HANDY INFORMATION FOR TOXYO



TRANSPORTATIONS

<u>Suica Card</u>

The Suica is a prepaid e-money card for moving around and shopping in the Tokyo area. There is no more need to buy a ticket from a vending machine. Just touch your Suica to the ticket gate and the fare is automatically deducted from your Suica. The Suica can be used not only for JR East trains, but the subways and buses as well. For shopping, use your Suica card in the place of cash wherever the Suica mark is displayed. Buy soft drinks and coffee from vending machines and on the train. Even buy a newspaper at the station kiosk without fiddling for coins. For traveling in Japan, the Suica makes a more pleasant trip.

Riding Trains

- Simply touch the Suica card to the reader at the ticket gate when out and about. There is no need to purchase a ticket from a vending machine.
- The fare is automatically calculated at the station where you get off.
- The Suica comes preloaded with 1,500 yen. When you get off the train, the fare will be
 calculated at that station. If the balance is insufficient, however, you will need to add more money to your Suica.

Valid Areas and Transportation Systems

- The Suica can be used on JR East lines in the Tokyo metropolitan area as well as for subways, buses and the Tokyo Monorail that connects Haneda Airport with Tokyo.
- In addition to the Tokyo area, the Suica can be used for certain transportation systems in the Sendai and Niigata, Hokkaido, Tokai, West Japan and Kyushu areas.

Shopping

- The Suica can be used not only for transportation but for shopping as well.
- You can use your Suica to make purchases onboard trains as well as from vending machines, to rent coin lockers and for spending at convenience stores and restaurants.
- The Suica can be used wherever the Suica mark is displayed.



The Suica means no more looking for change



Convenience stores

On-board sales

Vending machines

Recharge the Suica

- The Suica can be loaded and used as many times as desired.
- The Suica can be loaded up to a maximum of 20,000 yen at Automatic Ticket Vending Machines and Fare Adjustment Machines displaying the Suica mark.
- Only yen may be used to load a card. A credit card cannot be used to load a Suica.









Other Transportation Options:

Toei Subway and Tokyo Metro Lines Common One-day Economy Pass (Ichinichi Josya Ken) * These passes offer unlimited use of the Toei Subway and Tokyo Metro Lines for one day. Adult: ¥1,000

国家地下鉄一日乗車券 2141 #2/HC開閉 #EEDINGGA XA 71977 上 形 NRPT 100904 38	■ 東京地下鉄-日乗車券 ■ 2141 またやC数用 betweet at app 1. 10 5010 10005 3
Adult ame day tickets (la	Child

Vending Locations: Available on the day of use at automatic ticket vending machines of the Toei Subway and Tokyo Metro Lines stations

*This is only for the Tokyo Metro — not the JR lines

HOTEL ENFORMATEONS

Directions to Keio Plaza Hotel:

From Shinjuku Station - 5 minutes walk from the west exit



http://www.keioplaza.com/

DATTO BUNKA UNIVERSITY

Itabashi Campus (1-9-1, Takashimadaira, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo)

Near Tobu Nerima station on the Tobu Tojo Line or the Nishidai station on the Mita Line.



MONEY8

Places to get YEN in the airport:

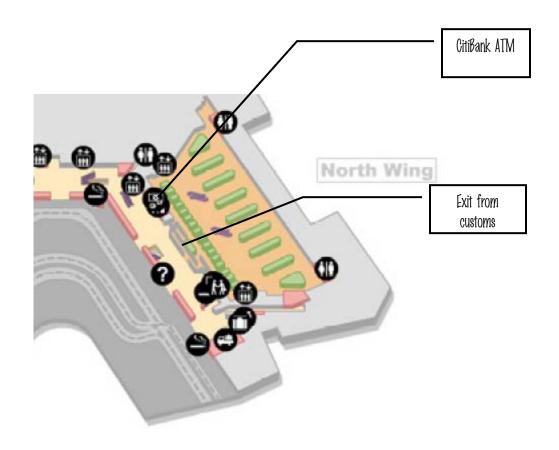
- 1. CitiBank Main Bldg., 1st Floor Arrivals 6:00 23:00Come out of customs and go directly to the right. Walk along the path till you get to the ATM section of the airport. They are located near an escalator. Map of the airport is in below.
- 2. Post Office Main Bldg., 2^{nd} Floor 9:00 17:00 (ATM Hrs for Sat) if you go to any post office they will give you yen for travelers cheques and cash plus the exchange rate is pretty good. They also have ATM's that accept foreign credit cards or ATM cards.

Places to get YEN while out in Tokyo

- 1. Post Office Are found all around Tokyo.
 - Counter Hours
 - 🏎 Monday Friday 9 a.m. -4 p.m. (Certain offices are open until 6 p.m.)
 - ∽ Saturday/Sunday Closed

Service hours for ATMs

- ∞ Saturdays: 9 a.m. -5 p.m. Sundays and holidays: 9 a.m. -5 p.m. at some 6,000 offices nationwide



<u> 50008</u>

Tenya てんや

This tempura/tempura donburi chain restaurant has nearly 100 branches in the metropolitain area. Until Tenya's conception inn 1989, tempura was thought of as a 'traditional' food with a high-class image (and a high-class price tag). However, with their 500 yen tempura, Tenya made tempura into a food that the general public could enjoy. Other than their foundation 500yen tempura donburi, they also have a "udon set" (which, predictably, is served with udon) and various tempura sets. They also introduced

"special" tempura donburi, which uses ingredients that differ according to the season to the dining market. Reasonably priced, convenient, quick; Tenya lets you enjoy tempura like never before.

<u>Gentaku かつの玄琢</u>

Is a small Tonkatsu restaurant on a small alley off Akasaka Street. Though the interiors are not exactly clean, they are known for tasty tonkatsu and hordes of salarymen populate it during lunchtime and regulars flock in the evening. Their tonkatsu is fried in such a way that the flavour of the meat shines through and more than a few people choose to enjoy their fried pork with salt instead of sauce. Gentaku has a few tables but most of the seats are on the counter.

Nearest Station Akasaka Address Orient Akasaka Bldg. 1F, 6-13-19Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo Business Hours 11:30am-3:00pm, 6:00pm-10:00pm; closed Sat-Sun Price **Lunch**: 1,000-1,999yen **Dinner**: 1,000-1,999yen

kyo

<u>Tsukiji Honten 築地本店</u>

Do you want to eat 1 plate (2 pieces) of uni (sea urchin) or toro (fatty tuna) for 105 yen? The main branch of Tsukiji Sushi-Go-Round (Kaitenzushi Tsukiji Honten) has all their plates at 105 yen. That's pretty cheap. Make that really cheap. The flavor of their sushi and their customer service are nothing spectactular, but it's not unpleasant. Just eating one plate of pretty typical sushi at 105 yen, though, is pretty awesome. It's common for there to be a line around dinner time, so we recommend timing your visit in order to avoid the crowds.

Nearest Station Shibuya Address 24-8 Udagawa-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo Business Hours 11:00am-11:00pm Price **Lunch**: 0-999yen

Dinner: 0-999yen







Area Flea Markets

You can pick up all sorts of interesting antiques in the market - from kimonos to record players and wooden trunks -but make sure to bargain. Browse through piles of old plates and dishes, folk arts, traditional dolls, old toys, scrolls, fans and junk. Check out the rails of second-hand kimonos for some great bargains. The shrines give the markets an exotic backdrop and are worth a look in themselves - entrance is free. Be sure to throw a "lucky" five yen coin in the collecting box and ring the bell to tell the deities your wish. The largest and liveliest market is held twice a month at Togo Shrine, but all of these markets have plenty of interest. They're great places for souvenir shopping, people watching and learning about Japanese culture - go early and take your cameral. The markets start around dawn and vendors start to pack up by early afternoon. Get there early for the best pickings, or at the end for the greatest bargains. Some bargaining is fine, but you'll quickly cause offense and lose the sale if you are at all rude or aggressive. A smile and a polite "best price" ("ma-ke-te ku-da-sai") request usually gets good results. The markets are cancelled in case of heavy rain.



Look for these symbols on the metro area maps. They will point you in the right direction

Togo Shrine Flea Market - Harajuku, Shibuya-ku

Directions: The Togo Shrine is a short walk from Harajuku St (JR Yamanote line) or Meiji Jingumae St (Chiyoda line). From both stations follow the signs for Takeshita dori. The shrine entrance is on Meiji Dori after the French café Aux Bacchanales. Was in built in 1940 and dedicated to Admiral Togo Heihachiro, shortly after his death. There, Togo Heihachiro is celebrated as a shinto kami. A small museum and a bookshop dedicated to Togo Heihachiro are located within the grounds of the shrine.

Hanazono Shrine Antique Market - 5-17-3 Shinjuku

This *kotto ichi* (antique fair) has a twenty-year reputation for providing some of the best buys around, from ancient pottery and glass items to brand new furniture and knickknacks. **Nearest stn:** Shinjuku sanchome stn Marunouchi line, exit B3

This shrine has long been known as a protector of Shinjuku district since it was established during the Edo Period. The shrine is primarily dedicated to the Yamato-takeruno-miko who is an imperial prince that appears in Japan's mythology and the shrine has one of the longest histories.

Yasukuni Shrine (*Yasukuni Jinjya*) - 3-1-1 Kudan-kita, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo Held on the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of every month. Access: Kudanshita station. It's held if it rains.

This shrine is most famous for controversy that is generated whenever Japan's prime minister visits it around the anniversary marking the end of World War II (August 15th). The controversy surrounding Yasukuni Shrine is that it is a war shrine. Its purpose is to honor Japan's war dead (regardless of whether any society views their living actions as good or evil). A number of Japan's "war criminals" remains are located here. As the story





Every Sun 8 - 4pm



goes, soldiers made pacts to meet again in the afterlife here at Yasukuni shrine. Whereas,

Yasukuni is an important memorial for Japan's fallen, it enrages some in countries such as

China & the Koreas, who see any act of recognition of this shrine as an act of endorsement

for Japan's acts of agression during the early 20th century. The Chinese, for example, find it reprehensible that anyone guilty of such evils should ever be given any kind of recognition at all as being anything other than 'evil'. Yet, for many Japanese, upon death one is cleansed and forgiven one's transgresses (Shinto/Buddhist influence... & perhaps a touch of Christian thought in there, too).

Other Shopping:

<u> Takeshita-dori - Harajuku Fashion</u>

A narrow street packed with young fashionable people and lined with fashion boutiques and cafes. This is definitely the place to be seen if you are young Tokyoite, but well worth visiting as a tourist. Takeshita-dori represents the cutting edge of fashion in Tokyo where you can see all the latest in Japanese street fashion and then buy in the boutiques. Takeshita-dori is opposite the exit to Harajuku station.

<u>Oriental Bazaar.</u>

If you have time for only one souvenir shop in Tokyo, this should be it. This is the city's best-known and largest souvenir/crafts store, selling products at reasonable prices and offering four floors of souvenir and gift items, including cotton yukata, kimono (new and used), woodblock prints, paper products, wind chimes, stationery, fans, chopsticks, lamps and vases, Imari chinaware, sake sets, Japanese dolls, pearls, and even books on Japan and a large selection

of antique furniture. This store will also ship things home for you. There's a tiny branch on the fourth floor of Terminal 1 at Narita Airport (tel. 0476/32-9333), open daily 7:30am to 8:30pm. Open Friday to Wednesday 10am to 7pm. Station: Meiji-Jingumae (3 min.), Harajuku (4 min.), or Omotesando (5 min.)

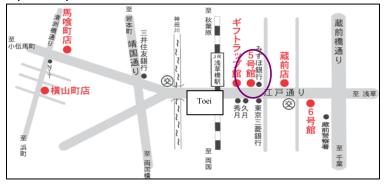


<u>Shimojima — No.5 Asakusabashi Store -</u> 1-30-10 Asakusabashi Taito-ku Tokyo 111-0053

At Shimojima, everything from cards to postcards to calendars to wrapping paper can be found. It is a 'wholesaler' so you can find wrapping materials and other items in bulk. Shimojima actually consists of six stores on one street. There are two mainly of interest as the rest are either redundant or cater to business owners.

(8 Floors) The floor directory of the main branch is: 1F - Seasonal goods, household items 2F - Office & Computer Supplies 3F - Stationery items 4F - Wrapping paper, bows, ribbons 5F - Household and Food-related Supplies 6F - Packaging Materials 7F - Hobby Items; dried flowers, stencils, etc. 8F - Decorating items such as posters, paints and display items Mon- Friday 9:00 - 6:30 Saturday & Sunday: 9:00 - 5:30 Toei Asakusa Line Asakusabashi station Exit No.A4







Daiso's - 100 Yen stores... Yes everything is dollar!!!

Daiso Giga Funabashi

- It's a big 100 yen shop. Most 100 yen shop use only one floor, while this 100yen shop use all floor of the building. (7 floor)
- ∽ This 100 yen shop is close to Keisei-Funabashi station.

Japanese Snacks:

Ameya-yokocho, commonly known as Ameyoko in short, is a market place developed near the train tracks for Yamanote line between Ueno and Okachimachi station. This place originated as a flea market right after the World War II developed into today's shopping arcade where more than 500 small shops are offering you a wide-range of goods from small snacks to imports at reasonable prices. Transportation Station: Naka - Okachimachi

Electric Town — Akihabara:

Akihabara is a well known as a place where you can receive the best offer for electronic stuff. The area was originally developed as a place for stores and distributors specialized in selling electronic goods during the postwar period. It is not too much to say that trend of electronic gadgets start from here. From more than 1,000 stores lined up on the street called "Chuo Dori (central avenue)," you may also be able to find something new and old, which you may never be able to find in regular electronic stores. With its wide variety of electronics, many Japanese consumers come here to find the best price for whatever they are looking into purchase. As a part of new development taking place a the Akihabara Station and it surrounding areas, Akiharabara has begun to grow into a place not only for electronics, but also for game, manga (comic books) and animation related goods, which are extremely popular culture among younger generations in Japan and abroad.

Transportation Station: 1 min. walk from Akihabara Sta. on the JR Lines and the subway Hibiya Line

<u> Akihabara Shopping - Main Stores</u>

Laox Stores

(1-15-3 Soto-Kanda, tel. 03-5207-5027; on Chuo-dori, close to JR Akihabara station) specializes in export products and has multilingual staff on hand. There are in fact eight Laox stores in Akihabara, including the main store, computer store, Duty free store, musical instrument store, hobby, game, watch and camera. Each store covers several levels, but the floor area per level in not great.

Yodobashi Camera Store

The household electric giant Yodobashi Camera, previously based in Shinjuku, opened its first store in Akihabara on September 16th, 2005. One of the largest electric appliance stores in Japan, it has 9 stories above ground and 6 below, with shop floor space of 33,000 square meters. While there is parking for 400 cars, I would strongly recommend taking the train. The 7th-9th floors feature restaurants and cafés







<u>Radio Kaikan</u>

The cradle of modern technology in Akihabara. In the early days of personal computers, NEC established a direct sales outlet here, where it sold the first personal computer in Japan. Now there are more hobby-type stores, but on the 7th floor there is a plate announcing "The Birthplace of Personal Computers". Radio Kaikan today provides a home for Kaiyodo and other hobby specialists, and is well worth a visit.

Radio Center

Radio Center is an unbelievable two-floor warren of tiny shops, each specializing in (for example) LEDs, voltage meters, ceramic capacitors or miniature cameras. Heaven for the hardcore do-it-yourself electronics geek.

Tsukumo Robot Kingdom

Japan's first robot specialist store. It offers a wide selection of assembly kits, from pet robots to biped robots. Worth a quick look or go shopping if you are into this type of product.

Akihabara CrossField

In March 2006, "Akihabara Cross Field", consisting of two high-rise buildings (Akihabara Daibiru and Akihabara UDX), was opened as a major redevelopment project slated to

become a center for Japan's frontier IT-related technology, people and culture. It is now a focus of attention as a venue for "crossings" between industry, technology, people and culture. The Animation Center on the 4th floor of the Akihabara UDX provides visitors with information about animation.

<u> Harajuku Fashion - Youth Culture</u>

If it's Harajuku's youth culture you want to see, don't even bother unless it's the weekend and preferably a Sunday. The bridge across the train tracks from Harajuku station to Yoyogi Park is full of Gothic Lolita or GothLoli. The costumes are very outstanding and you can't miss them. It is funny to see the surprise of the western tourists heading to Yoyogi Park and Meiji Jingu who clearly had not read their guide books fully on Harajuku. You can hear their comments that make it very clear they just don't understand what is going on. Essentially the youth who have dressed up are just hanging out with friends, many of them come with the hope of being snapped by one of the many magazine photographers who mingle in the crowd. Failing that there are lots of western tourists happy to take their pictures.

<u>UNIQLO</u>

Is a Japanese clothing retail chain specializing in casual wear designer, manufacturer and retailer.

Muji

Is a Japanese retail company which sells a wide variety of household and consumer goods. Muji is distinguished by its design minimalism, emphasis on recycling, avoidance of waste in production and packaging, and no-logo or "no-brand" policy. The name Muji is derived from the first part of *Mujirushi Ryōhin*, translated as *No Brand Quality Goods* Muji products range from stationery, and clothing for men and women, to food items and major kitchen appliances.

Isamiya Building 1 - 3F, 3-17-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku Tokyo









SIGNTSEEING:

<u>Tsukiji Fish Market</u>

This huge wholesale fish market -- the largest in Japan and one of the largest in the world -- is a must for anyone who has never seen such a market in action. And the action here starts early: At about 3am, boats begin arriving from the seas around Japan, from Africa, and even from America, with enough fish to satisfy the demands of a nation where seafood reigns supreme. To give you some idea of its enormity, this market handles almost all the seafood consumed in Tokyo. The king is tuna, huge and frozen, unloaded from the docks, laid out on the ground, and numbered. Wholesalers walk up and down the rows, jotting down the numbers of the best-looking tuna, and by 5:30am, the tuna auctions are well under way (the entire auction of sea products takes place about 5-7am). The wholesalers then transfer what they've bought to their own stalls in the market, subsequently selling the fish to their regular customers, usually retail stores and restaurants. The market is held in a cavernous, hangarlike building, which means you can visit it even on a dismal rainy morning. There's a lot going on -- men in black rubber boots rushing wheelbarrows and carts through the aisles, hawkers shouting, knives chopping and slicing. Wander the aisles and you'll see things you never dreamed were edible. This is a good place to bring your camera: The people working here burst with pride if you single them out for a photograph. The floors are wet, so leave your fancy shoes at the hotel. Tsukiji is also a good place to come if you want sushi for breakfast. Alongside the covered market are rows of barracklike buildings divided into sushi restaurants and shops related to the fish trade. In addition, as you walk the distance between the Tsukiji subway station and the fish market, you'll find yourself in a delightful district of tiny retail shops and stalls where you can buy the freshest seafood in town, plus dried fish and fish products, seaweed, vegetables, knives, and other cooking utensils. There are also a lot of pottery shops and stores that sell plastic and lacquered trays, bowls, and cups. Although they sell in great quantities to restaurant owners, shopkeepers will usually sell to the casual tourist as well. Warning: While walking through the retail district from Tsukiji Market, keep watch over your purses, pickpockets have been at work here on unsuspecting tourists.

Transportation: Station: Tsukijishijo (exit A2, 2 min.) or Tsukiji (Honganji Temple exit, 10 min.) Mon-Sat 5-11am (<u>best time 5:30-9am</u>)

The Imperial Palace (Kyokyo)

The Imperial Palace, home of the imperial family, is the heart and soul of Tokyo. Built on the very spot where Edo Castle used to stand during the days of the Tokugawa shogunate, it became the imperial home upon its completion in 1888 and is now the residence of Emperor Akihito, 125th emperor of Japan. Destroyed during air raids in 1945, the palace was rebuilt in 1968 using the principles of traditional Japanese architecture. But don't expect to get a good look at it; most of the palace grounds' 114 hectares (284 acres) are off-limits to the public, with the exception of 2 days a year when the royal family makes an appearance before the throngs. New Year's Day and the emperor's birthday (Dec 23). Or you can visit imperial grounds on free guided tours Monday through Friday at 10am and 1:30pm, but you must register at least 1 day in advance (reservations are accepted up to 1 month in advance) by calling tel. 03/3213-111, ext. 485 or 486, and then stopping by the Imperial Household (located at the Sakashita-mon Gate, on the east side of palace grounds) to provide your passport number, nationality, name, age, occupation, and address in Tokyo. Tours, conducted in Japanese only, last about 75 minutes and lead past official buildings, the inner moat and historic fortifications, and Nijubashi Bridge. I recommend this tour only if you have time to spare and have already seen Tokyo's other top attractions. Otherwise, you'll have to console yourself with a camera shot of the palace from the southeast side of Nijubashi Bridge, where the moat and the palace turrets show above the trees. Most Japanese tourists make brief stops here to pay their respects. The wide moat, lined with cherry trees, is especially beautiful in the spring. You might even want to spend an hour strolling the 4.8km (3 miles) around the palace and moat. But the most important thing to do in the vicinity of the palace is to visit its Higashi Gyoen (East Garden), where you'll find what's left of the central keep of old Edo Castle, the stone foundation. Transportation: Station: Nijubashi-mae (1 min.) or Hibiya (5 min.)

Ueno Park:

A large park located near the Ueno Station opened in 1873, is home to a variety of museums: the Tokyo National Museum, the Orient Museum, the National Science Museum, the Shitamachi Museum, the National Museum for Western Art, and the Tokyo Metropolitan Fine Art Gallery. In the south side, there's a statue of Saigo Takamori, who took an important role during the Meiji Restoration. Japan's first zoological garden, the Ueno Zoo was established in the park in 1982, and it has been one of the most famous and popular attractions in the park ever since it welcomed the first panda bears brought from China as a gift. In the middle of the Shinobazu Pond, is an island with a temple dedicated to Benten, and the Toshogu Shrine dedicated to Tokugawa leyasu is also situated in the park. The nature including greeneries is well preserved and 1,000 of cherry blossom trees attract many who love to come for cherry blossom viewing in spring. **Transportation: Station: 2 mins. walk from Keisei Ueno Sta., 2 mins. walk from Ueno Sta. on JR and Subway Ginza Line**

Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building

Located in Nishi-Shinjuku, it is the tallest building in Tokyo at 248 meters (814 feet) from base to top, and the second-tallest structure after Tokyo Tower. The two top-floor observation decks are free of charge to the public. It is only a short walk from Shinjuku Station. Given that it is free to use the observation decks and has fewer tall buildings built around, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building is the best observation deck in Tokyo to use. Other observation decks in Tokyo include the one in Roppongi Hills, where again a significant charge applies.

Viewing Tips - Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building

I strongly recommend visiting the observation when it opens in the morning as this is the time when you will have the best opportunity of viewing Mount Fuji. At this time of day the sun will be behind you, the air will be colder and thus there will be less dust and smog in the air to block your view of Mount Fuji and the other mountains in the range.

<u>Sensoji Temple (金龍山浅草寺, Kinryū-zan Sensōji)</u>

Is an ancient Buddhist temple located in Asakusa, Taitō Ward, Tokyo. Sensoji Temple is sometimes referred to as Asakusa Temple. Sensoji Temple is Tokyo's oldest, and one of its most significant, temples. Formerly associated with the Tendai sect, Sensoji Temple became independent after World War II. Adjacent to Sensoji Temple is a Shinto shrine, the Asakusa Jinja.



<u>Shibuya Japan</u>

Is a shopping and eating district popular with a lot of young Tokyoites. In common usage, Shibuya refers to the area directly around Shibuya Station. However Shibuya is one of the 23 special wards of Tokyo which includes the famous Harajuku with its famous Omotesando and Takeshita-Dori, Yoyogi Park, Meiji Jingu shrine and Sendagaya area.

<u>Meiji Jingu Shrine (明治神宮)</u>

Is one of the most popular shrines in Tokyo and is a must see for anyone visiting Tokyo. Not only is this shrine easy to access via train to Harajuku Station, it is also right next to the very popular and fashionable Harajuku. This makes it easy to string together a visit to central Shibuya, Harajuku and Meiji Jingu Shrine all in a day or an afternoon if you really rush it.

Meiji Jingu Shrine is a great contrast to the hustle and noise of Tokyo with the forest of 120,000 evergreen trees blocking out the noise of the city. The forest of 365 different species of trees covers an impressive 700,000 square-meters

(about 175 acres). Meiji Jingu Shrine is dedicated to the souls of Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shoken. The shrine was built in a garden area where Emperor Meiji and Empress Shoken sometimes visited before their deaths in 1912 and 1914 respectively. Meiji Jingu Shrine was built after this, in the Nagarezukuri style, constructed mainly with Japanese cypress from Kiso. Japanese cypress is generally considered the best timber in Japan.





<u>Ueno Park (上野公園 Ueno Kōen)</u>

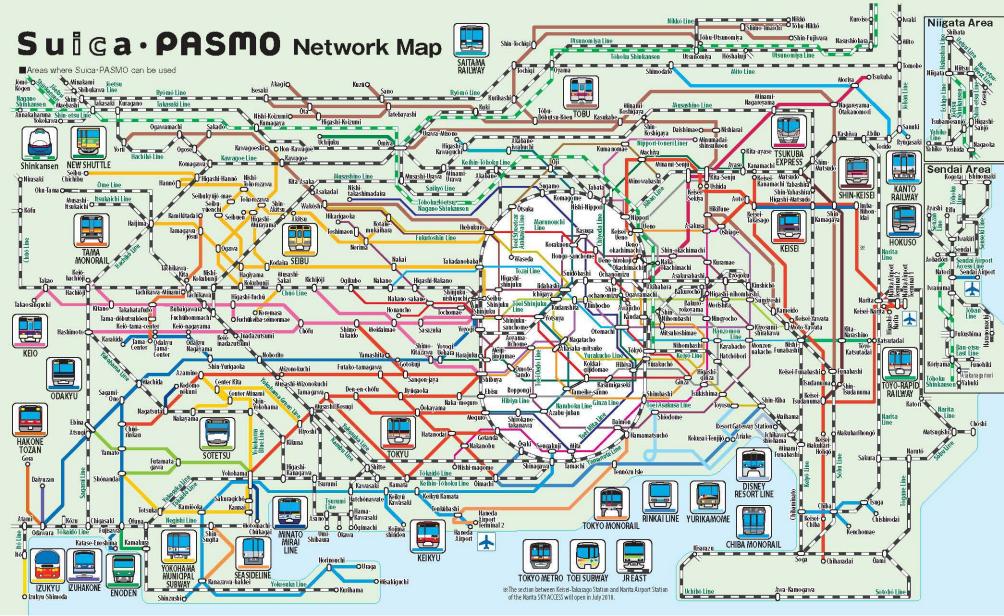
Is a spacious public park located in the Ueno section of Taito-ku, Tokyo, Japan. In cherry blossom season, Ueno Park is Tokyo's most popular spot for outdoor hanami parties... Ueno Park occupies the site of the former Kan'eiji, a temple closely associated with the Tokugawa shoguns, who had built the temple to guard Edo Castle against the northeast. The temple was destroyed during the Boshin War.

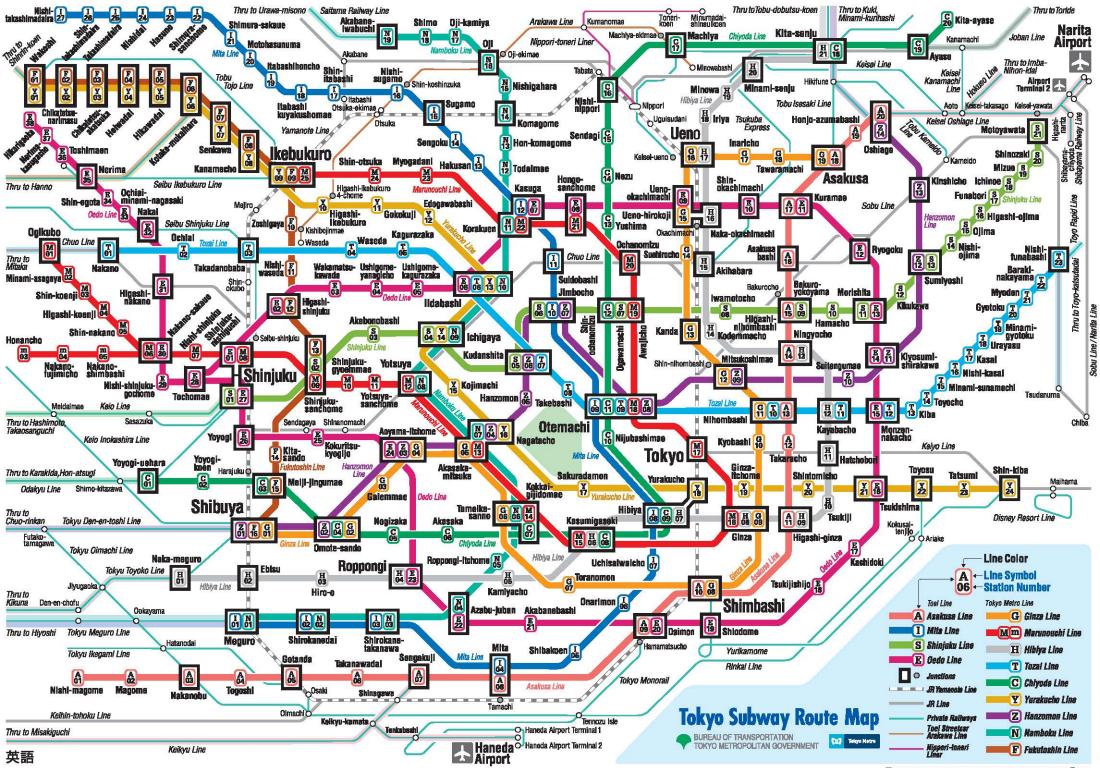




http://www.sunnypages.jp/

• This is a great site to find just about anything in Japan. Say you are hungry and want a restaurant that serves sushi and has an English speaking staff. You put in those options and out comes a list of restaurants with reviews.





M BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION TOKYO METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT Tokyo Moore Co., Ltd. 🔘 2008.0



Population: App. 12,700,000

Currency: Japanese Yen, 1 ¥ = 100 sen

Opening hours:

Banks 9am-3pm Mon-Fri, major banks/branches are closed also on Sat. and Sun. Closed national holidays. Shops generally open 10am-8pm Mon-Sun.

Internet:

www.jnto.go.jp www.tcvb.or.jp www.kanko.metro.tokyo.jp

Newspapers:

Japan Times Yomiuri Daily Asahi/International Herald Tribune Tokyo Journal Metropolis magazine

Emergency numbers:

110 Police 119 Fire & Ambulance

Tourist information:

Tokyo TIC Tokyo Kotsu Kaikan 10F, 2-10-1 Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku Open: 9am-5pm daily Tel: +81 (0)3 3201 3331

ΤΟΚΥΟ

PUBLISHING DATE: 2010-01-21 | COUNTRY CODE: JP

Contents: The City, Do & See, Eating, Cafés, Bars & Nightlife, Shopping, Sleeping, Essential Information, Maps

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τοκγο

Previously a relatively hidden destination Tokyo's technological leaps and passion for everything new has made the rest of the world sit up and take notice. A city of smaller cities, Tokyo's neighbourhoods are individual and unique in what each can offer, from cultural sights to vast shopping malls. Get ready for a whirlwind of modernity and tradition - this is Tokyo!

DESTINATION: TOKYO PUBLISHING DATE: 2010-01-21



THE CITY



Before you set foot out the door of your hotel, be aware of Tokyo's complicated address system. Very few streets have names and instead are identified by numbers indicating building, block and area. 1-11-18, Shibuya, Shibuya-ku would therefore translate as the 18th building of the 11th block of the 1st area of Shibuya in Shibuya ward. Invest in a bilingual map of Tokyo and don't hesitate to ask police for directions as even the locals get confused.

Once you have grasped the navigation system, Tokyo is a delight to get around. The metro is super efficient, the city is clean and people are courteous and friendly. Though addresses may be confusing, Tokyo is divided neatly into 23 wards, each with a certain distinctive characteristic. Visit Asakusa for old-town charm and temples, Ginza for shopping Mecca and Akihabara for electronics galore. Blend old and new to get a taste of Tokyo's great diversity.

Variety is Tokyo's key. Few other world cities are as wonderfully idiosyncratic. International and local influences intertwine in cuisines, festivals, music, galleries, shopping and even accommodation. Bizarre and fast-moving, yet peaceful and intrinsically religious, Tokyo's identity is above all, distinctly Japanese, despite existing as a world of its own.

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DO & SEE



Whether you're a techno buff or want to take in some of Tokyo's more traditional Japanese sights and sounds, this city can offer it all. Visit splendid Shinto shrines or indulge in some shopping on Tokyo's equivalent of Fifth Avenue. Here are the highlights.

Meiji-jingu

This nationally recognised Shinto shrine is recognised as one of Japan's primary symbols of the country's major religion. Take in the huge 11-metre cypress tree torii (gate) before wandering peacefully along winding paths to the wonderful inner buildings.

Internet: www.meijijingu.or.jp

Tsukiji Produce And Fish Market

Getting to Tsukiji Fish Market early is essential in order to make the most of this memorable sight. At Tokyo's biggest and noisiest market, tuna auctions start at 5am followed swiftly by fruit and veg, all sold by





some 50,000 workers and wholesalers.

Address: 5-2 Tsukiji, Chuo-ku Internet: www.tsukiji-market.or.jp

Tokyo National Museum

For a taste of Japanese history this is where you'll find Japan's largest collection of Asian artefacts. The main gallery, Honkan, displays an impressive assortment of swords, masks, wood-block prints and kimonos while other 'don't miss' features include the 7th century bronze-seated Buddhas in the Horyu-ji Homotusukan.

Address: 13-9 Ueno-koen, Taito-ku Underground: Ueno (Park exit) Phone: +81 (0)3 3822 1111 or +81 (0)3 5405 8686 Internet: www.tnm.go.jp

Kabuki-za

This stylised theatre performance consists of elaborate choreography and make-up combined with colourful traditional nagauta music. The plays are dramatic and exciting, though in the 17th century female kabuki performers were banned - men now play the roles of both genders most convincingly.

Address: 4-12-5 Ginza, Chuo-ku Underground: Higashi-Ginza (exit 3) Phone: +81 (0)3 3541 3131

Sumo Wrestling

Possibly Japan's most recognised cultural event, you'd be mad to miss this spectacle. Dating back 2000 years, Sumo is Japan's national sport and as such combines religious, athletic and traditional features.

Address: 1-3-28 Yokoami, Sumida-ku Underground: Ryogoku Internet: www.sumo.or.jp

Senso-ji

The Senso-ji temple is an old-town institution. Though a major tourist attraction, this is primarily a traditional, local site where worshippers cast coins, clap ceremoniously and bow in respect to an image of Kannon, the Goddess of

Compassion.

Address: 2-3-1 Asakusa, Taito-ku Underground: Asakusa (exit 1) Tickets: Free

Mori Art Museum

At the top of Mori Tower in the vast Roppongi Hills, this contemporary art museum combines breathtaking views with fresh artistic talent.

Address: 52 & 53F, Roppongi Hills Mori Tower, 6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku Underground: Roppongi (Hibiya line, Roppongi Hills exit) Phone: +81 (0)3 5777 8600 Internet: www.mori.art.museum

Edo-tokyo Museum

Situated close to the sumo stables, there's a chance you could bump into the odd wrestling professional on your way to the Edo. Inside, a more thorough glimpse of Tokyo's history is revealed, with exhibits depicting events like the 1923 Great Kanto earthquake and traditional scenes from everyday life.

Address: 1-4-1 Yokoami, Sumida-ku Underground: Ryogoku (Sobu line) Phone: +81 (0)3 3626 9974 Internet: www.edo-tokyo-museum.or.jp

EATING



Boasting more than 300,000 restaurants, cafés and food stalls, the only problem when going for dinner in Tokyo, is too much choice. Japanese food is famous for its clean and fresh tastes, but here you can really delve into the depths of this oriental cuisine. Sample the best sushi before moving on to more adventurous fare in an izakaya or yatai street stall. High-end dining can be expensive but in restaurants such as the New York Grill and Luxor, there is no doubt that you are paying for the very best in terms of cuisine and, in the former, spectacular views. Many of the more pricey venues offer great deals for lunch, so it is worth making the most of these culinary delights earlier in the day. Book ahead for most places, especially at the weekends and watch out for a particular eating etiquette. Sticking your chopsticks into your rice vertically is a funerary custom!

Chinese Café Eight

Café Eight's Peking Duck has become legendary in Tokyo. Overflowing with expats and Japanese patrons, this restaurant has won people over with its irresistible combination of unbeatable prices and delicious food.

Address: 3-2-13 Nishi Azabu, Minato-ku Underground: Roppongi Phone: +81 (0)3 5414 5708 Internet: www.cceight.com

Seigetsu

Dinner at a traditional izakaya is not to be missed. Primarily serving as bar space (see Bars), these 'sake places' are also renowned for their tapas style Japanese food. Seigetsu is a large izakaya but has been cleverly divided with delicate bamboo screens to give it a cosy feel. Relax in the comfortable surroundings under subdued lighting in an interior that is pure Tokyo.

Address: 6-77-1 Kagurazaka, Izakaya Underground: Kagurazaka Phone: +81 (0)3 3269 4320

New York Grill

Dine with the stars at the top of the Park Hyatt hotel, where the modern seafood and meat dishes easily match the standard of the restaurant's location. Dinner on a week night is a pleasure but the Grill is

particularly famous for its Sunday brunch, when expats takeover the dining room.

Address: Park Hyatt Tokyo 52F, 3-7-1-2 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku Underground: Shinjuku (west exit) Phone: +81 (0)3 5322 1234 Internet: http://tokyo.park.hyatt.com

Locanda Haliana

Elios is off the beaten track just enough to convince people they're eating in one of Tokyo's hidden treasures. Receiving rave reviews from its many regulars, steaming bowls of pasta are served up amidst noisy chatter from local residents. Service is polished and the atmosphere Mediterranean in attitude.

Address: Kojimachi 2-5-2 Phone: +81 (0)3 3239 6771 Internet: www.elio.co.jp

Sushi Bun

Take your cue from Tokyo's fishermen, who still choose Sushi Bun for the freshest raw fish in the city. Located at the heart of the Tsukiji Fish Market you can be sure you're eating tuna, eel and sea urchin which has been hauled in only hours ago. The tiny restaurant is cramped but cheery - grab your place at the 12-seat counter to experience the best sushi Tokyo has to offer.

Address: Chuo Shijo Bldg No. 8, 5-2-1 Tsukiji, Chuo-ku Underground: Tsukiji (exit A1) Phone: +81 (0)3 3541 3860

Brasserie Aux Amis

Country-style French cooking at this Parisian bistro in Tokyo's business district. The menu, consisting of juicy steaks and the ubiquitous 'frites', is written in chalk on large wall mirrors and prepared by the celebrated chef Masashi Hadachi. A casual crowd relax on red leather banquettes indulging in hearty sandwiches at lunchtime and more serious 4-course dinners in the evening.



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Address: Shin-Tokyo Bldg 1F, 3-3-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku Phone: +81 (0)3 6212 1566 Internet: www.auxamis.com

CAFÉS



Cafe culture is thriving in Tokyo, where novelties such as the manga craze have taken over many venues. In addition, the Japanese are caffeine fanatics and kissaten (coffee shops) have been set up on every corner to cater to this demand.

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Bon

For caffeine addicts in Tokyo, Bon is a local Mecca. Choose something adventurous

from the extensive coffee menu.

Address: Toriichi Bldg B1, 3-23-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku

Geragera

An experience of café culture in Tokyo would not be complete without stopping at a Manga coffee shop. Japanese comic books are the order of the day.

Address: B1&B2, 3-17-4 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku Internet: www.geragera.co.jp

Ef

The small art gallery at Ef is the main attraction, a welcome break if you're all templed-out in Asakusa. Decorated in retro-style, this is a cool hang out for local trendsetters.

Address: 2-19-18 Kaminarimon, Taito-ku Internet: www.gallery-ef.com

Bonus Box

During the past decade Tokyo has seen the emergence of the 24-hour manga kissaten which offer comic books, internet access and even a place to sleep for cartoon addicted night owls. Manga, literally translated as 'crazy drawings', total almost 40% of everything published in Japan. Magazines can amount to 5 or 6 hours of reading time each, which perhaps indicates the need for around the clock access in manga cafés.

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Most socialising done in Tokyo is away from home, hence the infinite number of venues which offer alcohol in the city, from the ubiquitous izakaya, to the more exclusive glitzy bars. The nightlife in Tokyo has something to offer everyone. Whether you're looking for a hedonistic party, superclub sounds or chilled out beats it's all here for the taking. Lounge about or dance the night away at Tokyo's best clubs.

New York Bar

On the 52nd floor of the Park Hyatt Hotel it is easy to see why Sofia Coppola filmed part of 'Lost in Translation' here. Listen to top-notch jazz musicians whilst checking out the Tokyo skyline.

Address: Park Hyatt Tokyo 52F, 3-7-1-2 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku Underground: Shinjuku (west exit, Yamanote line)

Majestic

Fall into Majestic at the end of a heavy night, when lounging on one of its velvet bedspreads will relieve tired feet. This bar is the latest addition to Tokyo's sultry bed-bar scene.

Address: B1F, 1-14-17 Nishi Azabu, Minato-ku Underground: Nogizaka

Sekirei

Kimono-clad dancers perform nightly in Sekirei's opulent and historical surroundings. Emperor Meiji signed the Japanese constitution here and this grand bar now plays host to a high-class clientele.

Address: Meiji Kinenkan, 2-2-23 Moto-Akasaka, Minato-ku Underground: Shinanomachi Internet: www.meiiikinenkan.gr.ip

Age-ha

The Daddy of clubs in Tokyo, Age-Ha is a warehouse superclub that holds more than 4000 partygoers. A mixture of gangsta-rap and urban hip hop keep the Tokyo kids happy. Address: 2-2-10 Shinkiba, Koto-ku Underground: Shin-Kiba Internet: www.ageha.com

The Room

One of the smallest clubs in the area, 200 people pack into this exclusive venue. Look out for a red street light indicating the basement entrance.

Address: Daihachi Tohto Bldg B1F, 15-19 Sakuragaoka, Shibuya-ku Underground: Shibuya (Yamanote line, south exit) Internet: www.theroom.jp

La Fabrique

Gauloises tobacco sponsor many signature nights at this French-themed club.

Japanese customers show their enthusiasm by sporting berets in the spirit of all things Gallic.

Address: Zero Gate B1F, 16-9 Udagawacho, Shibuya-ku Underground: Shibuya (Yamanote line, Hachiko exit) Internet: www.lafabrique.jp

Bullet's

For a friendlier club experience head to Bullet's. Sink into one of the many sofas or mattresses and listen to the abstract sounds of experimental DJs.

Address: Kasumi Bldg, B1F, 1-7-11 Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku Underground: Roppongi (Hibiya line, exit 2) Internet: www.bul-lets.com

SHOPPING



Shopping in this city has become more of an art than a simple pleasure. If you've got cash to spend then this is the paradise of all shopping paradises. Shopping malls and department stores abound and specific



areas are often devoted to certain wares to make life easier.

Roppongi is more than just hundreds of shops, it is a mini city of restaurants, clubs, cafes, cinemas, hotels and museums. It is where the expat crowd in particular, party, eat, drink, shop and hang out and is about as far from traditional Japan as is possible. Roppongi Hills, a mall comprising most of the above, is at the centre of this hive of activity and attracts a good percentage of Tokyo's serious shoppers. Housing high street, boutique and designer brands, you can safely expect to find everything you're looking for.

For label lovers Ginza is retail heaven. The Japanese adore their fashion items and clothes from big designers is what it's all about. This is where you'll find the usual suspects - Chanel, Hermes and even Barney's of New York have all set up shop in this upmarket location. Well-established brands heave with equally well-dressed customers who can afford the clothes and the art in the surrounding Ginza galleries. For trendier labels, head to Harajaku and Shibuya.

Catering for a similar crowd to Ginza, Harajaku has more of an edge. As well as the familiar Prada, Dior and Burberry, if you walk just round the corner you'll find the funky teen stores of Shibuya. One of these, the 109 store (2-29-1 Dogenzaka) is said to inspire the mad and consistently madder styles seen on the Shibuya streets. At 109 and others like Laforet Harajuku (1-11-6 Jingumae), young women's wear is packed to the rafters.

Aoyama (station: Omotesando) is a world of Japanese and international upmarket brands. The newly designed Prada building here stands for everything this neighbourhood is about - sleek sophistication is the name of the game. Well-recognised Japanese designers including Yohji Yamamoto, and Issey Miyake stand side by side with Prada and Louis Vuitton.

Welcome to neon land. Akihabara is the electronics capital of Japan and walking through its streets you can barely see in front of you for the amount of flashing shop signs and video screens. Street stalls sell the latest high-tech computer devices, while huge electronics retailers flog televisions at duty-free prices. Head for the duty-free stores if you want to speak to English staff, and bring your passport with you to qualify for tax exempt goods. Akky (1-12-1 Soto Kanda) is one of the best shops for this. Come out of Akihabara station and look for the glaringly obvious Electric Town exit.

Kappabashi Dori is where you'll find shops specialising in kitchenware and home goods. Perfect for presents and stocking up on wonderful Japanese lacquer, ceramics, pottery and decorated chopsticks, this is an area for the house proud.

If you want to avoid more mainstream bookstores and spend some time looking for some hidden literary treasures, Kanda is where to go. Browse among the second-hand shops that line Yasukuni Dori and you're bound to stumble upon a few gems. Good Day Books is Tokyo's oldest and most famous used English book store and you can spend hours here among the 40,000 second hand and new copies.

For more detailed shopping information download our special Tokyo shopping guide at: www.arrivalguides.com

Roppongi Hills

Something for everyone in happening Roppongi. You could get caught here for a day with such an array of activities.



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Address: 6-10 Roppongi, Minato-ku Underground: Roppongi (Hibiya line, exit 1C) Phone: +81 (0)3 6406 6000 Internet: www.roppongihills.com

Isetan

This enormous shopping enterprise is split into 8 buildings covering departments for cosmetics, household goods, clothing and electronics.

Address: 3-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku Underground: Shinjuku-Sanchome (Marunouchi, exit B3) Phone: +81 (0)3 3352 1111 Internet: www.isetan.co.jp/iclub

Mitsukoshi

Japan's oldest department store has stores in Ginza and Nihonbashi. Womenswear, accessories, menswear, toys and childrenswear fill the seven floors.

Address: 4-6-16 Ginza, Chuo-ku Underground: Ginza (Ginza line, exit A7) Phone: +81 (0)3 3562 1111 Internet: www.mitsukoshi.co.jp

109

Keep up with the trends at Shibuya's 109.

Address: 2-29-1 Dogenzaka, Shibuya-ku Underground: Shibuya (Yamanote line, Hachiko exit) Phone: +81 (0)3 3477 5111 Internet: www.shibuya109.jp

Oriental Bazaar

Visit Tokyo's best known gift shop to stock up on trinkets for friends back home. Kimonos and chinaware are among the souvenirs.

Address: 5-9-13 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku Underground: Harajuku (Yamanote line, Omotesando exit) Phone: +81 (0)3 3400 3933 Internet: www.tokyo-bazaar.com

Laox: Duty Free Akihabara

Aikihabara's biggest supplier of electronic and technological devices at duty-free prices.

Address: 1-15-3 Soto-Kanda, Chiyoda-ku Underground: Akihabara (Yamanote Line, Electric Town exit) Phone: +81 (0)3 3255 5301 Internet: www.laox.co.jp

SLEEPING



Tokyo's assortment of weird and wonderful places to sleep includes the bizarre capsule hotel and the risqué love hotels. If neither of these options appeal, below are some more mainstream alternatives.

EXCLUSIVE Park Hyatt Tokyo

A deluxe hotel best known for its role in 'Lost in Translation', the Park Hyatt caters to every whim. In addition to immaculate service and well-equipped rooms, the reception has views only rivalled by the 52nd floor bar, and the beauty and fitness centre is second to none.

Address: 3-7-1-2 Nishi Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku Underground: Shinjuku (Yamanote line, west exit) Phone: +81 (0)3 5322 1234 Internet: http://tokyo.park.hyatt.com

Hilltop Hotel

The Hilltop is incongruously old-fashioned in the midst of Tokyo's technological metropolis. Antique furniture fills this spacious and airy hotel, where suites have their own private gardens.

Address: 1-1 Kanda-Surugadai, Chiyoda-ku Underground: Ochanomizu (Chuo line, Ochanomizubashi exit) Phone: +81 (0)3 3293 2311 Internet: www.yamanoue-hotel.co.jp

GOOD VALUE Hotel Villa Fontaine Shiodome

Essentially a design hotel. Considerable effort has been put into unusual lighting, artwork and furniture. The lobby introduces the resounding funky theme, an





eye-catching atrium stretching up into the centre of the hotel.

Address: 1-9-2 Higashi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku Underground: Shiodome (Oedo line, exit 10) Phone: +81 (0)3 3569 2220 Internet: www.villa-fontaine.co.jp

Homeikan Honkan

Traditional Japanese ryokans are the perfect option to save pennies on accommodation and provide a glimpse into the authentic Japanese hotel experience. Homeikan Honkan fulfils all expectations, featuring a wooden exterior, ornamental garden and futon-filled rooms. Tatami (straw) mats line the floors and guests must remove their shoes before being welcomed in.

Address: 5-10-5 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku Underground: Kasuga (Mita line, exit A5) Phone: +81 (0)3 3811 1187 Internet: www.homeikan.com

BASIC Hotel New Koyo

With unbeatable prices, New Koyo also offers unusually extravagant facilities. There are kitchens and laundry rooms on each floor which more than make up for the small rooms.

Address: 2-26-13 Nihonzutumi, Taito-ku Underground: Minowa (Hibiya Line, exit 3) Phone: +81 (0)3 3873 0343 Internet: www.newkoyo.jp

Kimi Ryokan

Popular with tourists, Kimi Ryokan is a great place to meet fellow travellers. Bathrooms are communal but immaculately clean, with a Japanese bath available for use. Rooms are exclusively Japanese style.

Address: 2-36-8 Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku Underground: Ikebukuro (Yamanote line, exit west) Phone: +81 (0)3 3971 3766 Internet: www.kimi-ryokan.jp

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Airports

Two airports serve Tokyo: Narita International Airport and Haneda International Airport (mainly internal flights).

Narita Airport is accessible by the Narita Express Train which is the fastest way to get from the city centre to the airport. Trains depart approx. every half hour.

Internet: www.narita-airport.or.jp

Narita Express Trains Internet: www.jreast.co.jp

The Kesei Skyliner trains go from Narita to Ueno/Nippori station in approx. 1 hour. Limousine buses run regularly from the airport to key points in the city. Taxis are available for the 70 km journey but are astronomical.

Internet: www.keisei.co.jp

Haneda Airport is served by the Tokyo Monorail leaving every 10 minutes almost around the clock.

Internet: www.tokyo-airport-bldg.co.jp

Tokyo Monorail Internet: www.tokyo-monorail.co.jp



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Public transport

Tokyo has one of the most efficient train and subway systems in the world. Trains are clean and fast and all stations have signs in English. The Japan Railways operated overland train lines are colour-coded, the most frequently used line being the Yamanote line. Tokyo Metro runs the subway which consists of 12 lines. Subways and trains operate from 5am-midnight. A variety of tickets and passes are on offer to make it easier than buying individual tickets for every trip. Buy a prepaid Suica travel pass to travel on all JR lines. These can be purchased at JR 'Green Window' areas or at ticket machines. A card costs ¥2000. The Pasmo ticket (¥1000/3000/5000) is similar to the Suica but cannot be used on JR lines. To transfer from the Tokyo Metro network to the JR network a transfer ticket is required which is available at the transfer point.

Internet: www.tokyometro.jp and www.jreast.co.jp

Buses in Tokyo are also run by several different companies. It is less confusing to take the subway or trains around the city, but bus routes are efficient. Nevertheless, few signs are in English which makes navigation difficult. Fares are approx. ¥200 and fare machines accept most coins. Bus route guides in English are available at Toei subway stations and hotels. Internet: www.tokyobus.or.jp

Cycling is one of the most common ways to get around in Tokyo if you're feeling energetic. Some hotels will hire out bikes, but most will have further information on where to hire elsewhere.

Taxi

Taxis are expensive but convenient in Tokyo, fares starting at approx. ¥720 and rising by about ¥100 every 350 metres after the first two kilometres. Weekend rates are more expensive as are rides between 11pm and 5am. Taxi stands are located in almost all busy areas and tipping is not expected.

Post

Post boxes are red in Tokyo and the slot on the left is for domestic mail, the right one for international. English script is acceptable when writing addresses and stamps can be purchased at convenience stores. Post offices are indicated by a red and white 'T' and are located everywhere. Post office ATMs accept foreign bank cards. Opening hours are 9am-5pm Mon-Fri (some larger branches open till 7pm) and closed at weekends.

Pharmacy

Roppongi Pharmacy is the closest to a 24-hour chemist in Tokyo. No credit cards are accepted.

Address: 6-8-8 RoppongiMinato-ku Underground: Roppongi station, exit 3 Opening hours: 10-1am, closed 2nd Sun of month Phone: +81 (0)3 3403 8879

Dentist

Tokyo Clinic Dental Office have English speaking-staff.

Phone: +81 (0)3 3431 4225

Telephone

Country code: +81



Area code: 03

Electricity

Japan's current is 100V AC. Plugs have two flat-sided prongs.



