5 Arakicho
During the Edo period (1603-1868), Arakicho was where feudal lord Matsudaira Sotoku-nos residence was located. Its picturesque garden complex, completed with waterworks, was destroyed during the Meiji period (1868-1912) as ‘riddle to the Nature’. R&B is the old name for Nippon, and Holston is a tourist spot in the mountains from the Taisho period (1912-1926) to the middle of the Showa period (1926-1952). It was very active as an atmospheric pleasure district. Even now, its picturesque atmosphere and plentiful small eateries and bars, not to mention the many shops lined with buildings, makes it a pleasant place to visit.

6 Shinmichi-dori
Walking from the Yotsuya-Mitsuke intersection towards Shinjuku, a sign ‘Shinmichi-dori’ can be seen on your right. This sign marks the start of a dring and drinking area that runs parallel to Shinjuku-dori. Narrow streets filled with popular bars, pubs and traditional cuisine restaurants.

7 Yotsuya-Mitsuke-Bridge
Completed in 1913, Yotsuya-Mitsuke bridge was the first overpass to be completed in Tokyo. As a bridge across the Araksa Palace (The State Guesthouse) it was designed in classic style to be in harmony with the surrounding scenery. It was reconstructed in 1991, however it retained the style of the original design and looks. Its original handrails are now on display in front of the Shinjuku Historical Museum.

8 Japan Olympic Museum
In addition to exhibits and images that depict the History of the Olympic Games as well as the Olympic spirit, there is an Olympic Cauldron monument and even a corner where visitors can try to match their physical abilities to those of Olympians. Near the museum there is Japan National Gymnasium and Kasegi-ekimae Washi which was the main stadium of Olympic Games.

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Shinjuku tourist map

YOTSUYA

1 Meiji Jingu Gaien
Meiji Jingu Gaien was built to honor the accomplishments of the Emperor Meiji and the Empress Shoken, and to share their exploits with future generations. Centered around the Meiji Memorial Picture Gallery (an Important National Cultural Property) and with a variety of sports facilities such as baseball fields (including the Jingu Stadium, a playing field, and Ice skating rinks. It is a satisfying place to spend your time. The gallery has a 300-meter-long tree-lined concourse, which sees many visitors each year.

2 Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden Greenhouse
An environmentally-friendly greenhouse at Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden, which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Environment. Various distinctive plants classified according to environmental themes including tropical rainforests, ponds, swamp, tropical mountains, deserts, and subtropical areas in Japan such as the Okinawa Islands and the Izu Peninsula can be seen.

3 Suga-jin Shrine
The magnificent Suga-jin Shrine was originally built to house Yotsuya’s guardian deity. A set of paintings of the Shintó Poetry Immortals (completed in 1866) was donated to the shrine, and these have been specified as tangible cultural properties of Shinjuku. A large festival is held every year during which Yotsuya comes alive with the sound of Shinjó (portable shrine) bearers.

4 Wakaba-Higashi Park
Unconnected to Yotsuya station, this large green area is lined with tall, leafy trees. Designed to be symmetrical, green areas were laid out surrounding chaste-white pillars and fountains. Following the tree-lined path leads you to a fantastic view of the State Guest House. Currently, there is the State Guest House. Asakura Palace Tourist lounge with cafes, shops, bar and free restrooms, etc. in the park.

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YOTSUYA

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SHINJUKU TOURIST INFORMATION

Opening hours 10:00-19:00
(Closed for the New Year and New Year holidays)

1-1, Yotsuya Station, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0034
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www.tourism-shinjuku.jp
info@tourism-shinjuku.jp

Access:
Shinjuku Station (JR): 5 minutes on foot from Shinjuku station (Shibuya Station)
Shibuya Station (JR): 5 minutes on foot from Shinjuku Station

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Liz's guide to Shinjuku

A special edition of "Liz's guide to Shinjuku" was published in 2012. For more information, please visit the website: www.lizguide.jp