



Edward's Japan Journey December

2 adults, 3 children ages 10, 13, and 16

20 year Anniversary is December 21st



Kelly Carmon

Pre-Departure Information

Japan: What to Know Before you Go!

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Kelly Carmon 501-529-1762

Money & Payments

- **Cash is king:** While credit cards are accepted in many hotels and larger shops, smaller restaurants, izakayas, and local vendors often prefer cash. We used a lot of coins at temples, shrines, games, drink machines, etc.
 - **ATMs:** Not all ATMs accept foreign cards, but you can reliably use those at 7-Eleven, Lawson, & FamilyMart
 - **Currency:** The Japanese Yen (¥). Bring some cash upon arrival, especially for taxis, temple donations, and rural areas. You can put in a request at your home bank ahead of time with 2-3 days notice.
-

Tipping Etiquette

- **No tipping:** Unlike in the U.S., tipping is not customary and can even be considered rude at meals, transfers, group experiences.
 - **Tipping for Private Experiences:** A cash tip is always appreciated for exceptional private guides or experiences. If you would like to leave a small tip (10-12% is fine) it needs to be handed to the guide directly in a small, clean envelope.
 - **Service charge included:** High-end restaurants or hotels may add a service fee automatically.
-

Weather in December

- Daytime Highs: Around 50–55°F
- Evening Lows: Around 35–40°F
- Rain: Minimal — December is among the driest months
- Sunset: Around 4:45–5:00 PM

What to Expect:

- Cool mornings and evenings, but mild days perfect for exploring temples, gardens, and city walks.
- Air is crisp and clean, with great visibility for photos.
- Occasional frost in Kyoto and the countryside, but rarely snow.

What to Pack:

- Warm layers — sweater, medium-to-heavy coat, scarf, and gloves for evenings.
 - Comfortable shoes with traction for temple paths and uneven streets.
 - Easy layers since indoor spaces are heated.
-

Cultural Norms

- **Politeness:** Bowing is the standard greeting. A slight head nod is fine for visitors.
- **Shoes off:** Always remove shoes before entering someone's home, traditional inns (ryokan), temples, and some restaurants. Look for slippers provided. Carry extra socks in your purse if you're wearing sandals
- **Quiet in public:** Keep conversations low on trains and buses; avoid phone calls.

- **Respecting space:** Stand to the side when on escalators to let others pass.
- **Punctuality:** Trains, tours, and reservations run on time—plan to arrive early.

▯ Public Transportation

- **Trains & subways:** The best way to get around. They are clean, efficient, and highly punctual.
- **IC cards:** Download the U.S. Suica app before departing and connect to your Apple Wallet for easy boarding.
- **Etiquette:** Line up to board, wait for passengers to exit first, and avoid eating on local trains (except on long-distance ones where food is common).

Ubers and Taxis

Uber works in Japan but is limited to larger cities like Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto. GO and JapanTaxi are the most popular local apps, both available in English. You can use them to request rides, track your driver, and pay by credit card. Taxis also accept cash, credit cards, or IC cards like Suica and Pasmo for contactless payment.

At many major train stations or hotels in Japan, you'll notice two taxi lines:

▯ **Regular Taxi Line:** These are standard taxis, and most drivers speak little or no English. They're perfectly fine for anyone to use. Non-Japanese travelers take them all the time. Just have your destination written in Japanese (your hotel concierge or Google Maps can help) or show the driver your phone map. ***GET IN THESE LINES IF YOU ARE COMFORTABLE WITH THE DRIVER NOT SPEAKING ENGLISH BECAUSE THEY MOVE SO MUCH FASTER***

▯ **Foreign-Friendly or English-Speaking Taxi Line:** Some larger stations like Tokyo Station or Kyoto Station have a separate queue for taxis with English-speaking drivers. These are fewer in number and may take longer to arrive but are great if you want easier communication.

All taxis in Japan are safe, metered, and regulated. Even if your driver doesn't speak English, you'll still get a polite, efficient ride. Doors open automatically, tipping isn't expected, and payment by card or Suica is common in larger cities.

Suica Card

- Works on nearly all trains, subways, and buses in Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, and most of Japan's major cities.
- Can also be used at convenience stores, vending machines, and even some restaurants.
- It's a stored-value (prepaid) card — you load money and tap in/out at train gates or to pay for small purchases.
- Perfect for short-distance city travel and everyday use.
- You can add it to Apple Wallet (via the U.S. Suica app) for easy tap-and-go access.

JR Pass (Japan Rail Pass)

- A multi-day pass that gives unlimited travel on JR-operated trains, including the Shinkansen (bullet trains) between cities like Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Hiroshima, etc.
- Must be purchased before arriving in Japan (for most visitors).
- Covers long-distance travel, but not all local subways or private rail lines within cities (like Tokyo Metro or Kyoto's city subway).
- Best for travelers moving between multiple regions — not necessary if you're staying in just one or two cities.

In short:

Use Suica for daily local transport within cities.

Use a JR Pass if you'll be traveling frequently between cities by train (like Tokyo → Kyoto → Osaka).

You can easily use both — Suica for local rides, JR Pass for the long-distance legs.

📌 Quick Tips for First-Timers

- Check your phone carrier pre-departure to make sure you have an international plan set up or download an e-sim
- Trash bins are rare—carry a small bag for your trash until you find one.
- Learn a few key phrases:
 - Hello = *Konnichiwa*
 - Thank you = *Arigatou gozaimasu*
 - Excuse me / sorry = *Sumimasen*

Must-Have Apps for Japan

- **Google Maps** – The go-to navigation tool for Japan. It shows train lines, platforms, fares, and walking routes with ease. ***WORKS SO MUCH BETTER THAN APPLE MAPS***
- **Google Translate** – Essential for translating signs, menus, and conversations. Use the camera feature for real-time translations.
- **Japan Travel by NAVITIME** – Great for train and transit routes throughout Japan, including regional lines and longer journeys.
- **Mobile Suica** – A digital IC card app for seamless train travel and contactless payments (especially on iPhones).
- **WHATSAPP** – The primary messaging app used in Japan. Useful if you're in touch with local guides or need to communicate easily.

📌 Perfume & Cologne in Restaurants

- **Fragrance-free dining:** Many Japanese restaurants (especially high-end sushi counters and kaiseki dining) have an **unspoken no-strong-fragrance policy**.
- **Why?** Strong scents interfere with the delicate aromas and flavors of the cuisine, which chefs and diners take seriously.

📌 Popular Japanese Dishes to Try

Sushi (寿司) – Vinegared rice with seafood, egg, or vegetables. Includes nigiri, maki rolls, and sashimi (fish only).

Kaiseki (懐石) – A traditional multi-course fine dining meal showcasing seasonality and artistry.

Tempura (天ぷら) – Lightly battered, fried seafood or vegetables.

Ramen (ラーメン) – Wheat noodles in broth with toppings like pork, egg, and vegetables; many regional variations.

Udon (うどん) – Thick wheat noodles, served hot in broth or chilled.

Soba (蕎麦) – Thin buckwheat noodles, served hot or cold with dipping sauce.

Okonomiyaki (お好み焼き) – A savory cabbage pancake with toppings and sauce.

Takoyaki (たこ焼き) – Octopus-filled batter balls, a street food favorite.

Yakitori (焼き鳥) – Grilled chicken skewers, served in izakaya pubs.

Donburi (丼) – Rice bowls with toppings like beef (*gyudon*) or pork cutlet (*katsudon*).

Shabu-Shabu (しゃぶしゃぶ) – Hot pot dining with thinly sliced meats and vegetables cooked at the table.

Pre Departure Customs Forms

Digital submission (recommended)

- You can submit your **Customs Declaration** in advance through [Visit Japan Web](#) — this is now the preferred and fastest way.
- After submitting online, you'll receive a **QR code** to present at customs upon arrival.
- Benefits: Faster processing, shorter lines, no need to fill out a paper form on the plane.

Tokyo Restaurant Recommendations

Restaurant Recommendations – Tokyo

Gyukatsu Motomura Shibuya Bun (Tonkatsu / Beef Cutlet)

📍 Japan, 📍150-0002 Tokyo, Shibuya, 2 Chome-19-17 Gloria Shibuya Building, B1F

A must-try spot for crispy-on-the-outside, tender-on-the-inside beef cutlet (*gyukatsu*). Simple, quick, and delicious.

🕒 Hours: 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM daily

🚫 No reservations accepted

🚗 Approx. 20 minutes by taxi from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Censu (Contemporary Japanese)

📍 2 Chome-12-9 Jingumae, Shibuya, Tokyo 150-0001, Japan

☎ 03-6434-5883

Modern Japanese dining with British and Australian influences by Chef Shun Sato — refined yet relaxed atmosphere.

🚗 Approx. 20–25 minutes by taxi from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Katsukura (Shinjuku)

📍 Takashimaya Times Square Bldg. 14F, 5-24-2 Sendagaya, Shinjuku

Renowned for perfectly crisp tonkatsu with a light breadcrumb texture and flavorful dipping sauces.

🚗 Approx. 25 minutes by taxi (or 15-minute walk from Shinjuku Station)

Gonpachi (Shibuya or Nishi-Azabu)

📍 Multiple locations – closest to Prince Park Tower: 1 Chome-13-11 Nishi-Azabu, Minato City, Tokyo 106-0031

Of *Kill Bill* fame — lively atmosphere, traditional décor, and classic Japanese izakaya fare.

🚗 Approx. 10 minutes by taxi from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Sakuratei (Harajuku)

📍 3 Chome-20-1 Jingumae, Shibuya City, Tokyo 150-0001

Trendy, artsy spot where guests cook their own *okonomiyaki* (Japanese savory pancakes).

🚗 Approx. 15–20 minutes by taxi from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Manten Sushi Marunouchi (Omakase)

📍 2 Chome-6-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda City, Tokyo 100-0005 (Near the Imperial Garden)

Elegant omakase experience with fresh seasonal sushi. Reservations essential.

🚗 Approx. 15 minutes by taxi from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Tokyo Ramen Street (Tokyo Station)

📍 Inside Tokyo Station, Yaesu South Exit

A collection of the city's best ramen shops — from rich tonkotsu to light shoyu broths. A must for ramen lovers.

🚗 Approx. 15 minutes by taxi or direct train from Hamamatsucho Station

Ebisu Yokocho (Street Food & Izakayas)

📍 1 Chome-7-4 Ebisu, Shibuya City, Tokyo 150-0013

A lively alley packed with izakayas, pubs, and small bars — great for hopping between local food stalls and soaking in the Tokyo night scene.

🚗 Approx. 15 minutes by taxi or 1 stop from Shibuya Station

Kyoto Restaurant Recommendations

Documents

 [DRAFT_TTK_Restaurant_Recommendation_Guide_43_.pdf](#)



****List attached as a PDF from Thousand Kyoto Hotel**

Restaurant Recommendations – Kyoto

Misoka-an Kawamichiya (Soba Noodles)

〒323 Nishinotoin Dori, Karasuma Oike Area, Kyoto

A 300-year-old soba restaurant famous for its *Hokoro* — chicken with yuba tofu, vegetables, and soba.

  Approx. 10 minutes from The Thousand Kyoto

Shigetsu (Vegetarian)

〒68 Susukinobaba-cho, Saga Tenryu-ji, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto 616-8385



Located inside UNESCO-listed Tenryu-ji Temple, this Zen Buddhist restaurant serves traditional vegetarian *shōjin ryōri*.

〒 Approx. 25–30 minutes by taxi (from The Thousand Kyoto to Arashiyama)

Apollo Plus (Izakaya)

〒67 Masuya-cho, Sakaimachi-higashi iru, Sanjo-dori, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto 604-8111



A cozy izakaya known for creative small plates featuring Kyoto ingredients and a great sake selection.

  Approx. 15 minutes from The Thousand Kyoto

Hafuu Honten (Steak)

〒471-1 Sasaya-cho, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto 604-0983



Once a butcher shop, Hafuu serves premium wagyu beef in a relaxed, elegant setting.

  Approx. 15–18 minutes from The Thousand Kyoto

Hisago Zushi (Sushi)

〒144 Shioyacho, Kawaramachi Shijo-dori Agararu, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto



Specializing in Kyoto-style sushi with delicate local flavors and fresh presentation.

  Approx. 10–12 minutes from The Thousand Kyoto

Hyotei (Shabu-Shabu / Kaiseki)

〒607-12 Higashishiokojicho, Shimogyo-ku, Kyoto Prefecture

High-quality meats and seasonal vegetables cooked table-side in a flavorful broth — a refined Kyoto dining experience.

  Approx. 20 minutes from The Thousand Kyoto

Here are some recommendations for fast, easy dining:

 7 Taps Tavern / [Location](#)

〒Hannaritei Kyoto station / [Location](#)

〒Kokekokko JR Kyoto Isetan / [Location](#)

〒Yakiniku Toraji in Koto Yodobashi 6th floor / [Location](#)

〒Sushisakaba Sushitofuji / [Location](#)

📅 Dec 21 • Sunday

Depart LIT

✈ Flight 📅 Sun, December 21

Departure
Sun, December 21

📅 Dec 22 • Monday

Arrive in Tokyo (HND)

✈ Flight 📅

Arrive at 2:35 PM HND

Take Taxi to airport

🚗 Transfer

Take Taxi to Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Ubers and Taxis

Uber works in Japan but is limited to larger cities like Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto. GO and JapanTaxi are the most popular local apps, both available in English. You can use them to request rides, track your driver, and pay by credit card. Taxis also accept cash, credit cards, or IC cards like Suica and Pismo for contactless payment.


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Stay at The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

 Lodging  Mon, Dec 22

Property	Check in	Check out
The Prince Park Tower Tokyo	Dec 22, 2025	Dec 26, 2025
4-8-1 Shiba Koen Minato-Ku Tokyo 195-8563, JP		

Room type	Confirmation number
Deluxe Twin with Balcony, 2 Adults, 1 Child	Confirm # CI5KI1EO and Confirm # CI5KI1H0

Rate

Tower View Deluxe Twin-2beds+1sofa bed-Balcony, 2 Adults, 1 Child USD 2,733.49 Confirm # CI5KI1H0

Tower View Corner King, 2 Adults USD 2,554.65 Confirm # CI5KI1EO

Total: \$5,288.14

Cancellation Policy

please cancel 24hours before 6PM local time on day of arrival to avoid 1 night penalty

- VIP Amenities**
- Daily Breakfast
 - 100 USD credit or currency equivalent not applicable to room rate and applicable once for consecutive stays
 - complimentary WiFi
 - room upgrade upon availability -priority check in and check out based on availability

About

It’s about a 12-minute walk (or a free shuttle ride) from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo to the JR Yamanote Line at Hamamatsuchō Station. The vibe is a balance of calm, greenery, and cultural heritage, set against the backdrop of a vibrant, modern city—making it an ideal neighborhood for families who want both relaxation and excitement at their doorstep. Within the hotel itself, there’s no shortage of dining and amenities. Guests can choose from elegant sushi, teppanyaki, and kaiseki restaurants, a classic steakhouse, and casual lounges with Tokyo Tower views. The hotel also offers a spa, fitness center, and wellness facilities, plus a Sky Lounge bar perfect for parents once the kids are settled. With so many options under one roof, it’s easy to balance family convenience with a touch of luxury.

Closest coin operated Laundry facilites

24 hour coin operated laundromat

8 min walk

Click on link for nearest one:

[??????????, 17-2, Shiba 3-Chōme](#)
[Minato, Tokyo](#)
[Japan 105-0014](#)

Suggestion: Akihabara

 Activity

Evening in Akihabara

Departure from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

➡ Getting to Akihabara from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Train Option (Easy and Reliable, about 20 minutes)

Walk 5 minutes to Akabanebashi Station on the Oedo Line

Ride to Daimon Station

Transfer to the JR Yamanote Line

Ride to Akihabara Station

Follow signs to Akihabara Electric Town Exit

Taxi Option (Convenient, about 12 to 18 minutes)

Tell the driver Akihabara Electric Town

Estimated fare ¥1,800 to ¥2,500

📍 Akihabara Electric Town

Japan's center for anime, manga, gaming, and electronics.

Bright neon lights, multi-floor shops, themed cafés and unique experiences create an energetic nighttime atmosphere.

📍 What to Do in Akihabara

Chuo-dori Street

The main avenue filled with anime shops, tech stores, and giant LED billboards

Best place to start exploring

Yodobashi Camera Akiba

Massive electronics megastore

Great for cameras, headphones, toys, beauty tech, souvenirs

Radio Kaikan

Multi-level building filled with anime figures, model shops, trading cards, and collectibles

Super Potato Retro Game Store

Iconic retro gaming shop offering classic Nintendo, Sega, PlayStation and arcade nostalgia

Fun photo moments inside

Gachapon Kaikan

Hundreds of capsule toy machines

A big hit for children and adults

Animate Akihabara

Japan's flagship anime and manga store

Great for gifts, plushies, and character goods

Akiba Culture Zone

Cosplay boutiques, figurines and fan merchandise

📍 Dinner Options in Akihabara

Gonpachi Akihabara

Yakitori and Japanese classics

Casual and lively atmosphere

Gyukatsu Motomura Akihabara

Crispy beef cutlet cooked rare and finished on your personal grill

Very popular and worth the experience

Mansei Steak House

Multi-floor local steakhouse offering wagyu, teppanyaki and casual options

Great for families

Coco Ichibanya Curry

Customizable Japanese curry and easy dining for all ages

Star Kebab

Well-known local kebab stand

Quick, casual and delicious option during exploring

➡ Returning to The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Train Option

JR Yamanote Line from Akihabara Station to Hamamatsucho Station

Transfer to the Oedo Line

Ride to Akabanebashi Station

Walk 5 minutes to the hotel

Taxi Option

About 12 to 18 minutes depending on traffic


Tell the driver Prince Park Tower Tokyo Shibakoen

📅 Dec 23 • Tuesday

REMINDER

Please make sure to get Shinkansen/Bullet Train Tickets from your Tsukiji market Guide. They will have all of them for both the 26th and 29th.

8:15 AM - Take Taxi to TeamLab Borderless

 Transfer

Depart The Prince Park Tower Tokyo around 8:15 AM by taxi (≈ 15 minutes) to arrive at teamLab Borderless for your 9:00 AM entry.


OR

Getting to teamLab Borderless from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Total time: ~25–30 minutes



Fare: ~¥210 one way

1. Walk (5 min) from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo to Akabanebashi Station (Toei Oedo Line).
2. Ride (3 min) on the Oedo Line toward Tochomae and get off at Roppongi Station.
3. Transfer (5 min) to the Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line, ride 2 min to Kamiyacho Station.
4. Walk (8–10 min) from Kamiyacho Station, Exit 2, through Azabudai Hills to the teamLab Borderless entrance.

 **Approximate total: 25–30 minutes door-to-door.**

 **Taxi option: 10–15 minutes, ¥1,500–¥2,000.**


Reservation: Teamlab Borderless

 Activity  Tue, Dec 23 at 9:00am

Location
Teamlab Borderless
Azabudai Hills Garden Plaza B B1, 5-9, Toranomon, Minato-ku, Tokyo

Confirmation number
AY337JVRCNV4-0001

Documents

 [Edwards_Team_Lab_Borderless.pdf](#)

Spend about 2½ hours immersed in this interactive digital art museum — a fully sensory experience of light, color, and sound that flows through ever-changing rooms and installations.

Approximate visit: 9:00 – 11:30 AM

Please view [Tickets here](#) *QR will be visible at 12:00 am on day of arrival.

Arrival time is between 9:00 am - 9:30 am

Purchase Details

Thank you for purchasing tickets.
Purchase completed. Confirm the following details.

[exhibition title]
teamLab Borderless: MORI Building DIGITAL ART MUSEUM

[admission date]
Tue, Dec 23, 2025, 09:00 - 09:30

[ticket name]
Entrance Pass


[number of tickets]
Adults : 2
13-17 years : 2
Child : 1

[order total]
JPY 17,100

[payment method]
Credit Card

[Ticket number]
AY337JVRCNV4-0001

Reservation: Tsukiji Market Tour

 Activity  Tue, Dec 23 at 12:00pm

Location	Duration
Tsukiji Market Tour	4 Hours

12:00 An English-speaking guide will meet you at Garden Plaza B on the B1 level—the same floor as teamLab Borderless—at point 3 on the map, in front of the teamLab Sketch Factory by teamLab Borderless.

Your guide will take you to the Tsukiji Outer Market by Metro (approx. 30 minutes). Upon arrival at the Tsukiji Outer Market, your guide will show you around the market and offer tastings at several popular stalls.

CONTACT INFO FOR GUIDE:

4 hour English-speaking guide: Mr. Chikara Yokoi (+81 80 5374 7319)

3:30 Your guide will take you to Ginza or to any location of your choice by 4:00 pm.

MAKE SURE TO GET TRAIN TICKETS FROM GUIDE

If there are any questions or issues:

Katsu Okada
Next JAPAN Travel
Vancouver, B.C., Canada
katsu@necusto.com
WhatsApp +1 778 999 1709
 050-1725-5740

Suggestion: Roppongi Hills Christmas Keyakizaka Illumination

 Activity

Evening Illumination Experience

The Prince Park Tower Tokyo → Midtown Christmas → Roppongi Hills Keyakizaka

➔ Depart from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Train Option (Fast and Easy, about 15 minutes)

Walk 5 minutes to Akabanebashi Station on the Oedo Line

Take the train toward Roppongi

Ride 3 minutes to Roppongi Station

Follow Exit 8 directly into Tokyo Midtown

Taxi Option (Most Convenient, about 6 to 10 minutes)

Tell the driver Tokyo Midtown Roppongi

Estimated fare ¥800 to ¥1,200

▮ Tokyo Midtown Christmas Illumination

What to See

Starlight Garden LED field

Midtown Garden light path

Holiday displays and decorated outdoor areas

Shops and cafés inside Tokyo Midtown

Suggested Time Needed

About 30 to 45 minutes

Great for photos and a relaxed walk

➔ Walk or Train to Roppongi Hills Keyakizaka

Walking Option

A pleasant 12 to 15 minute walk from Tokyo Midtown to Roppongi Hills

Train Option

Use the Hibiya Line for one quick stop into Roppongi Hills

Follow signs to Keyakizaka Street

▮ Roppongi Hills Keyakizaka Illumination

What to See

Blue and white Snow and Blue LED trees

Beautiful views of Tokyo Tower framed by the lighted trees

Holiday decorations around the Roppongi Hills complex

Suggested Time Needed

About 20 to 30 minutes

▮ Optional Dinner in Roppongi

Casual and Family-Friendly

Bills Roppongi Modern Australian café and restaurant

Honolulu Coffee Relaxed café with light bites

Ippudo Roppongi Popular ramen spot

Upscale Options

L'Atelier de Joël Robuchon French fine dining

Rigoletto Bar and Grill Stylish Italian and Japanese fusion

The Oak Door at The Grand Hyatt Steaks and upscale Western dining

Reservations recommended for Robuchon and The Oak Door

➡ **Return to The Prince Park Tower Tokyo**

Taxi (Recommended)

About 8 to 12 minutes

Tell the driver **Prince Park Tower Tokyo Shibakoen**

Estimated fare ¥1,200 to ¥1,600

Train Option

Walk to **Roppongi Station**

Take the Oedo Line to **Akabanebashi Station**

Walk 5 minutes back to the hotel

Every winter, Keyakizaka at Roppongi Hills is decorated with illuminations, with approximately 400 meters of tree-lined streets illuminated by about 900,000 LED lights.

Roppongi is an area rich with attractions for adults, including luxury brand shops, stylish restaurants, and art museums. The blue and white illuminations perfectly complement

Roppongi's cool and sophisticated atmosphere. This is a recommended spot for couples or adult groups who want to enjoy a romantic atmosphere.

My most recommended viewpoint is the collaboration between the Keyakizaka illumination and Tokyo Tower. From the tree-lined street, Tokyo Tower can be beautifully seen between buildings, offering a stunning contrast of orange, blue, and white lights - a highlight of the Tokyo Illumination Event 2025 season.

<Information>

- Dates: November 4, - December 25, 2025
- Access: Directly from Exit C1 of "Roppongi Station" on Tokyo Metro
4-minute walk from "Roppongi Station" on Toei Oedo Line
- Admission: Free
- Website: <https://www.roppongihills.com/events/2024/12/0406.html>

MIDTOWN CHRISTMAS is a winter illumination event held at Tokyo Midtown in Roppongi, featuring one of the most captivating displays in the Tokyo Illumination Event 2025 lineup.

The highlight is the fantastical snow world expressed by approximately 240,000 lights and bubble decorations. The Christmas townscape glowing in champagne gold gradually transforms into a beautiful snowy landscape, expressed through sound and light. With snow and bubbles floating in the air, this is a special spot where you can enjoy the experience with all five senses.


A spot I especially recommend visiting is the approximately 4-meter-tall "Santa Tree" inside the Midtown building. It's decorated with about 1,600 Santa Claus ornaments, each with different expressions and designs that will make you want to look at each one individually.

Please try to find your favorite Santa Claus among the many varieties.

<Information>

- Dates: November 13 - December 25, 2025
- Access: Directly connected to "Roppongi Station" on Tokyo Metro and Toei Oedo Line
3-minute walk from "Nogizaka Station" on Tokyo Metro
- Admission: Free
- Website: <https://www.tokyo-midtown.com/jp/event/7162/>

Suggestion: Asakusa, Senso-ji Temple & Nakamise Street

 Activity

Pickup location

Suggestion: Morning: Asakusa

How to Get to Asakusa from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Total travel time: ~25–30 minutes

Route:

1. Walk 5 minutes to Akabanebashi Station (Toei Oedo Line).
2. Take the Oedo Line toward Daimon.
3. At Daimon Station, transfer to the Toei Asakusa Line.
4. Continue to Asakusa Station.
5. Walk 5 minutes to Senso-ji Temple.

Taxi Option: 20–30 minutes depending on traffic.



📍 Senso-ji Temple & Nakamise Street

Recommended time: 1.5–2 hours

What to Do:

- Enter through Kaminarimon Gate (iconic red lantern).
- Walk Nakamise Street for traditional snacks and souvenirs.
- Explore Senso-ji, Tokyo’s oldest Buddhist temple.
- Try local treats like ningyo-yaki or matcha soft serve.
- Optional: stroll toward the Sumida River or browse small artisan shops.

Suggestion: Lunch at Sushiro Asakusa Azumabashi

 Restaurant  Tue, Dec 23

Location

Sushiro Asakusa Azumabashi
Japan, 〒130-0001 Tokyo, Sumida City, Azumabashi, 1

Cuisine

Conveyor Belt Sushi

Sushiro Asakusa Azumabashi is a popular conveyor-belt sushi restaurant located just a short walk from Asakusa Station, making it a convenient and relaxed stop for lunch before your afternoon tour. Set on the second floor of the Patria Azumabashi building, the restaurant offers a fun, casual dining experience with freshly prepared sushi plates circulating on the belt alongside an extensive menu of sides, ramen, tempura, and desserts—perfect for families or mixed groups. With quick service, approachable prices, and something for everyone, it’s an ideal spot to enjoy a light yet satisfying meal while experiencing a quintessential part of modern Japanese dining culture.

Suggestion: Marunouchi Illumination

 Activity

Location

[Evening Suggestion: Marunouchi Illumination](#)

Marunouchi Illumination Experience

The Prince Park Tower Tokyo → Marunouchi Naka-dōri Christmas Lights

➡ **Depart from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo**

Taxi Option (Recommended, about 12 to 18 minutes)

Tell the driver **Marunouchi Naka-dōri**

Most direct and easiest route

Estimated fare **¥1,600 to ¥2,200**

Train Option (Easy and Reliable, about 20 to 25 minutes)

Walk 5 minutes to **Akabanebashi Station** on the Oedo Line

Take the Oedo Line to **Daimon Station**

Transfer to the JR Yamanote Line

Ride to **Tokyo Station**

Exit on the **Marunouchi side** of Tokyo Station

Walk 8 to 10 minutes to **Naka-dōri Street**

▮ **Marunouchi Naka-dōri Illumination**

What to See

Champagne gold lights across the entire boulevard

Elegant Christmas displays outside Marunouchi shops

Beautiful walking streets with cafés and window shopping

Perfect photo spots among trees, lighted arches and modern buildings

Suggested Time Needed

About 30 to 45 minutes for strolling and photos

➡ **Return to The Prince Park Tower Tokyo**

Taxi Option (Most Convenient)

About 12 to 18 minutes

Tell the driver **Prince Park Tower Tokyo Shibakoen**

Train Option

Walk back to **Tokyo Station**

Take the JR Yamanote Line to **Hamamatsuchō Station**

Transfer to the Oedo Line

Ride to **Akabanebashi Station**

Walk 5 minutes to the hotel

Marunouchi Illumination is a traditional illumination event in the Marunouchi area that has continued for over 20 years.


The Marunouchi area is one of Japan's premier business districts, lined with modern office buildings. It's also famous as a fashionable district with luxury brand stores, stylish cafes, and restaurants.

Along the 1.2km main street "Marunouchi Naka-dori Street," approximately 286 street trees are decorated with champagne gold lights. The elegant and sophisticated atmosphere of this illumination perfectly matches the image of the Marunouchi area.

Marunouchi also features Meiji-era architecture and Tokyo Station, a red brick building restored to its original appearance. You can enjoy both retro scenery and futuristic high-rise building landscapes simultaneously.

<Information>

- Dates: November 13, 2025 - February 15, 2026
- Access: Immediately from JR/Tokyo Metro "Tokyo Station" Marunouchi South Exit
- Admission: Free
- Website: <https://www.marunouchi.com/pickup/event/7575/>

 Dec 25 • Thursday

7:00 AM Arrange Taxis to Sumo Practice through Hotel



Transfer Thu, Dec 25 at 7:00am

Pick up time

December 25, 2025

7:00am

Please have hotel arrange Taxi(s) to get to address below. 8 miles away from hotel. Estimate 30 mins. to get there even though its approx. 18 mins. away. Leave hotel by 7:00 am.

Experience Name Experience the Power of Sumo: Private Guided Morning Practice Tour and Learn About Japan's National Sport

Date 2025/12/25

Meeting Time 7:30 AM

Stable 〓〓〓〓 / TATSUNAMI-Beya / 1-16-5 Hashiba, Taito-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Map <https://goo.gl/maps/GAD4HzPeDjRnW6RN9>

Interpreter Name: 〓〓〓 / Mami Hayashi

Tel: 070-5625-0909

Email: tour.guide.mami@gmail.com

"The interpreter will be holding a board with the Wabunka logo on it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Reservation: Sumo Practice Tour



Activity

📅 Thu, Dec 25 at 8:00am

Location

Experience the Power of Sumo: Private Guided Morning Practice Tour and Learn About Japan's National Sport

Duration

1.5 hours

Rate: ¥136,500 (Approx. \$924.48)

Cancellation Policy

No cancellation fees up to 10 days before the event (Japan time). Afterward, a 100% cancellation fee applies.

About

Rules and Regulations

1. Please wear a mask in the Sumo stable
2. Please keep silent during the practice
3. No smoking inside or outside the Sumo stable
4. No eating or drinking
5. Please do not wear a hat or sunglasses inside
6. Please switch your phone to silent mode
7. Photos are OK, but NO videos and flash.
8. If you wish to leave before the training ends, there will be no time for taking photos with Sumo wrestlers.
9. Once you exit, re-entry is not permitted.
10. Please do not put your feet out on the Sumo ring, enter the Sumo ring, or lean on the wall.

Starting Time and Duration

1. Starting time is mostly 8:00 but may change to 7:30 in certain occasions.
2. The tour duration is basically about 1.5hours but may vary between 1hr and 2hrs depending on the day.

Overview

Sumo is both a traditional cultural activity and a national sport in Japan, with a rich history dating back to the 8th century as recorded in the Kojiki (completed in 712) and Nihonshoki (completed in 720). During the Edo period (1603-1868), the current form of Sumo was established. This experience offers the opportunity to visit a Sumo stable in Tokyo early in the morning to witness active rikishi (Sumo wrestlers) in training. You will be accompanied by an escort guide who will provide insight into the history and highlights of Sumo both before and after practice, making it possible for you to fully appreciate Sumo even if you have no prior knowledge of the sport.

Key Features

- ▣ Experience the morning training sessions of active rikishi at a Tokyo Sumo stable
- ▣ Witness the impressive power and skill of the rikishi up close during the practice sessions
- ▣ Gain an in-depth understanding of Sumo, as an escort guide will provide you with detailed explanations of the practice before and after the session

Terms and Conditions

The booking procedure for Sumo is a little bit special, so please confirm on the following booking procedure.

1. The location of the Sumo stable will be announced 3 to 7 days prior to the experience date.
2. Our cancellation policy allows for a full refund if you cancel your booking 11 days before the experience date.

If the number of participants is 11 or 12, the cancellation policy will apply from 30 days prior to the experience date.

3. This experience takes place in a mixed group. Each group will have a single guide.

The type of transportation provided will be a chauffeur-driven hire car.

Please note that this was not mentioned in our earlier email, but since the ending time of the experience may vary, we will arrange a one-way hire car

for the pick-up only.

For the return journey, the guide will assist the guests in arranging a taxi on site.

Regarding the sumo stable visit, the specific stable has not yet been finalized.

We will be able to confirm the location approximately one week prior to the experience.

In the meantime, we will provide you with a quote for a one-way transfer from The Prince Park Tower Tokyo to Ryogoku Kokugikan as a reference.

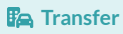
Please note that the final cost may vary depending on the actual stable location.

Please also note that the starting time of the experience may change depending on the assigned sumo stable.

As such, the meeting time will be either 7:30 AM or 8:00 AM, and unfortunately, a later pick-up than 7:30 AM will likely not be possible.

The estimated travel time from the hotel to Ryogoku Kokugikan is approximately 30-40 minutes.

Take Taxi to Yayoi Kusama Museum



Transfer



Leave area around 12:30 for Museum at 1:00 pm

Take Taxi to Yayoi Kusama Museum at

107 Bentencho Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 162-0851 Japan

Tip: This area is peaceful and slightly off the main tourist paths, so walking around gives you a great *local Tokyo neighborhood feel*: quiet streets, small shrines, and tucked-away spots you might not find in central Shinjuku proper


Reservation: Yayoi Kusama Museum

 Activity  Thu, Dec 25 at 1:00pm

Location
Yayoi Kusama Museum
107 Bentencho Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 162-0851 Japan


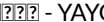

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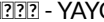

Documents


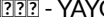

 [Yayoi_Tickets-_Edwards.pdf](#)


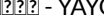

Confirmation code: 32707681
Your method of delivery is: Credit Card + Barcode Ticket.


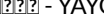

*On the day of visit, please show your barcode ticket either on your smartphone screen, or as a print out. The barcode ticket can be displayed from the "View Your Ticket" link below.

Ticket details
Serial #: 5556884592
Event:  - Yayoi Kusama: Fighting Woman / Painting Girl
Venue:  - YAYOI KUSAMA MUSEUM
Date/time: December 25, 2025 1:00 PM
Ticket price: JPY1,100.00
Category:  (Adults)

Serial #: 5556884681
Event:  - Yayoi Kusama: Fighting Woman / Painting Girl
Venue:  - YAYOI KUSAMA MUSEUM
Date/time: December 25, 2025 1:00 PM
Ticket price: JPY1,100.00
Category:  (Adults)

Serial #: 5556884771
Event:  - Yayoi Kusama: Fighting Woman / Painting Girl
Venue:  - YAYOI KUSAMA MUSEUM
Date/time: December 25, 2025 1:00 PM
Ticket price: JPY600.00
Category:  (Children aged 6-18)

Serial #: 5556884839
Event:  - Yayoi Kusama: Fighting Woman / Painting Girl
Venue:  - YAYOI KUSAMA MUSEUM
Date/time: December 25, 2025 1:00 PM
Ticket price: JPY600.00
Category:  (Children aged 6-18)

Serial #: 5556884973
Event:  - Yayoi Kusama: Fighting Woman / Painting Girl
Venue:  - YAYOI KUSAMA MUSEUM
Date/time: December 25, 2025 1:00 PM
Ticket price: JPY600.00
Category:  (Children aged 6-18)

Total: JPY4,000.00

View Your Ticket

Click on the link below to view your ticket(s):

<https://www.etix.com/kketix/online/online reprint.jsp?userID=32707681&password=92478994>

Handling of barcode tickets

Please handle this confirmation email and your barcode ticket with care. If the same barcode ticket is presented multiple times at the museum entrance, only the first ticket presented will be valid.

■ Cancellation:

If you wish to cancel ticket, please make procedure using the cancellation form below.

<https://www.etix.com/kketix/refundbyself/refundbyself.jsp>

Suggestion: Harajuku and Omotesando illumination



Activity ? Thu, Dec 25

Location

Harajuku and Omotesando illumination

Travel From Yayoi Kusama Museum → Harajuku

Total Time: ~20–25 minutes

Best Route (Easy + Direct):

1. Walk 5 minutes from the museum to Ushigome-yanagichō Station (Toei Oedo Line).
2. Take the Oedo Line toward Roppongi/Shinjuku.
3. Ride 9 minutes to Yoyogi Station.
4. Walk 10 minutes to Harajuku/Takeshita Street.
 - Follow signs toward Meiji Jingu / Harajuku as you exit Yoyogi.

Taxi Option: 12–15 minutes

Stroll Through Takeshita Street

- Famous for colorful shops, crepes, cute boutiques, and pop culture.
- Many shops stay open until 7–8 PM, so this is the best time to go.
- Great for photos under the Takeshita Street sign.
- You have to try the Cotton Candy!

Walk Cat Street (Shops + Cafés)

Enjoy a relaxed evening walk down Cat Street, the stylish pedestrian route linking Harajuku and Shibuya.

Why it's great at night:

- Trendy boutiques open later
- Ambient lighting
- Cool cafés, dessert shops, vintage stores
- Safe and very atmospheric

A perfect place to browse and enjoy the creative side of Tokyo.

Explore Omotesando (Lights, Boutiques, Shopping)

Walk from Cat Street to Omotesando, the elegant, tree-lined boulevard.

Evening Highlights:

- Beautiful lights along the avenue
- Luxury boutiques + Japanese designers
- Omotesando Hills (open late)
- Side streets full of cafés and small shops

Return to The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Two Easy Options:

Option 1: Taxi (Best Choice at Night)

- 10–15 minutes
- Very convenient after walking and shopping
- Expect around ¥1,500–¥2,200

Option 2: Train

Total Time: ~20–25 minutes

1. Walk to Omotesando Station
2. Take the Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line → Kamiyacho Station
3. Walk 10 minutes to The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

 **Dec 26 • Friday**

Take Taxi on own to Tokyo Station

 Transfer

From The Prince Park Tower Tokyo:

Take a taxi to Tokyo Station .

Reservation: Shinkansen Tokyo to Kyoto

 Train  Fri, December 26 at 12:12pm

Train number	Departure	Arrival
Tokyo - Kyoto by Nozomi #31	Tokyo Station	Kyoto Station
	Fri, December 26 at 12:12pm	Fri, December 26 at 2:23pm

12:12 - 14:23 Tokyo - Kyoto by Nozomi#31


You can board from Platform #18 at Tokyo Station.

Tokyo(12:12)-Nozomi31-Kyoto(14:23)
Car8, Seat12-C,D, 13-C,D, 14-C,D, 17-A,B,C
Reserved luggage space behind the seats(only Seat17)

If there are any questions or issues:

Katsu Okada
Next JAPAN Travel
Vancouver, B.C., Canada
katsu@necusto.com
WhatsApp +1 778 999 1709
 050-1725-5740

Walk from station to Thousand Kyoto


 Transfer

For The Thousand Kyoto → Kyoto Station, you should walk, even with luggage.

Here's why:

- The hotel is only 2-3 minutes on foot from the station.
- The route is flat, smooth, and designed for rolling suitcases.
- A taxi would be unnecessary and slower because of one-way roads and traffic flow around the station.
- You can easily walk directly into the Shinkansen entrance from the street level.

Recommendation:

 Walk — it's the fastest, easiest, and most convenient option.

Stay at The Thousand Kyoto

 Lodging  Fri, Dec 26

Property	Check in	Check out
The Thousand Kyoto	Dec 26, 2025	Dec 29, 2025
570 Higashishiokojicho Shimogyo Kyoto 600-8216 Kyoto, JP		
Room type	Confirmation number	
King and Double twin Room	Confirm # 8119SF035874 and 8119SF035949	

Rate

SUPERIOR ROOM, SUPERIOR TWIN with 1 ExtraBed \$1,626.73 Includes Breakfast for 3 Confirm # 8119SF035874

SUPERIOR ROOM, Superior Super King \$943.15 - Free Night offer and no Breakfast Confirm # 8119SF035949

Total: \$2,569.88

*Regarding your request for adjoining rooms, we will do our utmost to accommodate your clients in rooms as close as possible. However, due to the architectural structure of the hotel and the daily availability, we are unable to guarantee adjoining rooms.

Cancellation Policy

Refundable. Cancellation deadline: 1 Day(s) prior to arrival.

About

Located just steps from **Kyoto Station**, The Thousand Kyoto blends sleek modern design with the serenity of Japanese minimalism, offering both convenience and calm for your stay. The hotel's interiors emphasize light, space, and natural materials, creating a soothing retreat after days spent exploring temples, gardens, and bustling markets.

Spacious guest rooms are designed with comfort and functionality in mind, featuring large windows, elegant soaking tubs, and contemporary Japanese décor. Dining options include refined Japanese cuisine, modern Italian, and an all-day café, while the wellness floor offers a serene spa, fitness facilities, and traditional bath experiences.

The hotel's unbeatable location makes sightseeing effortless—you can easily access Kyoto's cultural highlights by train or taxi, while having the city's shopping and dining scene right at your doorstep. For travelers seeking a balance of style, convenience, and relaxation, The Thousand Kyoto is an ideal base.

VIP Amenities

Includes Breakfast for room with 3 kids

Closest coin operated Laundry facilites

9 minute walk

click on link to see closest coin operated laundromat <https://maps.app.goo.gl/srSwrsPFsAY8woJ26>

Take Taxi or Kintetsu-Kyoto Line

 Transfer

Company

Take Taxi or Kintetsu-Kyoto Line

Restaurant: 〆〆〆 Uosaburo 〆612-8083 〆〆〆〆〆〆〆〆〆〆〆〆〆〆〆 Google Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/4vBhAoHUpVh1iscc8>

**Take Taxi or  Kintetsu-Kyoto Line.

Fastest & Most Practical (Train + Walk)

Total time: ~25–30 minutes

Cost: ~¥240–¥380 per person



1. Walk (~2 min) from Thousand Kyoto to Kyoto Station.
2. Take the Keihan Main Line toward Yodoyabashi/Osaka.
3. Get off at *Fushimi-Momoyama Station* — it's about 15–18 min ride.
4. Walk ~2 minutes from Fushimi-Momoyama Station to Uosaburo at 3-187 Kyomachi, Fushimi Ward.

This train route is direct with no transfers and the station is a very short walk from the restaurant.

 Taxi / Private Ride

- Time: ~15–20 min (traffic dependent)
 - Cost: ~¥2,000–¥3,000 (one way)
Good if you're with luggage or want a direct door-to-door option.
-


Reservation: Kaiseki Meal




 Activity  Wed, Nov 26 at 6:00pm

Location
Kaiseki Meal


Confirmation number
CONFIRMED

Documents

 Call_Dec._26th_Dinner_.pdf

Restaurant:  Uosaburo  612-8083  Google Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/4vBhAoHUpVh1iscc8>

**Take Taxi or  Kintetsu-Kyoto Line.

Interpreter Name:  / Miwa Yukiko
Tel: 070-8373-0886
Email: Kikomiwa@gmail.com

The interpreter will be holding a board with the Wabunka logo on it.

--- Cancellation policy ---
100% cancellation charge on and after December 23 06:00PM, 2025 (JST)
If you wish to cancel, click here: <https://wabunka-lux.jp/cancellation?reservationId=5228f5e2-2931-4fc5-8ef7-56fe13f3fae6> here:
<https://wabunka-lux.jp/cancellation?reservationId=5228f5e2-2931-4fc5-8ef7-56fe13f3fae6>

Things to know

	The price covers experience, meal, facility charges, translation service fees, and taxes. Drinks not included. Additional drink charges must be paid on site.
Price	
	This experience requires a minimum of 2 people. The minimum guarantee charge will be applied if the requested number of guests is less than 2 people. Up to 10 people per booking
Maximum number	
	All experiences are private for your group. We do not arrange mixed sessions. 1. Tour of Uosaburo, and talk on the restaurant's history 2. Demonstration of dashi soup preparation, and comparative tasting 3. Kaiseki course
Experience itinerary	
	(Above itinerary is a guide. According to the season and the weather, the contents can change.)
Payment	Payment in advance (Credit card (JPY) only)
Booking deadline	Booking must be made at least 3 days before the experience date.
	Our cancellation policy allows for a full refund if you cancel your booking 4 days before the experience date. Please contact before 05:00 PM (JST).
Cancellation policy	
	Changes to the schedule are not allowed after the cancellation policy is applied. If you wish to make changes to the schedule or the number of guests before the cancellation policy applies, please cancel your reservation and then rebook.
Guest requirements	Adult rate applies to 13 years old and over. A child rate is available for children between the age of 3 and 12. Please select the number of child participants in the option. Children under 3 may accompany adults at no extra cost.

Minors under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult guardian over 18 years of age.

The experience in the venue is conducted with shoes removed. Guests are asked to wear socks or stockings to avoid going barefoot.

Clothes

Wearing skirts or pants that are long enough to cover the knees is required.

This experience is exclusive.

Arrival later than 15 minutes after the starting time will result in cancellation.

Further remarks

Due to unavoidable circumstances, programs or workshops are subject to last-minute changes and cancellations.

You will be asked not to wear perfume to the experience.

Suggestion: Gion and Higashiyama at night

 Activity

Location

Gion and Higashiyama

After-Dinner Stroll from Uosaburo

A peaceful and atmospheric way to enjoy Gion and Higashiyama at night.
Streets are beautifully lit and much quieter after evening dining hours.

➔ Depart Uosaburo

Walk directly into the heart of Gion, one of Kyoto's most historic geisha districts.

▮ Hanamikoji Street

A short walk from the restaurant
Classic wooden teahouses and lantern-lined alleys
Chance to see geiko or maiko walking to evening engagements
Excellent area for nighttime photography

▮ Shirakawa Canal Area

A few minutes northeast of Hanamikoji Street
Stone bridges, willow trees and gentle canal reflections
One of Kyoto's most romantic streets at night
Beautiful and peaceful for an evening stroll

▮ Yasaka Shrine

Walk toward Yasaka Shrine, illuminated beautifully after dark
Open and accessible at night
A wonderful place for slow walking, photos and soaking in the historic atmosphere

▮ Optional Quiet Walk Toward Ninenzaka

If you want a longer walk, continue a little into Higashiyama
Shops will be closed but the streets are magical when empty
Perfect for photos beneath the silhouette of Yasaka Pagoda

➔ Return to The Thousand Kyoto

Taxi Option (Recommended at Night)

About 10 minutes from Gion

Ask the driver The Thousand Kyoto, Kyoto Station East Side

Train Option

Walk to Gion-Shijo Station

Take the Keihan Line to Kiyomizu-Gojo or Sanjo

Transfer to the Subway Karasuma Line

Ride to Kyoto Station

Walk a few minutes to The Thousand Kyoto

Taxi is easier and faster at this hour

Reservation: Private tour of Fushimi Inari Shrine and Nara by private vehicle



Sat, Dec 27 at 8:00am

Location

Private tour of Fushimi Inari Shrine and Nara by private vehicle

Duration

9 Hour

Documents



Edwards_Nara_Tour.pdf

8:00 - 5:00

Private tour of Fushimi Inari Shrine and Nara by private vehicle

CONTACT INFO:

9 hour English speaking guide:Mr. Kazuki Sugita (cell;+81 80 4022 3614)

An English-speaking guide will meet you at your hotel and take you to Fushimi Inari Shrine first. You will spend approximately one hour there, walking through the torii gates up to the main shrine. After the visit, you will continue on to Nara.

10:15 - Nara Park, Todaiji temple (10:15-12:00)

12:05 - Kasuga Taisha Shrine (12:05-13:00)

After your visit Kasuga Taisha Shrine, we can arrange some time for lunch in Nara 14:30 Horyuji Temple (14:30-15:30)

Return to your hotel in Kyoto by 17:00

If there are any questions or issues:

Katsu Okada

Next JAPAN Travel


Vancouver, B.C., Canada

katsu@necusto.com

WhatsApp [+1 778 999 1709](tel:+17789991709)

050-1725-5740

Take Taxi or Karasuma Subway Line

 Transfer


Best & Easiest: Train + Short Walk

Total time: ~10–15 minutes
Cost: ~¥210–¥260 per person

1. Walk (~2–3 min) from *Thousand Hotel Kyoto* to JR Kyoto Station.
2. Take the Karasuma Subway Line (subway) toward Kokusaikaikan.
3. Get off at Karasuma Oike Station (about 2 stops, ~5 minutes).
4. From Karasuma Oike Station, it's about a 5–7 minute walk to Kamiosakachō 521 (Empire Building).

Why this works:



- The subway goes north from Kyoto Station straight into central Nakagyō-ku.
- Karasuma Oike is a major transfer point and central location near many offices and business buildings.

 Taxi / Ride-hail (Door-to-Door)

Total time: ~8–12 minutes
Cost: ~¥1,000–¥1,500



Reservation: Kobe Beef Kisshokichi

 Restaurant  Sat, Dec 27 at 7:00pm

Location
Kobe Beef Kisshokichi - Kyoto Main Store
Japan,  604-8001 Kyoto, Nakagyo Ward, Kamiosakacho, 521  8

Seating type
Counter

[Link to Address](#)

Saturday, December 27, 2025, 19:00
Restaurant Reservation
Kobe Beef Kisshokichi - Kyoto Main Store
 Kamiōsakachō, 521  Kyoto, Kyoto, 604-8001
075-746-6539
9
Counter seat

CANCELLATION POLICY
JPY10,000 per person from the day before. Need to be called 2days before.

Name on reservation
Gazell Call

Party of
9

Confirmation number
RESERVED via Thousand Kyoto

📅 Dec 28 • Sunday

Suggestion: Take Taxi to Otagi Nenbutsu-ji Temple,

 Transfer

Getting There (from The Thousand Kyoto):

- Taxi (most direct):
~35–45 minutes depending on traffic (¥5,000–6,000 / \$33–40).

Suggestion: Morning in Arashiyama – Temples, Old Streets & Bamboo Grove



Mon, Dec 29

Location

[Otagi Nenbutsu-ji and walk down to Arashiyama Bamboo Grove \(4-5 hours\)](#)

Morning in Arashiyama – Temples, Old Streets & Bamboo Grove

Start: *The Thousand Kyoto*

Destination: *Otagi Nenbutsu-ji Temple, Arashiyama*

Begin your day with a visit to **Otagi Nenbutsu-ji**, a quiet hillside temple known for its hundreds of moss-covered stone statues—each carved with its own unique expression. It's one of Kyoto's most peaceful and often-overlooked temples.

Getting There (from The Thousand Kyoto):

- **Taxi (most direct):**
~35–45 minutes depending on traffic (¥5,000–6,000 / \$33–40).

Option 1 – Early Start

If you leave the hotel by 8:00–8:30 AM, plan for lunch after visiting Otagi Nenbutsu-ji as you make your way downhill.

Lunch Stop:

Tsurezure Udon/Soba Shop

A small, traditional noodle house tucked near Nison-in Temple with simple Kyoto-style udon and soba dishes in a cozy wooden interior.

〒25 Saganisonin Monzen Ojoincho, Ukyo-Ku, Kyoto

☞ Ideal for a late morning/early lunch stop around 11:00–11:30 AM before continuing your walk toward Tenryu-ji and the Bamboo Grove.

Then continue downhill through Saga Toriimoto, Tenryu-ji Temple, and the Arashiyama Bamboo Grove.

Option 2 – Later Start

If you leave closer to 9:30–10:00 AM, visit Otagi Nenbutsu-ji, stroll downhill through Saga Toriimoto, and explore Tenryu-ji Temple and the Bamboo Grove first.

Lunch Stop (after Bamboo Grove):

☞ **Pizzeria Mama**

For a more Western-style lunch, end your walk at this cozy spot near Togetsukyo Bridge. It serves excellent wood-fired pizzas and pastas made with local Kyoto ingredients.

〒1-5 Arashiyama Nishiichikawacho, Nishikyo Ward, Kyoto 616-0003

☞ Perfect for a relaxed meal after exploring the grove—about a 5-minute walk from the south exit.

Suggestion: Arashiyama Rickshaw Experience



Location: Arashiyama, Kyoto
Provider: EBISUYA Rickshaw

Where You Can Start Your Rickshaw Ride

You can begin your ride from several convenient pick-up points:

1. Togetsukyo Bridge (Main Starting Point)
 - The most iconic spot with immediate access to river views
 - Easy to find, especially on busy days
 2. Arashiyama Bamboo Grove Entrances (North & South)
 - Ideal if you want photos and a peaceful ride through the bamboo forest
 - Great for avoiding crowds and accessing quieter paths
 3. Tenryu-ji Temple Gate
 - Perfect if you're touring the temple before or after
 - Quick access to preserved streets and scenic lanes
 4. JR Saga-Arashiyama Station Area
 - Convenient if arriving by train from Kyoto Station
 - Staff are often stationed here on weekends and holidays
-

Rickshaw Rates (EBISUYA Standard Pricing)

(Rates are per person unless noted; pricing can vary by season)

- 12–13 minutes:
¥5,000 per person
(¥10,000 for two people sharing one rickshaw)
- 30 minutes:
¥9,000 per person
(¥18,000 for two)
- 60 minutes (most popular):
¥17,500 per person
(¥35,000 for two)
- Custom Routes (75–120 minutes):
¥20,000–¥35,000 per person depending on distance and stops


Children:

- Kids under 6 can sometimes ride with a parent (depends on size/safety)
 - Older kids typically count as one person
-

What's Included

- Private rickshaw with a trained local guide
- Commentary on local history and culture
- Stops for photos
- Flexible pick-up and drop-off within Arashiyama

Walk to Teamlab Biovortex from The Thousand Kyoto

 Transfer

Best Way (Walking)

teamLab Biovortex Kyoto is just a 7–10 minute walk from JR Kyoto Station.

Step-by-Step

1. Leave The Thousand Kyoto and walk to JR Kyoto Station Hachijō Exit (South/East side) — about 2–3 minutes.
2. From the Hachijō Exit, head a short walk southwest along the nearby streets — signage and map apps make this easy.
3. You'll reach teamLab Biovortex Kyoto in about 7–10 minutes on foot.

Total time: ~10–13 minutes

Reservation: Teamlab Biovortex Kyoto



Sun, Dec 28 at 4:00pm

Location

Teamlab Biovortex Kyoto
Higashi-Iwamotocho, Minami-ku, Kyoto

Confirmation number

KYFV4HCX7Y4WN-0001

Documents

Edwards__teamLab_Biovortex__Ticket_purchase_completed.pdf

How to get there:

- Walk from your hotel to **Kyoto Station** (about 5 minutes).
- The museum is located just a **10-minute walk** from the Hachijō Exit (South Exit) of Kyoto Station.
- Total travel time: ~15 minutes door-to-door.

Thank you for purchasing tickets.

Purchase completed. Confirm the following details.

[exhibition title]

teamLab Biovortex

[admission date]

Sun, Dec 28, 2025, 16:00 - 16:30

[ticket name]

Entrance Pass

[number of tickets]

Adults : 2

13-17 years : 2

Child : 1

[order total]

JPY 16,600

[payment method]

Credit Card

[inquiry number]

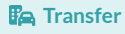
KYFV4HCX7Y4WN-0001

* Ticket URL

https://kyoto.tickets.teamlab.art/tickets/#/id/w7SJUIsR5LGKGE7WqTmjDDzMOCCqBh-C1Q9-ZVL_yr_RqetPFYN2-ZctjyCKyyC?lang=en

Dec 29 • Monday

Take Train or Taxi



Train + Short Walk (Fastest & Easiest)

Total Time: ~15–20 minutes

Cost: ~¥210–¥260

1. Walk (~2–3 min) from The Thousand Kyoto to Kyoto Station.
2. Take the Karasuma Subway Line from Kyoto Station (Platform 2)
→ 3 stops to Shijo Station.
3. From Shijo Station, it's a 5–7 minute walk to Nishiki Market.

Directions on Foot from Shijo Station:

- Exit toward Shijo Street (Central Exit)
- Walk east on Shijo-dori ~2 blocks
- Turn left (north) onto Nishiki Street — you'll see the market entrance

▮ Taxi / Ride-hail (Door-to-Door)

Total Time: ~10–15 minutes

Cost: ~¥800–¥1,200

Suggestion: Self Guided Nishiki Market

 Activity

Location

[Nishiki Market](#)

Morning – Explore Nishiki Market on your own

8:30 AM | 🚶 Depart from *The Thousand Kyoto*

- Take the Karasuma Subway Line from *Kyoto Station* → *Shijō Station* (1 stop, ~5 min).
- Walk ~5 minutes east along Shijō-dōri Street to reach Nishiki Market.

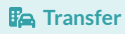
9:15–10:45 AM | 🚶 *Nishiki Market*

- Wander through Kyoto's famous "Kitchen." Try local specialties like yuba (tofu skin), matcha sweets, soy donuts, grilled skewers, and fresh seafood.
- Stop at Aritsugu (historic knife shop) or Nishiki Tenmangu Shrine tucked behind the market's end.
☕ Optional: Coffee break at %Arabica Kyoto Fujii Daimaru or Walden Woods Kyoto nearby.

Nishiki Market (📍, Nishiki Ichiba) is a narrow, five block long shopping street lined by more than one hundred shops and restaurants. Known as "Kyoto's Kitchen", this lively retail [market](#) specializes in all things food related, like fresh seafood, produce, knives and cookware, and is a great place to find seasonal foods and [Kyoto](#) specialties, such as Japanese [sweets](#), [pickles](#), dried seafood and [sushi](#).

Nishiki Market has a pleasant but busy atmosphere that is inviting to those who want to explore the variety of [culinary delights](#) that Kyoto is famous for. The stores range from small narrow stalls to larger two story shops. Most specialize in a particular type of food, and almost everything sold at the market is locally produced and procured.

Walk to Station



Transfer

Recommended Departure Time Leave your room by: 1:00PM

Why 1:00 PM works

- The Thousand Kyoto is right next to Kyoto Station (2–3 minutes on foot).
 - You should be on the platform 10–15 minutes before departure to find your car number and board without rushing.
 - Leaving at 1:00 PM gives you:
 - Time to check out (if needed)
 - Walk to the central Shinkansen entrance
 - Go through the gates
 - Find your platform (usually Tracks 11–14 for Tokaido Shinkansen)
-


If You Prefer Extra Buffer Leave at 1:00 PM if:

- You're traveling with luggage
 - You want to buy snacks or bento
 - It's your first time navigating Kyoto Station
-

Quick Notes

- Shinkansen boarding closes right at departure time—the train leaves exactly at 1:54 PM.
 - Gates and platforms are well-marked, but the station is large, so a few extra minutes helps.
-

Reservation: Kyoto(13:54)-Nozomi144-Tokyo(16:06) Car10

 Train  Mon, December 29 at 1:54pm

Train number

Kyoto(13:54)-Nozomi144-Tokyo(16:06) Car10

Departure

Kyoto Station

Mon, December 29 at 1:54pm

Arrival

Tokyo Station

Mon, December 29 at 4:06pm

You will board at Platform #12 at Kyoto Station and arrive at Platform #17 at Tokyo Station.

Kyoto(13:54)-Nozomi144-Tokyo(16:06)

Car10, Seat1-A,C,D, 3-A,B, 4-A,B,C,D

Reserved luggage space behind the seats(only Seat1)

If there are any questions or issues:


Katsu Okada

[Next JAPAN Travel](#)


Vancouver, B.C., Canada

katsu@necusto.com

WhatsApp [+1 778 999 1709](tel:+17789991709)

 050-1725-5740

Train/walk or Taxi to Keio Plaza Hotel

 Transfer

Best Option: JR Chūō Line (Rapid) — Direct, Fast, Cheap

1. From Tokyo Station, follow signs for the JR Chūō Line (Rapid).

- Look for the orange line signs.
- Board a train bound for Shinjuku / Takao / Ome.

2. Ride directly to Shinjuku Station

- Takes about 14–16 minutes.
- No transfers needed.

3. Walk or take a short taxi to Keio Plaza Hotel

- From the West Exit of Shinjuku Station, it's a 10–12 minute walk.
- With luggage, many people grab a quick taxi (5 minutes).

Total time: ~25–30 minutes

Cost: ~¥200

 Taxi (Door-to-door)

Time: 20–30 minutes depending on traffic

Cost: ~¥3,000–¥4,000

Convenient if you have luggage or arrive late evening.

Stay at Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo

 Lodging  Mon, Dec 29

Property
Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo
2-2-1 Nishi-Shinjuku Shinjuku-Ku Tokio 160-8330, JP

Check in
Dec 29, 2025

Check out
Jan 1, 2026

Deluxe Plus Twin and Triple, 2 Adults, 1 Child Requested to be on the 24th floor USD 1,922.61

Standard Plus King, 2 Adults-requested on 25th floor USD 1,775.59

Total: \$3,706

Cancellation Policy

A charge will be assessed as follows; 2 days prior of arrival -- 50% 1 day prior of arrival -- 80% The day of arrival after 0:00am(local time) -- 100% No Show---100% for all nights

VIP Amenities

-Includes Breakfast

Set in the heart of Shinjuku's skyscraper district, the Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo combines international luxury with the dynamic energy of one of Tokyo's busiest neighborhoods. The vibe is lively and cosmopolitan, yet the hotel itself feels like a welcoming retreat—airy, spacious, and designed to accommodate both business and leisure travelers.


The neighborhood around the hotel is one of the most exciting in Tokyo. From the front door, you can wander into Shinjuku's neon-lit streets, explore endless shopping and dining, or visit cultural highlights like the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building with its free observation decks. It's also just a short stroll to Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden, a tranquil escape from the bustle.

In terms of convenience, the hotel is only about a 5–7 minute walk from JR Shinjuku Station, one of the largest hubs in Tokyo and a key stop on the JR Yamanote Line (the city's tourist loop). This means direct, easy access to must-see neighborhoods like Shibuya, Harajuku, Ueno, and Tokyo Station.


Inside the hotel, you'll find a wide array of restaurants and amenities. Dining spans from authentic Japanese kaiseki, sushi, and teppanyaki to Chinese and French cuisine, plus casual international options—over 10 restaurants and bars in total. The hotel also offers a seasonal rooftop Sky Pool, a 24-hour fitness room, spa and relaxation lounges, and elegant Club Lounge access for select room categories.

Laundromat (Main Tower 19F / South Tower 18F)

The laundry facilities are for the exclusive use of hotel guests.
Opening Hours: Open 24Hours and located in Laundromat (Main Tower 19F / South Tower 18F)

 Dec 30 • Tuesday

Suggestion: Take Taxi to Team Lab Planets

 Transfer

Pick up time
8:30am

A taxi from Keio Plaza Hotel to teamLab Planets takes about 10 minutes (depending on traffic). Leave by 8:30 am - 8:45 am

Team Lab Planets Address:

6 Chome-1-16 Toyosu, Koto City, Tokyo 135-0061, Japan

Reservation: Teamlab Planets

 Activity  Tue, Dec 30 at 9:00am

Location	Confirmation number
Teamlab Planets	CONFIRMED

Please view Tickets [Here](#) *QR will be visible at 12:00 am on day of arrival.

Arrival time is between 9:00 am - 9:30 am

Purchase Details

teamLab Planets TOKYO

Ticket type	Entrance Pass
Admission date and time(JST)	Tue Dec. 30, 2025 09:00 - 09:30
Number of tickets	Adults 2 guests Junior high school / High school 2 guests Children 1 guests

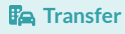
- *You may have to wait 30 minutes to be admitted to the venue.

*The above time is not the staying time in the venue.

*Resale for commercial purposes is prohibited.

- Inquiry Number : 05c1d68e5cd17d7a2d
-

Suggestion: Taxi or Train (depending on time)



Transfer

Train (Best Mix of Time + Cost)

1. Walk to Shin-Toyosu Station (very close to teamLab Planets).
2. Take the Yurikamome Line to Shimbashi Station.
3. Transfer at Shimbashi to the Tokyo Metro Ginza Line toward Shibuya (Shibuya Scramble Square).
4. Exit at Shibuya Station — Shibuya Sky is connected directly to the station via Shibuya Scramble Square.

Time: ~45–55 minutes total by train.

Cost: ~¥550–¥650 one way.

▮ Taxi / Ride-hail (Fastest)

- About 10–15 minutes by taxi from Toyosu to Shibuya if traffic is light.
 - This is more expensive but good if you want a quick, direct trip
-

Reservation: Shibuya Sky and Crossing



Tue, Dec 30 at 1:20pm

Documents

[Edwards_Shibuya_Sky.pdf](#)

[Shibuya_Sky_for_The_Edwards_Family.pdf](#)

[QR_Codes_Edwards_Shibuya.pdf](#)

1:20 pm Entrance Time

Please come to the entrance on the 14th floor of Shibuya Scramble Square within the entrance time **(20 minutes)** of the purchased ticket.

QR TICKETS ATTACHED AND EMAILED

Ticket is only Valid until 1:39 PM

Shibuya Sky Tickets and explore

Please come to the entrance on the 14th floor of Shibuya Scramble Square within the entrance time **(20 minutes)** of the purchased ticket.

※If you are late for the designated admission time, you may be refused admission.

↓

Please enter by holding a smartphone with a QR code or a paper printed in advance to the entrance gate.

※The QR code can be displayed by email or from [My Page](#) after the purchase is completed.

※In the case of multiple QR codes, admission is smooth if the QR code is distributed before admission (one QR code is required per person)

※You cannot enter until 5 minutes have passed after the purchase is completed.

↓

There is no limit to the length of stay after admission

※You cannot re-enter

About cancellation

Only the target WEB tickets can be canceled free of charge until the day before your visit.

Cancellations are not possible on the day unless the roof is closed.

[Free cancellation service when the rooftop is closed]

If the rooftop is closed at the designated admission time, you can cancel the day for free **until before admission**.

If you come on another day, please purchase again.

※Cancellation is not possible after a certain period of time.

※The indoor observation corridor on the 46th floor is also open even when the roof is closed.

※Please check the opening and closing status of the rooftop on [SHIBUYA SKY official X](#) or the official website.

▶[Click here for details of the cancellation policy](#)

▶[Cancellation is possible from this My Page](#)

Reservation: Best of Shibuya Food Evening Tour

 Activity  Tue, Dec 30 at 4:00pm

Location	Duration	Confirmation number
Best of Shibuya Food Evening Tour 2 Chome-1 Dogenzaka, Shibuya City, Tokyo 150-0043150-0043	3 Hours	Reference: PE150420017

Documents

 [Shibuya_Food_Tour_Edwards.pdf](#)

Meeting Up Point Location

In front of the Wall Mural right outside the station, at Hachiko Exit. It is near the Shibuchika entrance. We do NOT meet at the very crowded statue of Hachiko. The Wall Mural is colorful and can be seen as soon as you come out of the station. You should be facing the big intersection with the mural to your back.

Please note that the mural at the meeting point may change over time.

You can copy and paste this to Google Maps to find exactly where this location is;
2 Chome-1 Dogenzaka, Shibuya City, Tokyo 150-0043150-0043

Google Map Link: [Click Here](#)

Tour Schedule:

Meet up Time: 3:45 pm Start Time 4:00 pm End Time 7:00 pm

Our staff will be there holding an "Arigato Travel" sign. Just to let you know, due to schedule changes, the guide for your tour may change. We do tours even during rainy weather because our food stops are indoors.

We want to remind you that the tour will start at 4:00 pm sharp. Please be there 10-15 minutes before the scheduled departure time. We have a strict policy about starting our tours at the scheduled time. If you cannot arrive at the meeting point by the departure time, the tour will start regardless, and no refund will be provided. We can also not accommodate meeting up at any food stops once you've missed the start of the tour.

Highlights


- - Get an insider's look at Shibuya, one of the most exciting places to visit in Tokyo.
- - Enjoy some of Japan's must-try delicious regional dishes, and hear exciting stories and trivia you wouldn't want to miss.
- - Gain a deeper understanding of Japanese culture beyond the obvious as you explore the backstreets.
- - End your journey with a tour and dessert in a Shibuya Depachika (underground food market).

Description

Step into our immersive 3-hour Shibuya Food Tour and let your senses lead the way. As you wander through lively streets, the hum of this busy neighborhood and the rhythmic footsteps on pavement draw you into a world beyond the famous "Scramble Crossing." The aroma of delicious foods will tempt your taste buds at every corner. Bright lights and colorful storefronts are a kaleidoscope of excitement... With each bite, the textures of fresh ingredients tell the story of local traditions, often overlooked by the typical traveler who only skims the surface.

Let us guide you to the hidden gems of Shibuya, where Tokyoites dine and savor the best culinary treasures. Slip into cozy alleyways and visit restaurants that reveal a side of Shibuya that few visitors discover. Hear the sizzle on the grill and the lively chatter of chefs perfecting their craft. Taste everything from delicate, melt-in-your-mouth sushi to sweet, handmade traditional desserts. This is your chance to experience Shibuya like a local, enjoying meals most travelers would never stumble upon. Join us, and let the rhythm of the city and the tastes of its hidden kitchens lead you on an unforgettable culinary adventure as you try regional food in the heart of Tokyo.

Suggestion: Toei Ōedo Line → Direct to Ginza

 Transfer

Best Option: Toei Ōedo Line → Direct to Ginza

1. Walk to Tochōmae Station (connected to Keio Plaza or a 2–3 min walk).
2. Take the Toei Ōedo Line toward Roppongi / Daimon.
3. Get off at Higashi-Ginza Station.

Time: ~20 minutes

Cost: ~¥220

Convenience: Very high — no transfers, quick, and easy.

From Higashi-Ginza, you can walk directly into the main Ginza shopping streets within 2–3 minutes.

Suggestion: Shopping in Ginza

 Activity  Wed, Dec 31

Location

[Nemuro Hanamaru Ginza](#)

Ginza is Tokyo's most elegant shopping district—ideal for fashion, design, gourmet food, and architecture.

Top Spots:

- Ginza Six – luxury mall with rooftop garden
- Tokyu Plaza Ginza – mirrored entrance + cafés
- UNIQLO Ginza (12 floors) – flagship store
- Itoya Stationery – iconic 12-floor stationery and art supply store
- Mitsukoshi & Matsuya Depachika – amazing food halls
- Chuo-dori – main shopping street (pedestrian-only on weekends)

1. take the Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line → Kamiyacho Station

2. From Kamiyacho, walk 10 minutes back to The Prince Park Tower

Shopping in Ginza - stores close at 6 pm but check each store for specific closures

The district boasts flagship stores of international high-end brands alongside esteemed Japanese department stores, such as Mitsukoshi and Ginza Six, which offer extensive gourmet food halls on their lower levels, providing an array of snacks, meals, and elegantly packaged edible gifts.

Stores to Visit:

- Multi-story stationery store: Ginza Itoya
- Flagship Muji
- Flagship Uniqlo
- Mitsukoshi: Despite being underground level, this department store has a very upscale foodhall (mostly take-out). B2 floor in Mitsukoshi is a famous one for desserts, pastries, bakeries, meals, \$80 melon, etc. There's a nice rooftop garden area perfect for a mini picnic

Vintage Stores

- [QOO](#) (in Shibuya)
- AMORE (in Shibuya)

Tax-Free Shopping

- Look For: Stores marked “Japan Tax-Free Shop.”
 - Minimum Spend: ¥5,000+ (before tax) in one day at the same store.
 - Bring Your Passport: Physical passport required at checkout—copies won't work.
 - How It Works: Most shops deduct the 10% tax right at the register or at a refund counter.
 - Consumables: Food, alcohol, cosmetics must stay sealed and unused until you leave Japan.
 - Departure: Keep purchase slips in your passport; immigration collects them when you exit.
-

Suggestion Lunch: Nemuro Hanamaru Ginza

 Restaurant

Location

[Nemuro Hanamaru Ginza](#)

Hours: 11:00 - 23:00 (Last Order 22:00)

*If we are unable to accommodate you during business hours due to the number of customers waiting, we may close reception during business hours.

*We do not accept reservations for seats. Please use the ticket machine located in front of the store.

NYE Suggestion: Oji Inari-Jinja Shrine Fox Parade

 Activity

Location

[Venue: Shozoku Inari-jinja Shrine, 2-30-14 Oji, Tokyo, Japan](#)

The Oji Inari-Jinja Shrine Fox Parade (狐火祭) is a unique Japanese New Year tradition held at Shozoku Inari-jinja Shrine in Tokyo. This centuries-old custom celebrates kitsune, or fox spirits, which are believed to be messengers of the Shinto deity Inari. The parade reflects Japan's deep-rooted Shinto beliefs and folklore, combining religious ritual with festive pageantry.

Fox parades like this one have been celebrated for generations, linking the spiritual significance of foxes with Hatsumode, the first shrine visit of the New Year. Participants dress as foxes in traditional attire, including kimonos and painted faces, while carrying out rituals that have been passed down through the years. The parade symbolizes purification, protection, and blessings for a prosperous new year.


Over time, the event has become both a cultural spectacle and a popular attraction for locals and tourists alike. While deeply spiritual in origin, it has grown to incorporate community participation, pre-parade rituals, and ceremonial offerings, making it one of Tokyo's most enchanting New Year events.

The Oji Inari-Jinja Shrine Fox Parade 2025-2026 takes place from late December 2025 to early January 2026, with the main parade occurring on midnight, January 1st, 2026. The procession starts at Shozoku Inari-jinja Shrine and makes its way to Oji Inari Shrine, covering a traditional route while participants perform rituals, chant prayers, and display their fox costumes.

Pre-parade activities, such as breaking of the sake barrel and ritual preparations, begin around 11:00 PM on December 31st. The parade itself typically reaches Oji Inari Shrine by 1:00-1:30 AM, where final blessings and prayers are offered. Spectators can enjoy the ceremonial procession, traditional attire, and unique cultural experience free of charge.

 Jan 1 • Thursday

Take Taxi and Leave Keio Plaza at: 4:30 PM

 Transfer

Leave Keio Plaza at: 4:30 PM

This gives you:

- 1 hour travel time to Haneda (train or taxi; could be 45–70 min depending on traffic) (usually takes 25-35 minutes)
- 3 hours recommended international check-in time
- Extra buffer because January 1 is a major Japanese holiday and airports can be busy

Edwards Depart Tokyo (HND)

 Flight  Thu, January 1

Departure
Thu, January 1

Depart at 8:00 PM HND

Leave Keio Plaza at: 4:30 PM

This gives you:

- 1 hour travel time to Haneda (train or taxi; could be 45–70 min depending on traffic) (usually takes 25-35 minutes)
 - 3 hours recommended international check-in time
 - Extra buffer because January 1 is a major Japanese holiday and airports can be busy
-

Calls Depart NRT Depart at 5:45 PM

 Flight  Thu, January 1

Departure
Thu, January 1

Leave Keio Plaza at: 1:00 PM

This allows for:

- 1.5–2 hours travel time from Shinjuku → Narita
- 3 hours required for international check-in
- Extra holiday buffer (January 1 can cause transportation schedule changes + crowds)

For a 5:45 PM departure:

Arrive at NRT by 2:45 PM

Travel Time from Keio Plaza → Narita

- Narita Express (N'EX): 1 hr 20 min from Shinjuku Station
- Limo Bus: 1 hr 45 min–2 hr+ depending on traffic
- Taxi/car: 60–90 min but extremely expensive

Walking time to Shinjuku Station

From Keio Plaza: 10–12 minutes or a quick taxi

If You Prefer Extra Cushion

Leave at 12:30 PM if:

- You're checking multiple bags
- You prefer the airport limousine bus
- You want extra time to eat or shop at the terminal