

A TOUR THROUGH PLACES OF HISTORY AND SPIRITUAL PLACES

Gotanda, Osaki, and Meguro change their appearance as their history changes. These areas are associated with ancient times Shogun and Daimyou (Feudalism), and there is still a variety of historical places and buildings. Let's take a short walk and enjoy the ancient's adventurous spirit.



A PIECE OF HISTORY OF JONAN-GOZAN

Jonan-gozan is the general term for five high grounds in the Jonan area of Tokyo. It stretches from Meguro Station to Shinagawa Station of Yamanote Line. It is known as a high-class residential area since the Meiji period. In the Edo period, the Japanese feudal lords had their castles (Daimyo Yashiki) and mansions on these five mountains (Goden-mountain, Yatsu-mountain, Shimazu-mountain, Ikeda-mountain, Hanabusa-mountain). In the early Meiji period these residences were taken over by the Conglomerate companies and the industrialists.

① SEISEN UNIVERSITY 清泉女子大学 / 東五反田 3-16-21

3-16-21 Higashi Gotanda, Shinagawa ward
Website: <https://www.seisen-u.ac.jp>
※ Please check website for open day for visitors.



Photo: Seisen University

The main building of Seisen University is a former ducal palace of Duke Shimazu Tadashige. It was registered as an important cultural property of Japan in December 2019. Back in the days, it was a wooden house owned by the Ito family, later due to the deterioration it was reconstructed into a new European-style palace. Josiah Conder, a British architect known as the father of modern Japanese architecture, was requested an architectural design. The construction of the Italian renaissance style mansion was completed in 1917. The same year, the emperor and empress of Taisho era visited the palace. The palace had changed its owners a few times until it came into possession of Seisen University in 1962. That's how Duke Shimazu Tadashige's palace became the main building of the University.

② KIJU JINJA SHRINE 雉子神社 / 東五反田 1-2-33

1-2-33 Higashi Gotanda, Shinagawa ward

This shrine was originally called Otori-myojin Yamagami-sama. In the Edo period, during his hawk hunting leimitsu Tokugawa, the third shogun, found a white pheasant hiding in this shrine. Tokugawa saw the bird as a sign of good fortune and renamed the shrine into "Kiji-no-miya" (The pheasant shrine).



WALKING ROUTE

GOTANDA STATION

① SEISEN UNIVERSITY

② KIJU-JINJA SHRINE

③ NEMUNOKI-NO-NIWA GARDEN

④ IKEDAYAMA PARK

⑤ CATHOLIC MEGURO CHURCH

⑥ SUGINO COSTUME MUSEUM

MEGURO STATION

Distance: about 5 kilometers
Time: about 90 minutes

⑦ GOTENYAMA GARDEN 御殿山庭園 / 北品川 4-7 周辺



4-7 Kitashinagawa, Shinagawa ward
This beautiful Japanese garden is a walking spot featuring an abundance of nature and located within Gotenyama Trust City. It is famous for beautiful cherry blossom in spring and colored leaves in autumn.

⑧ GONGENYAMA PARK 権現山公園 / 北品川 3-9-5

3-9-5 Kitashinagawa, Shinagawa ward

A famous cherry blossom spot from the Edo period is a park that sits on a Gongenyama hill.



⑨ HISUI GENSEKI KAN (JADE ORE MUSEUM) 翡翠原石館 / 北品川 4-5-12



4-5-12 Kitashinagawa, Shinagawa ward
Jade of various shapes and colours has been assembled by the director from different parts of the world. It took him 30 years to complete his collection. The "Jade Bath" made by hollowing out dozens of tons of jade produced in Itoigawa, Niigata Prefecture, is a masterpiece. The interior courtyard represents a beautiful contrast between the large gemstone and the plants. It is a sight to see.

WALKING ROUTE

SHINBAMBA STATION

⑦ GOTENYAMA GARDEN

⑧ GONGENYAMA PARK

⑨ HISUI GENSEKI KAN (JADE ORE MUSEUM)

KITASHINAGAWA STATION

Distance: about 1.5 kilometers
Time: about 30 minutes

Don't miss the chance to see ADDITIONAL PLACES

⑭ BICYCLE CULTURE CENTER 自転車文化センター / 上大崎 3-3-1

3-3-1 Kamiosaki, Shinagawa ward, Jitensha sogo Building 1F
Opening hours: 9:30-17:00 (last admission 16:45)
Closed: Monday (the following weekday if it is a national holiday), year-end and New Year holidays

Browse through 11,500 books related to bicycles, rare historical bicycles, bicycle parts, posters, and books and papers on bicycles at the library and gallery. A unique place dedicated entirely to bicycles.



Photo: Bicycle Culture Center

⑮ TOKYO METROPOLITAN TEIEN ART MUSEUM 東京都庭園美術館 / 白金台 5-21-9

5-21-9 Shirokanedai, Minato ward
Open: 10:00-18:00 (Admission allowed 30min. before the closed hours)
Closed: 2nd and 4th Wednesday (or the next weekday, if the 2nd and 4th Wednesday is a holiday.)

Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art museum is in an Art Deco style mansion. Built for Asakanomiya in 1933, it was the official residence of the prime minister and a guesthouse. In October 1983, it opened as a museum for the first time. There is a traditional tea-ceremony room in the Japanese garden. In spring, you can enjoy the beautiful cherry blossoms in the European style garden.



Photo: Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum

⑯ GROWING GARDENER グローイングガーデナー / 大崎 1-2-2

1-2-2 Osaki, Shinagawa ward

A long, red object is seen from the Yamanote line. It is the Gardener's hat. The Growing Gardener is a work produced by the German artist group Inges Idee in the Art Village in Osaki Central Tower.



SHINAGAWA TOURISM ASSOCIATION IN COOPERATION WITH SEISEN UNIVERSITY

1-14-1 Oi Shinagawa-ku Tokyo 140-0014 03-5743-7642
<https://shinagawa-kanko.or.jp/?lang=en>
Mon-Sat: 9:30-17:00 Closed on Sunday, National holiday and New year holiday.



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⑬ NEMUNOKI-NO-NIWA GARDEN (SILK TREE GARDEN) ねむの木庭 / 東五反田 5-19-5

5-19-5 Higashi Gotanda, Shinagawa ward
Open hours: 9:00 - 17:00

This municipal park opened on the site of the former Shoda residence, a historic site where the former empress Michiko grew up. A symbolic tree called the Silk tree is located in its center. It was named after a tree mentioned in the "Silk tree lullaby" created by the former empress Michiko during her school years. A variety of roses called "Princess Michiko" is popular among the visitors.



⑭ IKEDAYAMA PARK 池田山公園 / 東五反田 5-4-35

5-4-35 Higashi Gotanda, Shinagawa ward
Open hours: 7:30 - 17:00 (Jul, Aug: - 18:00)



A section of the villa of the Ikeda family of the former Okayama domain was known as "Ikedayama" as it sat on top of the hill. At end of the Taisho period, the Ikedayama area underwent residential development and opened as a municipal park of Shinagawa ward in 1985. The Chisen-Kaiyushiki-Teien Japanese-style garden dates back to the Edo period. A walking path is paved around the pond in the center of the garden. A place to enjoy the four seasons.

⑮ CATHOLIC MEGURO CHURCH カトリック目黒教会 / 上大崎 4-6-22

4-6-22 Kamiosaki, Shinagawa ward

This cathedral was built in 1956 by the Czech architect Antonin Raymond. It is over 60 years old, but its beauty remains as always. It was also selected as a Tokyo's historic building. A 3-minute walk from Meguro station allows a tourist to enjoy the silence of this holy place.



Photo: Catholic Meguro Church

⑯ SUGINO COSTUME MUSEUM 杉野学園衣裳博物館 / 上大崎 4-6-19



Photo: Sugino Costume Museum

4-6-19 Kamiosaki, Shinagawa ward
Open hours: 10:00-16:00
Close: Sun, national holidays, days during the academy closed

Sugino Costume Museum was built in 1957 and is the first costume museum in Japan. Its collection includes Western outfits, Japanese kimonos, and accessories gathered by Sugino Yoshiko, the founder of Sugino Academy. The building itself designed by the first deputy director Sugino Shigeichi based on Western architecture is a tourist attraction.

COLUMN

MEGURO RIVER CHERRY BLOSSOMS blooming all the way from Meguro to Shinagawa

Cherry blossoms in spring along the Meguro river are the best sight among the places with the seasonal atmosphere in Meguro and Shinagawa. There are 800 cherry trees stretching for 4 km in the Meguro ward, and about 700 trees stretching for 3 km in the Shinagawa ward. The river in narrow upstream from the boat entrance bridge. The cherry blossoms that cover the water surface are an overwhelming sight. From the downstream of the boat entrance bridge to the Shinagawa ward, the river is wide. A walking path is created so that you can enjoy cherry blossom viewing at your own pace. Tours on boats are also popular.





- MEGURO STATION
- ⑩ TANJO HACHIMAN SHRINE
- ⑪ DAIENJI TEMPLE
- ⑫ OSHICHI NO IDO
- ⑬ HOTEL GAJOEN TOKYO

The area that is presently occupied by Shinjuku ward has a long history since the Nara and Heian periods. There are power spots where you can feel the spirit of traditions, beliefs, and nature. A leisurely walk will help you relax and regain your energy.

The power spots and places to relax are within a 5-minute (with in 1km) walk from Meguro station. Enjoy your walk!

POWER SPOT Safe childbirth and success in business

⑩ TANJO HACHIMAN SHRINE
誕生八幡神社 / 重箱稲荷 / 上大崎 2-13-36

2-13-36 Kami-Osaki, Shinjuku ward
Tanjo Hachiman-Jinja Shrine is one of the most famous shrines for praying for safe childbirth. On its premises, the Jubako-inari shrine named to commemorate the donation of a lacquered box by Tokugawa Iemitsu shogun and gigantic 300-year old ginkgo trees. This power spot will support you throughout your whole life.



POWER SPOT Good fortune and Fate

⑪ DAIENJI TEMPLE
大圓寺 / 下目黒 1-8-5

1-8-5 Shimo-Meguro, Meguro ward
Daienji-Temple is a power spot to be visited hundreds of times to pray for good fortune and success. Toroke-Jizo (the Melting Buddha), one of the statues of Daienji-Temple, is said to help the prayers solve their problems. Place a golden plate on the body of the statue of Yakushi Nyorai (the Healing Buddha) in the exact spot you need healing, and it will heal you. Some statues were created to commemorate the lives lost in the Gyonizaka Fire.



Photo:Daienji Temple

POWER SPOT Love

⑫ OSHICHI NO IDO
お七の井戸 / 行人坂下

At the foot of Gyonizaka slope (at the entrance of Hotel Gajoen Tokyo)
A greengrocer's daughter, Oshichi, caused an arson to meet her lover. She was sentenced to being burned at the stake. Her lover, Kichisaburo, mourned for her and performed the purifying ritual Mizugori by ablation in the cold water. This spot was known as the Oshichi well ever since.



RELAX SPOT An oasis in the middle of the city

⑬ HOTEL GAJOEN TOKYO
ホテル雅叙園東京 / 下目黒 1-8-1

1-8-1 Shimo-Meguro, Meguro ward
The first wedding hall in Japan includes a hair salon, dressing room, photo studio, and a Japanese shrine, and to this day brings many couples together. Its beauty is like the Dragon King's palace of the Showa period legend. Lots of trees and green plants make it an oasis, and you may forget that it is in the middle of Tokyo city. Carp of various colors are swimming in the lake, and the waterfall lit by the sun looks like a shining pillar.



Photo:Hotel Gajoen Tokyo