



### ◆多読素材として

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### ◆多読素材として

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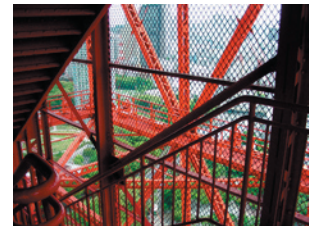
Tokyo Tower is a communications and observation tower located in Shiba Park in Minato-ku. It was built in 1958, and its main source of revenue is antenna leasing and tourism.

It is 332.5 meters tall--the second tallest structure in Japan. It was the tallest structure until recently when the new "Tokyo Sky Tree" exceeded the height of the Tokyo

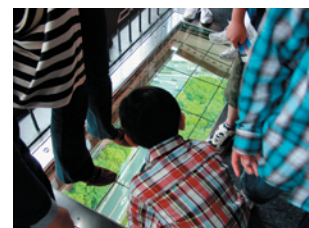


Tower on March 29, 2010. When completed, the Tokyo Sky Tree will be nearly twice the height of the Tokyo Tower.

The Tokyo Tower has an elevator that goes up to the observatories. The main observatory is 150 meters high. For an additional fee, you can ride the elevator up to the special observatory, which is 250 meters high. If you are up to it, dare to take the stairs to the main observatory. If not on the way up, then take the stairs on the way down. It is a good way to see the construction up close, and the fresh air is nice on a cool day.



Located on the floor of the main observatory are "look down windows." Children love to stand on the glass and look down.



Located in the base of the tower is a 4-story building called "FootTown." Here you will find museums, an aquarium, and various shops and restaurants. Don't miss the wax museum where you





can see life-like wax figures of famous people like the Beatles and Mother Theresa.

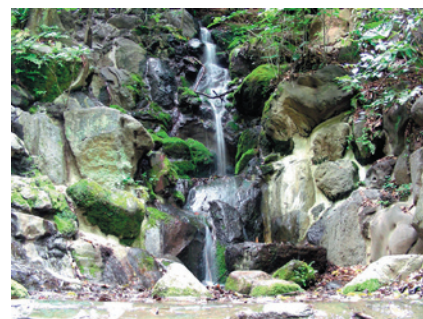


Just down the stairs on the second floor, there are plenty of places to eat in the food court. You can find pizza, ramen, dessert waffles, hamburgers, and more. One more flight downstairs and you can find a big restaurant with still more choices.

If you have saved enough room in your stomach you've just got to try the "caramel almond bowl" at the Pink Dot! It is a delicious waffle broken into little chunks topped with ice cream, whipped cream, almonds, and caramel sauce.



Did you know that there is a waterfall less than 100 meters from the Tokyo Tower? It is true. Either before you go up or after you get down, take a walk in Shiba Park. As you search for the waterfall, there are some nice views of the tower.



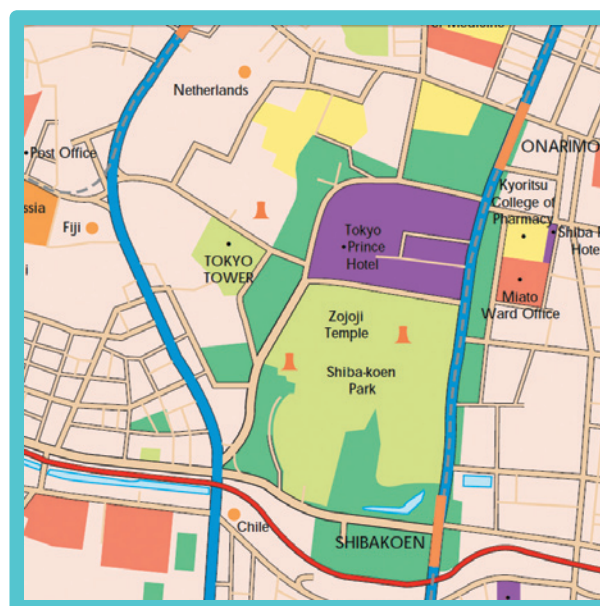
#### Access:

There are several stations near Tokyo Tower.

It is a 5-minute walk from Akabanebashi Station (Oedo Line). Take the Akabanebashi Gate exit.

It is a 7-minute walk from Kamiyacho Station (Hibiya Line). Take exit 1.

It is a 6-minute walk from Onarimon Station (Mita Line). Take exit A1.





Tokyo Dome City consists of the Tokyo Dome, a hot springs spa called Spa LaQua and an amusement park.

The Tokyo Dome is a 55,000-seat stadium that is home to the Yomiuri Giants and is the location of the Japanese Baseball Hall of Fame. The Tokyo Dome has also hosted sporting events such as American football, soccer, basketball, and pro wrestling. It has even hosted a “monster truck” race.



Did you know that the dome structure is supported by air pressure? The pressure inside is always greater than the pressure outside, kind of like a great big balloon!



Right across the street from the dome is Spa LaQua. This spa takes advantage of natural hot springs that are piped up from 1,700 meters underground. The relaxing spa is a wonderful treat after an exciting day at the ballpark or the amusement park.

The amusement park was redone in 2003 adding one of the world’s most unique roller coasters called “Thunder Dolphin.” If





you are into heart-pounding fun, Thunder Dolphin is a must! It goes up, around and even through the spa building. There is a hole in the building shaped like a ring, and the coaster goes through the hole like a dolphin jumping out of the water and diving through a ring!

After the amusement park excitement, you will probably have worked up quite an appetite. Don't worry, because there are many restaurants in Tokyo Dome City. You can find hotdog stands, noodle shops, fast food restaurants, and a family restaurant. You can find Chinese food, Italian food, Japanese food, and American food. There is even a Major League theme restaurant called the Baseball Cafe.

Whether you want fun and excitement, or relaxation and leisure, Tokyo Dome City has it all!

#### Access:

There are several stations surrounding Tokyo Dome City:

Suidobashi Station (JR Chuo-Sobu Line and the Mita Line)

Korakuen Station (Marunouchi Line and the Nanboku Line)

Kasuga Station (Oedo Line)

Once you get out of any of the exits, it will be easy to find Tokyo Dome City.



Akihabara is perhaps most famous for its electronic goods and computer shops. In fact, its nickname is “Akihabara Electric Town.”

You can find all sorts of specialty shops and large stores filled with the latest electronic gadgets.

Smart shoppers can find great deals on digital cameras, MP3 players, computers, laptops, etc.



Yes, there are lots of electronics, but Akihabara is also a major shopping area for “otaku”



goods. Otaku is a term used for people who become obsessive or fanatic about something--particularly anime (Japanese cartoon characters), manga (comic books), or computer games. So, for people who

enjoy such things, Akihabara is the perfect place to find just the right items for their collections. Even if you are not into it, you can still check out some of the anime shops, the comic book stores, or the video game stores.

Those who are hungry and in a hurry can get some canned oden (Japanese stew) from one of the Chichibu Denki vending machines. It has become so popular that Chichibu has reported earning







\$850,000 a year from just two vending machines! Try the canned oden, canned ramen, or one of the other vending machine foods. Those who want to spend more time for lunch or dinner can enjoy the service at a “maid cafe.” Here



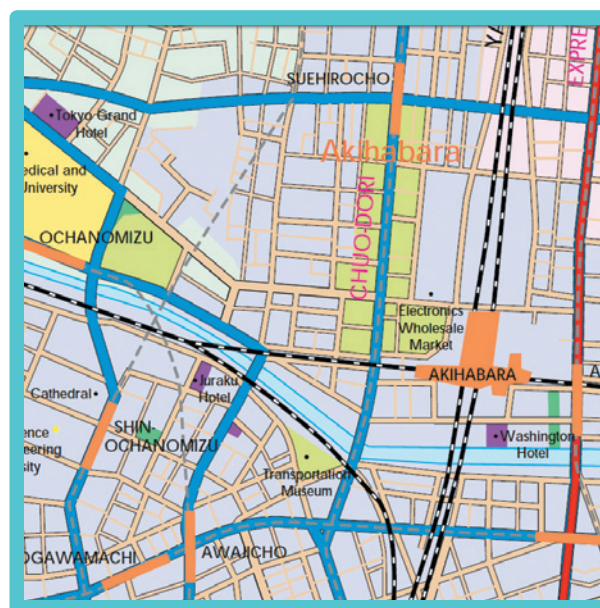
you can order an omelet over rice with a lovely message spelled out in ketchup from one of the maids.



The young ladies dressed as maids are also outside on just about every corner. So, for those who like crowds and interesting people, Akihabara will definitely be a lot of fun.

#### Access:

Akihabara Station is on the JR Yamanote Line between Tokyo Station and Ueno Station. You can also get to Akihabara Station via the Hibiya Line and the Tsukuba Line. Once you exit the station head west to the shops.





One of the stops in Tokyo ought to be Ueno. Firstly, there is a beautiful park called "Ueno Park," which not only has the world famous Ueno Zoo but has impressive museums, cherry blossom trees, and some interesting history.



For example, a statue of Saigo Takamori walking his dog stands in this park. Saigo Takamori is the historical figure that Ken Watanabe's character in the popular movie "The Last Samurai" is based upon.



In the spring, the rows of cherry blossom trees are where many enjoy flower-viewing parties called "hanami."

There are three museums (Tokyo National Museum, The National Museum of Western Art, and the National Museum of Nature and Science). Children will probably enjoy the latter the most with its collection of dinosaur bones, crabs, beetles, butterflies, and various other animal and nature exhibits. Outside the museum, you can take a look at a genuine rocket launcher.



Also in Ueno is a busy market street along the Yamanote Line called Ameyoko. Ameyoko is short



for "Ameya Yokocho" meaning "candy store alley." "Ame" can also stand for "America" because this is the street where American products used to be sold on the black market after World War II.

There are still many American products sold on this street for very cheap prices. You can buy clothes, bags, cosmetics, fresh fish, dried food, and various spices.



Plan carefully on when you plan to be at Ameyoko. Many stores remain closed on selected Wednesdays, and store hours are from around 10:00 in the morning until 7:00 at night.

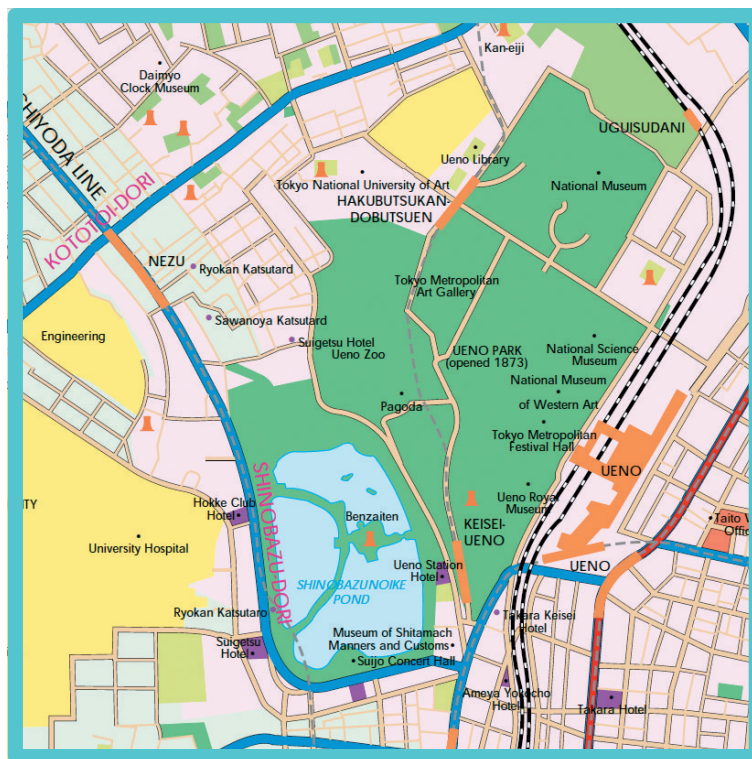
#### Access:

There are several stations near Ueno Park.

It is a 2-minute walk from Ueno Station (JR Lines, Ginza Line, and Hibiya Line).

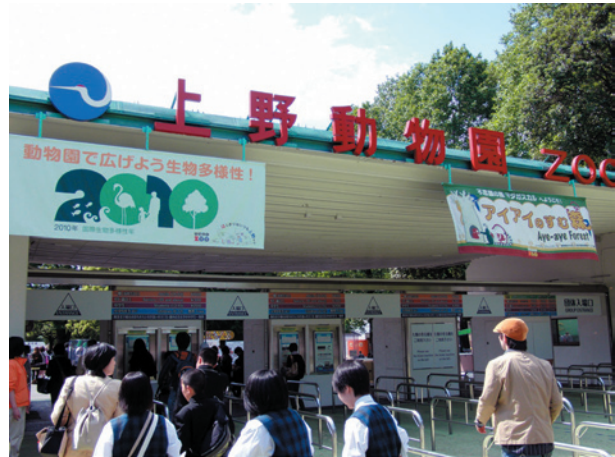
It is a 5-minute walk from Ueno-Okachimachi Station (Oedo Line).

It is 1-minute walk from Keisei-Ueno Station (Keisei Line).





The Ueno Zoo, which opened in 1882, is the oldest and most famous zoo in Japan. It's located in Ueno Park and is about a five-minute walk from Ueno Station. The first monorail in the country, the Ueno Zoo Monorail, connects the eastern and western parts of the grounds.



The Ueno Zoo was famous for its giant panda, but it was left without any giant pandas after Ling Ling died on April 30, 2008. China has now agreed to lend a male and female giant panda to Ueno Zoo for 85.45 million yen per year for 10 years starting in 2011. That is nearly 1 million dollars per year! At this time people can enjoy the other animals. There are lions, tigers, bears, gorillas, elephants, zebras, monkeys, and many, many more! Young children will enjoy the tamer animals in the petting zoo, too.

There is a nice view of Shinobazu Pond from the southern end of the zoo. This pond is an important historical natural





landmark that appears in many famous works of art. There are often beautiful birds standing in the water or flying by.

Recently, alligator snapping turtles were found in the pond. The authorities have posted warnings. Although they are not extremely aggressive, people are advised not to get too close, and to absolutely keep one's fingers away from their snapping mouths!

If you've worked up an appetite from walking so much, take a rest at one of the snack bars where you can buy lots of different kinds of snack food and drinks.



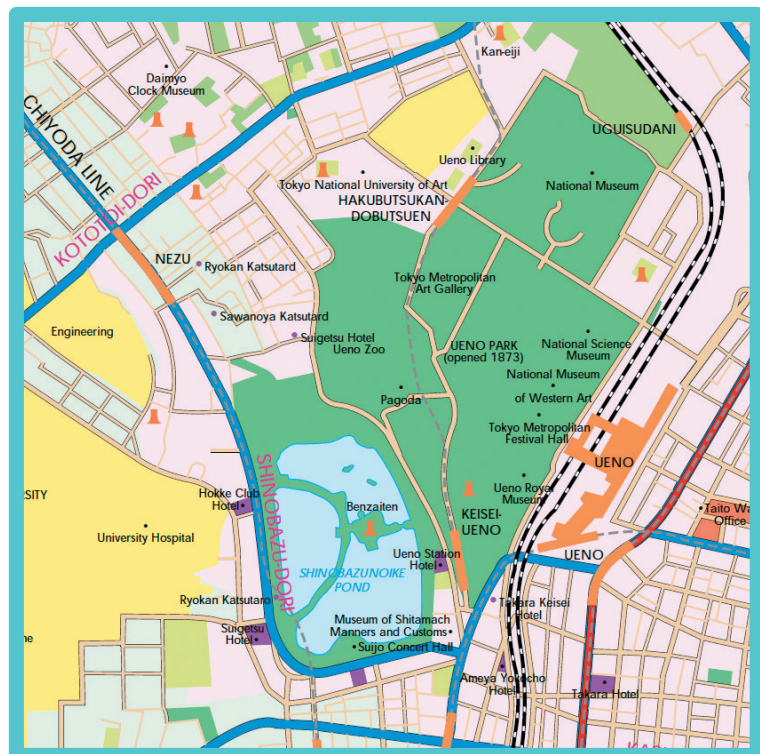
After you are well-rested, head out of the zoo and enjoy the rest of the park and all of the great museums.

#### Access:

There are several stations near Ueno Zoo which is in Ueno Park.

Ueno Park is a 2-minute walk from Ueno Station (JR Lines, Ginza Line, and Hibiya Line), a 5-minute walk from Ueno-Okachimachi Station (Oedo Line), and a 1-minute walk from Keisei-Ueno Station (Keisei Line).

Once in the park, head to the northwest side.



Asakusa is most famous for the Sensou-ji Buddhist temple and the crowds of people that gather there for sightseeing, shopping, and attending festivals.

The largest festival is the Sanja Matsuri in May. Roads are

closed for vehicles from early in the morning until late in the evening.



After you walk through the main entrance, where the big red lantern is, and then head down the street, there are many, many shops.

You can buy souvenirs, snacks, clothing, bags, etc. When you get near the temple, you can shake out a numbered fortune stick called "omikuji" from a wooden container.

Based on the number on the stick, you are guided to a specific drawer with a slip of paper that has a fortune written on it. It can

be a blessing or a curse. The blessings and curses both range from great to small. If you get a bad fortune, it is customary to fold it up lengthwise so you can easily attach it to wires. Then the curse stays with the piece of paper rather than follow you around. If you get a good fortune, you can keep it for good luck.





After you read your fortune, you might want to visit Japan's very first amusement park called "Hanayashiki." It originally opened as a flower park in 1853. Over the years, it grew into an amusement park. The mini train,

picture-story shows, mini pool, and the oldest attraction "Surprising House" were opened in 1949. Now, there is a merry-go-round, a roller coaster, a ghost mansion, "Space Shot" and many other rides.

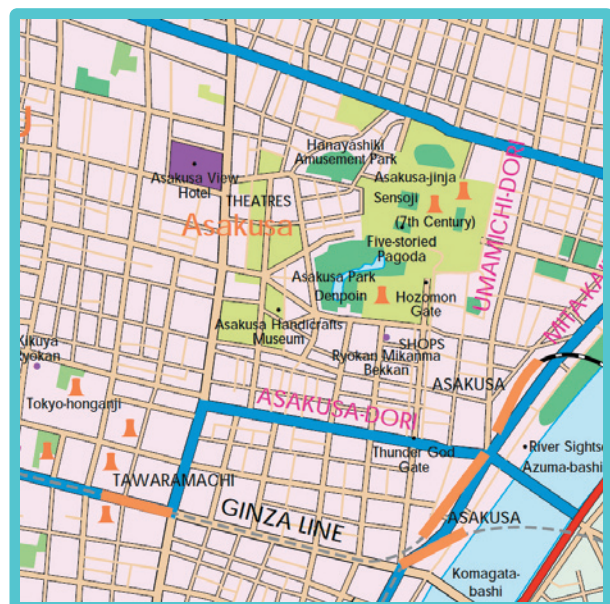
Of course, you can also find plenty to eat at snack bars in this cute, little amusement park. However, it is not only an amusement park, but a little bit of history and nostalgia.



#### Access:

It is a 5-minute walk from Asakusa Station (Tobu Isesaki Line, Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, or the Tsukuba Express Line).

It is a 7-minute walk Asakusa Station (Toei Subway Asakusa Line). Take exit A4.

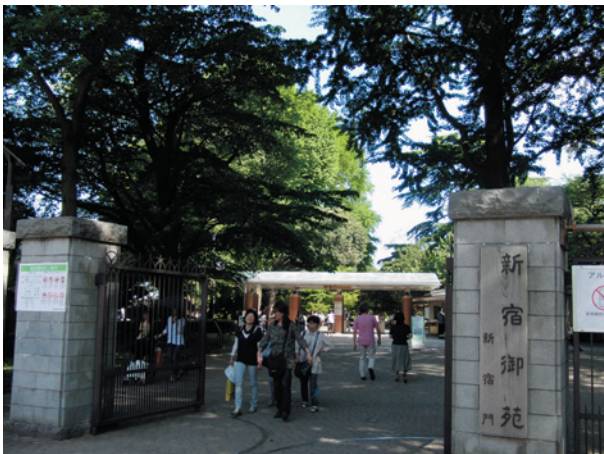




Shinjuku is a major commercial and administrative center in Tokyo, and Shinjuku Station is the busiest train station in the world. The area around Shinjuku Station has many hotels, department stores, electronics stores, camera shops, cinemas, restaurants, and bars. Some of the larger electronics stores are Bic Camera, Yodobashi Camera, and Yamada Denki.



Walking around some parts of Shinjuku in the evening is almost like being at a festival. There are crowds of people, colorful neon lights, people passing out tissue packets with little ads inside, groups of people walking and chatting together, and businessmen visiting traditional Japanese restaurants called "izakayas." On Sunday in Shinjuku, there are so many pedestrians that the roads are closed off



to vehicles so people can use the streets as sidewalks. This tradition is called "hokousha tengoku" which translates as "pedestrian heaven."

Then, not too far away, is Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden.



It is a sanctuary of peace cradled in nature's arms. Here you will find ponds with arched bridges reflecting in the calm waters.

Looking over the bridges, you can see carp, which always seem to have their mouths open and ready for food. There are ducks paddling around bobbing up and down on the surface, and various other birds flying from tree to tree.

As you stroll through the park, you may want to take a break in a traditional Japanese teahouse and enjoy sweets and green tea called "matcha."



The meaning of the Japanese tea ceremony can be summed up with the saying "ichi-go, ichi-e" which means that every meeting and every moment is sacred and should be cherished because it will not come again.

Don't miss the colorful French garden on the far southeast side, especially in the spring when the roses are in full bloom. There are red ones, yellow ones, orange ones, pink ones, and white ones--all bordering a plush green lawn.

After a couple of hours of relaxation, you will be ready to hit the streets of Shinjuku again.

#### Access:

Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden is a 10-minute walk from the south exit of Shinjuku Station.

It is a 5-minute walk from Shinjuku Gyoen Mae Station (Marunouchi Line). Take exit 1.

It is a 5-minute walk from Shinjuku 3 Chome Station (Toei Shinjuku Line). Take exit C1 or C5.





When you arrive at Shibuya Station, even if you are not meeting someone, you might want to go and stand by Hachiko, the famous meeting spot inspired by a man and his dog, which is now the story-line of a Hollywood movie. Hachiko waited for his late master every day from 1923 to 1935, and he became a symbol of loyalty. After getting a photo by the statue of this famous dog, just for the fun of it, cross the street at the busiest intersection in the world. It is truly impressive!



There are lots of things to see in Shibuya. There are plenty of tall buildings that are flashing with neon lights and videos, so walk, look up, and just enjoy the energy.

In all of this busyness, don't overlook NHK Studio Park, which is about a 20-minute walk from Shibuya Station. It costs 200 yen to get in, and it is certainly worth every yen. There is a 1-hour long tour of how TV shows and radio broadcasts are produced. The first thing you notice on the tour is yourself on a huge TV screen.







There are a total of 16 stations. At one station, you can pretend you are on the quiz show "Tameshite Gatten", a life science program. In another, you can learn how to dub your voice into a drama and watch and listen to how it turns out. Then, there is the Samurai Drama Studio where you can put on a samurai robe and get your picture taken. Next, see what it's like to be a TV news reporter. Again, they play the clip back so you can see how you did. And perhaps most impressive of all, since NHK was the first to develop 3D HDTV technology, you get to watch a 15-minute 3D film in a theater where you do not need to wear special glasses!

When you're finished here, head on down towards Harajuku where there is more to see and enjoy.



#### Access:

You can get to Shibuya Station via JR Yamanote Line, Denentoshi Line, Toyoko Line, Inokashira Line, Tokyo Metro Ginza, Hanzomon Line, and Fukutoshin Line.

Once at Shibuya Station, take exit 8 to get to Hachiko, and keep heading north to find the busiest intersection in the world.

As you head north, take a left between the Seibu Dept. Store buildings. Walk another 5 minutes and NHK Studio Park will be on your right.



If you really want to know all of Tokyo Culture, Harajuku is a must. It is considered a fashion capital of the world for unique street fashion. Visit the big stores like Laforet, Forever 21, and H & M. Then, check out the smaller shops along Takeshita-dori.



There are many fashions associated with Harajuku. The fashion known as "Kawaii" (which translates as "cute" or "pretty") relates to someone wearing clothing that appears to be made for young children--for example, bright or pastel colors and ruffles. These girls will often carry bright bags featuring anime characters.

The fashion known as "Decora" is similar to "Kawaii" with lots of layers and colorful accessories, including furry or plastic toys, jewelry, hair clips and bows.



Another trend is "Cosplay." This is when young people don costumes and accessories to represent one of their favorite characters--often taken from popular fiction in Japan. Other fashion styles include Gothic Lolita (dark make-up and dark clothing) and Visual Kei (dress inspired by popular musicians).

On Sundays, you can see many young people standing on





Jingubashi, a bridge that connects the Harajuku area to the Meiji Shrine area. It is like a bridge from one generation to another.

The Meiji Shrine is an important piece of Japanese history. Construction began in 1915, and it was completed in 1926. It is the largest Shinto shrine in Tokyo, dedicated to the spirits of Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shoken. Many couples choose to have their wedding here.



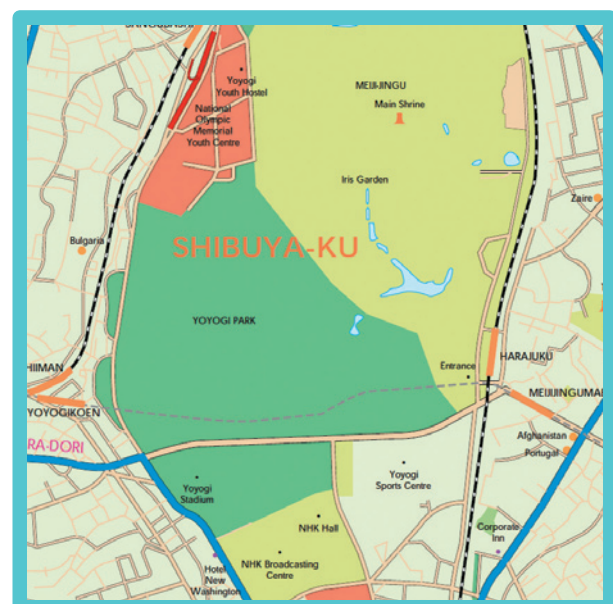
The shrine is located in a forest that covers an area of 700,000 square meters. Within this forest are the Meiji Jingu Garden and the famous Meiji Jingu Well. The well continues to supply water to the garden and the pond to this day. The garden is definitely worth visiting any time of year. It is another one of Tokyo's sanctuaries of nature amidst the fast-paced life of the big city.



#### Access:

Takeshita-dori is only a 1-minute from Harajuku Station. Take the north exit and turn right at the first main street (Takeshita-dori).

To get to Jingubashi, take the south exit. Cross the bridge and head for the Meiji-Jingu Shrine.



Roppongi is most famous for its active night club scene for both locals and foreigners. The name "Roppongi" literally means "six trees". There used to be six large zelkova trees in the area, three of which were cut down during development. The other three were destroyed during the Pacific War. However, there is another explanation for the name. Legend has it that six powerful lords lived in the area during the Edo period. All of these lords had the Chinese character for "tree" or a kind of tree in their names.



The first thing you might notice when you arrive is the very tall buildings and the interesting architecture. Visit the 54-story Mori Tower high-rise building. Inside, there is an art museum, a cinema complex,



restaurants, cafes, stores, business offices including such big names as Ferrari Japan, Yahoo! Japan, and the Pokemon Company. The first six stories consist of retail stores and restaurants. The top six levels

house the Mori Art Museum and a panoramic view of Tokyo.

The surrounding buildings include stores such as Louis Vuitton, TV Asahi, and the Roppongi Hills Residence Towers, with a total of 793 very





expensive and luxurious apartments.

There is a beautiful garden between the Mori building and TV Asahi, and just outside the Mori Building is a sculpture of a giant spider!

Then, take a walk to Tokyo Midtown, which is another mixed-use development project. It features Tokyo's tallest building, a large park, a museum, office space, and residential apartments. Don't miss the National Art Center, which is just west of Tokyo Midtown. The architecture is unforgettable with its open spaces, walls of windows, and cone shaped structures. The building itself is a work of art.



**Access:**

From Roppongi Station (Hibiya Line)  
-- Take exit 1c to Roppongi Hills. Take exit 4a to Tokyo Midtown.

From Roppongi Station (Toei Oedo Line) -- Take exit 3 to Roppongi Hills. Take exit 8 to Tokyo Midtown.

The National Art Center is just west of Tokyo Midtown.



Tsukiji Market is the biggest wholesale fish and seafood market in the world. It opened in 1935, and since then has grown to cover 56 acres. It contains 1,200 fish merchant stalls that sell more than 480 kinds of seafood such as eels, octopus, barracuda, lobster, squid, shrimp, salmon, and, of course, tuna.



Seafood arrives at the market from all over the world. Crab comes from Alaska and Russia. Spain sends in frozen blue fin tuna. Oregon and Australia send in sea urchin. Peru sends in anchovies. And the list goes on...

In all, over 700,000 metric tons of seafood is handled every year.

There are two sections of the market: the inner market and the outer market. The inner market is where the auctions take place. It is also where most of the processing takes place. The outer market is a mixture of wholesale and retail shops and restaurants, mostly sushi restaurants. Most of the shops close by early afternoon.



If you get up early enough and arrive in time to be included in the lucky group, you can watch the tuna auction. If you miss out on the auction, the





market is still a great experience. Many of the sea creatures are still alive, and you may even see an octopus slide out of a bucket and crawl across the floor!

Whatever you do or don't do at the market, you would be missing out on an important Tsukiji experience if you don't try the sushi.



Then, heading west, take a short walk to Ginza, one of the most luxurious shopping districts in the world. Here, there are many flagship stores for companies like Chanel, Louis Vuitton, Gucci, and most recently Abercrombie and Fitch. You can also see the Hattori Clock Tower, originally built by Kintaro Hattori, the founder of Seiko.



#### Access:

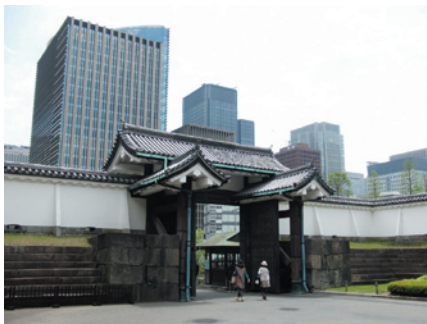
The Tsukiji Market is a 1-minute walk from Tsukijishijo Station (Toei Oedo Line). It is also a 1-minute walk from Tsukiji Station (Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line).

It is a 5-minute walk from Higashi-Ginza Station (Toei Asakusa Line and the Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line).





A tour of Tokyo would be incomplete without stopping at Tokyo Station. In terms of the number of trains per day (over 3,000), it is the busiest station in Japan. Exit the west side and take a look at the outside structure. It's classic red brick construction has survived since the station opened in 1914.



After taking a picture of the station, take a 10-minute walk west to the Imperial Palace, where Japan's Imperial Family lives. It is located on the former site of Edo Castle, which is now a large park surrounded by moats and massive stone walls. Take the time to walk around and enjoy it, especially if you are lucky enough to be there when the cherry blossoms are in full bloom. It is a popular place for joggers throughout the year. If you go inside the park and hike up a hill, you can see the remains of the castle walls.



The palace buildings and inner gardens are not open to the public except on January 2 (New Year's Greeting) and December 23 (the Emperor's Birthday).



On those days, you can even see members of the Imperial Family during one of their public appearances on a balcony. On all other days, you can reserve a guided tour of the Palace grounds, and the East Gardens are



open to the public throughout the year except on Mondays, Fridays, and special occasions.

Another attraction is the Budokan Hall located to the north in



Kitanomaru Park. It was first built for Judo competition in the 1964 Summer Olympics. The Beatles made their Japanese debut in the Budokan, and since then, many rock concerts have been held there.

After strolling around the Imperial Palace, you might want to take another short walk and visit the National Diet Building. If it is a weekday, you can take a free tour of the building. And nearby is the house of the Prime Minister of Japan.

After enjoying the day's walk around central Tokyo, your brain will be filled with history and politics, and your feet will be ready for a rest.



#### Access:

From JR Line Tokyo Station, take the Marunouchi North exit and head west. It is about a 15-minute walk to the Ote-mon Gate.

From Nijubashi-mae Station (Chiyoda Line), take exit 6, and it is about a 10-minute walk to the Ote-mon Gate.

From Otemachi Station (subway lines), take exit c13b, and it is about a 5-minute walk.

