

2022 Spring Vol. 79 P.1 New opening & renewal opening P.2-3 Sento in Tokyo P.4 Sweets for your hanami party

2022 The 10th anniversary of the opening of May TOKYO SKYTREE TOWNSM

Since its opening on May 22, 2012, TOKYO SKYTREE® has been attracting attention as a major tourist spot in Tokyo, being the tallest freestanding communications tower in the world at 634 meters. In October 2021, the number of visitors to "TOKYO SKY-TREE TOWNSM," a large complex that includes the commercial facility "TOKYO SolamachiSM," an aquarium, and a planetarium, reached 300 million. 2022 is also the 10th anniversary year of the opening of this facility. Various events and plans to celebrate the anniversary are in progress.

Oshiage <SKYTREE> (Subway, Keisei), TOKYO SKYTREE (Tobu) www.tokyo-skytree.jp/en









2022 The 150th anniversary of the foundation of Tokyo National Museum

Founded in 1872 in Ueno Park, Tokyo National Museum is the longest-established museum in Japan. In 2022, it marks its 150th anniversary. The collection numbers as many as 120,000 items, including 89 National Treasures. There are a wide variety of Asian antiquities and archeological remains, mainly Japanese ones. At the milestone 150th anniversary, a special exhibition "National Treasures: All about Tokyo National Museum" is to be held from Oct. 18 to Dec. 11, 2022. Various

other special exhibitions and events are also scheduled.

■ Ueno (JR, Subway, Keisei) www.tnm.jp/150th/en





2022 Opening of "KAMEIDO CLOCK," April a new commercial facility in Kameido

About 10 minutes by JR from Akihabara Station, Kameido is located in the downtown area of Tokyo. A new commercial facility, "KAMEIDO CLOCK," is slated to open in late April as a new center for the bustling town. Along large-scale stores, such as popular apparel shops "Uniqlo" and "GU," home appliance mass retailer "Kojima Bic Camera," and "TSUTAYA BOOKSTORE," a total of 136 specialty shops will open their doors. "Kamekuro Yokocho," which features local and popular restaurants, offers a place to enjoy eating and drinking in a casual atmosphere.

Rameido (JR)

www.kameidoclock.jp

Newly Opened Hotels Information 🚝

3/1 32 rooms hotel hisoca ikebukuro hotelhisoca.com

4/15 582 rooms LA VISTA TOKYO BAY www.hotespa.net/hotels/la_tokyobay



4/5 595 rooms Tokyo Disney Resort Toy Story Hotel www.tokyodisneyresort.jp/en/hotel/tsh



A sento is a traditional public bathhouse and has been part of Japanese culture for centuries. There are still nearly 500 sento facilities in Tokyo, providing a small oasis for people living in the big city. Here are some reasonably priced sento that charge 480 yen* (for adults), a standardized fee set by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. Enjoy the special sento culture of Tokyo with the locals!

- * Fee as of January 2022. Optional services, such as sauna, may require an extra charge.
- ** Please check respective websites for more information, such as business hours and business holidays.

Daikokuyu

Located in the downtown area below TOKYO SKYTREE®, this long-established sento opened in 1949. Although it still has a nice old-timey atmosphere, there are various kinds of baths, including a spacious open-air bath, creating a friendly feel with a fusion of old and new. On the second floor, you can admire the lofty TOKYO SKYTREE® while relaxing in a hammock on the wood deck. Original T-shirts and unique items featuring "Oke-inu," the bathhouse's own character, are great souvenir options.

Sauna available

Oshiage <SKYTREE> (Subway, Keisei), TOKYO SKYTREE (Tobu) www.daikokuyu.com/english







Koganeyu

This sento facility looks like a stylish cafe. The bandai (front desk) also serves as a beer bar, which serves delicious original Koganevu beer. With a DJ booth. this sento holds regular music events, giving you an opportunity to experience a new way to enjoy the baths. It is also an affiliate of "Daikokuyu."

koganeyu.com





OKACHIMACHI

Tsubameyu

Located in the Okachimachi area close to Ueno Park, this sento is located in a special building that is the only National Tangible Cultural Property in Tokyo. The water temperature is set to 46 degrees Celsius, which is a bit higher than usual, because this facility carries on the style of the impatient edokko (Edo denizens), which is to jump in a hot bath and quickly jump out. It is open from 6 a.m., so you can refresh yourself in the steaming hot water before heading to the office.

■ No sauna

■ Okachimachi (JR) www,1010.or.jp/map/item/item-cnt-82





Hidamari no Izumi, Haginoyu

One of the largest sento facilities in Tokyo, it has four floors with a large bathhouse and a restaurant. The baths include a daily herb bath, a jet bath, an electric bath, a carbonated bath. an open-air bath, a sauna, and a cold-water bath. Take your time and enjoy the new-style "Super Sento." The cost-performance is a plus.

■ Sauna available
□ Uguisudani (JR) haginoyu.jp





HONKOMAGOME

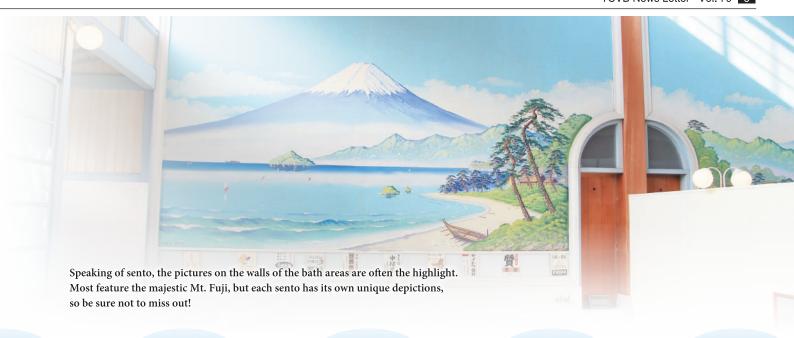
Fukunoyu

Located in Sendagi, with its many historic temples and shrines, this facility invites you with its unique Japanese-style entrance. The interior is also gorgeous, with vivid depictions of Mt. Fuii and Benzaiten, the goddess of art and wealth. Absorb the power as you take the waters! There are also rare hexagonally arranged showers in the middle of the washing area.

■ No sauna Honkomagome (Subway) www.sentou-bunkvo.com/pa65.html







Hisamatsuyu

With a beautiful museum-like exterior, this sento is a stylish reflection of the new generation. Under the theme of "light, wind, and woods," the facility creates a warm atmosphere with an abundance of wood and sunlight. At night, the bath area features projection mapping lighting, creating a totally different atmosphere. The open-air bath filled with hot spring water sourced from 1,500 meters underground is one of the most popular features.

■ Sauna available
☐ Sakuradai (Seibu) www.hisamatsuyu.jp







Hasunuma Onsen

Situated in Ota City, which has the highest number of sento in Tokyo, this facility uses 100% natural hot spring water. The most attractive feature is the gorgeous interior. It was renovated in 2017 to convey the atmosphere of the Taisho era (1912-26). The lobby and changing areas are filled with gentle light through beautiful stained glass windows and the bath area features a large tiled mosaic of mountains and valleys. Colorful Japanese paintings adorn the walls.

Sauna available Hasunuma (Tokyu) www.1010.or.jp/map/item/item-cnt-448







MINOWA

Yudonburi Sakaeyu

This sento has been attracting people for nearly 90 years with its quaint "downtown Tokyo" atmosphere. It has eight kinds of baths, including an open-air natural hot spring. The spring water sourced from 100 meters underground contains a very low level of minerals, which is said to make your skin beautiful and smooth. This place has a Finnish-style "auto löyly" sauna system that creates hot aromatic steam every 15 minutes. Sometimes an "Aufgussmeister" specialist is available to fan the hot scented air toward customers using a towel.

sakaeyu.com





Tokyo Yokujo

Opened in 2020 after a major renovation, this sento has attracted much attention because of its new owner - a sento-loving escapee from the IT industry who is in his 20s. Located in a tony residential area one minute on foot from Nishi-kovama Station, it has a friendly atmosphere. Its interesting features bring a new feel to the sento, with personal sauna cubes and huge bookshelves filled with some 7,000 books to relax with.

NISHIKOYAMA

■ Sauna available
☐ Nishi-koyama (Tokyu) shinagawa1010.jp/list/tokyo b







Sento etiquette you should know

There are some manners for using sento so that many people can enjoy it pleasantly.

For example,

- Wash your body thoroughly before going into the bath
- Do not put any towel into the bath
- Do not run in a bathing area



In order to properly enjoy sento facilities, please check out the details of sento manners:



Recommended sweets for your hanami party 🍪 🖈 🕸 🛠







Tokyo is usually liberally decorated with cherry blossoms from late March to early April. Here we introduce special sweets available to go, which are perfect for cherry blossom viewing!

pruits and season

fruitsandseason.com

This specialty shop offers vegan fruit sandwiches with striking cross-sections of beautiful, shiny fruit. Made with soy milk-based cream and bread, with no animal products such as dairy or eggs, along with large pieces of sweet, juicy fruit, these wholesome sandwiches are guaranteed to please!

Ebisu (JR, Subway)



🏩 Osumi Tamaya Honten

www.oosumi-tamaya.co.jp

This shop is said to be the first to create Ichigo Mame Daifuku (Japanese rice cake with a whole fresh strawberry in the center smothered in sweet red bean paste), a representative of spring wagashi (Japanese-style sweets). It was created in 1985 as a new type of wagashi and quickly caught on nationwide with its perfect harmony between the tart strawberry and sweet anko (sweet bean paste). Take some with you to Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden to see the beautiful cherry blossoms.

Akebonobashi (Subway)



🏩 Ginza Seikado

seikadou.jp

The signature item is a new-style dorayaki pancake with high-end fruit that took four months to develop. Carefully selected seasonal fruit from all over Japan, such as strawberries and mangoes, is mixed with fresh cream and organic red or white bean paste and spread between special thin pancakes. Not only delicious but cute as well!



🏩 Pikachu Sweets by Pokémon Cafe

www.pokemoncenter-online.com/cafe/pikachu sweets

This to-go shop in Ikebukuro's Sunshine City offers various kinds of Pokémon-themed sweets and drinks, which are almost too cute to eat! So grab some cuteness and relax in one of the many parks around Ikebukuro Station and enjoy the cherry blossoms!



🤷 Asakusa Taisho Romankan Cafe

www.instagram.com/romankan cafe

At this trendy sweets cafe with a Western-style interior and staff wearing retro uniforms, choose your favorite sweets from the menu. A popular item is "fruit punch with edible marbles." The translucent marbles are round pieces of colorful fruit jelly. They would look great in a photo with cherry blossoms.



THE MATCHA TOKYO

www.the-matcha.tokyo/pages/english

Matcha green tea has been gaining a lot of attention as a healthy ingredient. This is a specialty shop offering only safe and delicious organic matcha. The flagship shop at MIYASHITA PARK regularly holds matcha preparation presentations by a skilled staff member. Get a cup of matcha to go with your sweets and head straight to the cherry blossoms!

Shibuya (JR, Subway, Keio, Tokyu)





GO TOKYO www.gotokyo.org/en/





The Hina-matsuri Festival in March is a traditional Editor's note event to celebrate the healthy growth of girls. It is also called "momo-no-sekku," meaning peach festival. For the event, people display

special hina dolls in their homes and have a festive meal with special dishes, such as chirashi-zushi, soup with clams, and hishi-mochi, diamond-shaped mochi rice cakes with layers of pink, white, and green colors. Some hotels that hold an annual special exhibition of hina dolls during this season attract many tourists.

