



TokyoTokyo

TOBU Group

English  
2<sup>nd</sup> edition

## SUMIDA RIVER WALK Area Map



**SUMIDA RIVER WALK,  
linking the TOKYO SKYTREE®  
to the Sumida River Bridge,  
a pedestrian bridge attached**

Column



**History of Sumida Park**

Column

In the Edo period, this was the site of Koume Mansion, a villa owned by the Mito Tokugawa Clan, which headed the shogunate. For generations, members of the Mito Tokugawa lived in the villa until it burned down in the Great Kanto Earthquake, which struck in 1923. The site was also a node of river transport from the Mito-Jikken River to the Sumida River, and of the network of post roads. Together with Hanamachi Park and Kinshi Park, Sumida Park was one of the three major parks incorporated as part of the project of recovery from the Great Kanto Earthquake. During the planning, it was decided to include the site of the Koume Mansion in the park, whose design consequently contains boardwalks, a pond, and other facilities that highlight its waterfront dimension. As a result, it attracted attention for what was considered a modern park design at the time. Today, it includes a dock, pier, and boarding area for water taxis. Although the scenery has changed, it therefore continues to play a role as a node of boat transport even now.

**Information on sightseeing  
Information Centers  
[Tobu Tourist Information Center Asakusa]**



The Sumida River Bridge was built in 1931 in order to expand the Tobu railway line to Asakusa Station. Its design was marked by a curvature reflecting consideration for the river scenery and kept the bridge's structural members out of sight from inside the train cars. Attached to this bridge is SUMIDA RIVER WALK, a pedestrian bridge linking the TOKYO SKYTREE® and Asakusa areas. It was built on the basis of a proposal by a group instituted to study new approaches to waterfront improvement (with the Tokyo Metropolitan Government serving as the secretariat). It provides a walkway linking the Asakusa and TOKYO SKYTREE® areas, which draw more than 30 million visitors a year, by the shortest distance. Together with TOKYO Mizumachi and a waterside terrace built under the appeal of the waterside area, and create a bustling space as the core of the whole district. Along with the addition of the new pedestrian bridge, the Sumida River Bridge is going to be painted "Skytree White", the color of TOKYO SKYTREE®. This will help to integrate the bridge and Tokyo Skytree® in the minds of visitors, and to generate coherence as a single area.

## Asakusa area

This popular district is one of the key sightseeing spots in Tokyo's old downtown area and draws people from around the world. Besides Sensoji Temple and Nakamise Shopping Street, it contains many long-standing shops selling traditional Japanese confections and other gifts.



### 01 Kamawanu Asakusa Store

**"Chusen" hand towels imbued with the skills of traditional artisans**  
This store handles about 200 different types of hand towels and everyday tools collected from inside and outside Japan. The towels are dyed by the traditional "chusen" technique continuing from the 19th century, and feature seasonal patterns only available from the Asakusa store. They make nice souvenirs of Japan for family and friends in other countries.



### 03 Asakusa Kingyo

**Goldfish-scooping for a festive mood, all year round**  
A store where visitors can try to net goldfish and look for goldfish-related items. Goldfish-scooping is a favorite game in Japan's summertime festivals, and you can try it here all year round. There are easy-to-understand directions in English and Chinese. The store also has an assortment of accessories, tableware, and many other items.



### 05 Jidaiya

**Casual experience of Japanese culture**  
Jidaiya provides a casual experience of various elements of Japanese culture, including the tea ceremony, calligraphy, and kimono as well as dressing up like a warlord. Recommended for those who want a different approach to sightseeing in Asakusa. While having all sorts of experiences, you can also take a lot of photos that will be fond memories of your trip to Asakusa.



### 07 Kimuraya Honten

**A venerable maker of ningyo-yaki, a famous Asakusa treat**  
A little cake filled with sweet bean jam, "ningyo-yaki" is one of the treats for which Asakusa is known. Kimuraya was founded way back in the medieval Edo period, and still preserves the flavor from those days. In its early days, people also reportedly called its ware "meisho-yaki" ("famous-place-yaki") because the cakes were shaped like the five-tiered pagoda, thunder god, big lantern, dove, and other sites symbolic of Asakusa.



### 09 Ninja Bar

**An Asakusa bar where you can meet ninja**  
This bar located in the Asakusa Underground Mall, the oldest underground mall in Japan. It serves more than 200 types of Japanese sake and more than 70 types of cocktails, beer, and shochu. Guests can dress up in costumes if they get the urge to do so. Have fun with ninja tonight along with other customers from around the world. Asakusa Station Exit 6.



### 02 Asakusa Hanayashiki

**Japan's oldest amusement park, cloaked in a retro atmosphere**  
Opened in 1853, this is Japan's oldest amusement park. Still in operation, the roller coaster is the oldest one in the country and offers a thrilling ride. Recommended for both children and adults, who can savor the atmosphere of bygone years.



### 04 Samurai & Ninja Dojo

**A real samurai & ninja experience**  
Under the guidance of a real ninja, you can have a genuine ninja experience, including throwing star-shaped knives and shooting darts from a blowgun, as well as learning about the ninja history and philosophy. The Dojo is visited by about 2,000 people every year, and ranks among the top as a Tokyo destination on travel websites.



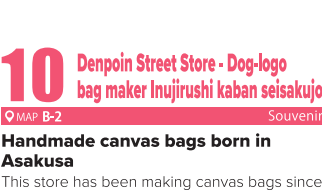
### 06 Sensoji Temple

**A must-see spot visited by about 30 million people per year**  
The oldest Buddhist temple in Tokyo, Sensoji is always thronged with visitors, who total about 30 million a year. Fronting it is Nakamise Shopping Street, a road lined with stores selling souvenirs and sundries. The temple grounds also provide a good view of TOKYO SKYTREE®, which makes for a beautiful contrast of the old and new.



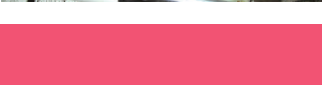
### 08 Bunkoya Ozeki Asakusa Store

**Traditional cow leather goods made by craftspeople**  
Ozeki sells "bunkogawa" a type of cow leather goods. Its craftspeople press frames onto pure white leather and paint the leather by hand, one by one. They can paint over 100 types of pattern styles, including Japanese woodblock prints, Egyptian frescoes, and European tile motifs. Visitors are sure to find an item they like in its big assortment.



### 10 Denpoin Street Store - Dog-Logo bag maker Inujirushi kaban seisakujo

**Handmade canvas bags born in Asakusa**  
This store has been making canvas bags since right after the war. Canvas mellow with age, and is painstakingly produced with a power loom that can only weave a few dozen meters per day. Part of the bag's charm is simple designs unwayed by the going trends.



## SUMIDA RIVER WALK & TOKYO Mizumachi area

This waterside district links the two sightseeing destinations of Asakusa and Oshiage. It is breeding a new downtown culture by broadening the "human, area, culture, and bustle" assets rooted in the community.



### 11 Asakusa Aiwaifuku

**A kimono rental shop for tourists**  
Enjoy seeing the sights of Asakusa in a kimono. The package includes getting your hair set, and there is a variety of plans for groups and couples. Staff who can speak English and Chinese are always on hand. You can leave any big pieces of luggage at the store, so you can sight-see with peace of mind.



### 13 Sumida Park

**A park famed for its cherry blossoms and the Sumida River fireworks display**  
The park lies along the Sumida River and straddles Tokyo's Taito and Sumida wards. It is one of the prime locations for viewing cherry blossoms in spring and for watching the huge Sumida River fireworks display in summer. It is also a perfect place for admiring plum blossoms, hydrangea, and other flowers in any season, and provides an excellent view of TOKYO SKYTREE®.



### 15 SUMIDA RIVER WALK

**A pedestrian bridge linking Asakusa and Tokyo Skytree® by the shortest distance**  
This pedestrian bridge will be newly built on the existing railway bridge in April 2020. It will link the Asakusa area and Tokyo Skytree Town® by the shortest distance. In some sections, it will have a glass floor enabling strollers to look at boats passing underneath.



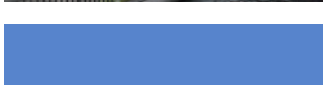
### 17 KONCENT

**A design platform connecting people who create things with people who use them**  
KONCENT is a hub of craftsmanship connecting creators, manufacturers, and users. It has an assortment that is centered around products designed by h-concept and various other items.



### 19 Wise Owl Hostels River Tokyo

**A community-type hostel welcoming travelers from around the world and energizing the local area**  
The theme of Wise Owl Hostels, which opened on Tokyo Mizumachi, is "river". The adjoining cafe & bar and open space are venues for interchange between residents and visitors, and for having different experiences. The proprietor wants to publicize the charms of Sumida ward by operating as "hostels that people can visit for fun." \*Opening in succession beginning in 2021.



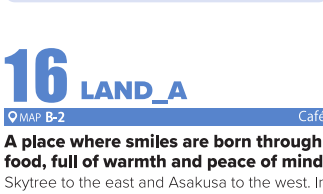
### 12 Chiisana Garasu no Hon no Hakubutsukan

**Etch a pattern of your choice on glass**  
This store sells handmade glass items that Sumida artisans produce by glass-blowing. It also gives visitors a hands-on experience of lectors for etching patterns of their preference into glass. In addition to buying glass items, visitors can freely browse glass-related books and materials. (Reservations are required for the experience.)



### 14 Genmori Bridge

**A duet by a railway and TOKYO SKYTREE®**  
The bridge was built in 2007. By standing on the eastern sidewalk, you can take a picture of a train on the Tobu Skytree Line and TOKYO SKYTREE® at the same time. The bridge is therefore a popular spot for photographers. On it is a unique art object plus bench whose theme is "mutual support."



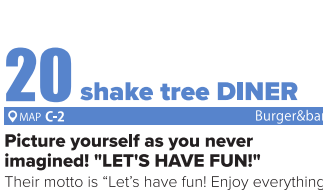
### 16 LAND\_A

**A place where smiles are born through food, full of warmth and peace of mind**  
Skytree to the east and Asakusa to the west. In the middle of this sightseeing area is a cafe & dining establishment where people come for an interlude of smiling faces, warmth, and peace of mind. The assortment of dishes for casual dining, which shows a particularity about growing districts and seasonal foods, delights customers at each table.



### 18 Jack's Wife Freda

**All-day dining rated "NY1 delicious" by ZAGAT**  
The popular New York restaurant with queues at the door has finally come to Japan for the first time! The restaurant guide Zagat Survey selected it as the place to get the best avocado toast in NYC. This little street-side restaurant is one people want to newly incorporate into their Tokyo lifestyle.



### 20 shake tree DINER

**Picture yourself as you never imagined! "LET'S HAVE FUN!"**  
Their motto is "Let's have fun! Enjoy everything with our customers." The burgers using patties instead of buns have an outstanding impact.



## TOKYO SKYTREE TOWN® area

This area is centered around TOKYO SKYTREE®. It is home to entertainment fusing the continuing traditional culture of the old downtown with stylish new culture. It showcases the new appeals of Tokyo to the rest of the world.



### 21 Koume Children's Park

**TOKYO SKYTREE® seen through the poles**  
This little park is across the street from TOKYO SKYTREE®. It contains the artwork "Oboroge" which consists of 161 poles. You can look up at TOKYO SKYTREE® through the poles.



### 23 Banana Factory

**A store specializing in banana sweets**  
Located in a quiet residential area, Banana Factory specializes in banana sweets. Within the little store are a counter and seating on a terrace. Customers can also take out glasses of banana juice. Its best-selling item is banana pie. Its shortcake, cream puffs, pudding, and other products are, of course, also made with banana.



### 25 Sumida Aquarium

**An urban aquarium in TOKYO Solamachi®**  
The aquarium is located on the fifth and sixth floors of TOKYO Solamachi®. Among the most popular attractions are the Tokyo Big Tank reproducing the sea around the Ogasawara Islands and the Indoor Open Pool Tank for close-up observation of penguins and seals. The aquarium also holds many special events in each season.



### 27 Kenban-dori

**The street running through the center of the Mukojima entertainment district**  
The term "kenban" is a common name for offices established by local eateries, geishas, and houses of assignment. The Mukojima entertainment district, which is situated to the north of Kenban-dori and east of Bokutei-dori, still contains nearly 20 traditional "ryotei" restaurants.



### 29 Konica Minolta Planetarium - Tenku in TOKYO SKYTREE TOWN®

**Moving experience of the "extra-ordinary" and starry sky**  
This adult-oriented entertainment planetarium is located on the seventh floor of TOKYO SKYTREE TOWN®. It features works created through collaboration with popular artists and "healing" items with original aromas. Try the premium seats shaped like crescent moons for the show!



### 22 UNLIMITED COFFEE BAR

**A coffee shop that also serves alcoholic beverages**  
A professional barista brews single-origin specialty coffees with a rich flavor. The shop also serves meals and desserts, as well as coffee cocktails and other alcoholic beverages.



### 24 Mirindo

**Hand-roasted crackers with a flavor that hasn't changed since the 1920s**  
Founded way back in 1923, Mirindo sells hand-roasted "sembi" crackers, dipped in a savory soy sauce to which it has been adding for more than 90 years. Besides dozens of types of crackers, it offers "nure-soft," a new hit product combining damp crackers with soft-serve ice cream. On weekends, customers can also watch the staff making the crackers before their eyes.



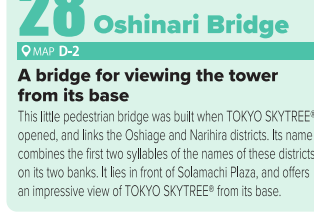
### 26 Oshiro Morihachi Honpo

**A shop selling traditional Japanese confections with an unchanged flavor**  
Founded in 1933, this shop has carried on the tradition of Japanese-style confection-making. It sells sweet chestnut dumplings and buns containing a whole chestnut. It uses bean jam made by a method unique to Japanese sweets. Owing to its castle-like exterior, it has become a local landmark.



### 28 Oshinari Bridge

**A bridge for viewing the tower from its base**  
This little pedestrian bridge was built when TOKYO SKYTREE® opened, and links the Oshiage and Narihira districts. Its name combines the first two syllables of the names of these districts on its two banks. It lies in front of Solamachi Plaza, and offers an impressive view of TOKYO SKYTREE® from its base.



### 30 Postal Museum Japan

**A museum about postal services in Japan**  
The museum displays articles related to postal and communications services in Japan. Besides the collection of some 330,000 stamps, Japan's largest, it contains experience-oriented and hands-on contents. Visitors can really post letters in the mailbox in the museum, and have them stamped with an image of TOKYO SKYTREE®.





