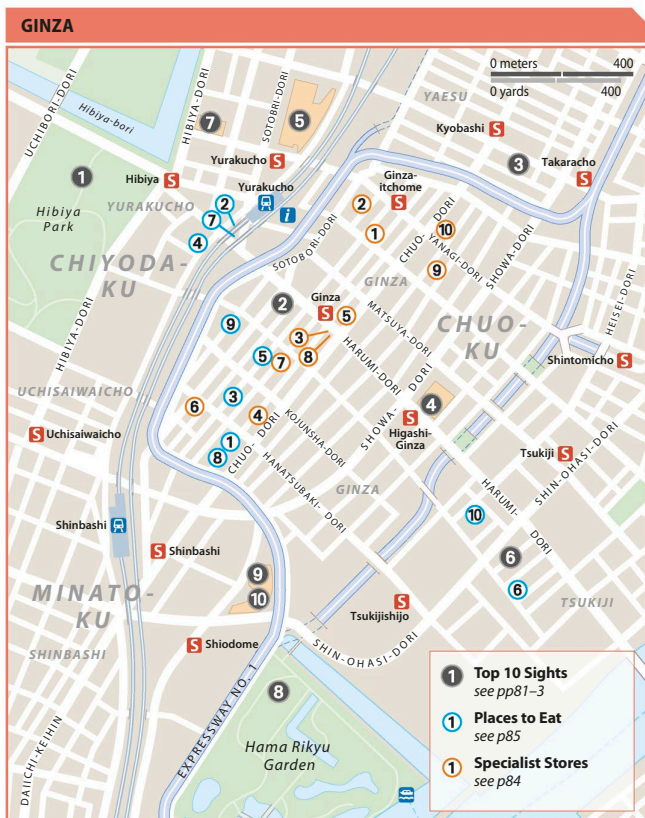
French and Japanese cuisine meet in this chic setting with great views over the city. There is an extensive list of cocktails and wines and 30 different types of champagne.

TOP 10 Ginza



Plate at the Idemitsu Museum of Arts

The site of the shogun's original silver mint, Ginza has always been synonymous with commerce and wealth. After a disastrous fire in 1872, the government commissioned the Irish architect Thomas Waters to rebuild the district in brick. The new quarter established Ginza as a leader in commerce, leisure, and fashion. It was the site of Japan's first gas lamps, trolley cars, and Western-style department stores. The epicenter of Ginza is the 4-chome district, a crossing dominated by modern stores. Though a premier cosmopolitan shopping and cultural experience, with its teahouses, incense and calligraphy shops, high-end sushi restaurants, and the very traditional Kabuki-za theater, it is also firmly Japanese.



1 Hibiya Park

MAP L4 ■ 1 Hibiya Koen,
Chiyoda-ku ■ 3501-6428

Built over a former military parade ground converted from the estates of shogun Ieyasu's less-favored Outer Lords, Hibiya Park was rebuilt as Japan's first Western-style park in 1903. European features, such as bandstands, a rose garden, an open-air theater, and a bronze heron fountain overlooked by a wisteria trellis, are set against a small but exquisite Japanese garden, with rock placements and cherry trees lining paths at the center of the park.

2 Sony Building

MAP M4 ■ 5-3-1 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3573-2371 ■ Open 11am-7pm
■ www.sonybuilding.jp/e

Catch a glimpse of the shape and sound of things to come at this eight-story showcase for Sony models and new technologies. You can test the hottest games at the free PlayStation arcade with its video and virtual reality sites. The two-floor basement area, Sony Plaza, has novelties and fun items for sale. Visitors can also enjoy one of the Hi-Vision theaters.

3 National Film Center

MAP N4 ■ 3-7-6 Kyobashi,
Chuo-ku ■ 3561-0823 ■ Call for
timings ■ Adm ■ www.momat.go.jp

Connected to the National Museum of Modern Art, the NFC is Japan's



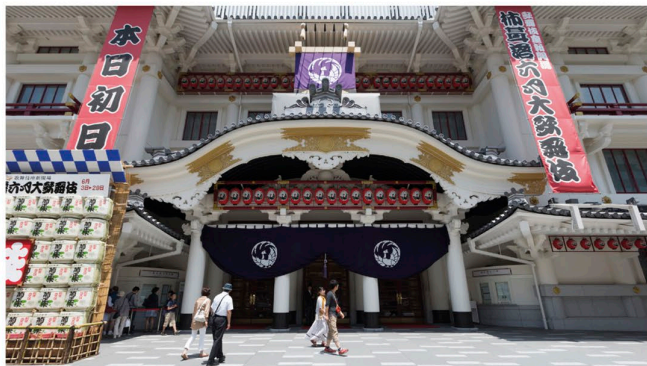
Inside the National Film Center

only center devoted to the study and dissemination of Japanese and foreign films. The NFC holds almost 40,000 films in its collection, including many restored Japanese classics. Besides its two theaters, there is a library of books on film and a gallery featuring exhibitions of stills, photographs, and film-related items. The NFC sometimes runs programs of Japanese cinematic masterpieces, usually with English subtitles.

4 Kabuki-za Theater

MAP N5 ■ 4-12-15 Ginza,
Chuo-ku ■ 3545-6800 ■ www.kabuki-bito.jp/eng

One of Ginza's most striking buildings is this theater devoted to the performing art of Kabuki. Rebuilt in recent years so that a soaring tower block could be added (in which is a small museum), the theater's frontage features giant purple banners, lanterns, and colorful posters.



The flamboyant façade of Kabuki-za theater



Interior of Tokyo International Forum

5 Tokyo International Forum

MAP M3 & M4 ■ 3-5-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5221-9000 ■ www.t-i-forum.co.jp/english

One of the city's architectural wonders, the majestic Tokyo International Forum was designed by Rafael Viñoly and completed in 1996. It functions as a premier culture convention center, with four graduated cubes encased in granite, abutting a high, tapering trajectory of glass and steel, aptly named Glass Hall. Crossing the skywalks among the glass and girders at the transparent apex of the building, above cantilevered areas and atria, is like walking across a crystal suspended above the city.

6 Tsukiji Outer Market

MAP F6 ■ Tsukiji, Chuo-ku

Even though the old fish market has departed for new premises in Toyosu, the old food businesses of the outer market remain and make for mouth-watering browsing. There's ample chances for grazing on street food, buying souvenirs such as crockery, tea, and kitchen knives, and discovering Tsukiji Uogashi, the new center for food vendors.

7 Idemitsu Museum of Arts

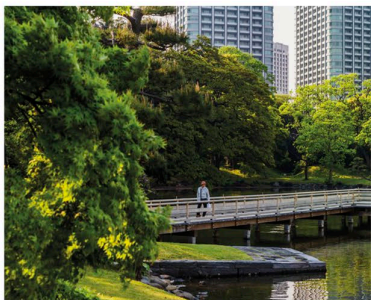
MAP M3 ■ Teigeki Bldg, 9F, 3-1-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5777-8600
 ■ Open 10am–5pm Tue–Sun (to 7pm Fri) ■ Adm ■ www.idemitsu.co.jp/museum

As petroleum tycoon Sazo Idemitsu's fortune increased, so did his passion for collecting Japanese and Asian art. Opened in 1966, the museum bearing his name displays a diverse, eclectic collection of artworks, which includes paintings, bronzes, ceramic ware, *ukiyo-e* prints, lacquer, and rare gold-painted screens. Its calligraphy holdings include the world's largest collection of works by the Zen monk Sengai. Works from China, Korea, and the Middle East are also periodically displayed. The room containing pottery shards affords tremendous ninth-floor views of the Imperial Palace grounds.

8 Hama Rikyu Garden

MAP M6 ■ 1-1 Hama Rikyu Teien, Chuo-ku ■ 3541-0200 ■ Open 9am–5pm ■ Adm

The younger brother of shogun Ietsuna had parts of the bay filled in and a villa built here in 1654. Completed by a later shogun, Ienari, the basic design and balance of the garden remain gloriously intact. The highlight is a large tidal pond, with a small tea pavilion, and islets connected by wooden bridges. Over 600 species of peony, in addition to crepe myrtle, cherry, iris, bamboo, and plum, grow in the garden today.



Tranquil Hama Rikyu Garden

9 Shiodome and Caretta Shiodome

MAP M5 ■ 1-8-2 Higashi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku ■ 6218-2100

Resembling a futuristic mini-city, the bayside Shiodome features a grove of skyscrapers, notably Shiodome Media Tower and the highly regarded Conrad Tokyo hotel, as well as an Italian-style outdoor piazza, cafés, restaurants, and cocktail bars. The 47-story Caretta Shiodome houses more than 60 stores, restaurants, and cafés.

TAISHO CHIC

Popular culture thrived in Ginza during the Taisho period (1912–26), as a more liberal mood blew through the city. The age saw the appearance of the “Modern Girl,” a product of European fashions, the American Jazz Age, and film divas. With their bobbed hair, these girls typified the confidence of a new age that challenged Japanese values.

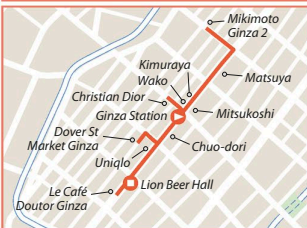
10 ADMT Advertising Museum

MAP M5 ■ Caretta Shiodome, B1F–B2F, 1-8-2 Higashi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku ■ 6218-2500 ■ Open 11am–6:30pm Tue–Fri (to 4:30pm Sat, Sun & public holidays) ■ www.admt.jp

Sponsored by advertising giant Dentsu, this museum traces the history of Japanese advertising. Exhibits run from colored woodblock prints to the latest TV commercials. The museum library has over 150,000 digitally saved advertisements.



A DAY SHOPPING IN GINZA



MORNING

Leave Ginza Station at the 4-chome exit well before 10am, and have coffee at the elegant **Le Café Doutor Ginza**. Walk across to the **Mitsukoshi** (see p66) department store opposite in time to be greeted by staff when it opens. Stroll a few steps to the svelte **Christian Dior Building**, and then return to the 4-chome crossing. On the opposite corner, visit **Wako**, another department store. It is located in the Hattori Building (p41), a symbol of Ginza since the early 1930s. Next door, the bakery **Kimuraya** (see p84) specializes in *anpan*, a local delicacy since 1875. Return to Mitsukoshi, with its trademark bronze lions, and browse its high-quality goods. Spare a few minutes to ascend to the roof, where offerings are left at a Shinto shrine to promote prosperity. Visit the food basement for a light lunch or green tea and Japanese sweets.

AFTERNOON

Cross the road and walk north-east along Chuo-dori, passing **Mikimoto Ginza 2** (see p84), the originator of cultured pearls, and the department store **Matsuya**, which has a Design Gallery on its seventh floor showcasing items by Japan's top designers. Afterwards, visit some of the area's more recent retail entrants: the main Tokyo branch of fast-fashion retailer **Uniqlo**, which is connected to the boutique **Dover St Market Ginza**. Slake your thirst at the famous **Lion Beer Hall** nearby.

Specialist Stores



The quirky Mikimoto Ginza 2 building

1 Mikimoto Ginza 2
MAP N4 ■ 2-4-12 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3562-3130 ■ www.mikimoto.com

Housed in an eye-catching building designed by Toyo Ito, Mikimoto Ginza 2 sells the type of exquisite cultured pearls first developed by Kokichi Mikimoto in 1893.

2 Akomeya
MAP M4 ■ 2-2-6 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 6758-0271 ■ www.akomeya.jp

Many varieties of rice as well as items made from the grain, such as sake, feature at this classy grocery and homewares store and café.

3 Akebono
MAP M4 ■ 5-7-19 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3571-3640

The store specializes in *wagashi*, Japanese sweets eaten with green tea, which are made from traditional ingredients such as *anko* or sweet red bean paste. Branches can be found in Tokyo's department stores.

4 Sayegusa
MAP M5 ■ 7-8-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3573-2441

A top-quality children's wear store that has been in business since 1869. Four floors of clothing, dresses, suits, and accessories.

5 Kimuraya
MAP M4 ■ 4-5-7 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3561-0091

Set up in the 1870s, Kimuraya sells *anpan*, bread rolls that are stuffed with red bean paste.

6 Takumi
MAP M5 ■ 8-4-2 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3571-2017

An interesting mix of folk crafts, ceramics, and traditional toys in a tasteful setting.

7 Ginza Natsuno
MAP M5 ■ 6-7-4 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3569-0952

A small store with a huge selection of chopsticks. Light and portable, they make ideal souvenirs.

8 Kyukyodo
MAP M4 ■ 5-7-4 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3571-4429

A venerable Japanese paper specialist, Kyukyodo has been in the trade since the 17th century. Gift cards, paper boxes, and incense are also on sale.

9 Niwaka
MAP N4 ■ 2-8-18 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3564-0707

The specialty here is original, custom-designed jewelry created by artisans in Kyoto workshops. The store also has a made-to-order service.

10 Tanagokoro
MAP N4 ■ 1-8-15 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3538-6555

Purveyors of *binchotan*, a high-quality charcoal. Placed in a room or bath water, it is said to have curative powers and can also act as a purifier, humidifier, and deodorizer.

Places to Eat

PRICE CATEGORIES

Price ranges are for an average-size dinner for one. Lunchtime menus are usually less expensive.

¥ under ¥2,000 ¥¥ ¥2,000–¥10,000
¥¥¥ over ¥10,000

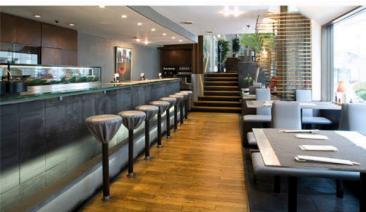
1 Kyubei
MAP M5 ■ 8-7-6 Ginza,
Chuo-ku ■ 3571-6523 ■ www.kyubey.jp/en ■ Closed Sun ■ ¥¥¥
The high temple of sushi, Kyubei offers an extraordinary eating experience, even if it breaks the bank.

2 Shin Hinomoto
MAP M4 ■ 2-4-4 Yurakucho,
Chiyoda-ku ■ 3214-8021 ■ Closed Sun & public holidays ■ ¥¥
Owned and run by a Brit, this authentic *izakaya* (Japanese pub) prides itself on excellent fish.

3 Kanetanaka-an
2F, 7-6-16, Ginza, Chuo-ku
■ 03-3289-8822 ■ Closed Sun ■ ¥¥¥
Sample a refined *kaiseki* five-course banquet showcasing different aspects of Japanese cooking.

4 Robata
MAP M4 ■ 1-3-8 Yurakucho,
Chiyoda-ku ■ 3591-1905 ■ ¥¥
Japanese country food, including grilled food, tofu dishes, and salads, is served in a rustic setting.

5 Ten-Ichi
MAP M4 ■ 6-6-5 Ginza,
Chuo-ku ■ 3571-1949 ■ www.tenichi.co.jp ■ ¥¥¥
This celebrity-endorsed tempura restaurant serves light, delicately fried fish and vegetable morsels direct from the pan.



6 Tsukiji Sushi-sei
MAP N5 ■ 4-13-9 Tsukiji, Chuo-ku ■ 3541-7720 ■ Closed Wed ■ ¥¥
Follow the crowd and ask for the reliable *omakase* (chef's choice) at this traditional, Edo-style sushi chain.

7 Yakitori Alley
MAP M4 ■ Yurakucho JR tracks ■ ¥¥
Dine on grilled and charbroiled chicken with spicy sauces at this alleyway under the trainline, where a number of small food vendors gather.



Yakitori Alley in Yurakucho

8 Little Okinawa
MAP M5 ■ 8-7-10 Ginza,
Chuo-ku ■ 3572-2930 ■ ¥¥
This restaurant brings the cuisine of Japan's southernmost islands to Tokyo. Try the Okinawa-style pork and noodle dishes.

9 Sato Yosuke
MAP M4 ■ Deihonkan, 1F, 6-4-17 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 6215-6211 ■ ¥
Serves traditional handmade *inaniwa udon*, noodles that originate from the snowy mountains of Akita Prefecture.

10 Edogin
MAP N5 ■ 4-5-1 Tsukiji, Chuo-ku ■ 3543-4401 ■ ¥¥
With fish served straight from tanks, the sushi here could not be fresher. Plentiful servings in a no-frills setting.

Sophisticated interior at Ten-Ichi

TOP 10 Ueno, Asakusa, and Oshiage

Even in the 21st century, parts of northeastern Tokyo retain their old Edo *shitamachi* character. Ueno is home to museums, temples, and a cherry tree-filled park as well as a major train station. Dotted with religious sites, traditional restaurants and a wide range of shops, Asakusa appeals as much to the hedonist as to the Buddhist acolyte. Across the Sumida River, Oshiage has a retro appeal despite the looming presence of the contemporary Tokyo Skytree.



Tokyo National Museum



Ueno Park in fall

- Ueno Park**

This wonderful park is an engaging mix of leisure and culture. Among the highlights are the Tokyo National Museum, contemporary Japanese and Western art galleries, a science museum, avenues of cherry trees, and the Toshogu shrine – a fine historical monument. For visitors more interested in leisure activities, there are also restaurants, cafés, a zoo, and a huge pond divided into a boating area, conservation corner, and a magnificent lotus pond (see pp20–21).

UENO, ASAKUSA, AND OSHIAGE



2 Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum

MAP F1 ■ 8-36 Ueno Koen, Taito-ku
 ■ 3823-6921 ■ Open 9:30am–5:30pm
 Tue–Sun ■ Adm ■ www.tobikan.jp

Designed by architect Kunio Maekawa, this red-brick building's sunken, partially underground floors may not be the perfect place to present art, but the exhibits are always interesting. The main hall shows an eclectic mix, ranging from Japanese flower arrangements and ink-brush works, to contemporary installations.

3 Tokyo National Museum

This acclaimed museum is the centerpiece of Ueno Park. Its exhibits are divided between four main galleries: the Honkan gallery displays a permanent collection of Japanese arts and archeology; the Toyokan features arts and crafts from Asia, with an emphasis on Chinese, Central Asian, and Korean objects; the Heiseikan houses ancient archeological objects, including pottery and burial statues; and the Gallery of Horyu-ji Treasures is home to a permanent collection of precious religious artifacts. Also within the complex is the Hoyoekikan, a fine example of Meiji-era architecture (*see pp24–7*).

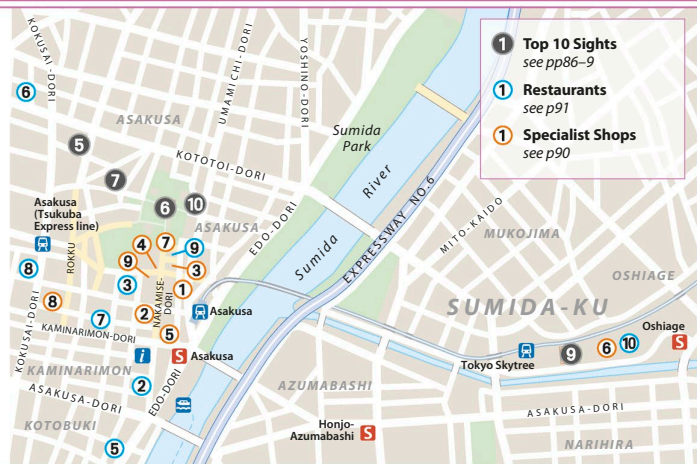


Telescope, National Science Museum

4 National Science Museum

MAP F1 ■ 7-20 Ueno Koen, Taito-ku
 ■ 3822-0111 ■ Open 9am–5pm
 Tue–Sun ■ Adm

A giant whale model outside the building announces this enormous museum, which is divided into the original, renovated section and a newer annex. Older displays and exhibits of dinosaurs, asteroids, fossils, and a reconstructed house made from mammoth tusks vie with modern touch-screen panels, video displays, and models.





Artisan at work, Edo-Shitamachi Traditional Crafts Museum

5 Edo-Shitamachi Traditional Crafts Museum

MAP R2 ■ 2-22-13 Asakusa, Taito-ku
■ 3842-1990 ■ Open 10am–8pm

Also known as Gallery Takumi, this museum was set up to preserve and promote local craft industries and techniques dating from the Edo period. Over 300 displays represent 50 different traditional crafts, with demonstrations on weekends.

6 Senso-ji Temple

Tokyo's mother temple looms majestically at the end of Nakamise-dori, an avenue of stores selling iconic trinkets. Two imposing gates lead to the great incense burner standing before the cavernous main hall, designed in a style known as *gongen-zukuri*. Within the same compound, Asakusa Shrine was founded in 1649 and rebuilt several

RICKSHAWS

The *jinrikisha* (rickshaw) is said to have been invented in Japan in 1869. Yosuke Izumi's workshop produced the prototype, a great transportation innovation in Tokyo's narrow roads. Four years later, there were over 34,000 registered rickshaws in the city, still a common sight until World War II. Beautifully lacquered rickshaws have made a comeback in tourist spots such as Asakusa. Expect to pay around ¥5,000 for a 15-minute ride.

times. Erected even earlier, the nearby 1618 Niten-mon gate remains completely intact, a miraculous survivor of earthquakes, typhoons, and air raids (*see pp14–15*).

7 Hanayashiki

MAP R1 ■ 2-28-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3842-8780 ■ Open 10am–6pm daily ■ Adm

Once part of an aristocratic residence to the west of Senso-ji temple, the Hanayashiki gardens were opened in the Asakusa Rokku entertainment district in 1853, with a small zoo added 20 years later. An Asakusa institution, this amusement park retains its retro quality, with old-fashioned game machines that complement an eerily realistic ghost house dating from the 1950s, and Japan's oldest rollercoaster.

Ornate exterior of Senso-ji temple



8 Kappabashi Kitchenware Town

MAP Q2 ■ Kappabashi-dori, Taito-ku

A long street, Kappabashi-dori is known by its sobriquet, "Kitchen Town." Two stores, Maizuru and Biken, are highly rated by connoisseurs of plastic food. Food samples have generated interest as a minor, collectable pop art. Viewed on an empty stomach, they can seem like works of towering genius.

9 Tokyo Skytree

MAP H2 ■ 1-1-2 Oshiage, Sumida-ku ■ 0570-55-0634 ■ Open 8am–10pm ■ www.tokyo-skytree.jp

Opened in 2012, the 2,080-ft (634-m) Tokyo Skytree has two observation decks. Although the architect sought to create a futuristic building, several traditional Japanese elements went into its design. Even the color is based on the traditional Japanese blueish-white color called *ajiro*.



Tokyo Skytree dominates the sky

10 Amuse Museum

MAP R2 ■ 2-34-3 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 5806-1181 ■ Open 10am–6pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm ■ www.amusemuseum.com

Multiple patched and mended garments are the main features of this diverting museum. The fabrics are like expressionist paintings in rustic colors. There's also a digital exhibition of classic *ukiyo-e* (woodblock prints) and a viewing terrace providing panoramas over neighboring Senso-ji temple and Tokyo Skytree.

A DAY IN OLD ASAKUSA



MORNING

Exit Asakusa subway, walk north along Umamichi-dori to Kototoi-dori. Turn left and the **Edo-Shitamachi Traditional Crafts Museum** is a short walk away. The nearby **Hanayashiki** amusement park is a relic of the old entertainment district of Rokku. Immediately south, **Asakusa Kannon Onsen** is a traditional hot spring. Just west of the baths, the Rokku Broadway pedestrian street still boasts a few traditional theaters as well as comedy and story-telling halls, including **Asakusa Engei Hall** (see p59). Stop to look at the posters and lively barkers outside. The narrow backstreets around **Denboin-dori** have many cheap, but characterful, restaurants serving fried noodles and *oden*, a fish-cake hot pot.

AFTERNOON

Walk south to the great **Kaminari-mon**, the main entrance to **Senso-ji temple** (see pp14–15), to admire the giant paper lantern and the ancient guardian statues. Walk toward the **Sumida River** (see pp16–17) and the station where you began. Turn right on Edo-dori for **Gallery ef**, housed in an earth-walled, 19th-century storehouse, a rarity in contemporary Tokyo. The café here is excellent. Retrace your steps to the station and stop at the brightly painted **Azumabashi bridge**, where traditional pleasure boats, *yakatabune*, are moored. Return to the corner of Kaminari-mon and Umamichi streets to visit the **Kamiya Bar** (see p64), for *denki-bran*, its trademark drink.

Specialist Shops



Shoppers enjoy some retail therapy at Solamachi

- 1 Bengara**
 MAP R3 ■ 1-35-6 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3841-6613 ■ Open 10am–6pm Mon–Fri (to 7pm Sat & Sun) ■ www.bengara.com
 Sells over 300 designs of linen *noren* – traditional split curtains hung above doors of shops and homes.
- 2 Bunsendo**
 MAP R3 ■ 1-30-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3844-9711 ■ Open 10:30am–6pm
 The specialty here are the folding fans used by Japanese dancers, Kabuki actors, and geisha.
- 3 Fujiya**
 MAP R2 ■ 2-2-15 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3841-2283 ■ Open 10am–6pm Fri–Wed
Tengui (printed cotton towels) make great practical souvenirs, and this store has hundreds of designs.
- 4 Ojima**
 MAP R2 ■ 2-3-2 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3690-8866 ■ Open 9am–5pm ■ www.edokiriko.jp
 Ojima is the place to buy delicate sake cups and glasses, with engraved patterns on colored glass.
- 5 Kurodaya**
 MAP R3 ■ 1-2-5, Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3844-7511 ■ Open 11am–7pm Tue–Sun
 This store specializes in *washi* (Japanese paper), woodblock prints, and other paper novelties.
- 6 Solamachi**
 MAP H2 ■ 1-1-2 Oshiage, Sumida-ku ■ Open 10am–9pm ■ www.tokyo-solamachi.jp
 Sushi-shaped fridge magnets, incense, decorative fans, chopsticks, and anime character goods are all sold in this large mall beneath Tokyo Skytree.
- 7 Sukeroku**
 MAP R2 ■ 2-3-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3844-0577 ■ Open 10am–6pm
 Established in 1866, this is the only store in the city that makes and sells miniature Edo-style dolls and toys.
- 8 Inujirushi**
 MAP R2 ■ 1-11-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3844-5377 ■ Open 10am–7pm Thu–Tue
 This store sells fashionable canvas bags, which come in a variety of hard-wearing, waterproof styles.
- 9 Yonoya Kushiho**
 MAP R3 ■ 1-37-10 Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3844-1755 ■ Open 10:30am–6pm Thu–Tue
 The place to come for boxwood combs, hair, and *netsuke* ornaments since 1717. The combs can last for generations if properly cared for.
- 10 Soi**
 MAP Q2 ■ 3-25-11 Nishi-Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 6802-7732 ■ Open noon–6pm Tue–Sun
 One of Tokyo's best homeware shops, with a great selection of ceramics.

Restaurants

PRICE CATEGORIES

Price ranges are for an average-size dinner for one. Lunchtime menus are usually less expensive.

¥ under ¥2,000 ¥¥ ¥2,000–¥10,000
¥¥¥ over ¥10,000

1 Sometaro
MAP Q3 ■ 2-2-2 Nishi-Asakusa,
Taito-ku ■ 3844-9502 ■ ¥

The only dish served here is *okonomiyaki* – pancakes made with shrimp, octopus, and vegetables.

2 Namiki Yabu Soba
MAP R3 ■ 2-11-9 Kaminarimon,
Taito-ku ■ 3841-1340 ■ Closed Thu ■ ¥

This ever-popular *soba* (buckwheat noodle) store is located just up the road from Senso-ji temple.

3 Daikokuya
MAP R3 ■ 1-38-10 Asakusa,
Taito-ku ■ 3844-1111 ■ ¥¥

Expect long lines for the delicious fish and vegetable tempura dishes at this popular eatery.

4 Ikenohata Yabu Soba
MAP H2 ■ 3-44-7 Yushima,
Bunkyo-ku ■ 3831-8977 ■ Closed
Wed ■ ¥

This branch of a popular *soba* chain serves classic noodles in a thick broth. The cold summer *soba* also appeals to many Japanese customers.

5 Komagata Dojo
MAP R2 ■ 1-7-12 Komagata,
Taito-ku ■ 3842-4001 ■ ¥¥

Grilled and stewed loach, a fish resembling a freshwater sardine, has been served in this restaurant since it opened in 1801.

6 Otafuku
MAP Q2 ■ 1-6-2 Senzoku, Taito-ku ■ 3871-2521 ■ Closed Mon ■ ¥¥

This charming century-old restaurant specializes in *oden*, items such as scallops, fish cake, boiled egg, and chunks of radish simmered in a broth.

7 Maguro Bito
MAP R3 ■ 1-5-9 Asakusa,
Taito-ku ■ 3844-8736 ■ ¥

Expect great value for money from this *kaitenzushi* (conveyor belt sushi) restaurant, one of the most popular in Tokyo, where the specialty is *maguro* (tuna).

8 Asakusa Imahan
MAP Q2 ■ 3-1-2 Nishi-Asakusa,
Taito-ku ■ 3841-1114 ■ ¥¥

Shabu-shabu consists of wafer-thin prime cuts of beef dipped and cooked in a boiling broth at your table, and served with vegetables and rice. This restaurant is one of the best places in town to experience it.



Sleek decor at Asakusa Imahan

9 Waentei-Kikko
MAP R2 ■ 2-2-13 Asakusa,
Taito-ku ■ 5828-8833 ■ Closed Wed
■ ¥¥

Refined Japanese cuisine in an informal setting. Ordering the set dinner is the easiest approach.

10 Rokurinsha
MAP H2 ■ 6th floor, Tokyo
Solamachi, 1-1-2 Oshiage, Sumida-ku
■ 5809-7368 ■ ¥

Join the line at this legendary *ramen* stall, located beneath the Tokyo Skytree, to sample its chunky, chewy noodles dipped in a separate bowl of flavorful broth.

平茂乙平十二月十五日

平茂乙平十二月十五日



金原村古屋

日本... 日本...

ニ...

代表 田名...

日枝神社委員会

限七喜...

株式会社 寺信

代表 小川正泰

代表 沢...

昭和...



TOP 10 Roppongi and Akasaka



Detail of the exterior of Nogi Shrine

Roppongi is a major center for the arts, shopping, communications, and lifestyle, and it is Tokyo's premier nightlife district. Here, you will find innovative centers and facilities, including Roppongi Hills and Tokyo Midtown. Nearby Akasaka is filled with contemporary buildings, but political deals are still brokered in the rarefied air of chic restaurants and hotels. The area is also home to some revered temples and shrines.

1 Roppongi Hills

MAP D6 ■ 6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 6406-6000 ■ www.roppongihills.com

Opened in 2003, this sprawling city-within-a-city includes gardens and a live-performance area. The central structure, the 54-story Mori Tower, houses offices, more than 200 stores, restaurants, bars, the Grand Hyatt hotel, and the Mori Art Museum.



Roppongi Hills, a lively complex

ROPPONGI AND AKASAKA



2 Nogi Shrine

MAP C5 ■ 8-11-27 Akasaka,
Minato-ku ■ 3478-3001

This modest but significant shrine honors General Maresuke Nogi, who, along with his wife, committed ritual suicide on September 13, 1912 in an act of loyalty when Emperor Meiji died. The event divided the country into those who admired the act as a heroic gesture, and those who condemned it as an archaic practice. The general's house stands beside the shrine and is open on the eve and anniversary of the couple's death.

3 Tokyo Midtown

MAP D5 ■ 9-7-1 Akasaka,
Minato-ku ■ 3475-3100 ■ www.tokyo-midtown.com

Unveiled in 2007, the Tokyo Midtown development set aside 40 percent of the complex for the landscaped Hinokicho Park and Midtown Garden. Midtown Tower and its core of buildings contain offices, apartments, shops, restaurants, bars, and the Ritz-Carlton Tokyo hotel. The area's cultural credentials are enhanced by the fascinating Suntory Museum of Art and 21_21 Design Sight, a design gallery conceived by architect Tadao Ando and fashion guru Issey Miyake.

4 Hie Shrine

MAP J4 ■ 2-10-5 Nagatacho,
Chiyoda-ku ■ 3581-2471 ■ www.hiejinja.net/en

Burned down in the air raids of 1945 and rebuilt in 1958, Hie Shrine was originally erected as a protective shrine. Its role of deflecting evil spirits from Edo Castle is seen in wood

carvings to the left of the main shrine, depicting a monkey protectively holding a baby. Pregnant women still come here to pray for safe deliveries, and the biannual festival Sanno Matsuri – a procession celebrating the imperial family – begins and ends at the shrine.



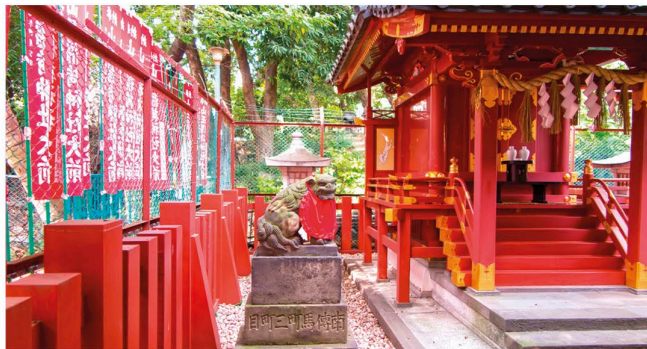
National Art Center's grand interior

5 National Art Center, Tokyo

MAP C6 ■ 7-22-2 Roppongi, Minato-ku
■ 5777-8600 ■ Open 10am–6pm Wed–
Mon (to 8pm Fri) ■ Adm ■ www.nact.jp

Japan's largest exhibition space, the National Art Center, Tokyo hosts temporary exhibitions, such as Nitten, an annual event highlighting Japanese and Western painting, sculpture, craftwork, and calligraphy. Built in 2007, the space features an undulating glass façade, slated walls, and a wood floor.

Atmospheric Hie Shrine





Statues of foxes stand guard at Toyokawa Inari Shrine

6 Toyokawa Inari Shrine and Temple

MAP D5 ■ 1-4-7 Moto-Akasaka, Minato-ku ■ 3408-3414

A Zen temple with Shinto elements, the shrine is distinctive for its orange banners, lanterns, and hundreds of statues of foxes representing the bodhisattva Jizo (protector of children and travelers), and Kannon, (the Goddess of Mercy). Behind the main buildings are forest-like paths lined with *senbon nobori* streamers hung by devotees in the hope of fulfilling their wishes. Eateries inside the shrine serve tasty *oden* (fish cake stew) and *kitsune soba* (buckwheat noodles).

7 Musée Tomo

MAP K5 ■ Nishi-Kubo Bldg, 4-1-35 Toranomon, Minato-ku ■ 5733-5131 ■ Open 11am–6pm Tue–Sun
■ Adm ■ www.musee-tomo.or.jp

Established in 2003 by Tomo Kikuchi, a collector of contemporary

ROPPONGI STREET ART

Many world-class artists were asked to create works on and around Roppongi Hills. Louise Bourgeois's huge spider sculpture, *Maman*, is the most visible, but there are also wall drawings, an illuminated robot, a giant coffee bean installation, digital screen models, a 3-D landscape painting, and waveform furniture such as benches.

ceramics, this small museum is one of the most elegant in Tokyo. Exhibitions change every few months, highlighting a particular craftsman or a school of ceramic ware, such as Bizen or Raku.

8 Tokyo Tower

MAP K6 ■ 4-2-8 Shiba-koen, Minato-ku ■ 3433-5111 ■ Open 9am–10pm

When opened in 1958 as a broadcasting mast, this Eiffel Tower clone was the tallest building in Tokyo. Despite its shabby aquarium, trick art museum, tacky waxworks, and souvenir stores, it attracts many visitors spurred by nostalgia and the fame of a 2007 film of the same name.

Tokyo Tower against the sky



9 Zojo-ji Temple

MAP E6 ■ 4-7-35 Shiba-koen,
Minato-ku ■ 3432-1431 ■ Open
6am–5:30pm ■ www.zojoji.or.jp/en

Another victim of World War II air raids, Zojo-ji temple is a 1970s ferro-concrete reconstruction. The original temple was founded in 1393 and then removed to its present location, next to Tokyo Tower, in 1598. In the next century, it was chosen by the Tokugawa shoguns as their ancestral temple. Today, the temple hosts many religious events. The main hall contains ancient statues, written sutras, and other sacred objects, while the Ankokuden hall holds the Black Image of Amida Buddha, known as a miracle-working buddha that gives victory and defends against evil.



Ankokuden hall, Zojo-ji temple

10 San-mon Gate

MAP E6 ■ Shiba-koen,
Minato-ku

Fires and earthquakes have been reducing Tokyo's buildings to rubble for over 400 years, but the San-mon gate, the main entrance to Zojo-ji temple, has remained miraculously intact. The oldest wooden structure in the city, it was erected in 1605. The three tiers of the red-lacquered gate, an Important Cultural Treasure, represent the three stages required to enter Nirvana. The gate looks especially awesome at night, when it is illuminated.

A DAY IN THE ART TRIANGLE



MORNING

Leave Roppongi Station by Exit 1, which leads directly into **Roppongi Hills** (see p94); at the top of the escalator is Louise Bourgeois's *Maman*, a giant sculpture of a spider and one of many pieces of public art surrounding the shopping and business complex. Head to the top of Mori Tower for the excellent **Mori Art Museum** (see p45) and the urban vistas of the **Tokyo City View** observation deck. Cross Roppongi-dori and walk north to the **National Art Center, Tokyo** (see p95), a huge 12-room art venue where you can view an eclectic mix of art, displayed as part of a changing program of temporary exhibitions. You can also dine here at **Brasserie Paul Bocuse Le Musée** (see p99), set atop a massive inverted concrete cone. Take time to admire the views before setting off again.

AFTERNOON

Head north in the direction of **Nogi Shrine** (see p95), and then visit **Gallery Ma**. Sponsored by the bathroom appliance and fixtures company Toto, its exhibitions focus mainly on architecture and the latest trends in design. The gallery also has an excellent bookstore. Retrace your steps toward Roppongi Crossing to find **Tokyo Midtown** (see p95), where you can check out what's showing at either the **Suntory Museum of Art** or the **21_21 Design Sight** (see p51). **Bodega Santa Rita** (see p99), one of many restaurants and bars in the complex, is ideal for a drink and tapas after a day of sightseeing.

Clubs and Bars

1 Alife
 MAP T5 ■ Econach Nishi-Azabu Bldg, 1-7-2, Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku ■ 5785-2531 ■ Adm

Popular with locals and visitors alike, Alife serves up hip hop and R&B to visitors aged over 23.

2 Village
 MAP U5 ■ Fukao Bldg, B1F, 1-4-5 Azabu-Juban, Minato-ku ■ 6230-0343

This is one of the biggest nightspots in the area, and features a range of hip hop, R&B, and reggae music.

3 SuperDeluxe
 MAP T5 ■ 3-1-25 Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku ■ 5412-0515 ■ www.superdeluxe.com

This bar, with an art and performance space, is where creative Tokyoites like to hang out. There are events most days.

4 Agave Clover
 MAP T4 ■ Clover Bldg B1F, 7-15-10 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 3497-0229 ■ Closed Sun

This expensive cantina-style drinking hole offers 400 varieties of tequila.

5 Pink Cow
 MAP U4 ■ Roi Bldg B1F, 5-5-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 6434-5773 ■ www.thepinkcow.com

Popular with expats, this lively bar and gallery is good for cocktails and California-Mexican food.

Quirky decor at Pink Cow



6 Muse
 MAP C6 ■ 4-1-1 Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku ■ 5467-1188 ■ www.muse-web.com ■ Closed Mon

Hugely popular club spread out over three levels, with lots of cozy chill-out areas.

7 Hobgoblin
 MAP U4 ■ Aoba Roppongi Bldg 1F, 3-16-33 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 3568-1280 ■ www.hobgoblin.jp

This English pub serves decent ale and British pub grub such as bangers and mash and shepherd's pie.

8 Billboard Live
 MAP T4 ■ Tokyo Midtown Garden Terrace 4F, 9-7-4 Akasaka, Minato-ku ■ 3405-1133 ■ www.billboard-live.com

With two shows per day, this live music venue has a great line up. A glass wall provides superb city views.

9 Abbey Road
 MAP U4 ■ Roppongi Annex Bldg B1F, 4-11-5 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 3402-0017 ■ Adm

Top-quality tribute bands play on a revolving basis at this popular venue dedicated to the Fab Four.

10 Propaganda
 MAP U4 ■ Yua Roppongi Bldg 2F, 3-14-9 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 3423-0988 ■ www.propaganda-tokyo.com

Popular and loud, this well-stocked shot bar has English-speaking staff.

Places to Eat

PRICE CATEGORIES

Price ranges are for an average-size dinner for one. Lunchtime menus are usually less expensive.

¥ under ¥2,000 ¥¥ ¥2,000–¥10,000
¥¥¥ over ¥10,000

1 RyuGin
MAP T4 ■ Side Roppongi Bldg,
7-17-24 Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 3423-
8006 ■ Closed Sun ■ ¥¥¥

A remarkably innovative take on traditional *kaiseki* cuisine.

2 Gonpachi
MAP C6 ■ 1-13-11 Nishi-Azabu,
Minato-ku ■ 5771-0170 ■ ¥¥

An enormous branch of the chain Japanese restaurant styled like an old Edo inn. The specialty is *kushiyaki*, charcoal-grilled skewers.

3 Fukuzushi
MAP U5 ■ 5-7-8 Roppongi,
Minato-ku ■ 3402-4116 ■ ¥¥

Beside the usual tuna and squid offerings are the less common shad, conger eel, and other delicacies at this no-frills sushi restaurant.

4 Inakaya
MAP U4 ■ 5-3-4 Roppongi,
Minato-ku ■ 3408-5040 ■ ¥¥¥

An old-fashioned *robatayaki* (grilled food) eatery, offering all manner of meat and other foods.

5 Nodaiwa
MAP V5 ■ 1-5-4 Higashi-Azabu,
Minato-ku ■ 3583-7852 ■ Closed
Sun ■ ¥¥

Specializing in wild eel, Nodaiwa serves charcoal-grilled fish drizzled with an appetizing sauce.

6 Hassan
MAP T4 ■ Denki Bldg B1, 6-1-20
Roppongi, Minato-ku ■ 3403-8333 ■ ¥¥

The star course here is the set, all-you-can-eat dinner of *shabu-shabu*, thin strips of high-quality beef dipped in boiling broth.

7 Chinese Café Eight
MAP T5 ■ Court Annexe, 3-2-13
Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku ■ 5414-5708
■ ¥¥

A fun, informal 24-hour eatery that attracts a young crowd and serves excellent Chinese food. The specialties here are Peking Duck and dim sum.

8 Tofuya-Ukai
MAP W5 ■ 4-4-13 Shiba-koen,
Minato-ku ■ 3436-1028 ■ ¥¥¥

Gorgeous *kaiseki*-style meals, made up of tofu and seasonal ingredients, are served in this beautiful old wooden building set in a traditional garden at the foot of the Tokyo Tower.



Garden views at Tofuya-Ukai

9 Bodega Santa Rita
MAP T4 ■ Tokyo Midtown
Garden Terrace 1F, 9-7-4 Akasaka,
Minato-ku ■ 5413-3101 ■ ¥¥

Seriously good wines and fine regional fare from southern Spain served in charming stucco interiors.

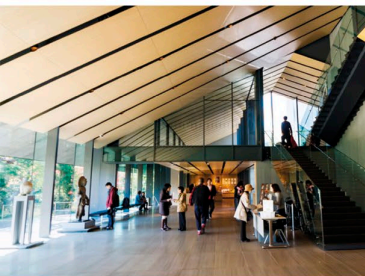
**10 Brasserie Paul Bocuse
Le Musée**

MAP T4 ■ 3F National Arts Center,
7-22-2 Roppongi, Minato-ku
■ 5770-8161 ■ ¥¥

Located inside the striking National Arts Center building, this stylish restaurant serves light French cuisine. The fixed-price lunches are extremely popular.

TOP 10 Aoyama, Harajuku, and Shibuya

Omotesando-dori, the chic boulevard running through Aoyama and Omotesando, is Tokyo's fashion quarter. A shift in mood occurs as Omotesando segues into Harajuku and Takeshita-dori, a street humming with off-the-peg boutiques, street stalls, fast-food joints, and a young crowd. Giant video screens characterize Shibuya, which is lined with fashion and department stores, clubs, museums, art galleries, and cafés.

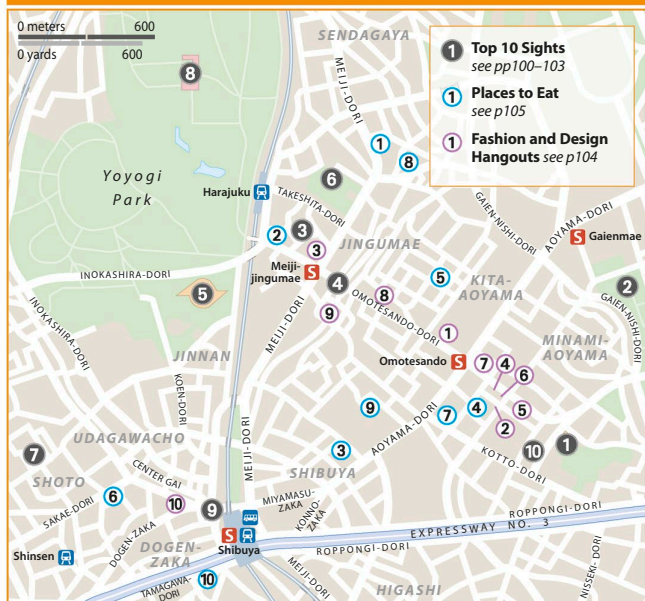


Stylish interior of the Nezu Museum

- 1 Nezu Museum**
 MAP C6 ■ 6-5-1 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 3400-2536
 ■ Open 10am–5pm Tue–Sun
 ■ Adm ■ www.nezu-muse.or.jp

Behind sandstone walls, this museum was established by the Meiji-era tycoon and politician Kaichiro Nezu. Some of the collection's textiles, lacquerware, and ceramics are so rare they are registered as National Treasures. The most famous piece is Ogata Korin's screen painting *Irises*.

AOYAMA, HARAJUKU, AND SHIBUYA





Cherry blossom during spring, Aoyama Cemetery

2 Aoyama Cemetery

MAP C5 ■ 2-32-2 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku

The graves of John Manjiro, the first Japanese person to go to America in the early 19th century, and Professor Ueno, the owner of the faithful dog Hachiko immortalized in bronze outside Shibuya Station, are here. Japan's first public cemetery explodes into clouds of pink petals each spring, when crowds of people visit for *hanami* (cherry blossom) viewing parties.

3 Ukiyo-e Ota Memorial Museum of Art

MAP B5 ■ 1-10-10 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku ■ 3403-0880 ■ Open 10:30am–5:30pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm ■ www.ukiyoe-ota-muse.jp

This remarkable museum has Tokyo's finest collection of *ukiyo-e* woodblock prints – about 14,000. The great names in this genre, such as Hiroshige, Utamaro, Hokusai, and Sharaku, all feature here. The collection was begun by Seizo Ota, a wealthy businessman who realized that many of the best works were being sold to foreign museums.

4 Omotesando

MAP R4

Even if you're not interested in shopping at the rows of designer

boutiques here, strolling the length of tree-lined Omotesando is a pleasure, not least for its exceptional collection of contemporary buildings. There are buildings by nearly all of Japan's winners of the prestigious Pritzker Prize, including Tadao Ando (Omotesando Hills and Collezione), Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa of SANAA (Dior Building), and Toyo Ito (Tod's). It's also a great place for people-watching, particularly near Harajuku Station.



Taking a stroll down Omotesando

5 Yoyogi National Stadium

MAP Q4 ■ 2-1-1 Jinnan,
Shibuya-ku ■ 3468-1171

A residential compound for American personnel during the Occupation (1945–52), the park area was called “Washington Heights.” The Japanese government requested its return, turning the site into the Olympic Village in 1964 for the Tokyo Games. Architect Kenzo Tange designed the pavilions, erected at the park’s southern end. The sweeping roofs of the pavilions still look contemporary.



View over Yoyogi National Stadium

6 Takeshita-dori and Togo Shrine

MAP B5 ■ Harajuku, Minato-ku

At the weekend, narrow Takeshita street is probably the single-most crowded spot in the entire city. The home of subculture kitsch, the lane is packed with theme clothing stores, takeout food, crêpe stands, and stores selling character items,

Visitors gather in front of the main Meiji Shrine building



cuddly toys, and all manner of quirky accessories. Just a few steps behind the street are the serenely quiet precincts of Togo Shrine. Dedicated to Admiral Heihachiro Togo, who engineered the defeat of the Russian fleet in 1905, the grounds offer a soothing escape from the heaving masses of Takeshita-dori.

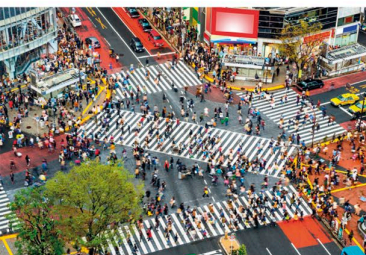
7 Toguri Museum of Art

MAP A6 ■ 1-11-3 Shoto,
Shibuya-ku ■ 3465-0070 ■ Open
10am–5pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm
■ www.toguri-museum.or.jp

This small museum in a leafy residential area has an outstanding collection of Oriental porcelain. The Japanese collection includes fine examples of Imari and Nabeshima ware; the Chinese pieces represent the Tang, Song, and later dynasties. The highlight of the Korean section are fine Goryeo-era pieces.

8 Meiji Shrine

A massive gate, Ichi no Torii, marks the main entrance to the forested compound and outer grounds of Meiji Shrine. Broadleaf trees and shrubs are planted beside gravel paths leading to the shrine. Burned to cinders in World War II, the current 1958 building is a faithful reproduction of the original shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji, who died in 1912 (see pp30–31).



Crowds at Shibuya Crossing

9 Shibuya Crossing MAP Q6

Shibuya Station is undergoing a major redevelopment, which has resulted in the completion of the Shibuya Hikarie complex on the west side. But it's the crossing at the station's northeast corner that is the most famous sight here: the flow of people on the move surrounded by a blaze of neon and video screens is mesmerizing. Look for the statue and mural of the faithful dog Hachiko amid the crowds lingering in front of the station.

SHIBUYA STYLE

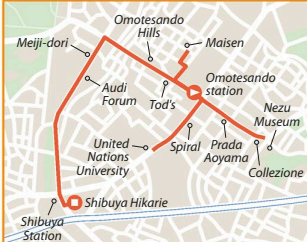
Shibuya is one of the major centers of street fashion in Tokyo and there have been many subculture trends that originated here. The iconic Shibuya 109 building, visible from Shibuya Crossing, offers some of the hottest brands as well as new and upcoming trends. A good place to check out what young Japan likes to wear is Center Gai, a lively alley off of Shibuya Crossing with popular stores, nightclubs and fast food joints.

10 Taro Okamoto Memorial Museum

MAP C6 ■ 6-1-19 Minami-Aoyama,
Minato-ku ■ 3406-0801 ■ Open
10am–6pm Wed–Mon ■ Adm
■ www.taro-okamoto.or.jp

The former studio of the famed Japanese artist Taro Okamoto (1911–1996), sometimes referred to as the Japanese Picasso, is now a museum. Founded in 1998 by his adopted daughter Toshiko, it recreates the atmosphere of the artist's atelier.

A DAY OF ARCHITECTURE



MORNING

After exiting Omotesando subway, stroll down Aoyama-dori until you see the open plaza outside the **United Nations University** on your right, designed by Kenzo Tange. Turn back the way you came until you glimpse **Spiral** (see p46) on the right. Return to the intersection at the subway and follow the road on the right up to the triangular outline of **Prada Aoyama** (see p51). A little farther on, **Collezione** is the work of the self-taught architect, Tadao Ando. Kengo Kuma's design for the **Nezu Museum** (see p100) is at the southern end of **Omotesando** (see p101). Return to the subway area and head into the streets east of Omotesando to find the *tonkatsu* (pork cutlets) restaurant **Maisen** (see p105), in a former bathhouse.

AFTERNOON

The stretch of Omotesando heading towards Meiji-dori is lined with impressive architecture including the building for the leather goods store **Tod's**, designed by Toyo Ito, and **Omotesando Hills** (see p104), a fashion brand complex with cool lines and angles. Take a left on Meiji-dori; a little farther on you can see the glass sections and counter-angles of the 2008 **Audi Forum Tokyo**, a building known as the Iceberg. Walk on to Shibuya Station, which is in the process of being redeveloped with new towers. One that has been completed is **Shibuya Hikarie** – its Sky Lobby on the 11th floor has great views and you can dine at **D47 Shokudo** in the complex.

Fashion and Design Hangouts

1 Anniversaire Café
MAP S5 ■ 3-5-30 Kita-Aoyama,
Minato-ku ■ 5411-5988

A terrace seat here doesn't come cheap, but this chic café is the place to see and be seen.

2 A Bathing Ape
MAP S5 ■ 5-5-8 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 3407-2145

One of Tokyo's most original fashion stores. The distinctive jeans and hoodies attract a very cool, discerning crowd.

3 Laforet Harajuku
MAP R4 ■ 1-11-6 Jingumae,
Shibuya-ku ■ 3475-0411

The oddball styles offered by hundreds of clothes and accessory stores here attract teens. It's also a wonderful place to observe Tokyo youth and fashion fads.

4 Comme des Garçons
MAP S5 ■ 5-2-1 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 3406-3951

Curving glass windows and tilted walls hint at the creative approach to fashion here at Rei Kawakubo's main fashion store.



Showroom, Comme des Garçons

5 Undercover
MAP S5 ■ Bleu Cinq Point Bldg,
5-3-22 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku
■ 3407-1232

The brainchild of former punk musician Jun Takahashi, this store sells youth streetwear.



Prada Aoyama's amazing storefront

6 Prada Aoyama
MAP S5 ■ 5-2-6 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 6418-0400

Prada's quality, chic offerings are almost overshadowed by the brilliance of this crystal-like building.

7 Issey Miyake
MAP S5 ■ 3-18-11 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 3423-1407

Original designs, including Miyake's signature single garment pieces, are beautifully displayed here.

8 Omotesando Hills
MAP R4 ■ 4-12-10 Jingumae,
Shibuya-ku ■ 3497-0310

Boutiques, such as Jimmy Choo, and specialist stores, including e.m. jewelry, vie with other brands here.

9 Cat Street
MAP B5 ■ Omotesando,
Minato-ku

This fashion road is home to designers such as DKNY, Armani Casa, and Anna Sui. There's also a good mix of cafés and art spaces.

10 Shibuya 109 Building
MAP B6 ■ 2-29-1 Dogenzaka,
Shibuya-ku ■ 3477-5111

With a clientele rarely over 20, the cutting-edge clothes sold inside this cylindrical-shaped building are a measure of tomorrow's fashion trends.

Places to Eat

PRICE CATEGORIES

Price ranges are for an average-size dinner for one. Lunchtime menus are usually less expensive.

¥ under ¥2,000 ¥¥ ¥2,000–¥10,000
¥¥¥ over ¥10,000

1 Fonda de la Madrugada

MAP B5 ■ Villa Bianca

B1F, 2-33-12 Jingumae,
Shibuya-ku ■ 5410-6288

■ Closed Mon ■ ¥¥

This authentic Mexican cantina offers enchilladas, stuffed chillies, and tortillas.

2 Jangara Ramen

MAP Q4 ■ 1-13-21

Jingumae, Shibuya-ku

■ 3404-5405 ■ ¥

Tonkotsu (pork bone) ramen is the best of the Kyushu-style dishes that are on the menu here.

3 Beacon

MAP R5 ■ 1-2-5 Shibuya,

Shibuya-ku ■ 6418-0077 ■ ¥¥

An upmarket, self-styled urban chop house run by one of Tokyo's more innovative American chefs.

4 Pure Café

MAP S5 ■ 5-5-21 Minami-

Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 5466-2611 ■ ¥

This brightly lit café offers a good range of vegetarian and vegan dishes, as well as organic beer and wine.

5 Maisen

MAP S4 ■ 4-8-5 Jingumae,

Shibuya-ku ■ 3470-0071 ■ ¥¥

Tonkatsu (deep-fried and breaded pork cutlets) are the specialty of this main branch of a well-known chain.

6 Gyossantei

MAP A6 ■ Fontis Bldg, 2-23-12

Dogenzaka, Shibuya-ku ■ 5489-6350

■ Closed Sun ■ ¥¥

Offers the regional cuisine of Miyazaki Prefecture and other Kyushu dishes.

7 Ghungroo

MAP S5 ■ Seinan Bldg, 5-9-6
Minami Aoyama, Minato-ku ■ 3406-0464 ■ ¥¥

Ghungroo is a cut above many other Indian restaurants in Tokyo, a reputation gained for its delicious cuisine in elegant surroundings.



Tonkotsu ramen at Jangara Ramen

8 Mominoki House

MAP B5 ■ 2-18-5

Jingumae, Shibuya-ku

■ 3405-9144 ■ ¥¥

This place mostly dishes up wholesome vegetarian fare, although there are some departures, such as the venison and fish dishes.

9 Las Chicas

MAP R5 ■ 5-47-6

Jingumae, Shibuya-ku ■ 3407-6865
■ ¥¥

Simple international and fusion cuisine, wines, and cocktails served by foreign waiters make Las Chicas a favorite with expats.



Diners at popular Las Chicas

10 Kanetanaka-so

MAP B6 ■ Cerulean Tower

Tokyu Hotel 2F, 26-1 Sakuragaoka,
Shibuya-ku ■ 3476-3420 ■ ¥¥¥

A traditional, very urbane Japanese restaurant serving *kaiseki ryori*, Japan's seasonally changing and delicate *haute cuisine*.

TOP 10 Shinjuku

Resembling an all-purpose city, Shinjuku is replete with large parks, train stations, shopping complexes, and department stores. Railway lines split the area into two. The windy avenues in West Shinjuku are dominated by offices, stores, and experimental skyscrapers. East Shinjuku is a legacy of the 1960s, when the area's Bohemian quarter attracted artists, writers, and political activists. Though cultural features exist on both sides, East Shinjuku appears more hedonistic, with its neon-illuminated nightspots and a sprawling red-light district.

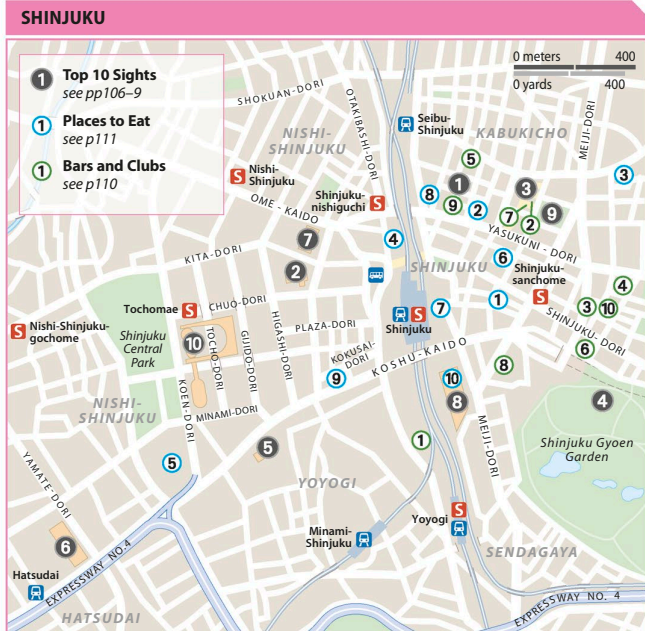


The neon lights of Kabukicho

1 Kabukicho

MAP B3 ■ Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku

Tokyo's premier *sakariba* (pleasure quarter), Kabukicho caters to the city's craving for indulgence. In the words of the American author Donald Richie, this garish, neon-lit district "concerns itself with the permissive indulgence that the old Edo kept alive on its stage." At night, its maze of clubs, cabarets, live-music houses, bars, and restaurants come to life.



2 Pentax Forum
MAP A3 ■ Shinjuku Center
 Bldg, 1F, 1-25-1 Nishi-Shinjuku,
 Shinjuku-ku ■ 3348-2941 ■ **Open**
 10:30am–6:30pm ■ **Closed Tue**
 & public holidays

Camera enthusiasts should not overlook this photo gallery, camera museum, and service center located in the Shinjuku Center Building. Besides the exhibitions of world-class photography and displays by gifted amateurs, there is a collection of almost every camera made by Pentax. The hands-on displays allow visitors to try out everything. The forum's goal to "improve the photographic culture" includes events, lectures, and demonstrations of photo techniques in their Open Studio.

3 Golden Gai
MAP B3 ■ Shinjuku,
 Shinjuku-ku

A labyrinth of over 200 tiny, time-warped watering holes clusters along Golden Gai's four pedestrian lanes. Dating from just after World War II, these bars are popular with local office workers, and are also patronized by writers, sumo wrestlers, and cross-dressers. Most of the establishments here charge a ¥1000 seating fee for starters.

4 Shinjuku Gyoen
MAP B4 ■ 11 Naito-machi,
 Shinjuku-ku ■ 3350-0151 ■ **Open**
 9am–4:30pm Tue–Sun ■ **Adm**

Part of the estate of the Naito feudal clan, this large garden became an imperial retreat in 1906. Now open

to the public, Shinjuku Gyoen offers Japanese, French, and English gardens, an old-fashioned greenhouse, and a traditional teahouse. Interestingly, tests have shown that the park is consistently two degrees or more cooler than the surrounding urban area.

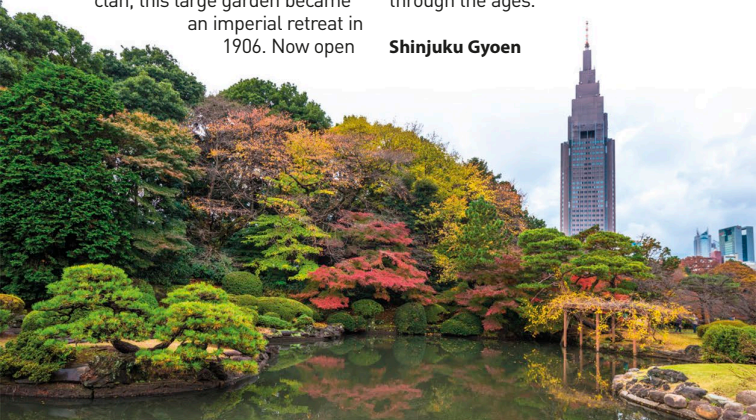


Bunka Gakuen Costume Museum

5 Bunka Gakuen
Costume Museum
MAP A4 ■ 3-22-7 Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku
 ■ 3299-2387 ■ **Open 10am–4:30pm**
Mon–Sat ■ Adm

This museum is a part of Bunka Gakuen University, an elite fashion design school. The historical collection, a fraction of which can be shown at a time, ranges from a Heian-era 12-layered kimono to costumes worn by Noh actors. More modern designs include the Japanese take on the Swinging Sixties. Scrolls and illustrations show the types of clothing worn by Japanese people through the ages.

Shinjuku Gyoen



ETHNIC FOOD IN SHIN-OKUBO

The diversity of modern Tokyo can be best experienced in the cosmopolitan, but down-to-earth, Shin-Okubo district. It is home to almost every conceivable Asian nationality, hence its sobriquet, "Little Asia." Apart from Chinese eateries, Korean barbecues, and Burmese restaurants, the area also has several Thai, Indian, and Malaysian curry spots.

6 NTT InterCommunication Center

MAP A4 ■ Tokyo Opera City Tower, 4F, 3-20-2 Nishi-Shinjuku ■ 5353-0900
 ■ Open 11am–6pm Tue–Sun
 ■ www.ntticc.or.jp

Part of the Tokyo Opera City office and culture complex, the center holds fascinating exhibitions that show the link between technology and creativity. Run by the telecom giant NTT, the permanent and temporary installations, video art, and interactive displays explore the connection between art, media design, and the latest techno wizardry. The excellent video library shows experimental films and video art, and features the work of cutting-edge artists, including Laurie Anderson and Nam June Paik.

**NTT InterCommunication Center****Van Gogh's *Sunflowers*, Sompō Japan Nipponkoa Museum of Art****7 Sompō Japan Nipponkoa Museum of Art**

MAP A3 ■ Sompō Japan Bldg, 42F, 1-26-1 Nishi-Shinjuku ■ 5777-8600
 ■ Open 10am–6pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm
 ■ www.sjnk-museum.org/en

This museum was founded in 1976 to showcase the works of Seiji Togo (1897–1978), an artist whose images, mainly of women, hover between Art Deco, Cubism, and Japanese animation figures. There are also a number of paintings by European artists such as Gauguin and Cézanne. The insurance company that owns the building made news in the 1980s "bubble economy" years when it bought Van Gogh's *Sunflowers* for an unheard-of ¥5 billion.

8 Takashimaya Times Square

MAP B4 ■ 5-24-2 Sendagaya, Shinjuku-ku ■ 5361-1111 ■ Open 10am–8:30pm (department store – other shops may vary)

A shopping haven, this 15-story department store offers something for everyone. Besides the fashion and accessory departments, restaurants, cafés, and well-stocked food basement, there is a branch of Tokyū Hands, a large and fascinating hardware store packed with diverse items related to daily living. Of special interest to foreigners

is a branch of Kinokuniya, a huge bookstore with a floor set aside for books in English and other languages.

9 Hanazono Shrine

MAP B3 ■ 5-17-3 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3209-5265

With orange pillars and vermillion walls, this shrine has been rebuilt several times since it was founded in the 16th century. Its presiding deity is Yamato Takeru, a legendary prince. Devotees stop by to petition the gods for luck. Rows of red and white paper lanterns illuminate the shrine's entrances at night.



The imposing Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building

10 Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building

MAP A4 ■ 2-8-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 5321-1111 ■ Open 9:30am–10:30pm

The Kenzo Tange-designed Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building (Tocho) is part of a grove of skyscrapers that have been described as everything from a mini-Manhattan to a row of grave markers. The building's twin 48-story towers have observation rooms, and high-speed elevators carry visitors up in less than a minute. The 360-degree views from the top are superlative.

A DAY IN EAST SHINJUKU



MORNING

Leaving the south exit of JR Shinjuku Station, walk down to **Shinjuku Gyoen** (see p107), a spacious national garden. An entire morning can be spent here, but continue instead to **Takashimaya Times Square** (see p108), a futuristic department store. **Donatello's**, on the 12th floor, serves good gelato, ice cream, and coffee. Take a short walk along Meiji-dori to the corner of Shinjuku-dori and **Isetan**, a department store and Tokyo institution. The fifth-floor **Isetan Art Gallery** showcases the latest trends in Japan's ceramic, print, and fine-art world. Walk up Shinjuku-dori, turn left and follow the road to **Tsunahachi** (see p111) on the right. The old wooden restaurant serves tempura lunch sets at moderate prices.

AFTERNOON

Walk north until you reach the gates of **Hanazono Shrine**, whose grounds are right next to **Golden Gai** (see p107), a quadrangle of bars; however, lanes will be empty at this time. Walk into adjacent **Kabukicho** (see p106) and take almost any street north toward Okubo-dori, the main street cutting through **Shin-Okubo**. The district has many small temples and fox shrines, as well as Christian churches catering to a number of Korean worshippers. Have an early dinner at one of the several ethnic restaurants in Shin-Okubo before heading back to the bars of Golden Gai.

Bars and Clubs

1 Little Delirium
MAP V3 ■ Shinjuku Southern Terrace, 2-2-1 Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku ■ 6300-0807

This cozy Belgian bar offers an impressive range of bottled and draft beers, and good food.

2 Albatross G
MAP V2 ■ 2F, 5th Avenue, 1-1-7 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3203-3699 ■ Adm

The long counter, generous space, and ¥500 seating charge set this place apart from the usual run of cramped Golden Gai bars.

5 Shinjuku Loft
MAP V2 ■ Tatehana Bldg, B2F, 1-12-9 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku ■ 5272-0382 ■ Adm

At this long-established promoter of live rock and pop acts, the venue is divided into a main stage and a separate bar area.

6 Open
MAP W3 ■ 2-5-15 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3226-8855

This well-established nightspot is run by the people who set up one of Tokyo's first reggae bars back in the 1990s.

7 Bar Plastic Model
MAP V2 ■ 1-1-10 Kabukicho, Shinjuku ■ 5273-8441

A 1980s music soundtrack throbs in the background at Bar Plastic Model, one of Golden Gai's more contemporary theme bars.

8 Antiknock
MAP V3 ■ Rei Flat Bldg, B1F, 4-3-15 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3350-5670 ■ Adm

Mainly dedicated to rock, this small club showcases up-and-coming acts, many of them appealing to Tokyo's chic cyber-punks.

9 Garam
MAP V2 ■ Dai-Roku Polestar Bldg, 1-16-6 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3205-8668

Practically a Tokyo institution, this small Kabukicho reggae bar is a welcoming and animated spot that features MCs and DJs as well as live acts. The music is a mix of dub, hip-hop, and roots reggae.

10 Bar Gold Finger
MAP W3 ■ 2-12-11 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 6383-4649

A women-only bar in Shinjuku ni-chome, Tokyo's famous gay district. Dance events with visiting DJs are a regular feature. Men are allowed entry on Fridays.



Jazz music at Shinjuku Pit Inn

3 Shinjuku Pit Inn
MAP W3 ■ Accord Bldg, B1, 2-12-4 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3354-2024 ■ Adm

Half-price weekend matinees are good value at this club, which is popular with serious jazz aficionados.

4 Aiuro Café
MAP W3 ■ 7th Tenka Bldg, 1F, 2-18-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 6230-0740

Highly popular café bar that attracts a mixed, though mostly gay crowd.

Places to Eat

PRICE CATEGORIES

Price ranges are for an average-size dinner for one. Lunchtime menus are usually less expensive.

¥ under ¥2,000 ¥¥ ¥2,000–¥10,000
¥¥¥ over ¥10,000

1 Tsunahachi

MAP V2 ■ 3-31-8 Shinjuku,

Shinjuku-ku ■ 3352-1012 ■ ¥¥

Huge portions of deep-fried tempura served in a prewar building offer good value. English menu available.

2 Tokaien

MAP V2 ■ 1-6-3 Kabukicho,

Shinjuku-ku ■ 3200-2934 ■ ¥¥

Over nine floors, Tokaien serves superb *yakiniku* (Korean-style barbecue). The sixth floor offers an all-you-can-eat menu.

3 Sansar

MAP W2 ■ 6-13-8 Shinjuku,

Shinjuku-ku ■ 3354-8553 ■ ¥¥

Friendly Nepali staff serve up a standard Indian repertoire, plus some delicious Nepalese specialties.

4 Omoide-Yokocho

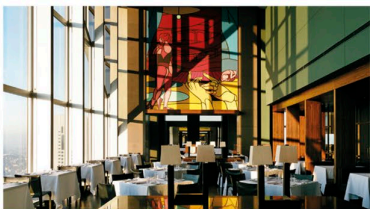
MAP V2 ■ Nishi-Shinjuku,

1-chome, Shinjuku-ku ■ ¥

This atmospheric warren of lanes is full of smoky *yakitori* chicken eateries, noodle stores, and bars.



An eatery in Omoide-Yokocho



View from New York Grill

5 New York Grill

MAP T3 ■ Park Hyatt

Hotel, 52F, 3-7-1 Nishi-Shinjuku,
Shinjuku-ku ■ 5323-3458 ■ ¥¥¥

One of the leading grill restaurants in Tokyo, this eatery serves a great range of meat and seafood options.

6 Tavolo di Fiori

MAP V2 ■ 3-16-13 Shinjuku,

Shinjuku-ku ■ 3354-3790 ■ ¥¥

A traditional trattoria, with authentic Tuscan fare served by genial staff.

7 Daidaiya

MAP V3 ■ Shinjuku Nowa

Bldg 3F, 3-37-12 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-
ku ■ 5362-7173 ■ ¥¥

Nouvelle Japanese and Asian fusion cuisine as well as more standard fare.

8 Ban Thai

MAP V2 ■ Dai-ichi Metro Bldg,

3F, 1-23-14 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku ■
3207-0068 ■ ¥¥

This popular place was one of Tokyo's first authentic Thai restaurants.

9 Bishoku Maimon

MAP U3 ■ Shinjuku Kouyo

Bldg, B1F, 1-19-5 Nishi-Shinjuku ■
5320-8228 ■ ¥¥

Charcoal-broiled dishes are a specialty at this chain restaurant.

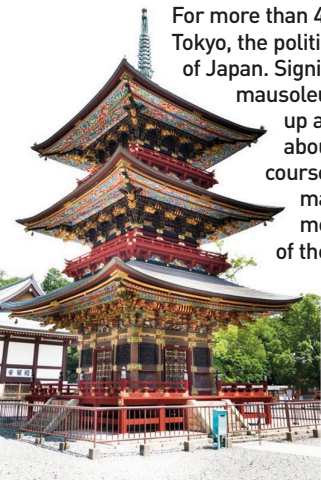
10 Imahan

MAP Q2 ■ Times Square Bldg,

14F, 5-24-2 Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku
■ 5361-1871 ■ ¥¥

Expect generous portions at this popular eatery specializing in *shabu-shabu* (sliced boiled beef).

TOP 10 Farther Afield



For more than 400 years, all roads have led to Tokyo, the political, commercial, and cultural axis of Japan. Significant ports, trading posts, temples, mausoleums, and leisure resorts sprang up along these highways. As a result, ideas about architecture, religion, and gardening coursed into the city. A first-rate train service makes it easy to explore beyond the megalopolis, and for sights at the edges of the city, Tokyo's subway system is unmatched. Sumptuous tombs in Nikko, the ancient city of Kamakura, and the Edo-era Kawagoe invoke the past. Alternatively, hiking at Mount Fuji or Mount Takao is very rewarding, as is exploring Japan's second-largest city, Yokohama.

Naritasan Shinshoji temple





Detail of wood carvings at Toshogu shrine, Nikko

1 Nikko
 MAP B1 ■ Nikko, Tochigi
 Prefecture ■ Tobu Line from Asakusa
 ■ Toshogu shrine Open 8am–5pm
 (to 4pm Dec–Mar) ■ Adm

Nikko's opulent temples, religious art, sacred storehouses, and tombs are more Rococo than Zen. Chosen in 1617 as the burial site of the shogun Ieyasu, Toshogu shrine is a complex of buildings and mausoleums. It is best accessed by the tree-lined avenue leading to Rinno-ji temple, with its thousand-armed Kannon statue and

five-storied pagoda. The Yomei-mon gate to Toshogu shrine is lavishly painted and carved. Ieyasu's tomb lies a little higher up a forest path.

2 Kawagoe
 MAP B1 ■ Kawagoe, Saitama
 Prefecture ■ Tobu Tojo Line from Ikebukuro

Known as "Little Edo," Kawagoe once prospered as a supplier of goods for the capital. Today, its main draw is its high street, Ichiban-gai. Many of its warehouses have been converted into stores, galleries, and museums. Yamawa, a ceramic store inside one of these buildings, is a fine example of the architecture of these fireproof godowns. Toki no Kane, a wooden bell tower down a lane off the main street, has become a symbol of the town.

3 Railway Museum, Omiya
 MAP B1 ■ JR lines from Ueno
 ■ Open 10am–6pm Wed–Mon
 ■ Adm ■ www.railway-museum.jp/en

This interactive museum is devoted to the history of Japan's railways since their inception in 1872. There are 30-odd previously used train engines and carriages on display, and you can play at driving a *shinkansen* (bullet train).



Engines on display, Railway Museum



4 Mount Fuji and Kawaguchi-ko

MAP A2 ■ Express Keio bus from Shinjuku Station ■ mtfuji-jp.com
Sacred Fuji-san, Japan's highest peak, is a beautiful sight close up, particularly in good weather, and the officially active volcano can be seen from the shores of the lakes to its north. The best lake to stay near is Kawaguchi-ko, which has a good range of accommodations and a cable car to the Fuji Viewing Platform.



View of Mount Fuji over a lake

5 Yokohama

MAP B2 ■ Yokohama
■ JR Keihin Tohoku Line from Tokyo; Minato Mirai subway from Shibuya
A crucial Meiji-era foreign settlement and port, this city includes the Minato Mirai complex, with an amusement park, art museum, stores, and Japan's second-tallest building – the Landmark Plaza. Moored nearby is a fine old clipper, the *Nippon Maru*. The area has lots to offer visitors, including the restaurants and shopping streets of Chinatown, silk and doll museums, old customs buildings, and a lovely Japanese garden, Sankein.

6 Hakone

MAP A2 ■ Odakyu express bus from Shinjuku; JR line from Tokyo; Odakyu Line from Shinjuku
The enjoyable switchback route up the slopes on the Hakone Tozan Railway starts at Hakone-Yumoto, a hot-spring town. Alight at Miyanoshita, stopping for tea at the Fujiya Hotel (see p133). Farther up, the

EAST MEETS WEST

On July 8, 1853, Commodore Perry, hoping to open Japan to foreign trade and diplomacy, sailed "black ships" into Edo Bay (see p38). The ritual exchange of gifts that ensued – a bronze temple bell and teapot on the Japanese side, a telegraph machine and daguerreotype camera from the visitors – showed how much progress had bypassed Japan.

Hakone Open-Air Museum features sculpture by the likes of Rodin and Henry Moore. Gora is the terminus; take the funicular and cable car to the shore of Lake Ashi, stopping off on the way at Owakudani volcanic valley.

7 Mount Takao

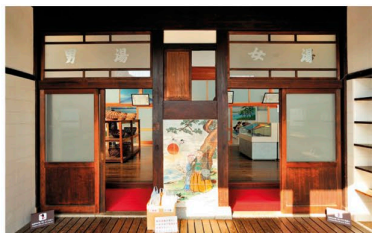
MAP B2 ■ Keio Line from Shinjuku Station ■ www.takaosan-onsen.jp/english

Far easier than climbing Mount Fuji, this Quasi-National park has hiking trails as well as a cable car and chair lifts. Near the summit is the 8th-century temple Yakuo-in, which hosts a fire festival on the second Sunday in March. The train station, designed by Kengo Kuma, has an open-air bath to relax in before or after your climb.

8 Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum

MAP B1 ■ 3-7-1 Sakuramachi, Koganai-shi ■ 042-388-3300 ■ Musashi Koganei, Chuo line ■ Open Apr–Sep: 9:30am–5:30pm Tue–Sat; Oct–Mar: 9:30am–4:30pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm ■ www.tatemonoen.jp

Buildings representative of Tokyo during the Edo, Meiji, and later



Edo-Tokyo Open-Air Architectural Museum

periods have been collected and reassembled in this open-air architectural museum, a branch of the Edo-Tokyo Museum in Ryogoku. The museum's farmhouses, villas, public buildings, and bathhouse are set in the middle of Koganei Park.



Daibutsu Buddha, Kamakura

9 Kamakura

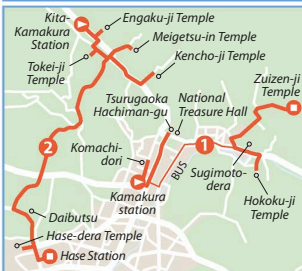
MAP B2 ■ JR Yokosuka line
from Tokyo, Shimbashi, Shinagawa

The shogun's capital from 1192 to 1333, this seaside town has ancient shrines, gardens, and the Daibutsu Buddha statue. Of its two stations, Kita-Kamakura is close to Engaku-ji temple and the gardens and religious spots of Meigetsu-in. Kamakura Station is near to the local craft and food stores along Wakamiya-oji and Komachi streets, and Tsurugaoka Hachiman-gu shrine.

10 Naritasan Shinshoji Temple

MAP B1 ■ JR or Keisei trains from Ueno ■ www.naritasan.or.jp/english
Established in 940, this large beautifully decorated and atmospheric Buddhist temple is set in extensive gardens. Close to the international airport, it's a popular pilgrimage location, approached by an appealing shopping street lined with traditional craft shops and restaurants specializing in *unagi* (eel).

TWO DAYS IN KAMAKURA



DAY 1

Exiting at **Kamakura Station**, take **Komachi-dori**, a street with cafés and specialist stores. Return to the station area and take **Wakamiya-oji**, a street selling local products. At the end of the road, **Tsurugaoka Hachiman-gu**, Kamakura's premier shrine, is dedicated to the god of war. Back at the entrance, turn left for the **Kamakura National Treasure Hall**. Stop for excellent noodles at **Nakamura-an**, along a narrow lane between Wakamiya-oji and Komachi-dori. Take a bus from the No. 5 stop outside the station to **Sugimoto-dera**, the area's oldest temple. Across the road, **Hokoku-ji temple** is perfect for tea at the pavilion. A short walk away, **Zuizen-ji** is a Zen temple with a 14th-century garden.

DAY 2

Get off at **Kita-Kamakura Station** and stroll to **Engaku-ji temple**. Walk over the railroad crossing opposite for **Tokei-ji temple**. Re-cross the tracks and walk south to **Meigetsu-in temple**. Return to the road and stroll south toward the wooden gates of **Kencho-ji temple**. Stop at **Hachi-no-ki Honten** next door for *shojin ryori* (Buddhist vegetarian cuisine). Retrace your steps until you see a hiking path sign. Turn left for the **Daibutsu**, the Great Buddha statue. Follow the road to **Hase-dera temple**, with a view of the bay and town. Take a streetcar for Kamakura Station at **Hase Station** nearby.

The Best of the Rest

1 Gotoh Art Museum
 MAP C2 ■ 3-9-25 Kaminoge,
 Setagaya-ku ■ 3703-0662 ■ Open
 10am–5pm Tue–Sun ■ Adm
 A private collection of Buddhist
 calligraphy, painting, and rare scrolls.

2 Nihon Minka-en
 MAP B2 ■ 7-1-1 Masugata, Kawa-
 saki ■ 044-922-2181 ■ Open Mar–Oct:
 9:30am–5pm; Nov–Feb: 9:30am–4:30pm
 ■ Adm ■ english.nihonminkaen.jp
 Traditional farmhouses, merchant
 homes, tools, and domestic utensils
 make up this open-air folk museum.

3 Tokyo Disney® Resort
 MAP B2 ■ 1-1 Maihama,
 Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture ■ 045-683-
 3333 ■ Open 8:30am–10pm ■ Adm
 ■ www.tokyodisneyresort.jp
 Kids will love the popular attractions
 at Disneyland® and DisneySea®.

4 Hara Museum of Contemporary Art
 MAP C2 ■ 4-7-25 Kita-Shinagawa,
 Shinagawa-ku ■ 3445-0651 ■ Open
 11am–5pm Tue–Sun (to 8pm Wed)
 ■ Adm ■ www.haramuseum.or.jp
 Located in a 1939 Bauhaus-style
 home, this quirky museum has a
 pleasant sculpture garden and café.

5 Inokashira Park
 MAP B2 ■ 1-18-31 Gotenyama,
 Musashino ■ 0422-47-6900
 A popular cherry blossom-viewing
 venue in early April. On weekends,
 musicians, market stalls, and street
 artists take over its paths.

Boating at Inokashira Park

6 Shibamata
 MAP B1
 Location of the film series *Otoko wa
 Tsurai Yo* (It's Tough Being a Man), this
 eastern Tokyo neighborhood has retro
 charm. Its main shopping street leads
 to Taishakuten temple.

7 Museum of Contemporary Art (MOT)
 MAP C2 ■ 4-1-1 Miyoshi, Koto-ku
 ■ 5245-4111 ■ Open 10am–6pm Tue–
 Sun ■ Adm ■ www.mot-art-museum.jp/eng
 Next to Kiba Park, this large, modern
 museum displays post-1945 art from
 Japan and overseas.

8 Suginami Animation Museum
 MAP B1 ■ 3-29-5 Kamiogi, Suginami-
 ku ■ Open 10am–6pm Tue–Sun
 ■ www.sam.or.jp
 Kids and Japanese animation fans
 will appreciate this free museum
 with displays devoted to the history
 of anime and some of its most
 beloved characters.

9 Ghibli Museum
 MAP B1 ■ 1-1-83 Shimorenjaku,
 Mitaka ■ 0570-055-777 ■ Open 10am–
 6pm Wed–Mon ■ Adm (advance ticket
 only) ■ www.ghibli-museum.jp
 Attracts admirers of the work of
 animator Hayao Miyazaki.

10 Nakano
 MAP C1
 Three stops west on the Chuo Line
 from Shinjuku, Nakano is known for
 its 1960s shopping strip with stores
 specializing in anime and manga.



Restaurants

PRICE CATEGORIES

Price ranges are for an average-size dinner for one. Lunchtime menus are usually less expensive.

¥ under ¥2,000 ¥¥ ¥2,000–¥10,000
¥¥¥ over ¥10,000

1 Dohatsu Honkan

MAP B2 ■ 148 Yamashita-cho, Naka-ku, Yokohama ■ 045-681-7273
■ Closed Tue ■ ¥¥

The quality of the Hong Kong seafood cuisine at this well-established place is reflected in the long lunch lines. The crowd thins a little for dinner but the food remains consistently good.

2 Mutekiro

MAP B2 ■ 2-96 Motomachi, Naka-ku, Yokohama ■ 045-681-2926
■ ¥¥

Exquisite French food, with a little French pomp thrown in, is the main draw of this place. Set in Yokohama's fashionable Motomachi district, this is a great spot for a romantic meal.

3 Matsubara-an

MAP B2 ■ 4-10-3 Yuigahama, Kamakura ■ 0467-61-3838 ■ ¥¥

Fine soba noodles and other dishes are served in a lovely wooden house in a quiet part of Kamakura. In good weather, there's seating in its garden.

4 Gentoan

MAP B2 ■ 823 Yamanouchi, Kamakura ■ 0467-43-5695 ■ ¥¥

Beyond Gentoan's attractive stone entryway await *kaiseki ryori* dishes that are so perfectly presented it seems a crime to devour them.

5 Meguri

MAP B1 ■ 909-1 Nakahatsuishimachi, Nikko ■ 0288-25-3122
■ Closed Thu & Fri ■ ¥

Arrive at opening time to be sure of scoring one of the limited number of delicious vegetarian lunches served at this rustic café located on Nikko's main road.

6 Shin-Yokohama Ramen Museum

MAP B2 ■ 2-14-21 Shin-Yokohama, Kohoku-ku ■ 045-471-0503 ■ ¥

The history of Japanese noodles is upstaged by the basement restaurant selling Japan's favorite *ramen* from Hokkaido to Kyushu.



Restaurant at the Fujiya Hotel

7 Fujiya Hotel

MAP A2 ■ 359 Miyanoshita ■ 0460-82-2211 ■ ¥¥

Waitresses in old-fashioned aprons serve delicious Western dishes in a setting that has changed little since the hotel opened in 1878.

8 Gyoshintei

MAP B1 ■ 2339-1 Sannai, Nikko ■ 0288-53-3751 ■ ¥¥

Buddhist vegetarian and *kaiseki-ryori* dishes come with lovely views of moss and pine trees in a park-like setting.

9 Bashamichi Taproom

MAP B2 ■ 5-63-1 Sumiyoshicho, Yokohama ■ 045-264-4961 ■ ¥¥

A real-deal American South barbecue, with smoked meats slow-cooked over a cherrywood fire until rich and succulent.

10 Ichinoya

MAP B2 ■ 1-18-10 Matsuecho, Kawagoe ■ 049-222-0354 ■ ¥¥

Traditional eel dishes, a Kawagoe specialty, are served here on a bed of rice along with miso soup and a dish of pickles.

Streetsmart

A colorful street in Chinatown,
Yokohama



Getting To and Around Tokyo	120
Practical Information	122
Places to Stay	128
General Index	134
Acknowledgments	139
Phrase Book	141



Getting To and Around Tokyo

Arriving by Air

Many airlines, including the national airline JAL (Japan Airlines) and ANA (All Nippon Airways), fly into **Narita International Airport**, (41 miles) 66 km east of central Tokyo, from overseas. **Haneda Airport**, (12 miles) 20 km south of Tokyo, also has a growing number of international connections.

The fastest way into Tokyo from Narita is on the **Keisei Skyliner**, which takes 41 minutes to reach Ueno, where you can connect with the JR Yamanote Line or subways. **Japan Railways (JR)** also runs frequent Narita Express (N'EX) services to Tokyo (53 minutes). Visitors can buy a discount return N'EX ticket valid for 14 days.

Haneda Airport is connected to the city center by both the **Tokyo Monorail** (15 minutes to Hamamatsucho) and the **Keikyu** train line (13 minutes to Shinagawa).

The **Airport Limousine Bus** runs between Narita and Haneda airports to major Tokyo train stations and hotels. See the website for details of discounts for foreign tourists.

A taxi from Narita to central Tokyo will cost you around ¥30,000 while one from Haneda will be around ¥7000.

Arriving by Train

Japan Railways (JR) is the country's principal train operator and it runs the high-speed *shinakansen* (bullet train) services that

radiate out from the capital's Tokyo, Ueno, and Shinagawa stations.

If traveling to and from destinations closer to Tokyo, there's competition from other private rail companies such as **Tobu Tojo** to Nikko, **Keisei** to Narita, **Seibu** to Saitama, and **Odakyu** to Hakone.

Arriving by Road

Long-distance buses connect Tokyo with many cities and towns around Japan and can be a very economical way of traveling. Overnight services from Kyoto and Osaka arrive at the Yaesu exit of Tokyo Station; other buses arrive at Ikebukuro, Shibuya, Shinagawa, and Shinjuku. Among the many bus companies the main ones are run by JR and **Willer Express**, which offers a Japan Bus Pass (from ¥10,000 for 3 days of unlimited travel).

Arriving by Boat

Long-distance ferries into Tokyo are rare but there are a few services connecting the city with Tokushima in Shikoku and Kita-Kyushu in Kyushu. Ferries and cruise ships dock either at the Harumi Passenger Terminal or Takeshiba Passenger Terminal, which is on the Yurikamome Line.

Tokyo has an extensive system of rivers and canals. **Tokyo Cruise** and **Tokyo Mizube Cruising Line** both run water-bus services between Asakusa's Azuma Bridge, Hama Rikyu Garden, and

Odaiba. Tokyo Cruise also stops at Hinode Pier, while some of Tokyo Mizube's services go out to Kasai Rinkai Park on the east side of Tokyo Bay.

Getting Around by Subway

There are 13 lines in Tokyo, nine run by **Tokyo Metro**, four by **Toei**. The system is color-coded, but the number of stations and intersecting points can be daunting. Station subway maps in English are available in tourist offices or you can download the useful **Navitime for Japan Travel** app to a smart phone.

By Train

Three main JR lines serve Tokyo. The Yamanote Line (green) runs around central Tokyo and includes all the major stations, which serve as departure points for long-distance travel. The Chuo Line (orange) connects Shinjuku and the western suburbs and Tokyo stations, while the Sobu Line (yellow) also runs through Shinjuku and serves the eastern suburbs.

The Yurikamome Line connects Shimbashi with Toyosu (both on Tokyo's subway system) and is the main way to travel around the island of Odaiba.

By Monorail and Tram

Tokyo Monorail connects Haneda Airport with Hamamatsucho Station (on the JR Yamanote Line).

The last central Tokyo streetcar service is the Toden Arakawa Line, which is run by Toei.

By Bus

Tokyo is served by many bus companies; most have digital signage that switches between English and Japanese. Each trip is ¥210, which can be paid in cash, or you can use prepaid smart cards.

Tickets and Passes

Valid on all Tokyo transport, **Suica** and **Pasmo** smart cards can be bought from vending machines at most train

and subway stations. For travel outside Tokyo, the **Japan Rail Pass** covers the entire JR network, but you must purchase this before traveling to Japan.

By Taxi

Taxi fares are expensive, starting at around ¥730. Fares are higher on weekends and between 11pm and 5am. Taxi stands are found near all stations, department stores, and big hotels, and taxis can be hailed on the street.

By Car

Driving around Tokyo is not a good idea. Traffic jams

are common, and the complexity of the city can have disastrous results, especially if you miss a turn. You will need an International Driving Permit to rent a car.

By Bicycle

As long as you avoid the major roads, it can be a delight cycling around Tokyo's quieter streets and back alleys. There are several rental bike services and 150 free bicycles are available every Sunday between 10am and 3pm near Nijubashimae Station for a circuit of the Imperial Palace moats.

DIRECTORY

ARRIVING BY AIR

Airport Limousine Bus
[w limousinebus.co.jp/en](http://limousinebus.co.jp/en)

Haneda Airport
[w haneda-airport.jp/inter/en](http://haneda-airport.jp/inter/en)

Narita International Airport
[w narita-airport.jp/en/index.html](http://narita-airport.jp/en/index.html)

ARRIVING BY TRAIN

Japan Railways (JR)
[w jreast.co.jp/e](http://jreast.co.jp/e)

Keikyu Trains
[w haneda-tokyo-access.com/en](http://haneda-tokyo-access.com/en)

Keisei
[w keisei.co.jp](http://keisei.co.jp)

Keisei Skyliner
[w keisei.co.jp/keisei/tetudou/skyliner/us](http://keisei.co.jp/keisei/tetudou/skyliner/us)

Odakyu
[w odakyu.jp/english](http://odakyu.jp/english)

Seibu
[w seibu-group.co.jp/railways/tourist/english](http://seibu-group.co.jp/railways/tourist/english)

Tobu
[w tobu.co.jp/foreign/index.html](http://tobu.co.jp/foreign/index.html)

ARRIVING BY ROAD

Willer Express
[w willerexpress.com/en](http://willerexpress.com/en)

ARRIVING BY BOAT

Tokyo Cruise
[w suijobus.co.jp](http://suijobus.co.jp)

Tokyo Mizube Cruising Line
[w tokyo-park.or.jp/waterbus/english/index.html](http://tokyo-park.or.jp/waterbus/english/index.html)

GETTING AROUND BY SUBWAY

Navitime for Japan Travel
[w navitime.co.jp](http://navitime.co.jp)

Toei
[w kotsu.metro.tokyo.jp/eng](http://kotsu.metro.tokyo.jp/eng)

Tokyo Metro
[w tokyometro.jp/en](http://tokyometro.jp/en)

Yurikamome Line
[w yurikamome.co.jp](http://yurikamome.co.jp)

BY MONORAIL AND TRAM

Tokyo Monorail
[w tokyo-monorail.co.jp/english](http://tokyo-monorail.co.jp/english)

TICKETS AND PASSES

Japan Rail Pass
[w japan-rail-pass.com](http://japan-rail-pass.com)

Pasmo
[w pasmo.co.jp/en](http://pasmo.co.jp/en)

Suica
[w jreast.co.jp/e/pass/suica.html](http://jreast.co.jp/e/pass/suica.html)

BY TAXI

Hinomaru Limosine
[w hinomaru.ny.com](http://hinomaru.ny.com)

Nihon Kotsu
[w nihon-kotsu.co.jp](http://nihon-kotsu.co.jp)

BY CAR

Nippon Rent-a-Car
[w nipponrentacar.co.jp](http://nipponrentacar.co.jp)

Toyota Rent-a-Car
[w rent.toyota.co.jp](http://rent.toyota.co.jp)

BY BICYCLE

Cogi Cogi
[w cogicogi.jp](http://cogicogi.jp)

Rent a Bike
[w rentabike.jp](http://rentabike.jp)

Practical Information

Passports and Visas

A 90-day visitor visa is issued on arrival to citizens of Western countries as well as of Singapore, South Korea, and Hong Kong. Visa extension requests can be made at the Immigration Bureau at least 10 days before the original visa expires. The website of the **Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs** has a guide to Japanese visas.

Customs Regulations and Immigration

Landing forms and passports are required at immigration gates. All foreign nationals are fingerprinted before entering the country. Unless you are exceeding the duty-free limit, no detailed list of your belongings is necessary. There are no restrictions on the amount of incoming currency allowed.

Travel Safety Advice

Visitors can get up-to-date travel safety information from the **Foreign and Commonwealth Office** in the UK, the **State Department** in the US, and the **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade** in Australia.

Travel Insurance

All travelers are advised to buy insurance against theft or loss, accidents, illness, and travel delays or cancellations. As a visitor, you will be

expected to pay the full amount for any health treatments. Charges for consultations and drugs are high. Be sure to carry proof of health insurance.

Emergency Services

If you have problems getting the ambulance, fire, and police emergency services to understand your call, there is an **Emergency Interpretation** service. The **Japan Helpline** and **Tokyo Foreign Residents Advisory Service** can also be useful; both are staffed by English speakers.

Health

Do not rely on hospitals and clinics to have English-speaking staff. Exceptions include the **Japan Red Cross Medical Center**, the **Tokyo British Clinic**, and **St Luke's International Hospital**.

Dental problems are more self-explanatory than medical ones, so the shortage of English-speaking dentists is not a major problem. Hotel staff can make a recommendation, contact a local clinic, and provide a note in Japanese explaining the problem. The **Tokyo Clinic Dental Office** has English-speaking staff.

Tokyo has a surfeit of well-stocked pharmacies, although the staff may not speak English. The **American Pharmacy** in the basement of the Marunouchi Building on Marunouchi's Naka-dori, however, has English-speaking staff.

Personal Security

Tokyo is subject to frequent tremors, although most are minor. Earthquake drills take place every September 1, the anniversary of the quake that devastated Tokyo in 1923. If you're inside, the best advice in the event of a quake is to crouch under a heavy table. Make sure all doors are open and gas appliances switched off.

Tokyo remains one of the safest cities in the world with crimes such as muggings and violent attacks very rare.

However, care should be taken while walking in some crowded areas, such as Kabukicho and Roppongi. Hotel staff are scrupulously honest.

With a relatively low crime rate, assaults on women travelers are also rare. Drunken men can be annoying, but rarely threatening; ignoring them is usually the best course. That said, sexual harassment on trains has been serious enough for some train companies to introduce women-only carriages during the rush hours. Some hotels exist exclusively for women.

Currency and Banking

Yen banknotes have four denominations: ¥10,000, ¥5,000, ¥2,000 (rarely seen), and ¥1,000. Coins are found in units of ¥500, ¥100, ¥50, ¥10, ¥5, and ¥1. Check exchange rates against your own currency before you travel.

For day-to-day banking needs, there are numerous international banks to choose from, such as Sumitomo Mitsui, and Mizuho banks. Most banks are open from 9am to 3pm on weekdays.

Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ bank (MUFG) runs World Currency Shop foreign exchange counters in major shopping centers. Foreign currencies can be changed and travelers' checks cashed at authorized foreign-exchange banks. Some department stores and big hotels change money and travelers' checks.

Very few standard ATMs accept foreign-issued cards. One exception is

Japan Post Bank where the operational hours of the ATM depend on the opening hours of the post office branch. ATMs at 7-Eleven convenience stores also accept foreign credit and debit cards. ATMs usually give a slightly better exchange rate than exchanging cash or travelers' checks in department stores and hotels.

Although the Japanese still prefer using cash, many hotels, department stores and some restaurants accept credit cards. American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard, and Visa are the most widely accepted.

Disabled Travelers

Tokyo is not the easiest city for disabled travelers to negotiate, though new buildings and developments have ramps installed as a matter of course.

Lines of yellow raised dots on the ground guide the visually impaired, and traffic lights have audible signals for crossing. Trains have special seats, and many ticket machines have Braille plates.

Go online at the following organizations for more information: **Accessible Japan, Japan Accessible Tourism Center, and Japanese Red Cross Language Service Volunteers.**

DIRECTORY

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs

[w mofa.go.jp](http://mofa.go.jp)

EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES

Australia

[w australia.or.jp/en](http://australia.or.jp/en)

Ireland

[w dfa.ie/irish-embassy/japan](http://dfa.ie/irish-embassy/japan)

New Zealand

[w mfat.govt.nz](http://mfat.govt.nz)

UK

[w gov.uk/government/world/organisations/british-embassy-tokyo](http://gov.uk/government/world/organisations/british-embassy-tokyo)

USA

[w japan.usembassy.gov](http://japan.usembassy.gov)

TRAVEL SAFETY ADVICE

Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

[w dfat.gov-au](http://dfat.gov-au)

[w smartraveller.gov.au](http://smartraveller.gov.au)

UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office

[w gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](http://gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice)

US Department of State

[w travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov)

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ambulance and Fire

[☎ 119](tel:119)

Police

[☎ 110](tel:110)

Emergency Interpretation

[w himawari.metro.tokyo.jp/qq/qq13tomnlt.asp](http://himawari.metro.tokyo.jp/qq/qq13tomnlt.asp)

Japan Helpline

[☎ 0120-46-1997](tel:0120-46-1997)

Tokyo Foreign Residents Advisory Service

[☎ 5320-7744](tel:5320-7744)

[w metro.tokyo.jp/ENGLISH/GUIDE/guide01.htm](http://metro.tokyo.jp/ENGLISH/GUIDE/guide01.htm)

HEALTH

American Pharmacy

[☎ 5220-7716](tel:5220-7716)

Japan Red Cross Medical Center

[☎ 3400-1311](tel:3400-1311)

[w med.jrc.or.jp](http://med.jrc.or.jp)

St Luke's International Hospital

[☎ 3541-5151](tel:3541-5151)

[w hospital.luke.ac.jp/eng](http://hospital.luke.ac.jp/eng)

Tokyo British Clinic

[☎ 5458-6099](tel:5458-6099)

[w tokyobritishclinic.com](http://tokyobritishclinic.com)

Tokyo Clinic Dental Office

[☎ 3431-4225](tel:3431-4225)

[w tcdo.jp](http://tcdo.jp)

DISABLED TRAVELERS

Accessible Japan

[w tesco-premium.co.jp/aj](http://tesco-premium.co.jp/aj)

Japan Accessible Tourism Center

[w japan-accessible.com](http://japan-accessible.com)

Japanese Red Cross Language Service Volunteers

[w tok-lanserv.jp/eng](http://tok-lanserv.jp/eng)

Tippling

It is not customary to tip at hotels, restaurants, in taxis or for any service you might otherwise do at home, and in some cases it is considered rude. High-end restaurants and hotels may add a 10 percent service fee to bills.

Telephone and Internet

With the exception of train stations and some convenience stores, public phones are a rarity. Some phones accept international credit cards. Buy telephone cards from the big telecom companies, such as NTT and KDDI, which you can get at convenience stores.

Japan doesn't have a GSM mobile phone system so GSM-only mobile phones will not work here. Modern 3G and 4G phones will, but you must either have international roaming enabled on the device, or rent or buy a prepaid SIM card from a Japanese operator, such as **DoCoMo** and **Softbank Telecom**.

There are vending machines selling pre-paid data-only SIMs at Narita Airport and Aqua City mall in Odaiba. Smart phones will also allow you to make calls via Wi-Fi using Skype or similar VOIP apps.

It is possible to rent a cell phone at provider service desks at Narita and Haneda airports or via **Rentafone Japan**, which can post the phone to your accommodation.

Etiquette requires people to switch off their cell phones in temples, gardens, and restaurants, though it is often ignored.

Postal Services

Yubin-kyoku (post offices) bear red signs resembling a "T." Mail boxes, too, are red. Post office hours are usually from 9am to 5pm on weekdays. Some main offices open on Saturdays from 9am to 12:30pm. Express mail services, such as EMS, are reliable. Send priority mail from the Tokyo International Post Office and Tokyo Central Post, each with all-night counters.

TV and Radio

The state broadcaster **NHK** has two local and two satellite TV channels. Tokyo has five other local channels. Satellite service **SkyPerfecTV!** has a huge range of channels. **InterFM** broadcasts music and news.

Newspapers and Magazines

The daily English-language newspaper *The Japan Times* has the best local news coverage and international reportage, as well as useful information about what's going on in Tokyo. You will also be able to find local news online at *The Japan News* and the *Asahi Shimbun*.

The free weekly *Metropolis* magazine features art, culture, and entertainment listings in Tokyo, as well as feature stories. *Tokyo Weekender* has good Tokyo listings, with features on Japan.

Visitor Information

There are several very useful tourist information centers (TICs) in Tokyo

and at both international airports, where you should be able to find staff who speak English as well as other languages. These centers can provide maps, leaflets, and itineraries, among other services.

At the Marunouchi exit of Tokyo Station, staff at the **JR East Travel Service Center** can also make hotel bookings (not available elsewhere). The **Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO)** has an information office in the Shin-Tokyo Building on Marunouchi's Nakadori that's open daily 9am to 5pm. There is also the **Tokyo Tourist Information Center**, which has four locations, one of which is in the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building in Shinjuku; it is open 9.30am to 6.30pm.

Go Tokyo is the city's official tourism information site and is available in English.

Opening Hours

General opening hours for shops are from 10am to 8pm daily, but you'll find many convenience stores also open 24 hours. Restaurants serve lunch between 11.30am and 2.30pm and dinner from 6pm to 10pm, with last orders taken usually an hour before closing. Bars open around 5pm and close in the early hours of the morning. Banks are open 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday, with some open until 5pm. Museums open at 9am or 10am and close around 5pm, with last entry usually an hour before that; most museums and galleries are closed on Monday.

Time Difference

Tokyo time is 9 hours ahead of GMT and 14 hours ahead of US EST. There is no daylight-savings time.

Electrical Appliances

Japan uses a two-pin plug common in Asia and North America. The current is 100V AC. Tokyo and the eastern part of Japan are on the 50Hz system. Adaptors are sold at electric stores all across Tokyo.

Weather

Crisp days in winter (Dec–Feb) can be pleasant. Temperatures occasionally drop below zero, but snow is rare.

Spring (Apr–May) is generally mild, with some rainfall in late April.

The summer months (Jun–late Sep) can be stiflingly hot, with temperatures rising to 100°F (38°C). June to mid-July is the rainy season, with high humidity.

Typhoons may hit the city in September and October, but these are unpredictable. Temperatures drop in fall (Oct–Nov), but the skies are clear and the trees are beautifully colorful.

Spring and fall are the best months for outdoor festivals and cultural events. Golden Week (Apr 29–May 5) and the New Year (Dec 28–Jan 4) are major vacations, during which there is a stiff rise in flight and accommodation costs.

Trips and Tours

Gray Line, **SkyBus**, and **Hato Bus Tours** all offer sightseeing bus tours around Tokyo.

If you prefer to see the city on foot, the **Tokyo Metropolitan Government** offers free guided tours out of city hall in Shinjuku. **Tokyo SGG Club** also offers free tours on a first-come, first-served basis.

Walking tours and other cultural experiences can be arranged through **True Japan Tours** and **The Backstreet Guides**, while tours on a bicycle can be taken with **Tokyo Great Cycle Tour**.

To get a bird's-eye view of Tokyo take a helicopter tour, which can be arranged through **Excel Air Services**.

DIRECTORY

TELEPHONE

DoCoMo

nttdocomo.co.jp/english

Rentafone Japan

rentafonejapan.com

Softbank Telecom

tm.softbank.jp/english

POSTAL SERVICES

Japan Post

post.japanpost.jp/english

TV AND RADIO

InterFM

interfm.co.jp

NHK

nhk.or.jp

Sky PerfectTV!

skyperfectv.co.jp/eng

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

Asahi Shimbun

ajw.asahi.com

Japan Times

japantimes.co.jp

Metropolis

metropolisjapan.com

The Japan News

the-japan-news.com

Tokyo Weekender

tokyoweekender.com

VISITOR INFORMATION

Go Tokyo

gotokyo.org/en

JNTO

☎ 3201-3331

jnto.go.jp

JR East Travel Service Center

jreast.co.jp/e/customer_support/service_center_tokyo.html

TIC Tokyo

tictokyo.jp/en

☎ 5220-7055

Tokyo Tourist Information Center

☎ 5321-3077

TRIPS AND TOURS

Excel Air Services

excel-air.com/english

Gray Line

jgl.co.jp/inbound

Hato Bus Tours

hatobus.com/int/en

SkyBus

skybus.jp

The Backstreet Guides

thebackstreetguides.com

Tokyo Great Cycle Tour

tokyocycling.jp

Tokyo Metropolitan Government Walking Tours

gotokyo.org/en/tourists/guideservice/guideservice

Tokyo SGG Club

tokyosgg.jp

True Japan Tours

truejapantours.com

Shopping

In Tokyo, consumer culture options are everywhere, and the city excels at both fashion and food.

Consumption tax, currently 8 percent, will rise to 10 percent in April 2017. Many department stores and electrical goods stores in places such as Akihabara offer tax exemptions for purchases over ¥10,000. After paying, take the goods, your receipts, and passport to the tax-refund counter for reimbursement. **JNTO** has a page on tax-free shopping on its website.

Tokyo's fashion districts tend to be generational. Ginza and Aoyama attract a middle-aged, well-heeled crowd, though some stores such as Uniqlo have been making a bid for the youth market. Harajuku appeals to mid-teens, Shibuya to high-teens to those in their early 20s, Shimokitazawa to the college crowd, and Naka-Meguro and Daikanyama to 20- and 30-somethings.

Akihabara, or "Akiba" as it is called, is the world's largest electronic center, stocking everything from portable music units to robot pets and toys, all at very competitive prices. It's also the main area to shop for items related to anime and manga, along with Ikebukuro and Nakano. Large electronics stores such as Bic Camera and Yodobashi Camera can be found close to other major Yamanote line stations.

Tokyo's department stores (*depato*) are a great shopping experience. Typically, the first floors

sell women's clothing and accessories, with menswear on the floor above. Stores are lifestyle complexes, places where people stop for coffee or lunch, to relax in a rooftop beer garden, to take in an exhibition, or join a culture class. The stores also sell tickets for concerts and exhibitions.

For English-language books and magazines, the main bookshops to head to are **Maruzen** in the Oazu complex in Marunouchi and **Kinokuniya's** two stores in Shinjuku.

Tokyo has countless new and used record stores. The **Tower Records** Shibuya store has six floors of music. Nearby, **HMV** is massive. If there is something you missed the first time round, Shibuya and Shinjuku's used CD and vinyl stores, which includes **Recofan** and **Disk Union**, may be the place to find it.

Where to Eat

Every style of Japanese cuisine is available in Tokyo – from prime Kobe steaks and top-class sushi to Buddhist vegetarian cuisine and all kinds of tofu. There are tens of thousands of restaurants and cafés catering to hungry diners: you can stand up and slurp *ramen* noodles at a hole-in-the-wall bar, or sit down to a splendid multi-course *kaiseki* (Japanese haute cuisine) menu.

Department stores offer a wide range of pastries, Japanese sweets, cured and dried seafood, and wines in their basements. In addition to these, there

are counters where one can expect to find dishes such as sushi and *tonkatsu* (deep-fried pork cutlets). Mitsukoshi (*see p66*) is known for the quality and selection of food items in the basement.

Japanese food is available across the city, and it's usually easy to find restaurants offering all the major European and Asian cuisines too. One of the city's best areas to sample ethnic food is Shin-Okubo, which serves Burmese, Indonesian, Korean, and Malaysian, as well as Nepalese dishes.

Make reservations at top-end restaurants. Those that require advance booking on the phone usually have English-speaking staff. If not, your hotel may be able to help. In most places, the waiter will automatically come for your order. Many restaurants have photo menus and often plastic food displays in the window. Waiters come to your table with the bill, which you then take to the cash register to pay. You can place your money on a small dish and the change will be put back on the dish with the receipt. There is no need to leave a tip; a few high-end restaurants may include a service charge.

Useful listings websites include **Tokyo Food Page** and **Gurunavi**.

Where to Stay

Tokyo's choice of accommodations ranges from five-star luxury hotels to capsule hotels.

Tokyo is a busy city, so it's always wise to book well ahead if there's

somewhere you particularly want to stay. Reservations can be especially hard to come by during the three big vacations at New Year (Dec 25–Jan 4), Golden Week (Apr 29–May 5), and O-Bon (mid-Aug). Rooms can also get booked up in February, when students take their university entrance exams.

There has been a boom in no-frills business-style hotels, such as those offered by the chain **Toyoko Inn**. These are often found close to major train and metro stations. The rooms are compact but very functional and the rates often include a basic buffet breakfast.

While the city sports all the usual international hotel chains, it's well worth opting to spend at least a night or two in a more traditional Japanese hotel. The main difference between a *ryokan* and a *minshuku* is like that between a hotel and a B&B, with *minshuku* tending to be more at the budget end of the price range and with the family who run it living on-site.

The etiquette for staying at a *ryokan* or *minshuku* is universal. Shoes must be removed before entering the inn and exchanged for house slippers. Slippers should be taken off before stepping on the *tatami* mats in your room. There will also be a separate pair of slippers to be worn in the toilet only. As well as an en suite bathroom (or instead of), there may be a communal bathroom: if there's just one communal bath, there will be fixed times for male and female bathing.

When going to and from the bath, put on the *yukata* (cotton robe) provided. At the finest of *ryokan*, elaborate multi-course meals (both for dinner and breakfast) are included in the rates and often served by staff dressed in kimono, either in your room or a private booth of the restaurant.

Unique Japanese places to stay include capsule hotels and love hotels. Neither are designed for long stays but can be fun to experience for a night.

Capsule hotels offer beds enclosed in oblong cabins that are stacked on top of each other in two tiers. They cater mainly to "salarymen" who have missed their last trains home, so are usually located around major train stations. Most are for men only, but at a few you'll find women-only floors. All the bathing facilities are communal.

Love hotels, on the other hand, are for couples seeking some privacy. They can be rented for an hour "rest" or an overnight "stay". Payment is then via a machine or made to a cashier who sits hidden behind a screen, the basic theme of all love hotels being privacy.

All hotels charge an 8-percent tax, which most budget and some mid-range places include in the rate. An extra ¥100 tax is charged for rooms over ¥10,000 and ¥200 for those over ¥15,000. High-end hotels include a service charge of 10 to 15 percent.

Useful hotel booking websites include **Japan Hotel Association** and **JAPANiCAN**.

DIRECTORY

SHOPPING


Disk Union

MAP B4 ■ Shimogiku Bldg 4F/5F, 3-34-12 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku

HMV

MAP R5 ■ 36-2 Udagawacho, Shibuya-ku

JNTO (Tax-Free Shopping)

 tax-freeshop.jnto.go.jp

Kinokuniya

MAP B4 ■ 3-17-7 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku

Maruzen

MAP M3 ■ OaZO Shops & Restaurants 1-4F, 1-6-4 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku

Recofan

MAP R5 ■ Shibuya Beam 4F, Udagawacho 31-2, Shibuya-ku

Tower Records


MAP R5 ■ 1-22-14 Jinnan, Shibuya-ku

WHERE TO EAT

Gurunavi


 gnavi.co.jp/en

Tokyo Food Page


 bento.com

WHERE TO STAY


Japan Hotel Association

 j-hotel.or.jp/english


JAPANiCAN

 japanican.com/en

Japan Ryokan & Hotel Association

 ryokan.or.jp/english


Japan Youth Hostels, Inc

 jyh.or.jp/e/index.php

Japanese Inn Group

 japaneseinn.group.com

Toyoko Inn

 toyoko-inn.com/eng

Places to Stay

PRICE CATEGORIES

For a standard, double room per night (with breakfast if included), taxes and extra charges.

¥ under ¥15,000 ¥¥¥15,000–35,000 ¥¥¥ over ¥35,000

Luxury Hotels

Aman Tokyo

MAP M2 ■ 1-5-6

Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku

■ 5224-3333 ■ www.aman.com ■ ¥¥¥

At the top of the Otemachi Tower, this luxury chain hotel brings its sophisticated calm and style to Tokyo with a serene spa, a swimming pool with great city views, and traditional Japanese touches to the room decor.

Andaz Hotel

MAP L5 ■ 1-23-4,

Toranomon, Minato-ku

■ 6830-1234 ■ www.tokyo.ando.hyatt.com ■ ¥¥¥

Part of the Toranomon Hills complex, the Andaz offers real glamour and a great location midway between Roppongi and Ginza. The rooms are extremely spacious by Tokyo standards and offer panoramic city views.

Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel

MAP R6 ■ 26-1

Sakuragaoka-cho,

Shibuya-ku ■ 3476-3000

■ www.ceruleantower-hotel.com/en ■ ¥¥¥

Shibuya's premier luxury hotel boasts huge rooms, stylish interiors, *kaiseki* restaurants, bars, a jazz club, and a traditional Noh theater. The best rooms for breathtaking views are those between the 13th and 37th floors.

Grand Hyatt Tokyo

MAP C6 ■ 6-10-3

Roppongi, Minato-ku ■

4333-1234 ■ www.tokyo.grand.hyatt.com ■ ¥¥¥

Luxurious rooms come with top-grade facilities. All the rooms are tastefully decked out with a combination of natural elements and sleek, contemporary furnishings. Also on-site is an excellent selection of restaurants, a fantastic patisserie, and a spa.

Hotel Chinzan-so

MAP D1 ■ 2-10-8 Sekiguchi,

Bunkyo-ku ■ 3943-1111

■ www.hotel-chinzanso-tokyo.com ■ ¥¥¥

The lobby and corridors of this opulent hotel are decorated with original artwork. Its magnificent Japanese garden has some original features, including a wooden pagoda and Buddhist stone statuary. Rooms are immaculate.

Hotel New Otani Tokyo

MAP D4 ■ 4-1 Kioi-cho,

Chiyoda-ku ■ 3265-1111

■ www.newotani.co.jp ■ ¥¥¥

Business tycoons, rock stars, and diplomats have stayed in this colossal hotel, which resembles a mini-city within the megapolopolis. Lavishly furnished rooms and beautifully landscaped Japanese gardens add to the elegance. The rotating restaurant on the 17th floor offers phenomenal views.

Imperial Hotel

MAP M4 ■ 1-1-1

Uchisawaicho, Chiyoda-

ku ■ 3504-1111

■ www.imperialhotel.co.jp ■ ¥¥¥

With a history dating from the 1890s, the Imperial Hotel boasts excellent credentials. Rooms on the Imperial Floor are slightly larger and have the most up-to-date decor. The Imperial's location is also very good: it is set just across from Hibiya Park (see p81) and a short stroll away from Ginza.

Mandarin Oriental Tokyo

MAP N2 ■ 2-1-1

Nihonbashi-Muromachi,

Chuo-ku ■ 3270-8800

■ www.mandarinoriental.com/tokyo ■ ¥¥¥

The Mandarin Oriental oozes luxury. Japanese artisan materials, such as paper lanterns, hanging textiles, and traditional furnishings. Panoramic views of Mount Fuji and the famous business district add to the charm.

There are also several exceptional bars and restaurants on-site.

Palace Hotel

MAP M2 ■ 1-1-1

Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku

■ 3211-5211 ■ en.palacehoteltokyo.com ■ ¥¥¥

Given a makeover in 2012, this is a serenely quiet, classic establishment with spacious rooms. Counting the Japanese emperor as a neighbor, the Palace Hotel also offers views of the Imperial Palace (see pp12–13).

Park Hyatt Tokyo

MAP A4 ■ 3-7-1-2 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku ■ 5322-1234 ■ www.tokyo.park.hyatt.com ■ ¥¥¥

Remember the amazing grandstand views on which Scarlett Johansson looked out from her room at this hotel in the movie *Lost in Translation*? They are even better at night, when Shinjuku's neon signs are switched on. The reception desk is located on the 41st floor.

Peninsula Hotel Tokyo

MAP M4 ■ 1-8-1 Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 6270-2888 ■ www.tokyo.peninsula.com ■ ¥¥¥

Completed in 2008, this reputed 24-story hotel overlooks both the Imperial Palace East Gardens (see p12) and Hibiya Park (see p48). Shopping in Ginza and Marunouchi is a short stroll away.

Ritz-Carlton

MAP D5 ■ Tokyo Midtown, 9-7-1 Akasaka, Minato-ku ■ 3423-8000 ■ www.ritzcarlton.com ■ ¥¥¥

Set close to the heart of the Roppongi entertainment area, the sumptuous Ritz-Carlton has spell-binding views, outstanding bars and restaurants, and world-class amenities. As you would expect of a hotel of this class, the service is second to none.

Shangri-La Hotel

MAP N3 ■ 1 Marunouchi Trust Tower Main, 1-8-3 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 6739-7888 ■ www.shangri-la.com ■ ¥¥¥

Located next to Tokyo Station, the Shangri-La offers guests handsomely appointed rooms that look

out over striking cityscape vistas. Visitors will find impeccable service here, plus excellent facilities.

The Strings by InterContinental Tokyo

MAP C2 ■ Shinagawa East One Tower, 26-32F, 2-16-1 Konan, Minato-ku ■ 5783-1111 ■ www.intercontinental-strings.jp ■ ¥¥¥

Spread across the 26th to 32nd floors, the hotel has scenic views of Odaiba Island (see pp34-5) and Rainbow Bridge (see p34). The rooms are flooded with natural light thanks to their large windows, and feature modern furniture in muted colors, with comfortable low-slung sofas.

Mid-Range Hotels**Claska**

MAP C2 ■ 1-3-18 Chuo-cho, Meguro-ku ■ 3719-8121 ■ www.claska.com ■ ¥¥

The slightly inconvenient location is worth it to experience this two-floor hotel's ultra-modern design style. All rooms are spacious. The hotel also has a gallery, bookstore, and restaurant-bar.

Granbell Hotel

MAP B6 ■ 15-17 Sakuragaoka-cho, Shibuya-ku ■ 5457-2681 ■ www.granbellhotel.jp ■ ¥¥

This cheerful hotel with a calm atmosphere is only a short walk from Shibuya Station. Double and single rooms are decorated with light furnishings and colors. There is also an excellent, but somewhat more expensive, maisonette-style terrace suite.

Hill Top Hotel

MAP E3 ■ 1-1 Kanda-Surugadai, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3293-2311 ■ www.yamanoue-hotel.co.jp ■ ¥¥

An old favorite with Tokyo writers, this pre-war Art Deco hotel exudes charm and character. The older rooms are furnished with old-fashioned writing desks, while the more expensive suites have small private gardens.

Hotel Ginza Premier

MAP M5 ■ 8-13-1 Ginza, Chuo-ku ■ 3543-1131 ■ www.gardenhotels.co.jp ■ ¥¥

Located in Ginza, but just off the main drag, this modern skyscraper hotel offers four-star luxury and beautiful views at a reasonable price. There are other Mitsui Garden hotels nearby.

Hotel Monterey Hanzomon

MAP K2 ■ 23-1 Ichibancho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3556-7111 ■ www.hotelmonterey.co.jp ■ ¥¥

The rooms here blend contemporary architecture with traditional Japanese design, while the wall colors reflect the tastes of samurai residences of the Edo period. There are three other equally good Monterey hotels in Tokyo.

Hotel Niwa Tokyo

MAP E3 ■ 1-1-16 Misaki-cho, Chiyoda-ku ■ 3293-0028 ■ www.hotelniwa.jp ■ ¥¥

For a bargain price, this central hotel has much to offer, including a rooftop garden and two restaurants. The good-sized rooms boast modern Japanese decor; some also have balconies and/or city views.

Hotel Okura Tokyo

MAP K5 ■ 2-10-4

Toranomom, Minato-ku
■ 3582-0111 ■ www.okura-nikko.com ■ ¥¥

While the Okura's main building is being reconstructed in time for the 2020 Olympics, the South Wing remains open. The lobby here sports a retro style, and the rooms are spacious and comfortable.

Hotel S

MAP C6 ■ 1-11-6 Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku ■

5771-2469 ■ www.hr-roppongi.jp/en ■ ¥¥

A fun option that suits the nightlife vibe of the area, Hotel S's boutique-style rooms come in a range of individual themes from zen simplicity to duplexes with grassy colored and textured carpets.

Keio Plaza Hotel

MAP A4 ■ 2-2-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku

■ 3344-0111 ■ www.keioplaza.co.jp ■ ¥¥

One of the best bases for visiting the sights of Shinjuku. Room rates here are reasonable, given its location among the skyscrapers of West Shinjuku and its first-rate amenities, including several restaurants, stores, and an outdoor pool.

Budget Hotels**Asia Center of Japan**

MAP C5 ■ 8-10-32

Akasaka, Minato-ku
■ 3402-6111 ■ www.asiacenter.or.jp ■ ¥

In the heart of fashionable Aoyama, the Asia Center offers all the facilities

of a business hotel at affordable rates.

Rooms are basic but reasonably spacious.

A free buffet breakfast is available to overseas guests and staff all speak English.

Green Plaza Shinjuku

MAP B3 ■ 1-29-2

Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku
■ 3207-5411 ■ www.hgpshinjuku.jp/en ■ ¥

Unlike many capsule hotels that accept only men, Green Plaza also has a women-only floor and sauna with a communal "resting" area or compact private rooms. The large communal bath and outdoor rooftop bath here are an added bonus.

Khaosan Tokyo Laboratory

MAP Q3 ■ 2-1-4 Nishi-Asakusa, Taito-ku

■ 6479-1041 ■ www.khaosan-tokyo.com/en/laboratory ■ ¥

Perfect for families with young kids, this hostel has a range of vividly painted rooms with a double and single bed, as well as dorms sleeping four, all of which have en suite bathrooms.

K's House Tokyo

MAP R3 ■ 3-20-10

Kuramae, Taito-ku
■ 5833-0555 ■ www.kshouse.jp/tokyo-e ■ ¥

Set in a yellow-painted building a short walk south of Asakusa, this comfortable hostel has a mix of dorms and private rooms, a roof terrace, and a pleasant lounge, where you can hang out and meet fellow travelers.

Nui

MAP R3 ■ 2-14-13

Kuramae, Taito-ku ■ 6240-9854 ■ www.backpackersjapan.co.jp/nui_en ■ ¥

From the Toco team comes this hip hostel in a converted warehouse. High-ceilinged dormitories and private rooms share the communal bathrooms while on the ground floor is a popular café-bar that attracts the area's creatives.

Retrometro Backpackers

MAP Q2 ■ 2-19-1 Nishi-Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 6322-7447 ■ ¥

An appealing hostel set in a converted old wooden house located in Asakusa, Retrometro offers just two compact dorms and is run by an experienced Japanese traveler who knows how to make her guests feel at home. A stylish establishment with a serene vibe.

Sakura Hotel

MAP L1 ■ 2-21-4 Kanda-Jimbocho, Chiyoda-ku

■ 3261-3939 ■ www.sakura-hotel.co.jp ■ ¥

A popular choice with budget-range travelers, the Sakura Hotel offers accommodation options comprising shared dorms and miniscule, but cozy, private rooms, all non-smoking. The English-speaking staff are very friendly, and the hotel's good location in the book district is a bonus.

Toco

MAP G1 ■ 2-13-21

Shitaya, Taito-ku ■ 6458-1686 ■ www.backpackersjapan.co.jp ■ ¥

A geisha used to live in this lovely 1920s wooden

building, which has been converted into a cool hostel. There are small dorms and a handful of private Japanese-style rooms. The hostel also has a serene Japanese garden and pleasant lounge bar.

Tokyo Central Youth Hostel

MAP B3 ■ Central Plaza 18F, 1-1 Kaguragashi, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3235-1107 ■ www.jyh.gr.jp/tcyh/e/top.html ■ ¥

A modern hostel on the 18th and 19th floors of Central Plaza. Except for a Japanese-style family room, accommodation is in shared dorms. Other features include a souvenir store, dining hall, Internet access, and a TV in the lobby.

Tokyo Hütte

MAP D1 ■ 4-18-16 Narihira, Sumida-ku ■ 5637-7628 ■ www.tokyohutte.co.jp/en/ ■ ¥

Across the Sumida River (see pp16–17) from the district of Asakusa and within a stone's throw of Tokyo Skytree (see p89) is this stylish new hostel. The mixed and female-only dorms offer extra-wide beds screened off by curtains to ensure privacy and there are private Japanese-style rooms. Communal bathroom.

Rooms with a View

Asakusa View Hotel

MAP Q2 ■ 3-17-1 Nishi-Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3847-1111 ■ www.viewhotels.co.jp/asakusa/english ■ ¥¥

As the name suggests, the views of neighboring

rooftops and the nearby Senso-ji temple (see pp14–15) from these comfortable Western-style rooms are of a charming older Tokyo. The bar on the 28th floor offers visitors the best views of the Sumida River and the nearby Tokyo Skytree tower.

Hotel Park Side

MAP F2 ■ 2-11-18 Ueno, Taito-ku ■ 3836-5711 ■ www.parkside.co.jp ■ ¥¥

This good-value hotel offers Japanese- and Western-style rooms. Rooms on the middle to upper floors have the finest views of the park and lotus pond, which is at its best in summer.

Hilton Tokyo Odaiba

MAP D2 ■ 1-9-1 Daiba, Minato-ku ■ 5500-5500 ■ www3.hilton.com ■ ¥¥

This well-appointed hotel is located next to the Tokyo Decks mall, near the Odaiba Marine Park (see p35) with its man-made beach and copy of the Statue of Liberty. Its luxurious rooms offer stunning vistas of the bay, island, and waterfront.

InterContinental Tokyo Bay

MAP C1 ■ 1-16-2 Kaigan, Minato-ku ■ 5404-2222 ■ www.interconti-tokyo.com ■ ¥¥

The views from the stylish rooms here are truly panoramic. Large windows face the Sumida River, the Tokyo Skytree observation tower, the wharves of Tokyo Bay, and the Rainbow Bridge, which links the city to Odaiba (see pp34–5). There are several dining

options, and a 20th-floor lounge bar offers amazing views of the bridge when it is illuminated after dark.

Shinjuku Prince Hotel

MAP B3 ■ 1-30-1 Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku-ku ■ 3205-1111 ■ www.princehotels.co.jp ■ ¥¥

Next to JR Shinjuku Station, this high-rise hotel offers incredible views of the Kabukicho entertainment zone from guest rooms and its 25th-floor restaurant. Good facilities and reasonably sized rooms.

Conrad Hotel

MAP M6 ■ 1-9-1 Higashi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku ■ 6388-8000 ■ www.conradtokyo.co.jp ■ ¥¥¥

The cityscape views and aerial perspectives of lush Hama Rikyu Garden (see p48) from this 37-story luxury hotel are unparalleled. Aromatic therapies, cedar wood spas, and superb cuisine will all contribute to a memorable stay.

Four Seasons Hotel Tokyo at Marunouchi

MAP N3 ■ Pacific Century Plaza, 1-11-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku ■ 5222-7222 ■ www.fourseasons.com/tokyo ■ ¥¥¥

Located close to Tokyo Station and the Imperial Palace (see pp12–13), this luxurious hotel offers large rooms equipped with wide-screen plasma TV, DVD players, and great views. The service extended by the hotel's multilingual staff is impeccable.

Tokyo Station Hotel

MAP N3 ■ 1-9-1
Marunouchi ■ 5220-1111
■ www.thetokystationhotel.jp ■ ¥¥¥

Occupying one wing of the original 1914, red-brick Tokyo Station (see p76) building, this beautifully appointed hotel has been given a recent update. You can watch the *shinkansen* trains pull in and out of the station or gaze out at the bright towers of Marunouchi and Ginza.

The Westin Tokyo

MAP C2 ■ 1-4-1 Mita,
Meguro-ku ■ 5423-7000
■ www.westin-tokyo.co.jp
■ ¥¥¥

Styled along the lines of grand European hotels, the Westin stands just beyond the Ebisu Garden Place complex. Views from the middle and upper rooms toward the bay and inward over the city are stunning.

Ryokan and Minsuku**Andon Ryokan**

MAP H1 ■ 2-34-10
Nihonzutsumi, Taito-ku
■ 3873-8611 ■ www.andon.co.jp ■ ¥

Enjoy the owner's antique collection while taking in the compact design of this ultra-modern *ryokan*. Every room has Internet access, a TV, and a DVD player. All floors have showers. There is also a communal Jacuzzi. The staff speak English.

Homeikan Honkan

MAP E2 ■ 5-10-5 Hongo,
Bunkyo-ku ■ 3811-1181
■ www.homeikan.com ■ ¥

This atmospheric old wooden *ryokan* with a lovely Japanese garden is

a designated "Important Cultural Property." The inn's location in Hongo, a traditional neighborhood, enhances its charm. Communal bath. Credit cards are not accepted.

Hotel Fukudaya

MAP C2 ■ 4-5-9 Aobadai,
Meguro-ku ■ 3467-5833
■ www2.gol.com/users/ryokan-fukudaya ■ ¥

There's a set of samurai armor displayed in the lobby of this small family-run inn, which is within walking distance of both Shibuya and Naka-Meguro. Most of the rooms are traditional with futon beds and tatami-mat floors. Communal bathroom.

Kimi Ryokan

MAP C1 ■ 2-36-8
Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku ■
3971-3766 ■ www.kimiryokan.jp ■ ¥

Popular with budget travelers, this inn offers small but immaculate Japanese rooms. Bathing is communal. The place offers great value, so it is advisable to book ahead.

Ryokan Katsutaro

MAP F1 ■ 4-16-8
Ikenohata, Taito-ku
■ 3821-9808 ■ www.katsutaro.com ■ ¥

Seven Japanese-style rooms are provided at this friendly, family-run *ryokan* in a quiet, traditional district near Ueno Park (see pp20-21). They also have an annex in Yanaka.

Ryokan Shigetsu

MAP R3 ■ 1-31-11
Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 3843-2345 ■ www.shigetsu.com ■ ¥

This beautifully maintained *ryokan* is adorned with paper screen windows

and tatami mats. The two traditional baths here are a highlight, with views respectively of Senso-ji temple and the city itself.

Ryokan Sansuiso

MAP D2 ■ 2-9-5 Higashi-Gotanda, Shinagawa-ku
■ 3441-7475 ■ www.sansuiso.net ■ ¥

An affordable choice close to Gotanda Station. Some of the Japanese rooms have baths, others have communal facilities. Note that there is a midnight curfew and credit cards are not accepted.

Sawanoya Ryokan

MAP F1 ■ 2-3-11 Yanaka,
Taito-ku ■ 3822-2251
■ www.sawanoya.com ■ ¥

A great place to meet fellow travelers, this long-established *ryokan* is popular with foreign guests. Rooms are small, but comfortable. There is a communal tub for guests, although some rooms do have en suite baths. Situated in the interesting old quarter of Yanaka close to Ueno Park (see p20-21). Credit cards are not accepted.

Sukeroku no Yado Sadachiyo

MAP R2 ■ 2-20-1 Asakusa,
Taito-ku ■ 3842-6431
■ www.sadachiyo.co.jp ■ ¥

A sophisticated, modern Japanese inn located in a peaceful spot just a five-minute walk from Senso-ji temple (see pp14-15). Japanese-style rooms, which come in different sizes, allow you to fully immerse yourself in the Edo-period atmosphere. The staff are helpful, but not very fluent in English. Excellent communal Japanese bath.

Tokyo Ryokan

MAP Q3 ■ 2-4-8 Nishi-Asakusa, Taito-ku ■ 090-8879-3599 ■ www.tokyoryokan.com ■ ¥
Ideal for exploring Asakusa, this charming traditional place has communal bathing. No meals are provided, but there are many local restaurants that the owner can recommend.

Further Afield**Annex Turtle Hotori-an**

MAP B1 ■ 8-28 Takumicho, Nikko ■ 0288-53-3663 ■ www.turtle-nikko.com ■ ¥
This family-run business has been welcoming travellers to Nikko for decades. This is the more modern annex to their original guesthouse and has both Western and Japanese style rooms.

Fuji Hakone Guest House

MAP A2 ■ 912 Sengokuhara, Hakone ■ 0460-84-6577 ■ www.fujihakone.com/en ■ ¥
The English-speaking family who run this traditional-style inn are very welcoming and very knowledgeable about the area's attractions. Sleep on a futon and soak in an outdoor *onsen* bath.

Hotel New Grand

MAP B2 ■ 10 Yamashitacho, Naka-ku, Yokohama ■ 045-681-1841 ■ www.hotel-newgrand.co.jp ■ ¥
A historic hotel in Japan's second-largest city, the Grand has a prime spot opposite a waterfront park and the contemporary cruise terminal. The public areas of the original building live up to their grand billing.

Hotel New Kamakura

MAP B2 ■ 13-2 Onarimachi, Kamakura ■ 0467-22-2230 ■ www.newkamakura.com ■ ¥
Close by the station, the New Kamakura is actually one of the temple town's oldest Western-style hotels with plenty of retro charm. Rooms, both Western and Japanese style, are split across two small buildings.

Nine Hours Narita Airport

MAP B2 ■ Narita International Airport Terminal 2, 1-1 Furugome, Narita ■ 0476-33-5109 ■ www.ninehours.co.jp/en/narita ■ ¥
Handy both for Tokyo's main international airport and as an affordable base for the attractions of Narita. Guests sleep in a roomy, state-of-the-art capsule. Luggage lockers and communal shower facilities for men and women are available.

Fuji Lake Hotel

MAP A2 ■ 1 Funatsu, Fuji-Kawaguchiko-machi ■ 0555-72-2209 ■ www.fujilake.co.jp ■ ¥¥
Stunningly located on the clear shores of Lake Kawaguchi with Mount Fuji as its backdrop, this 1930s hotel has bags of retro appeal. There is a sauna and Jacuzzi in the communal *onsen* bathroom and a viewing terrace if your room doesn't face Mount Fuji.

Fujiya Hotel

MAP B2 ■ 359 Miyanoshita, Hakone ■ 0460-82-2211 ■ www.fujiyahotel.jp ■ ¥¥
One of the oldest Western hotels in Japan and a true

classic, the Fujiya has been in business since 1878, and the wonderful old building has drawn countless dignitaries and celebrities from around the world, including John Lennon. The main dining room is simply majestic. All rooms have a bath fed by natural hot springs.

Nikko Kanaya Hotel

MAP B1 ■ 1300 Kami-Hatsuishi-machi, Nikko ■ 0288-54-0001 ■ www.kanayahotel.co.jp ■ ¥¥
Built in 1873, this classic resort hotel presents an impressive blend of old-world charm and flawless service. Well-appointed rooms date from the Meiji era to the 1950s.

Yokohama Royal Park Hotel

MAP B2 ■ 2-2-1-3 Minato Mirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama ■ 045-221-1111 ■ www.yrph.com ■ ¥¥
This hotel is ideal for those looking for great views. Rooms are located on the 52nd to 67th floors of the soaring Landmark Tower, offering a splendid vista of the waterfront and Mount Fuji.

Hoshinoya Fuji

MAP A2 ■ 1408 Oishi, Fuji-Kawaguchiko-machi ■ 050-3786-0066 ■ www.hoshinoyafuji.com/en ■ ¥¥¥
Japan's first "glamping" resort, Hoshinoya Fuji is as far from camping as you could imagine. Stay in stylish, minimalist cabins, eat under the stars and take part in a range of activities around the lake and Mount Fuji.

General Index

Page numbers in **bold** refer to main entries

21_21 Design Sight 51, 95, 97

47 Ronin Incident (1701) 38, 42

3331 Arts Chiyoda 47

A

ADMT Advertising
Museum Tokyo 45, 83

Air travel 120, 121

Akasaka *see* Roppongi and Akasaka

Akihito, Emperor 13

Ambulances 122, 123

Ameyoko Market 6, 67

Amuse Museum 89

Amusement parks

Hanayashiki 88, 89

Tokyo Disney® Resort 55, 116

Tokyo Dome City 55

Ando, Tadao 51, 95, 101, 103

Aoyama, Harajuku, and Shibuya **100–105**

fashion and design

hangouts 104

maps 100, 103

restaurants 105

walk 103

Aoyama Cemetery 101

Aqua City 35

Aquarium

Tokyo Sea Life Park 54

Archery, horseback 70

Architecture 68

Edo-Tokyo Open Air

Architectural Museum 114–15

modern and contemporary buildings 50–51

Art

arts stores 67

public art 68

art galleries 46–7

Roppongi street art 96 *see also* Museums and galleries

Asahara, Shoko 39

Asahi Beer Hall 16, 50

Asakura, Fumio 33

Asakura Museum of

Sculpture 33

Asakusa *see* Ueno,

Asakusa, and Oshiage

Asakusa Engei Hall 59, 89

Asakusa Jinja 15

Asakusa Kannon Onsen 89

Asano, Lord 38

ATMs 123

Audi Forum Tokyo 103

Aum Shinrikyo subway attack (1995) 39

Azekura Sutra Store 26

Azumabashi Bridge 89

B

Babasaki Moat 77

Bank of Japan 40, 75, 76

Banks 122–3, 124

Bars 64–5

budget tips 69

opening hours 124

Roppongi and Akasaka

98

Shinjuku 110

Basho, Matsuo 17

Basho Inari Shrine and

Statue 17

Baths and hot springs 34,

53

Battery Islands 34

Benten-do 21

Benten Mound 15

Bertolucci, Bernardo 39

Bicycles 121, 125

“Black ships” 38, 114

Boats 120, 121

Bourgeois, Louise 96, 97

Bridges

Azumabashi Bridge 89

Eitai Bridge 17

Engetsukyo Bridge 28

JR Bridge 31

Kiyosu Bridge 16

Komagata Bridge 16

Nihonbashi Bridge 18, 76

Nijubashi Bridge 12

Rainbow Bridge 34

Tsutenkyo Bridge 29

Umayama Bridge 17

Yanagi Bridge 16

Budget travel

free events 68–9

hotels 130–31

Budokan 77

Bunka Gakuen Costume

Museum 107

Bunkamura Theater 58

Buses 120, 121, 125

C

Cafés 64–5

Canadian Embassy

Garden 48

Caretta Shiodome 83

Cars, driving in Tokyo 121

Cathedrals

Nikolai Cathedral 41, 43

St. Mary’s Cathedral 51

Cell phones 124

Cemeteries

Aoyama Cemetery 101

Yanaka Cemetery 32

Central Tokyo **74–9**

maps 74, 77

Central Tokyo (cont.)

restaurants 79

shopping 78

walk 77

Cherry blossom 21, 71

Chidorigafuchi 13

Children’s attractions

54–5

Cinema *see* Film

Clock Museum, Daimyo 33

Clothes

Bunka Gakuen Costume

Museum 107

shopping 104

Clubs

music clubs 60–61, 110

Roppongi and Akasaka

98

Coming-of-Age Day 70

Conder, Josiah 40, 43

Confucianism 42

Consulates 123

Coppola, Sofia 59

Crafts Gallery 6, 13, 40,

76, 77

Credit cards 123

Crime 122

Cultural phenomena 57

Currency 122–3

Currency Museum 76

Customs and immigration

122

Cycling 121, 125

D

Daiei-ji Temple 32

Daikanyama 52

Daimyo (feudal lords) 18

Daimyo Clock Museum 33

Decks 35

Denbo-in Garden 15

Dentists 122

Design Festa 70

Disabled travelers 123

DiverCity Tokyo Plaza 35

Doctors 122

Drum Museum 54

E

Earthquakes 13, 38, 122

Edo 38

Edo Castle 76

Edo-Shitamachi

Traditional Crafts

Museum 88, 89

Edo-Tokyo Museum 6, 7,

10, **18–19**, 44

Edo-Tokyo Open Air

Architectural Museum

114–15

Eitai Bridge 17

Electrical appliances 125

Embassies 123

Emergency services 122,

123

Ende and Böckmann 41
 Engetsukyo Bridge 28
 Enshu, Kobori 15, 75
 Entertainment 58–9
 festivals and events 69,
 70–71
 free events 68–9
 pop culture venues 56–7
 Ethnic food, Shin-Okubo
 108
 Events 69, 70–71

F

Farther afield **112–17**
 The best of the rest 116
 hotels 133
 map 112–13
 restaurants 117
 Two days in Kamakura
 115
 Ferries 120, 121
 Festivals 69, 70–71
 Films 59
 National Film Center
 (NFC) 81
 Fire services 122, 123
 Fireworks, Sumida River
 17, 71
 Flea markets 69
 Flower and plant events 71
 Food and drink
 ethnic food in Shin-
 Okubo 108
 see also Bars; Cafés;
 Restaurants
 Free events 68–9
 Fuji, Mount 114
 Fuji TV Building 35
 Fujita, Tsuguharu 12

G

Galleries *see* Museums
 and galleries
 Gallery Koyanagi 46
 Gallery Ma 97
 Gardens *see* Parks and
 gardens
 Ghibli Museum 54, 57, 116
 Ginza 18, 69, **80–85**
 maps 80, 83
 restaurants 85
 shopping 83
 specialist stores 84
 walk 83
 Ginza Graphic Gallery 46
 Gojo Tenjinsha Fox Shrine
 20
 Gokoku-ji Temple 41
 Golden Gai 7, 107, 109
 Golden Kannon 15, 38
 Gotoh Art Museum 116
 Grant, Ulysses S. 43
 Great Buddha of Yanaka
 32, 33
 Great Kanto Earthquake
 (1923) 13, 38
Great Wave (Hokusai) 39

H

Hachiko
 statue of 69, 101, 102
 Hakone 114
 Hama Rikyu Garden 6, 17,
 48, 82
 Hanayashiki 88, 89
 Hanazari Inari Fox Shrine
 20
 Hanazono Shrine 109
 Hara Museum of
 Contemporary Art 116
 Harajuku *see* Aoyama,
 Harajuku, and Shibuya
 Hattori Building 41, 83
 Health care 122, 123
 Heiseikan 26
 Helicopter tours 125
 Herzog & de Meuron 51
 Hibiya Park 48, 81
 Hie Shrine 43, 92–3, 95
 Higuchi, Ichiyo 39
 Historic buildings 40–41
 History 38–9
 Hokusai, Katsushika 39,
 101
 Hongan-ji Temple 40
 Honkan 26
 Horai-jima Island 28
 Horseback archery 70
 Hospitals 122, 123
 Hot springs 34, 53
 Hotels 126–7, 128–33
 Hyokeikan 27

I

Ichi no Torii 30
 Idemitsu, Sado 82
 Idemitsu Museum of Arts
 45, 82
 Inari 82
 Ietsuna 82
 Ikebukuro 52
 Imperial Palace East
 Gardens 12, 75, 77
 Imperial Palace Grounds
 6, 7, 10, **12–13**
 Imperial Palace Plaza 13
 Imperial Treasure House
 30
 Inari 42
 Inokashira Park 116
 Institute for Nature Study
 and Park 49
 Insurance 122
 Intermediatheque 44, 76
 Internet 69, 124
 Isetan Art Gallery 109
 Isetatsu 33
 Ito, Chuta 40
 Ito, Toyo 101, 103
 Izumi, Yosuke 88

J

Japan Folk Crafts
 Museum 44
 Japanese Sword Museum
 53

Jenner, Edward, statue of
 27
 JR Bridge 31

K

Kabuki-za Theater 6, 19,
 59, 81
 Kabukicho 7, 106, 109
 Kagurazaka 53
 Kamakura 115
 Kaminari-mon Gate 14, 89
 Kanda Matsuri 71
 Kanda Myojin Shrine 42
 Kannon 14, 15, 38, 70
 Kappabashi Kitchenware
 Town 89
 Kara-mon Gate 20
 Kassatkin, St. Nikolai 43
 Kawagoe 113
 Kawaguchi-ko 114
 Kenzo Tange Associates 50
 KidZania 54
 Kikuchi, Rinko 59
 Kikuchi, Tomo 96
 Kira, Lord 38
 Kitanomaru Park 77
 Kite Museum 54, 77
 Kiyosu Bridge 16
 Kiyosumi-teien Garden 48
 Koishikawa Korakuen
 Garden 7, 11, **28–9**, 49
 Komagata Bridge 16
 Korin, Ogata 100
 Kuhachiya House 28
 Kuma, Kengo 44, 53, 103
 Kurokawa, Kisho 50, 51
 Kurosawa, Akira 39
 Kyu-Furukawa Gardens 52
 Kyu Iwasaki-tei Mansion
 40

L

Language, phrase book
 141–3
 Le Corbusier 20
 Long-Sleeves Fire (1657)
 38

M

Maekawa, Kunio 87
 Magazines 124, 125
 Maki, Fumihiko 46
 Manet, Édouard 75
 Manjiro, John 101
 Maps
 Aoyama, Harajuku, and
 Shibuya 100, 103
 art galleries 46
 cafés and bars 64
 Central Tokyo 74, 77
 exploring Tokyo 6–7
 Farther afield 112–13
 gardens and parks 48
 Ginza 80, 83
 historic buildings 41
 Imperial Palace Grounds
 13
 Kamakura 115

- Maps (cont.)
 Koishikawa Korakuen Garden 29
 modern and contemporary buildings 50
 museums and galleries 44
 music clubs 61
 Odaiba Island 35
 places of worship 43
 restaurants 63
 Roppongi and Akasaka 94, 97
 Senso-ji Temple 15
 Shinjuku 106, 109
 Tokyo highlights 10–11
 Ueno, Asakusa, and Oshiage 86–7, 89
 Ueno Park 21
- Markets 66–7, 69
- Meiji Emperor 30, 43, 95, 102
- Meiji era 18, 21
- Meiji Shrine 6, 7, 11, 30–31, 43, 102
- Meiji Shrine Iris Garden 11, 31
- Michiko, Empress 13
- Ministry of Justice Building 41
- Minsuku, hotels 132–3
- Mitford, Algernon 30
- Mito family 29
- Mitsui Memorial Museum 77
- Miyake, Issey 95
- Miyazaki, Hayao 39, 54, 116
- Mobile phones 124
- Mode Gakuen Cocoon Tower 50
- Modern and contemporary buildings 50–51
- Money 122–3
- Monorail 120–21
- Mori Art Museum 45, 97
- Mount Fuji 114
- Mount Takao 114
- Mukojima Hyakka-en Garden 48
- Murray, Bill 59
- Museums and galleries 44–7
 budget tips 68, 69
 opening hours 124
 3331 Arts Chiyoda 47
 ADMT Advertising Museum Tokyo 45, 83
 Amuse Museum 89
 Asakura Museum of Sculpture 33
 Bunka Gakuen Costume Museum 107
 Crafts Gallery 6, 13, 40, 76, 77
 Currency Museum 76
- Museums and galleries (cont.)
 Daimyo Clock Museum 33
 Drum Museum 54
 Edo-Shitamachi Traditional Crafts Museum 88, 89
 Edo-Tokyo Museum 6, 7, 10, 18–19, 44
 Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum 114–15
 Gallery Koyanagi 46
 Gallery Ma 97
 Ghibli Museum 54, 57, 116
 Ginza Graphic Gallery 46
 Gotoh Art Museum 116
 Hara Museum of Contemporary Art 116
 Idemitsu Museum of Arts 45, 82
 Intermediatheque 44, 76
 Isetan Art Gallery 109
 Japan Folk Crafts Museum 44
 Japanese Sword Museum 53
 Kite Museum 54, 77
 Mitsui Memorial Museum 77
 Mori Art Museum 45, 97
 Mukojima Hyakka-en Garden 48
 Musée Tomo 96
 Museum of Contemporary Art [MOT] 116
 National Art Center, Tokyo 47, 51, 95, 97
 National Film Center (NFC) 81
 National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation 7, 35, 55
 National Museum of Modern Art (MOMAT) 6, 12, 75
 National Museum of Western Art 20
 National Science Museum 55, 87
 Nezu Museum 6, 44, 100, 103
 Nihon Minka-en 116
 NTT InterCommunication Center 108
 Railway Museum (Omiya) 113
 SCAL – The Bathhouse 47
 Shiseido Gallery 46
 Shitamachi Museum 21
 Sompō Japan Nipponkoa Museum of Art 108
 Spiral 46, 103
- Museums and galleries (cont.)
 Sugunami Animation Museum 116
 Suntory Museum of Art 95, 97
 Taro Okamoto Memorial Museum 103
 Toguri Museum of Art 102
 Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum 87
 Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography 45
 Tokyo National Museum 6, 7, 11, 24–7, 45, 87
 Tokyo Wonder Site 47
 The Tolman Collection 46
 Ukiyo-e Ota Memorial Museum of Art 44, 101
 Zeit-Foto Salon 47
- Music clubs 60–61
 Shinjuku 110
- N**
- Nade Jizo 15
- Nagai, Kafu 39
- Naka-Meguro 52
- Nakagin Capsule Tower 50
- Nakamise-dori 14
- Nakano 116
- Naritasan Shinshoji Temple 115
- National Art Center, Tokyo 47, 51, 95, 97
- National Diet Building 40
- National Film Center (NFC) 81
- National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation 7, 35, 55
- National Museum of Modern Art (MOMAT) 6, 12, 75
- National Museum of Western Art 20
- National Noh Theatre 58
- National Science Museum 55, 87
- National Theatre 58
- Natsume, Soseki 39
- New National Theater 58
- New Year's Day 70
- Newspapers 124, 125
- Nezu, Kaichiro 100
- Nezu Museum 6, 44, 100, 103
- Nezu Shrine 42
- Nihon Minka-en 116
- Nihonbashi Bridge 18, 76
- Nijubashi Bridge 12
- Nikko 113
- Nikolai Cathedral 41, 43
- Ningyocho 53
- Nippon Budokan 13
- Nishizawa, Ryue 101
- Niten-mon Gate 14

Nogi, General Maresuke 95
 Nogi Shrine 95, 97
 Noh theater 58
 NTT InterCommunication
 Center 108

O

Odaiba Island 7, 11, **34-5**
 Odaiba Marine Park 35
 Oden, Takahashi 32
 Oedo Onsen Monogatari 7,
 34
 Off the beaten path 52-3
 Okamoto, Taro 103
 Olympic Games (1964) 39,
 76, 102
 Omiya 113
 Omotesando 6, 7, 101, 103
 Ono, Yoko 39
 Opening hours 124
 Origami Kaikan 69
 Oshiage *see* Ueno,
 Asakusa, and Oshiage
 Oshima, Nagisa 59
 Ota, Seizo 101
 Ota Dokan's Fort 38
 Ote-mon Gate 12
 Ozu, Yasujiro 39, 59

P

Palace *see* Imperial Palace
 Palette Town 34
 Parkes, Sir Harry 30
 Parks and gardens 48-9
 Denbo-in Garden 15
 flower and plant events
 71
 Hama Rikyu Garden 6,
 17, 48, 82
 Hibiya Park 48, 81
 Imperial Palace East
 Gardens 12, 75, 77
 Imperial Palace Grounds
 6, 7, 10, **12-13**
 Inokashira Park 116
 Institute for Nature
 Study and Park 49
 Kitanomaru Park 77
 Kiyosumi-teien Garden
 48
 Koishikawa Korakuen
 Garden 7, 11, **28-9**, 49
 Kyu-Furukawa Gardens
 52
 Meiji Shrine Iris Garden
 11, 31
 Odaiba Marine Park 35
 Rikugi-en Garden 49
 Shinjuku Gyoen 36-7,
 49, 107, 109
 Tokyo National Museum
 26
 Ueno Park 6, 7, 10,
20-21, 86
 Wadakura Fountain Park
 13
 Yoyogi Park 49, 68-9
 Parliament 40

Passports 122, 123
 Pentax Forum 107
 Perry, Commodore
 Matthew 34, 38, 114
 Personal security 122
 Pharmacies 122, 123
 Phrase book 141-3
 Places of worship 42-3
 Police 122, 123
 Pop culture venues 56-7
 Postal services 124, 125
 Prada Aoyama Building 51
 Public art 68

R

Radio 124, 125
 Railways 120, 121
 Railway Museum
 (Omiya) 113
 Rainbow Bridge 34
 Religion 42-3
 Restaurants 62-3, 126, 127
 Aoyama, Harajuku, and
 Shibuya 105
 budget tips 69
 Central Tokyo 79
 Farther afield 117
 Ginza 85
 opening hours 124
 Roppongi and Akasaka
 99
 Shinjuku 111
 Ueno, Asakusa, and
 Oshiage 91
see also Food and drink
 Rickshaws 88
 Rikugi-en Garden 49
 RiSuPia 34
 Roppongi and Akasaka
94-9
 clubs and bars 98
 maps 94, 97
 restaurants 99
 street art 96
 walk 97
 Roppongi Hills 6, 94, 97
 Russian Orthodox Church
 41, 43
 Ryogoku 53
 Ryokan and Minsuku
 hotels 132-3

S

Safety 122, 123
 Saigo Takamori Statue 21
 St. Mary's Cathedral 51
 Sakamoto, Ryuichi 39
 Sakurada-mon Gate 12
 San-mon Gate 97
 Sanja Festival 70
 SCAI - The Bathhouse 47
 Sejima, Kazuyo 101
 Sengaku-ji Temple 42
 Senso-ji Temple 6, 7, 8-9,
 10, **14-15**, 38, 42, 88, 89
 Seven-Five-Three Festival
 71
 Sharaku, Toshusai 101

Shibamata 116
 Shibuya *see* Aoyama,
 Harajuku, and Shibuya
 Shibuya Crossing 69, 103
 Shibuya style 103
 Shimbashi Enbujo 59
 Shimokitazawa 52
 Shin-Okubo 108, 109
 Shinjuku 6, 72-3, **106-11**
 bars and music clubs 110
 maps 106, 109
 restaurants 111
 walk 109
 Shinjuku Gyoen 36-7, 49,
 107, 109
 Shinobazu Pond 21
 Shinto architecture 30
 Shiodome 83
 Shiomizaka 12
 Shiryokan 26
 Shiseido Gallery 46
 Shitamachi Museum 21
 Shoken, Empress 30
 Shopping 126, 127
 Aoyama, Harajuku, and
 Shibuya 104
 Central Tokyo 78
 children's shopping 55
 Ginza 83, 84
 markets, shopping
 streets, and stores 66-7
 opening hours 124
 Ueno, Asakusa, and
 Oshiage 90
 Shrines 68
 Basho Inari Shrine and
 Statue 17
 Gojo Tenjinsha Fox
 Shrine 20
 Hanazari Inari Fox
 Shrine 20
 Hanazono Shrine 109
 Hie Shrine 43, 92-3, 95
 Kanda Myojin Shrine 42
 Meiji Shrine 6, 7, 11,
30-31, 43, 102
 Nezu Shrine 42
 Nogi Shrine 95, 97
 Sumiyoshi Shrine 16
 Suwa Shrine 32
 Togo Shrine 102
 Toshogu Shrine 20
 Toyokawa Inari Shrine
 and Temple 96
 water purification rites
 70
 Yasukuni Shrine 42-3, 77
see also Temples
 Shunmyo, Masuno 48
 Sompō Japan Nipponkoa
 Museum of Art 108
 Sony Building 81
 Spiral 46, 103
 Starck, Philippe 16, 50
 Stone Age Tokyo 27
 Street art
 Roppongi 96
 Streetcars 52

- Subway 120, 121
 Suginami Animation Museum 116
 Sumida River 6, 7, 10, **16-17**, 89
 fireworks 17, 71
 Sumiyoshi Shrine 16
 Suntory Hall 58
 Suntory Museum of Art 95, 97
 Suwa Shrine 32
- T**
 Taisho period 83
 Takamori 21
 Takamura, Koun 27
 Takao, Mount 114
 Takarazuka Theater 58
 Takashimaya Times Square 108-9
 Takeshita-dori 7, 102
 Tange, Kenzo 35, 50, 51, 102, 103, 109
 Taniguchi, Yoshio 26
 Tanizaki, Junichiro 39
 Taro Okamoto Memorial Museum 103
 Tatsuno, Kingo 40, 41, 75, 76
 Taxis 121
 Tea ceremony 29
 Telephones 124, 125
 Television 124, 125
 Temples 68
 Benten-do 21
 Daien-ji Temple 32
 Gokoku-ji Temple 41
 Hongan-ji Temple 40
 Naritasan Shinshoji Temple 115
 Sengaku-ji Temple 42
 Senso-ji Temple 6, 7, 8-9, 10, **14-15**, 38, 42, 88, 89
 Tenno-ji Temple 32
 Toyokawa Inari Shrine and Temple 96
 Yushima Seido Temple 42
 Zensho-an Temple 32
 Zojō-ji Temple 6, 43, 97
 see also Shrines
 Tenno-ji Temple 32
 Tennozu Isle 52
 Terrorism 39
 Theaters 58-9
 Kabuki-za Theater 6, 19, 59, 81
 Theme parks *see*
 Amusement parks
 Time difference 125
 Tipping 124
 Toden Arakawa Streetcar Line 52
 Togo, Admiral Heihachiro 102
 Togo, Seiji 108
 Togo Shrine 102
- Toguri Museum of Art 102
 Tokudaiji Sahei 28
 Tokugawa Ieyasu 20, 38, 113
 Tokugawa shogunate 28, 43, 97
 Tokugawa Yorifusa 28
 Tokugawa Yoshinobu 32
 Tokyo Big Sight 35, 56
 Tokyo City View 97
 Tokyo Disney® Resort 55, 116
 Tokyo Dome 59
 Tokyo Dome City 55
 Tokyo International Forum 7, 51, 82
 Tokyo Marathon 70
 Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum 87
 Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building 7, 50, 109
 Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography 45
 Tokyo Midtown 6, 95, 97
 Tokyo National Museum 6, 7, 11, **24-7**, 45, 87
 Tokyo Sea Life Park 54
 Tokyo Skytree 6, 7, 17, 51, 89
 Tokyo Station 7, 41, 76, 77
 Tokyo Tower 6, 96
 Tokyo Wonder Site 47
 The Tolman Collection 46
Torii 30
 Toshogu Shrine 20
 Tourist information 124, 125
 Tours 69, 125
 Toyokan 26
 Toyokawa Inari Shrine and Temple 96
 Toyosu Fish Market 66
 Trains 120, 121
 Railway Museum (Omiya) 113
 Trams 120-21
 Travel 69, 120-21
 Travel insurance 122
 Travel safety advice 122, 123
 Trips and tours 125
 Tsukiji Outer Market 6, 66, 82
 Tsukuda-jima 16
 Tsunayoshi 42
 Tsutenkyo Bridge 29
- U**
 Ueno, Asakusa, and Oshiage **86-91**
 maps 86-7, 89
 restaurants 91
 specialist shops 90
 walk 89
 Ueno, Battle of (1868) 33
 Ueno, Professor 101
- Ueno Park 6, 7, 10, **20-21**, 86
 Ueno Sakuragi Atari 33
 Ueno Zoo 20, 54
 Ugolini 30
 Ukiyo-e Ota Memorial Museum of Art 44, 101
 Umay Bridge 17
 United Nations University 103
 Unkai, Yonehara 27
- V**
 Van Gogh, Vincent 108
 Viewing observatories 68
 Viñoly, Rafael 51, 82
 Visas 122, 123
 Visitor information 124, 125
- W**
 Wadakura Fountain Park 13
 Wako Building 41
 Walks
 Aoyama, Harajuku, and Shibuya 103
 Central Tokyo 77
 Ginza 83
 Roppongi and Akasaka 97
 Shinjuku 109
 Ueno, Asakusa, and Oshiage 89
 walking tours 69, 125
 Watanabe, Jin 26, 41
 Water parks
 Wadakura Fountain Park 13
 Water purification rites 70
 Weather 125
 Wi-Fi 69
 Women travelers 122
 World War II 13, 39
 Wright, Frank Lloyd 52
- Y**
 Yanagi Bridge 16
 Yanaka 7, 11, **32-3**
 Yanaka Cemetery 32
 Yanaka Ginza 32
 Yasukuni Shrine 42-3, 77
 Yokohama 114, 118-19
 Yoyogi National Stadium 102
 Yoyogi Park 49, 68-9
 Yushima Seido Temple 42
- Z**
 Zeit-Foto Salon 47
 Zensho-an Temple 32
 Zhu Shunshui 28
 Zojō-ji Temple 6, 43, 97
 Zoos
 Tokyo Sea Life Park 54
 Ueno Zoo 20, 54

Acknowledgments

Author

Stephen Mansfield

Additional Contributor

Simon Richmond

Publishing Director Georgina Dee

Publisher Vivien Antwi

Design Director Phil Ormerod

Editorial Sophie Adam, Michelle Crane, Alice Fewery, Rachel Fox, Sally Schafer, Jackie Staddon

Design Hansa Babra, Tessa Bindloss, Richard Czarnik, Marisa Renzullo, Stuti Tiwari

Picture Research Sumita Khatwani, Ellen Root, Lucy Sienkowska, Rituraj Singh

Cartography Dominic Beddow, Simonetta Giori, Casper Morris, Reetu Pandey

DTP Jason Little

Production Nancy-Jane Maun

Factchecker Stephen Forster

Proofreader Leena Lane

Indexer Hilary Bird

First edition created by Quadrum Solutions, Mumbai

Picture Credits

The publisher would like to thank the following for their kind permission to reproduce their photographs:

Key: a-above; b-below/bottom; c-centre; f-far; l-left; r-right; t-top

123RF.com: Kriengkrai Choochote 112tl; coward_lion 21c; Ivan Marchuk 74tl; Sean Pavone 4cl, 106cl; Norikazu Satomi 10clb; yyama3270 16bl.

3331 Arts Chiyoda: Chiyoda Arts Festival 2011 47cr.

Alamy Stock Photo: A.F. Archive 59br; AFLO/Nippon News/Natsuki Sakai 71cla; Aflo Co. Ltd 71bc, /Keiki Haginoya 31br; age fotostock/Javier Larrea 42b; Mark Bassett 4cr, 54b; Patrick Batchelder 3tl, 48bl, 72-3; Paul Brown 92-3; DEA/G. Sosio 34br; Songquan Deng 15bl; World Discovery 32cl, 47t, 67tr, 67cl, 78cla, 104clb; EDU Vision 52tl, 76br; F1online digitale Bildagentur GmbH /S. Tauqueur 11br; Gavin Hellier 69cl; hemis.fr/Patrick Fritel 54cla; Peter Horree 24cr, 69tr; Alex Hunter 51tl; INTERFOTO/Fine Arts 45tl, /History 38br; Japan Stock Photography 77tl; Japan travel photography 66br; JTB MEDIA CREATION, Inc /JTB Photo/UIG 11clb, 40cl, 96t; Andrey Kelyalyaynen 14clb; John Lander 28br, 29tl; Yannick Luthy 114bl; Oleksiy Maksymenko

49b, 55tr; Greg McNevin 53cl; Trevor Mogg 56t; Luciano Mortula 43cr; Motion/Horizon Images 70tl; James Nesterwitz 32br; Sean Pavone 3tr, 17tl, 34-5, 57clb, 68cla, 103tl, 118-9; PersimmonPictures.com 52b; Phanie/ Voisin 57tr; Prisma Bildagentur AG/Raga Jose Fuste 13cr, 56br; Alex Segre 66tl; John Steele 94tl; Jeremy Sutton-Hibbert 53tr, 63b; Ivan Vdovin 27ca; Steve Vidler 88tl; Peter M. Wilson 11cr; Masayuki Yamashita 50cl.

Asakusa Imahan: 62t.

AWL Images: Christian Kober 117cra; Travel Pix Collection 1, 2tl, 4t, 4b, 8-9.

Blue Note Tokyo: 61t.

Bridgeman Images: Seiji Togo Memorial Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan *Sunflowers* [1889] by Vincent van Gogh 108tr; Werner Forman Archive 80tl.

Conrad Tokyo: TwentyEight 65b.

Corbis: 39br; All Canada Photos/Ken Paul 15cr; Atlantide Phototravel /Massimo Borchi 12br, 75t, 82-3, 111bl; Bettmann 39cl; Tibor Bogner 86tr; incamerastock /Iain Masterton 75br, 95cra; Masterfile /F. Lukasseck 96br; Kimimasa Mayama 71tl; Nippon News/AFLO 102cl; Nippon News /AFLO /Rory Merry 110cl; Photononstop /Calle Montes 109cl.

Design Festa: 70cr.

Dreamstime.com: Andreevae 89cl; Bennnn 115cla; Ratchadaporn Chullanan 30cla; Cowardlion 20br, 41tl, 76tl, 86cl, 97cl, 102b, 113t; dragoncello 31tl; Foto99 95b; Gjeerawut 87tr; Hiro1775 49tl, 114cl; Javarman 107b; Sornransan Khonglua 35cra; Mihai-bogdan Lazar 6cla; Esteban Miyahira 113br; Mnsanthoshkumar 79bl; Luciano Mortula 7cra, 14-5; Sean Pavone 10cla, 40b, 82tl; Jaturun Phuengphuttharak 4cla; Ppy2010ha 105ca; Mohd Fuad Salleh 10cra; Siraanamwong 100cla; Torsakarin 51bl; Maria Vazquez 88b; Sarah Wilkie 5clb; Buddhapon Wongsanont 10c; Xiye 31clb; Yuryz 55clb, 68b.

Getty Images: AFP/Reuters/Issei Kato 59cla, /Toshifumi Kitamura 58tl; Aro @ Photography 15cra; The Asahi Shimbun 21tl; Marco Brivio 12-3; Print Collector 38cla; JTB Photo 17cra; Koichi Kamoshida 58cra; LightRocket/John S Lander 27b, 28cla; Sergio Lora 11cra, 32-3; Maremagnum 85cra; takau99 29cra; Yoshikazu Tsuno 20-1; UIG/JTB Photo 16-7, 101t; WireImage/Jun Sato 60br.

Goodbeer Faucets: 65t.

iStockphoto.com: Hiro1775 116b; magicflute002 2tr, 14cla, 36-7b; MiriamPolito 42cla; orpheus26 30-1; Marek Slusarczyk 10b; winhorse 81b.

Las Chicas: 105crb.

Mori Art Museum: 2012 Takashi Murakami/
Kaikai Kiki Co., Ltd /Takayama Koza 45b.

National Film Center Exhibition: 81tr.

**National Museum of Emerging Science and
Innovation:** 35tr.

The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo:
Mother and Child (1934) by Uemura Shoen,
color on silk, framed, 168.0 × 115.5 cm,
Important Cultural Property 12cl.

NTT InterCommunication Center: 108bl.

Park Hyatt Tokyo: 64cl, 111tr.

Photoshot: 90t.

Pink Cow: 98b.

Robert Harding Picture Library: Tibor
Bognar 94cra; Lucas Vallecillos 4crb, 104tr.

Shiseido Gallery: Embracing for Painting/
Photo by Ken Kato 46b.

SuperStock: Steve Vidler 22-3.

Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum:
18-9, 19cb.

Images courtesy of Tokyo National Museum:
11tl, 24bl, 25tl, 25bc, 25clb, 26t, 26clb, 45c.

Cover

Front and spine: **Alamy Stock Photo:** Sean
Pavone.

Back: **Dreamstime.com:** Sepavo.

Pull Out Map Cover

Alamy Stock Photo: Sean Pavone.

All other images © Dorling Kindersley

For further information see:

www.dkimages.com



Penguin
Random
House

Printed and bound in China

First American Edition 2009
Published in the United States by:
DK Publishing, 345 Hudson Street,
New York, New York 10014

Copyright 2009, 2017 © Dorling
Kindersley Limited

A Penguin Random House Company

17 18 19 20 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

**Reprinted with revisions 2011, 2013,
2015, 2017**

All rights reserved. Without limiting the rights
under copyright reserved above, no part of this
publication may be reproduced, stored in
or introduced into a retrieval system, or
transmitted in any form or by any means
(electronic, mechanical, photocopying,
recording, or otherwise), without the prior
written permission of both the copyright
owner and the above publisher of this book.

A Cataloging in Publication record is available
from the Library of Congress.

ISSN 1479-344X

ISBN 978 1 4654 5998 5



SPECIAL EDITIONS OF DK TRAVEL GUIDES

DK Travel Guides can be purchased
in bulk quantities at discounted prices
for use in promotions or as premiums.
We are also able to offer special
editions and personalized jackets,
corporate imprints, and excerpts from
all of our books, tailored specifically to
meet your own needs.

To find out more, please contact:

in the US
specialsales@dk.com

in the UK
travelguides@uk.dk.com

in Canada
specialmarkets@dk.com

in Australia
[penguincorporatesales@
penguinrandomhouse.com.au](mailto:penguincorporatesales@penguinrandomhouse.com.au)

*As a guide to abbreviations in visitor information
blocks: Adm = admission charge; DA = disabled
access; D = dinner; L = lunch.*

Phrase Book

The origins of the Japanese language are unclear. Written Japanese uses a combination of four scripts: Chinese ideograms, known as *kanji*; two syllable-based alphabet systems known as *hiragana* and *katakana*; and the Latin alphabet, *romaji*. *Hiragana* and *katakana* are similar, *katakana* often functioning in a similar way to the use of italics in English. Traditionally, Japanese is written in vertical columns from top right to bottom left, though the Western system is widely used. There are several romanization systems: the Hepburn system is used in this guide. To simplify romanization, macrons (long marks over vowels to indicate longer pronunciation) have not been used. Japanese pronunciation is fairly straightforward, and many words are "Japanized" versions of Western words. This Phrase Book gives the English word or phrase, followed by the Japanese script, then the romanization, adapted to aid pronunciation.

Guidelines for Pronunciation

When reading the romanization, give the same emphasis to all syllables. The practice in English of giving one syllable greater stress may render a Japanese word incomprehensible.

Pronounce vowels as in these English words:

<i>a</i>	as the "a" in "again"
<i>e</i>	as in "red"
<i>i</i>	as in "in"
<i>o</i>	as in "solid"
<i>u</i>	as the "u" in "cuckoo"

When two vowels are used together, sound each letter separately:

<i>ai</i>	as in "pine"
<i>ae</i>	as if written "ah-eh"
<i>ei</i>	as in "pay"

Consonants are pronounced as in English. The letter *g* is always hard as in "gate," and *j* is always soft as in "joke." *R* is pronounced something between *r* and *l*. *F* is sometimes pronounced as *h*. "Sj" always becomes "shi," but some people pronounce "shi" as "hi." *V* in Western words (e.g., "video") becomes *b*. If followed by a consonant, *n* may be pronounced as either *n* or *m*.

All consonants except *n* are always either followed by a vowel or doubled; however, sometimes an *i* or *u* is barely pronounced. In this Phrase Book, to aid pronunciation, apostrophes are used where an *i* or *u* is barely pronounced within a word, and double consonants where this occurs at the end of a word.

Dialects

Standard Japanese is used and understood throughout Japan by people of all backgrounds. But on a colloquial level, there are significant differences in both pronunciation and vocabulary, even between the Tokyo and Osaka-Kyoto areas, and rural accents are very strong.

Polite Words and Phrases

There are several different levels of politeness in the Japanese language, according to status, age, and situation. In everyday conversation, politeness levels are simply a question of the length of verb endings (longer is more polite), but in formal conversation entirely different words (*keigo*) are used. The level given in this Phrase Book is neutral, yet polite.

In an Emergency

Help!	たすけて!	<i>Tas/kete!</i>
Stop!	とめて!	<i>Tomete!</i>
Call a doctor!	医者をやんで ください!	<i>Isha o yonde kudasai!</i>
Call an ambulance!	救急車を よんでください!	<i>Kyukyushua o yonde kudasai!</i>
Call the police!	警察を よんでください!	<i>Keisatsu o yonde kudasai!</i>
Fire!	火事!	<i>Kaji!</i>
Where is the hospital?	病院はどこに ありますか?	<i>Byoin wa doko ni arimass-ka?</i>
police box	交番	<i>koban</i>

Communication Essentials

Yes/no.	はい/いいえ	<i>Hai/ie.</i>
Thank you.	ありがとうございます。	<i>Arigato.</i>
Please (offering).	どうぞ。	<i>Dozo.</i>
Please (asking).	おねがいします。	<i>Onegai shimass.</i>
Do you speak English?	英語を 話せますか?	<i>Eigo o hanasemass-ka?</i>
I can't speak Japanese.	日本語は 話せません。	<i>Nihongo wa hanasemasen.</i>
Sorry/Excuse me!	すみません。	<i>Sumimasen!</i>
Could you help me please? (not emergency)	ちょっと手伝って いただけませんか?	<i>Chotto tetsudatte itadakemassen-ka?</i>

Useful Phrases

My name is...	わたしの 名前は... です。	<i>Watashi no namae wa... des.</i>
How do you do, pleased to meet you.	はじめまして、 どうぞ よろしく。	<i>Hajime-mash'te dozo yorosh'ku.</i>
How are you?	お元気ですか?	<i>Ogenki dess-ka?</i>
Good morning.	おはよう ございます。	<i>Ohayo gozaimass.</i>
Good afternoon/good day.	こんにちは。	<i>Konnichiwa.</i>
Good evening.	こんばんは。	<i>Konbanwa.</i>
Good night.	おやすみなさい。	<i>Oyasumi nasai.</i>
Good-bye.	さよなら。	<i>Sayonara.</i>
What is (this)?	(これは) 何 ですか?	<i>(Kore wa) nan dess-ka?</i>
Where can I get ...?	...はどこに ありますか?	<i>...wa doko ni arimass-ka?</i>
How much is it?	いくらですか?	<i>Ikura dess-ka?</i>
What time is ...?	...何時ですか?	<i>... nan-ji dess-ka?</i>
Cheers! (toast)	乾杯!	<i>Kanpai!</i>
Where is the restroom/toilet?	お手洗い/おトイレ はどこ ですか?	<i>Toire wa doko dess-ka?</i>
Here's my business card.	名刺をどうぞ。	<i>Meishi o dozo.</i>
How do you use this?	これをどうやって 使いますか?	<i>Kore o doyatte ts'kaimass-ka?</i>

Useful Words

I	わたし	<i>watashi</i>
woman	女性	<i>josei</i>
man	男性	<i>dansei</i>
wife	奥さん	<i>ok'san</i>
husband	主人	<i>shujin</i>
big/small	大きい/小さい	<i>okii/chiiisai</i>
hot/cold	暑い/寒い	<i>atsui/samui</i>
warm	温かい	<i>ataatai</i>
good/	いい/よくない/	<i>ii/yokunai/warui</i>
not good/bad	悪い	
free (no charge)	ただ/無料	<i>tada/muryo</i>
here	ここ	<i>koko</i>
there	あそこ	<i>asoko</i>
this	これ	<i>kore</i>

that (nearby)	それ	<i>sore</i>
that (far away)	あれ	<i>are</i>
what?	何?	<i>nani?</i>
when?	いつ?	<i>itsu?</i>
why?	なぜ?/どうして?	<i>naze?/doshite?</i>
where?	どこ?	<i>doko?</i>
who?	誰?	<i>dare?</i>
which way?	どちら?	<i>dochira?</i>
enough	じゅうぶん/結構	<i>jubun/kekko</i>

Signs

open	営業中	<i>eigyo-chu</i>
closed	休日	<i>kyujitsu</i>
entrance	入口	<i>iriguchi</i>
exit	出口	<i>deguchi</i>
danger	危険	<i>iken</i>
emergency exit	非常口	<i>hijo-guchi</i>
information	案内	<i>annai</i>
restroom, toilet	お手洗い/手洗い/ おトイレ/トイレ	<i>otearai/tearai/ otoire/toire</i>
free (vacant)	空き	<i>aki</i>
men	男	<i>otoko</i>
women	女	<i>onna</i>

Money

Could you change this into yen please.	これを円に替えてください。	<i>Kore o en ni kaete kudasai.</i>
I'd like to cash these travelers' checks.	このトラベラーズチェックを現金にしたいです。	<i>Kono toraberazu chekku o genkin ni shitai dess.</i>
Do you take credit cards/travelers' checks?	クレジットカード/トラベラーズチェックで払えますか?	<i>Kurejitto kado/toraberazu chekku de haraemass-ka?</i>
bank	銀行	<i>ginko</i>
cash	現金	<i>genkin</i>
credit card	クレジットカード	<i>kurejitto kado</i>
currency exchange office	両替所	<i>ryogaejo</i>
dollars	ドル	<i>doru</i>
pounds	ポンド	<i>pondo</i>
yen	円	<i>en</i>

Keeping in Touch

Where is a telephone?	電話はどこにありますか	<i>Denwa wa doko ni arimass-ka?</i>
May I use your phone?	電話を使ってもいいですか	<i>Denwa o ts'katte mo ii dess-ka?</i>
Hello, this is	もしもし、...です。	<i>Moshi-moshi, ... dess.</i>
I'd like to make an international call.	国際電話、お願いします	<i>Kokusai denwa, onegai shimass.</i>
airmail	航空便	<i>kokubin</i>
email	メール	<i>me-ru</i>
fax	ファクス	<i>fak'su</i>
postcard	ハガキ	<i>hagaki</i>
post office	郵便局	<i>yubin-kyoku</i>
stamp	切手	<i>kitte</i>
telephone booth	公衆電話	<i>koshu denwa</i>
telephone card	テレフォンカード	<i>terefon kado</i>

Staying in a Hotel

Do you have any vacancies?	部屋がありますか?	<i>Heya ga arimass-ka?</i>
I have a reservation.	予約をしています。	<i>Yoyaku o sh'te arimass.</i>
I'd like a room with a bathroom.	お風呂つきの部屋、お願いします。	<i>Ofuro-ts'ki no heya, onegai shimass.</i>
What is the charge per night?	一泊いくらですか?	<i>Ippaku ikura dess-ka?</i>

Japanese-style inn	旅館	<i>ryokan</i>
Japanese-style room	和室	<i>wa-shitsu</i>
key	鍵	<i>kagi</i>
front desk	フロント	<i>furonto</i>
single/twin room	シングル/ツイ	<i>shinguru/tsuin</i>
shower	シャワー	<i>shawa</i>
Western-style hotel	ホテル	<i>hoteru</i>
Western-style room	洋室	<i>yo-shitsu</i>
Is tax included in the price?	税込みですか?	<i>Zeikomi dess-ka?</i>
Can I leave my luggage here for a little while?	荷物をちょっとここに預けてもいいですか?	<i>Nimotsu o chotto koko ni azukete mo ii dess-ka?</i>
air-conditioning bath	冷房/エアコンお風呂	<i>reibo/eaikon ofuro</i>
check-out	チェックアウト	<i>chekku-auto</i>

Eating Out

A table for one/two/three, please.	一人/二人/三人、お願いします。	<i>Hitori/futari/sannin, onegai shimass.</i>
May I see the menu.	メニュー、お願いします。	<i>Menyu, onegai shimass.</i>
Is there a set menu?	定食がありますか?	<i>Teishoku ga arimass-ka?</i>
I'd like	私は...がいいです。	<i>Watashi wa ... ga ii dess.</i>
May I have one of those?	それをひとつ、お願いします。	<i>Sore o hitotsu, onegai shimass.</i>
I am a vegetarian.	私はベジタリアンです。	<i>Watashi wa bejitarian dess.</i>
Waiter/waitress!	ちょっとすみません。	<i>Chotto sumimasen!</i>
What would you recommend?	おすすめは何ですか?	<i>Osusume wa nan dess-ka?</i>
How do you eat this?	これはどうやって食べますか?	<i>Kore wa doyatte tabemass-ka?</i>
May we have the check please.	お勘定、お願いします。	<i>Okanjo, onegai shimass.</i>
May we have some more ...	もっと...、お願いします。	<i>Motto ..., onegai shimass.</i>
The meal was very good, thank you.	ごちそうさまでした、おいしかったです。	<i>Gochiso-sama desh'ta, oishikatta dess.</i>
assortment	盛りあわせ	<i>morawase</i>
boxed meal	弁当	<i>bento</i>
breakfast	朝食	<i>cho-shoku</i>
buffet	バイキング	<i>baikingu</i>
delicious	おいしい	<i>oishii</i>
dinner	夕食	<i>yu-shoku</i>
to drink	飲む	<i>nomu</i>
a drink	飲みもの	<i>nomimono</i>
to eat	食べる	<i>taberu</i>
food	食べもの/ ごはん	<i>tabemono/ gohan</i>
full (stomach)	おなかがいっぱい	<i>onaka ga ippai</i>
hot/cold	熱い/冷たい	<i>atsui/sumetai</i>
hungry	おなかですいた	<i>onaka ga suita</i>
Japanese food	和食	<i>wa-shoku</i>
lunch	昼食	<i>chu-shoku</i>
set menu	セット/ 定食	<i>setto (snack)/ teishoku (meal)</i>
spicy	辛い	<i>karai</i>
sweet, mild	甘い	<i>amai</i>
Western food	洋食	<i>yo-shoku</i>
pepper	こしょう	<i>koshu</i>
salt	塩	<i>shio</i>
vegetables	野菜	<i>yasai</i>
sugar	砂糖	<i>sato</i>

Places to Eat

Cafeteria/canteen	食堂	<i>shokudo</i>
Chinese restaurant	中華料理屋	<i>chuka-ryori-ya</i>
coffee shop	喫茶店	<i>kissaten</i>
local bar	飲み屋/居酒屋	<i>nomiya/izakaya</i>
ramen stall	ラーメン屋	<i>ramen-ya</i>
restaurant	レストラン/ 料理屋	<i>resutoran/ ryori-ya</i>
sushi on a conveyor belt	回転寿司	<i>kaiten-zushi</i>
upscale restaurant	料亭	<i>ryotei</i>
upscale vegetarian restaurant	精進料理屋	<i>shojin-ryori-ya</i>

Menu Decoder

ビール	<i>biiru</i>	beer
ホットコーヒー	<i>hotto-kohi</i>	coffee (hot)
お茶	<i>ocha</i>	green tea
アイスコーヒー	<i>aisu-kohi</i>	iced coffee:
		black
カフェオレ	<i>kafe-o-re</i>	café au lait
レモンティー	<i>remon ti</i>	lemon tea
ミルク/牛乳	<i>miruku/gyunyu</i>	milk
ミネラルウォーター	<i>mineraru uota</i>	mineral water
酒	<i>sake</i>	rice wine
(甘酒)	<i>(ama-zake)</i>	(non-alcoholic)
紅茶	<i>kocha</i>	tea (Western-style)
ミルクティー	<i>miruku ti</i>	tea with milk
水	<i>mizu</i>	water
ウイスキー	<i>uis'ki</i>	whiskey
たけのこ	<i>takenoko</i>	bamboo shoots
とうふ	<i>tofu</i>	bean curd
もやし	<i>moyashi</i>	bean sprouts
豆	<i>mame</i>	beans
ビーフ/牛肉	<i>bifu/gyuniku</i>	beef
ふぐ	<i>fugu</i>	blowfish
かつお/ツナ	<i>katsuo/tsuna</i>	bonito, tuna
とり/鶏肉	<i>tori/toriniku</i>	chicken
かに	<i>kani</i>	crab
あひる	<i>ahiru</i>	duck
うなぎ	<i>unagi</i>	eel
たまご	<i>tamago</i>	egg
なす	<i>nasu</i>	eggplant/ aubergine
みそ	<i>miso</i>	fermented soybean paste
納豆	<i>natto</i>	fermented soybeans
さしみ	<i>sashimi</i>	fish (raw)
油揚げ	<i>abura-age</i>	fried tofu
くだもの	<i>kudamono</i>	fruit
会席	<i>kaiseki</i>	haute cuisine
ニシン	<i>nishin</i>	herring
アイスクリーム	<i>aisu-kurimu</i>	ice cream
伊勢えび	<i>ise-ebi</i>	lobster
さば	<i>saba</i>	mackerel
肉	<i>niku</i>	meat
そば	<i>soba</i>	buckwheat noodles
ラーメン	<i>ramen</i>	ramen noodles
うどん	<i>udon</i>	thick wheat noodles
そうめん	<i>somen</i>	thin wheat noodles
たこ	<i>tako</i>	octopus
カキ	<i>kaki</i>	oyster, persimmon
つけもの	<i>ts'kemono</i>	pickles
豚肉	<i>butaniku</i>	pork

ごはん	<i>gohan</i>	cooked rice
米	<i>kome</i>	uncooked rice
サラダ	<i>sarada</i>	salad
鮭	<i>sake</i>	salmon
ソーセージ	<i>soseji</i>	sausage
えび	<i>ebi</i>	shrimp
いか	<i>ika</i>	squid
鱈	<i>masu</i>	trout
ウニ	<i>uni</i>	sea urchin
すいか	<i>suika</i>	watermelon
ぼたん/いのしし	<i>botan/inoshishi</i>	wild boar
汁/スープ	<i>shiru/supu</i>	soup
しょうゆ	<i>shoyu</i>	soy sauce
スパゲティ	<i>supageti</i>	spaghetti
五目寿司	<i>gomoku-zushi</i>	sushi (mixed)

Numbers

0	ゼロ	zero
1	一	ichi
2	二	ni
3	三	san
4	四	yon/shi
5	五	go
6	六	roku
7	七	nana/shichi
8	八	hachi
9	九	kyu
10	十	ju
11	十一	ju-ichi
12	十二	ju-ni
20	二十	ni-ju
21	二十一	ni-ju-ichi
22	二十二	ni-ju-ni
30	三十	san-ju
40	四十	yon-ju
100	百	hyaku
101	百一	hyaku-ichi
200	二百	ni-hyaku
300	三百	san-byaku
400	四百	yon-hyaku
500	五百	go-hyaku
600	六百	ro-ppyaku
700	七百	nana-hyaku
800	八百	ha-ppyaku
900	九百	kyu-hyaku
1,000	千	sen
1,001	千一	sen-ichi
2,000	二千	ni-sen
10,000	一万	ichi-man
20,000	二万	ni-man
100,000	十万	ju-man
1,000,000	百万	hyaku-man

Time

Monday	月曜日	<i>getsu-yobi</i>
Tuesday	火曜日	<i>ka-yobi</i>
Wednesday	水曜日	<i>sui-yobi</i>
Thursday	木曜日	<i>moku-yobi</i>
Friday	金曜日	<i>kin-yobi</i>
Saturday	土曜日	<i>do-yobi</i>
Sunday	日曜日	<i>nichi-yobi</i>
minute	分	<i>pun/fun</i>
this year	今年	<i>kotoshi</i>
last year	去年	<i>kyonen</i>
next year	来年	<i>rainen</i>
one year	一年	<i>ichi-nen</i>
late	遅い	<i>osoi</i>
early	早い	<i>hayai</i>
soon	すぐ	<i>sugu</i>

Tokyo Street Index

Aioi-zaka	F3	Hanazono-dori	R1	Kototoi-dori	R2	Shin-ohashi-dori	N5
Akasaka-dori	D5	Harumi-dori	N5	Kototoibashi Bridge	S2	Shinjuku-dori	B4
Aoyama-dori	S4	Heisei-dori	P4	Kotto-dori	S5	Shinobazu-dori	F2
Asakusa-dori	Q3	Hibiya-dori	E6	Kuramaebashi-dori	G3	Showa-dori	P4
Azumabashi Bridge	S3	Hitotsugi-dori	J4	Matsuya-dori	F5	Sotobori-dori	N3
Cat Street	Q5	Hongo-dori	E2	Meidai-dori	F3	Takeshita-dori	Q4
Chuo-dori	N4	Inokashira-dori	Q4	Meiji-dori	B5	Togo-zaka	J1
Daichi-Keihin	L6	Iwaida-dori	L4	Misuji-dori	J4	Uchibori-dori	M2
Demboin-dori	R3	Kaede-dori	E3	Mitsume-dori	S3	Umamichi-dori	S1
Dogen-zaka	B6	Kajibashi-dori	P4	Miyamasu-zaka	Q6	Yaesu-dori	N3
Edo-dori	S2	Kaminarimon-dori	H2	Naka-dori	M3	Yamate-dori	A6
Eitai Bridge	G5	Kanda Keisati-dori	M1	Nakamise-dori	R3	Yanagi-dori	N4
Eitai-dori	P3	Kappabashi-dori	Q2	Nihon TV-dori	J2	Yanagi Bridge	G3
Expressway No. 1	G1	Kasaibashi-dori	H5	Nihonbashi Bridge	P2	Yasukuni-dori	C3
Expressway No. 2	D6	Kasuga-dori	H2	Ome-kaido	A3	Yoshino-dori	S1
Expressway No. 3	C6	Keiyo-dori	H3	Omotesando-dori	R4	Yushima-zaka	F3
Expressway No. 4	B4	Kiyosubashi-dori	G4	Otsuma-dori	J1		
Expressway No. 5	E3	Kiyosu Bridge	G4	Rokku Broadway	R2		
Expressway No. 6	H2	Kiyosumi-dori	H4	Rokku-dori	R2		
Expressway No. 7	H3	Kojunsha-dori	M5	Roppongi-dori	J5		
Expressway No. 9	H5	Kokusai-dori	Q3	Sakura-dori	N3		
Gaien-higashi-dori	C5	Komagata Bridge	R3	Sakurabashi-dori	P3		
Gaien-nishi-dori	C5	Komatsubashi-dori	R1	Sakurada-dori	K5		
Hakusan-dori	E2	Konno-zaka	Q6	Senkawa-dori	E2		
Hanatsubaki-dori	M5	Koshu-kaido	B4	Senzoku-dori	R1		

Tokyo Areas Index

Akasaka	J5	Iwamotocho	P1	Nagatacho	J4	Shinanomachi	C4
Akashicho	P5	Jingumae	R5	Nakano	C1	Shinbashi	L6
Arakicho	C4	Jinnan	B6	Narita	B2	Shinjuku	B4
Asakusa	R2	Jiyugaoka	C2	Negishi	G1	Shinkawa	G5
Asakusa-Bashi	G3	Kabukicho	B3	Nerima	C1	Shinohashi	H4
Azabudai	J6	Kachidoki	F6	Nezu	F1	Shintomi	P4
Azumabashi	S3	Kamakura	B3	Nihonbashi	P3	Shitaya	G1
Chiba	B2	Kamezawa	H3	Nihonbashi-Honcho	P2	Shoto	A6
Chiyoda	E4	Kaminarimon	R3	Nihonbashi-Ningyocho	G4	Sotokanda	F3
Daikanyama	C1	Kanda	F3	Nikko	B1	Taito	G2
Daikyocho	C4	Kanda-Jinbocho	E3	Nishi-Asakusa	Q2	Takabashi	H4
Ebisu	C2	Kanda-Nishikicho	M1	Nishi-Azabu	C6	Tatekawa	H3
Eitai	G5	Kasumigaseki	L4	Nishi-Kanda	E3	Togane	C2
Fukagawa	H5	Kawagoe	B2	Nishi-Nippori	F1	Tokorozawa	B2
Fuji	A3	Kawasaki	B2	Nishi-Shinbashi	L5	Tomigaya	A5
Fujimi	E3	Kikukawa	H4	Nishi-Shinjuku	A4	Tomihisacho	C3
Fujisawa	B2	Kisarazu	B3	Nishikata	E2	Toranomon	K5
Fuyuki	H5	Kita-Aoyama	S4	Noda	B2	Tsukiji	N6
Ginza	N4	Kiyosumi	H4	Odaiba Island	D2	Tsukishima	G6
Hachioji	B2	Kofu	A2	Odawara	A3	Tsukuda	G5
Hakone	A3	Kojimachi	J2	Omori	D3	Uchi-Kanda	N1
Hakusan	E1	Komaba	A6	Otemachi	M2	Uchisaiwacho	L5
Hatsudai	A4	Kotobuki	R3	Otsuka	D1	Udagawacho	B6
Higashi	B6	Kuramae	G3	Oyama	B1	Uehara	A6
Higashi-Azabu	D6	Kyobashi	N4	Roppongi	J6	Ueno	F2
Higashi-Shinbashi	E6	Manazaru	A3	Ryogoku	H3	Wakaba	C4
Hirakawacho	J3	Marunouchi	M2	Ryusen	G1	Yaesu	N3
Hirano	H5	Maruyamacho	A6	Saitama	B2	Yamato	B2
Honcho	A3	Matsugaya	G1	Saneicho	C4	Yanaka	F1
Hongo	F2	Midori	H3	Sendagaya	B5	Yaraicho	D3
Honjo	H2	Minami-Aoyama	S5	Sendagi	E1	Yochomachi	C3
Ichibancho	J2	Minato	P4	Senzoku	R1	Yokohama	B2
Ichigaya	D3	Misakicho	E3	Setagaya	C1	Yonbancho	J1
Ichigaya-Kagachoe	D3	Misuji	G2	Shiba-Daimon	L6	Yotsuya	C4
Ikebukuro	C1	Mito	C1	Shiba-Koen	K6	Yoyogi	A4
Imado	S1	Morishita	H4	Shibamata	B2	Yurakucho	M4
Inaricho	G2	Moto-Asakusa	G2	Shibuya	Q6	Yushima	F2
Iriya	Q1	Moto-Azabu	D6	Shimokitazawa	C2		
Ishiwara	H3	Moto-Yoyogicho	A5	Shinagawa	D3		