



## Tokyo A Cultural And Literary History

**Author :**Stephen Mansfield / **Category :**Travel / **Total Pages :** 281 pages

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**Summary :** Free tokyo a cultural and literary history pdf download - from its obscure origins as a fishing village along a marshy estuary tokyo grew into one of the world's largest and most culturally vibrant metropolises for all its modernity and craving for the new it is a city impregnated with the past in the backstreets of districts that have inspired the setting for science fiction novels are wooden temples fox shrines mouldering steles and statues of bodhisattvas that evoke a different age the point where time past present and future coexist tokyo's thirst for the contemporary is moderated by nostalgia for the past as an urban laboratory where the cultures of the east and west are remixed into perceptibly japanese forms tokyo embraces sudden transitions constant flux and transformation the courtesans of its pleasure quarters inspired edo-period woodblock artists novelists and poets in a later age its experimental artists feminist writers and modern girls of 1920s ginza both shocked and electrified the capital stephen mansfield explores a city rich in diversity tracing its evolution from the founding of its massive stone citadel through rise of a merchant class whose wealth transformed edo into a home for artists writers and performers in contemporary tokyo he explores the unique crossbred cultures of taste that make the giant conurbation one of the most exciting and creative cities in the world city of literature theatre and art the print masters hokusai hiroshige and utamaro the kabuki theatre authors nagai kafu tanizaki junichiro mishima yukio murakami haruki foreign writers angela carter william gibson and donald richie city of architecture from the fortifications of edo castle great temples and shrines via the western hybrids of the meiji era to the post-modernist skyscrapers giant neon screens and digitalized surfaces of today's city city of calamities the great fires of the edo period floods famines and typhoons the 1923 earthquake coups and rising militarism in the 1930s the fire bombings of the second world war the 1995 subway gas attack by members of a death cult and the fatalism of residents living on one of the earth's largest fault lines

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