Next Feature Exhibition

Tokyo 150 Years

August 7 (Tuesday) to October 8 (Monday, national holiday)
5F Permanent Exhibition Area
Feature Exhibition Room

Opening hours: 9:30-17:30 (9:30-19:30 on Saturdays).
Note: open until 21:00 on Fridays in August (10th, 17th, 24th and 31st).
Entry is permitted until 30 minutes before closing.
Days closed: Monday August 20 and 27, September 3 and Tuesday, September 25.
Admission: General 600 yen, over-65s 300 yen. For student and other concessions, please visit the Museum website.

On July 17, 1868, an imperial edict was issued changing the name of the capital from Edo to Tokyo and Tokyo Prefecture was established. 2018 therefore marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Tokyo. The city of Tokyo, which made its start amid the chaos of the Meiji Restoration, was destroyed repeatedly by earthquakes and war damage. Yet thanks to the efforts of its residents, it successfully rebuilt itself and continued to flourish as the nation’s capital.

This exhibition shows Tokyo at its origin and captures how it changed over the next 150 years through photographs, film and maps drawn over the period. The exhibit will also have a focus on the large number of urban plans of the past that called for form and functions suitable for a capital city, thus introducing the “specter” of Tokyo dreamed by countless urban planners.

As the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games draw near, further change is expected in Tokyo. Understanding its history may shed light on the emergence of a different Tokyo once again.

Next Thematic Exhibition

The Tamagawa Waterworks and Its Basin

August 28 (Tuesday) to September 24 (Monday, national holiday)
5F Permanent Exhibition Area – Villages and Islands Linked with Edo Zone

The International Water Association (IWA) will host the World Water Congress & Exhibition in Tokyo in September 2018. The Museum is taking the opportunity to expand the Tamagawa waterworks and watershed zone permanent exhibit to reveal more detail of the Tamagawa waterworks, which supplied safe water to the people of Edo.

The Tamagawa waterworks delivered water throughout the city of Edo from Tamagawa River, flowing across the Musashino Plateau for around 43 km before running underground through wooden conduits to reach all Edo residents. The fully man made canal was dug completely by hand and despite the very small difference in elevation, the aqueduct assured a stable supply of water. It is a shining example of advanced technology in the early Edo period. The exhibit will inform you deeply of the Edo waterway that brought hydration to the people of the city.

View of the East side (Mitsukoshi and Isetan Department Stores) from the Shinjuku Station
Photo: Gaetano Faillace / PPS (Pacific Press Service)
1945 (Showa 20)

Cerry Blossom on the Banks of the Tamagawa Waterworks
Utagawa Hiroshige
1856 (Ansei 3)
360˚ Panoramic View now up

Permanent Exhibition Area

The Permanent Exhibition Area 360˚ Panoramic View is video content that gives you a 360˚ view of the Permanent Exhibition Area. It is available to the public on the Museum website as of April. Check out our Permanent Exhibition Area anytime from your computer or mobile phone.

Enjoy places that visitors do not normally see such as the upper part of Festival Float of the Kanda Myōjin Shrine (model) and the interior of Area to the Western Bank of the Ryōgokubashi Bridge (model) via close-up video that makes you feel as if you are right there in person. Visit the virtual world of the Edo-Tokyo Museum Permanent Exhibition Area.

Audio guides offering 11 languages from this spring

The Museum offers a headphone receiver service that provides audio explanations of permanent exhibits in the Permanent Exhibition Area. The receivers have to date been set up with four languages available – Japanese, English, Chinese (simplified) and Korean. From this spring, seven more languages are offered: Chinese (traditional), French, Spanish, German, Russian, Italian and Thai, bringing the total to 11.

The Audio Guide Rental Counter is found near the entrance to the 6F Permanent Exhibition Area. Make the most of this service.

Read Speaker Service

The Museum website will feature Read Speaker reading software starting this spring. It can read aloud text in Japanese, English, simplified and traditional Chinese, and Korean.

Adding Read Speaker to our website to voice information that is on the site allows the aged, those with visual impairments or people with tired eyes to easily make use of the website. Just press the "Listen" button on the Museum website.

Summer night Museum

2018.7.20 (Friday)–8.31 (Friday)

- The Museum will have extended opening hours on Friday from July 20 to August 31, 2018.
- * Museum open until 21:00 Last admission 30 minutes before closing.
- Students can enter from 17:00 free of charge (no admission fee for Permanent Exhibition)!
- (20% discount for General and Over-65s)
- ※ Valid ID required

Visitor Information

- Free Admission to Permanent Exhibition
  - Pre-school and elementary school children
  - Junior high school students who are residents of Tokyo
  - Those in personal possession of disability certificates Mental disability, psychiatric disability, blindness and atomic bomb survivors
  - Those upon showing over the document (documentary proof of age also required) and their two custodians

Silver Day

Admission is free for ages 65 and over on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (documentary proof of age also required).

Family Day

The admission for two adult custodians (Tokyo residents) who bring children aged below 18 on the 3rd Saturday and the next day (Sunday) will be reduced by half for entrance to permanent exhibition.

A separate admission fee applies to special exhibitions.

Getting Here

I From Airports

Keisei Skyliner
43minutes
JR Rapid Train
90minutes
JR Narita Express
60minutes
Monorail/JR Yamanote Line
27minutes
Transfer to Harumatsudo Station
3minutes
JR Yamanote Line
3minutes
Koshin-teien Station

I by Subway

1 minute walk from West Exit of Ryogoku Station, JR Sobu Line

5 minutes walk from Asakusa Exit of Ryogoku Station/Edo-Tokyo Hakubutsukan-mae, Toei Subway O-Edo Line

Special Exhibitions Closure Due to Renovation

Special Exhibitions (1st floor) is scheduled to close for facility renovation from October 1 (Sunday) 2017 until around April 2019.