

Further development of the area around Tokyo Station, making it a more attractive town

September, 2022

Tokyo Midtown Yaesu, pre-opening

Opening of Japan's largest bus terminal

"Tokyo Midtown Yaesu," a large-scale complex facility directly connected to Tokyo Station, is scheduled to have a grand opening in March 2023. In the runup to the grand opening, "Bus Terminal Tokyo Yaesu" (the first stage) will be opened in the second basement level on September 17, 2022. Aggregating highway bus stations dispersed throughout the area around Tokyo Station, this new bus terminal, which will be the largest in Japan, will make travelling from Tokyo to everywhere in Japan more convenient. On the same day, among about 60 commercial tenants, 13 tenants on the first basement level will have a pre-opening as well.

Tokyo Station (JR, Subway) www.yaesu-project-2022.jp/



Architectural rendering of the exhibition gallery (foyer) of Seikado Bunko Art Museum
Courtesy of Takenaka Corporation

October, 2022

Seikado Bunko Art Museum, relocation opening

Appreciate national treasures right outside Tokyo Station

Celebrating the 130th anniversary of its foundation this year, the Seikado Bunko Art Museum, which was founded by Yanosuke Iwasaki, the 2nd president of global enterprise Mitsubishi, will move its exhibition gallery from Setagaya to Marunouchi. The great collection mainly consists of Japanese and oriental antiques, including seven National Treasures and 84 Important Cultural Properties, and will be available to enjoy at a very convenient location from Tokyo Station. A special exhibition titled "The Resonance of the Art Treasures: The Seikado Collection" is scheduled to be held from October 1 to December 18, 2022. All seven national treasures along with the museum's famous art pieces will be showcased.

Tokyo Sta. (JR, Subway), Nijubashimae Sta. (Subway) www.seikado.or.jp/

July, 2022 Jiyugaoka Sweets Forest, renewal opening

Going to be a new spot with lots of popular sweets

"Jiyugaoka Sweets Forest," which has longed served as a landmark of Jiyugaoka, known as a "town of sweets," will re-open on July 7, 2022. The renewal features Korean culture that is popular among young people around the world. With the first branch in Japan of a popular cafe offering instagrammable macarons and a mint-sweets shop, a total of nine tenants will join, including cafes, sweets shops, and goods shops, including some which are popular in Korea. It will become a popular spot attracting many young people with lots of cute sweets!

Jiyugaoka (Tokyu) www.instagram.com/_sweetsforest/



6/1 206 rooms
L stay & grow Harumi
www.kensyu.jp/

6/23 143 rooms
Toyoko Inn Tokyo Tozai-sen Kiba-eki
www.toyoko-inn.com/eng/search/detail/00341

6/23 82 rooms
MIMARU Tokyo Kinshicho
mimaruhotels.com/en/hotel/kinshicho/

Information on permanently/temporarily closed businesses



Scheduled to be permanently closed on August 31, 2022

"Giant Sky Wheel in palette town" and "MORI Building DIGITAL ART MUSEUM: teamLab Borderless" at Odaiba palette town

→"MORI Building DIGITAL ART MUSEUM: teamLab Borderless" is planning to open a new facility in central Tokyo in 2023.

www.palette-town.com/

Scheduled to be closed from April 1, 2022 to sometime in 2025.

Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum

→It will re-open after major renovations of the facilities. The permanent exhibitions and the collection of the museum are available to be enjoyed on a virtual museum app "HyperEdohaku" as well as online.

www.edo-tokyo-museum.or.jp/en/

The Official Tokyo Travel Guide

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www.gotokyo.org/en





Short trips to Okutama

Recommended routes for summer and autumn

Avoid crowds and refresh yourself in nature!

summer

Around Mt. Mitake: 2-day Itinerary

Day 1

- 1 Canyons Okutama**
 9:00
-
- 2 Okutama Cafe awa**
 12:00
-
- 3 Nippara Shonyudo**
 15:00
-
- 4 Circus Outdoor TOKYO**
 18:00

Day 2

- Mitake Tozan Tetsudo Takimoto Sta.**
 ▼ (cable car)
Mitake Sta.
- 5 Mt. Mitake hiking**
 9:00
-
- 6 Sawanoi, Ozawa Brewery**
 12:30



4 Enjoy glamping at Circus Outdoor TOKYO



This glamping facility located within the national park near Lake Okutama offers extraordinary experiences. There are five tents under different concepts and they are all instagrammable. Away from the bustle of the big city, you will be able to enjoy a quiet and relaxing night.

★ Accommodation fees: 35,000–150,000 yen (per person per night, not including tax)
 *Please check the latest information at the official website.
 about 30 min. by bus from Okutama Sta. (JR)
circusoutdoor.com/

1 Join the river activity at Canyons Okutama!

Try canyoning, a new type of activity where you jump into mountain streams without any special equipment. It is thrilling and exhilarating to experience natural water slides and jumping into a waterfall basin. Within Okutama's wilderness, expose yourself to negative ions!



Mitake Sta. (JR)
canyons.jp/en/areas/okutama/canyons-okutama

3 Visit Nippara Shonyudo!



As one of the biggest limestone caves in the Kanto area, Nippara Shonyudo is designated as a natural monument in Tokyo and serves as the most popular tourist spot in Okutama. Throughout the year, the temperature within the cave is at around 11 degrees Celsius, so you can feel cool even in the middle of summer. Let's go and see the dreamy scenery created by nature.

about 35 minutes by bus from Okutama Sta. (JR)
www.nippara.com/

2 Enjoy lunch at Okutama Cafe awa!

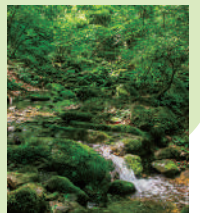
After enjoying the river, relax at the riverside cafe. Looking down at the Tama River, the cafe is a nice open space! The signature dish "VOLCANO" is loaded with roast beef, which makes it luxurious and visually impactful!

Mitake Sta. (JR)
canyons.jp/en/areas/okutama/okutama-cafe-awa



5 Let's start Mt. Mitake hiking!

Hike on Mt. Mitake, which rises 929 meters above sea level! If you go there in summer, "Rock Garden Course" (required time: about 2.5 hours) to walk along a trail with big rocks is recommended. In the middle of the course, there is a waterfall, which is known as a spiritual "power spot," and Tenguwa Rock, on which a statue of a legendary Japanese creature called a Tengu is placed. Get the power of nature from cool clear streams and dark-green mossy rocks!



www.ces-net.jp/mitakevc/ci/index.html

6 Enjoy lunch and a brewery tour at Sawanoi, Ozawa Brewery

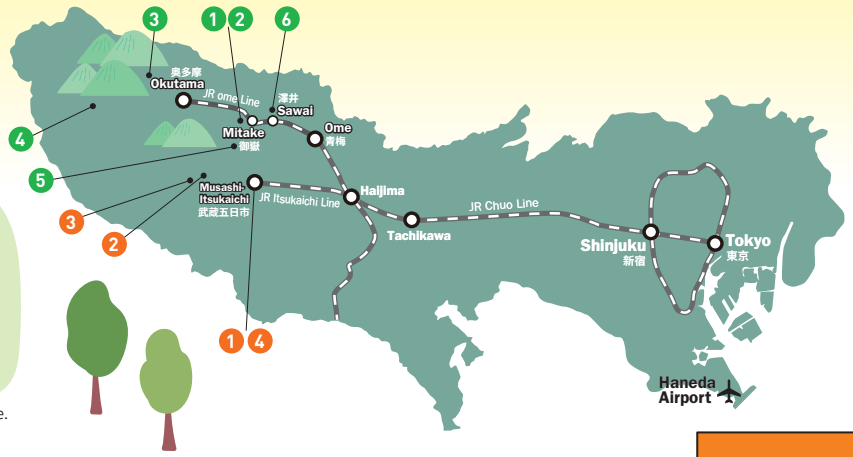


This well-established sake brewing company started business in 1702 and has a beautiful garden spreading along the Tama River. It also has "Mamagoto-ya," a Japanese restaurant offering homemade tofu and yuba dishes (reservation only) and "Mameraku," a casual diner. After refreshing yourself with delicious dishes, join the free brewery tour! You should try "Kikizake," where you can sample 10 kinds of sake to compare them (fee applied)! It is recommended to make a reservation.

Sawanoi Sta. (JR)
www.sawanoi-sake.com/en

Okutama is a mountainous area in the western Tokyo area. It can be accessed in 90 to 120 minutes by train from Shinjuku. Although it is still in Tokyo, you can fully enjoy abundant nature there. This article introduces two recommended routes for Okutama trips! One is a two-day trip where you can actively enjoy pleasant summer in Okutama with its lush greenery. The other one is a day trip to leisurely cycle around the Akigawa Valley with its beautiful autumn foliage. Which one would you choose?

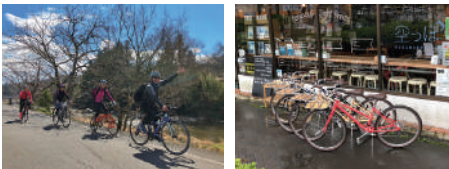
*The information herein, including business hours and holidays, should be checked on respective websites.
*The required amounts of time stated within the routes are meant only as a guide.



Akigawa Valley: 1-day Itinerary

autumn

1 Rent a bicycle at Tokyo Ura-yama Base and get going!



Musashi-Itsukaichi Sta. (JR)
ura-yama.com/

2 Lunch at Kurochaya

At a Japanese restaurant surrounded by trees with mountain streams below, you can enjoy delicious dishes with seasonal delicacies from the mountains and river, such as seasonal ingredients and river fish. It is located in a renovated old folk house built 300 years ago, which makes you feel the traditional Japanese way of living. The sound of the waterwheel at the gate is healing.



about 7 min.
by bus from Musashi-Itsukaichi Sta. (JR)
www.kurochaya.com/



Cycling along the Akigawa Valley

Akigawa Valley is a scenic place extending through Akiruno City and Hinohara Village. Visiting in autumn is especially recommended, when mountains are beautifully decorated with red and yellow leaves. Enjoy your bicycle trip while visiting shrines and temples, or seeing nice views of streams from bridges.



3 Refresh yourself at Akigawa Keikoku Seoto-no-Yu Spa



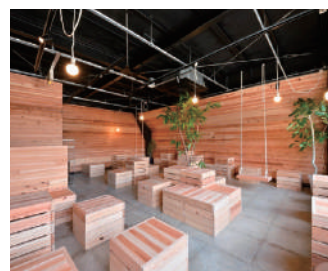
A supreme healing spot with an open bathroom and 100% natural hot spring water. The inside of the facility uses lots of lumber produced in Tama, so just stepping inside can make you feel relaxed. The sauna with pleasant BGM and the open-air bath overlooking the wilderness are also very nice.

about 17 min.
by bus from Musashi-Itsukaichi Sta. (JR)
www.seotonoyu.jp/

4 Take a break at do-mo factory blan.co

Before getting on a train, let's take a break at the cafe next to the station. The cafe offers unique dishes with local ingredients, such as rice balls with wild sweetfish from the Akigawa Valley and hydrangea tea, which will pique your curiosity. Some souvenirs are available as well.

Musashi-Itsukaichi Sta. (JR)
factory-blanco.tokyo/



Musashi-Itsukaichi Sta.

1 Tokyo Ura-yama Base
11:00

Cycling along the Akigawa Valley

2 Kurochaya
12:00

3 Akigawa Keikoku Seoto-no-Yu Spa
13:40

Return to Musashi-Itsukaichi Station to complete your cycling trip!

4 do-mo factory blan.co
16:00

Here is our new series!

I live in Tokyo



1st

People from all over the world live in Tokyo. In this series, we ask some of them what they love about the metropolis. Our first contributor is Ren Wong from Canada. Here, he tells us about one of his favorite places in the city.

I'm a Canadian who's been in Japan for an unbelievable 15 years. For work, I frequently travel between Tokyo and Awaji Island in Hyogo Prefecture. Although I adore island life, my heart beats quicker when I see the city lights from the shinkansen window as it pulls into Shinagawa.

For a day of discovery, head to the 6th floor of GINZA SIX. Whether a super-large 550,000 yen photobook by renowned architect Kengo Kuma, or the section of beautiful samurai swords, **GINZA TSUTAYA BOOKS** never fails to surprise. Afterwards, enjoy some top-quality tortellini on the terrace at the Italian bistro next door.

Not a bookworm? Head out to the grass lawn of **WATERS takeshiba** at the waterside, facing Hamarikyu Gardens. Stroll along the boardwalk, get a snack at the health food supermarket

in the shopping mall atré Takeshiba, or grab one of the many tables on the terrace overlooking the canal. Continue your journey on the waterbus, cruising under 14 bridges illuminated at night, up the Sumida River to Asakusa.



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GINZA TSUTAYA BOOKS

store.tsite.jp/ginza/

🚉 Ginza Sta. (subway)



Waters takeshiba

waters-takeshiba.jp/

🚉 Hamamatsucho Sta. (JR)

Recommended sweets to enjoy at a moon-viewing party

"Otsukimi" is a moon-viewing event, where people enjoy the autumn moon that is said to be the most beautiful of the year and, traditionally, express gratitude for a successful harvest. In Japan, people say that it looks like rabbits are making mochi rice cake on the moon, so sweets with a rabbit design is perfect for moon viewing. The standard offering for the moon, "odango" or "dango," sweet round dumplings made with rice flour, is also appropriate for this season. If you are interested in viewing the moon in Tokyo, there are some places hosting annual moon-viewing events, such as Roppongi Hills Mori Tower and Jindaiji Temple. If you visit Tokyo in autumn, don't forget to look at the beautiful moon in the night sky!

☀️ Mukojima Kototoi Dango

www.kototoidango.co.jp/

Located about 1.5 km from Asakusa, this long-established wagashi confectionery shop started at the end of the Edo period (mid-19th century). There is a space to eat. The famous "sanshoku-dango," three-colors dango, has a yellow one, which looks like a round moon!

🚉 TOKYO SKYTREE Sta. (Tobu)



☀️ Azabu Aono

www.azabu-aono.com/

Founded in 1856, this is a venerable wagashi shop but offers new types of unique Japanese sweets, including seasonal ones and colorful ones created with a fresh sensibility, which are all instagrammable. For the moon-viewing season only, a moon-viewing set of a rabbit-shaped "manju" (a round confection made with flour outside and a filling of sweet red bean paste and steamed) and "tsukimi dango" are available every year.

*The availability of the moon-viewing set for 2022 is to be determined. Please check the official website for the latest information.

🚉 Roppongi Sta. (Subway)



☀️ Habutae Dango Honten

habutae.jp/

This famous dango store started business in 1819. The delicate dango was a favorite of some Japanese literary figures, so it appears in lots of modern literature. The store re-opened after major renovations in 2019, and now there is a space to eat. Every year, tsukimi-dango becomes available only twice during the year.

🚉 Nippori Sta. (JR)



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Editor's note

Sushi is one of the most popular Japanese dishes. Please try many different kinds of sushi, including not only "nigiri" (seafood or other toppings on a hand-molded rice) but also "maki" (sushi roll) and "chirashi" (various seafood and other ingredients on top of sushi rice). Hako-sushi with beautifully placed colorful ingredients in a checkered pattern in a box is like a work of art. It is not only delicious but is also almost too beautiful to eat, pleasing both your palate and eyes.

