



Special Exhibition

# Samurai — Peacekeeping Contributors in Edo Period

Saturday, September 14, to Monday, November 4

Special Exhibition Gallery, 1F

\*Displays will be changed during the exhibition.



A matchlock that could be used on horseback.

Horseback matchlock, bullet cases, bullets and priming powder that belonged to NONOMURA Ichinoshin End of Edo period

Look at these dignified fellows — these are samurai!

'Officials Belonging to the Satsuma Domain'  
Photographer: Felice Beato c. 1863-1870  
Private collection



Information

Hours: 9:30 – 17:30 (until 19:30 on Saturdays). Last admission 30 minutes before closing.

Closed: Mondays (except for September 23, October 14, and November 4), Tuesday, September 24, and Tuesday, October 15.

Organization: Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum, The Asahi Shimbun.

Admission:

Admission Fee (tax included)	Special exhibition only	Special and permanent exhibition
Standard adult	¥1,100 (¥880)	¥1,360 (¥1,090)
University/college students	¥880 (¥700)	¥1,090 (¥870)
Middle and high school students, Seniors 65+	¥550 (¥440)	¥680 (¥550)
Tokyo middle school students and elementary school students	¥550 (¥440)	None

Notes:

- Fees in parentheses are for groups of twenty or more.
- Fees are waived in the following cases: Children below school age and individuals with a Shintai Shogaisha Techo (Physical Disability Certificate), Ai-no-Techo (Intellectual Disability Certificate), Ryoiku Techo (Rehabilitation Certificate), Seishin Shogaisha Hoken Fukushi Techo (Certificate for Health and Welfare of People with Mental Disorders), or Hibakusha Kenko Techo (Atomic Bomb Survivor's Certificate) and up to two people accompanying them.
- Since elementary school students and middle school students who are Tokyo residents and students at Tokyo schools receive free admission to the permanent exhibition, there is no joint admission fee for them.
- Only same-day tickets are available during the exhibition period.

Ticket Sales:

Edo-Tokyo Museum or E-Plus (For joint tickets to both special and permanent exhibitions, Edo-Tokyo Museum only)

“Samurai” is a key word used often to define the image of Japan, both at home and abroad. At that word’s associations, however, vary from person to person. A member of the samurai class, a warrior, a masterless samurai: the term is used in many different ways, often with no factual historical basis. This exhibition is dedicated to presenting the samurai of the Edo period, the prototype of today’s image of samurai. How did they live? What did their work entail? We hope that exploring this exhibition will be an opportunity to revise your image of the samurai.

This exhibition is not confined to the abstract image of the samurai that appears in writings about bushido, the samurai code. It highlights, through paintings and old photographs, what samurai actually did in Edo, which, as the seat of the Tokugawa shogunate, was one of the largest cities in the world. It also, through objects handed down in samurai families, famous or obscure, offers a candid view of samurai lifestyles in the Edo-period people.

Highlights: 1

**Samurai who lived in Edo: A closer look**

Genre paintings, old photographs, historic records, tools, and other artifacts: A diverse group of 200 items present the everyday lives of samurai in the great metropolis of Edo.

Highlights: 2

**Report for duty! But not to battle — Dispatched urgently in disasters**

“Fires and quarrels are the plagues of Edo.” As that famous phrase tells us, Edo suffered from repeated fires, and the samurai were in charge of firefighting. Firefighting gear and other exhibits show us how samurai responded to disasters.

Highlights: 3

**Artifacts once owned by samurai — some of them famous figures — convey a sense of how they lived.**

Implements and old documents handed down in samurai families reveal much about their everyday lives and how they performed in emergencies.

Highlights: 4

**Firearms — beware!**

**Swords were not the samurai’s only weapons.**

Even during the Great Peace of the Edo period, samurai did not neglect their training in the use of guns. Here we explore the firearms and other weapons, apart from swords, used by samurai in their role as warriors. (Curator: Tahara Noboru)



A nostalgic view of life in the Edo barracks painted at the request of the old retainers.

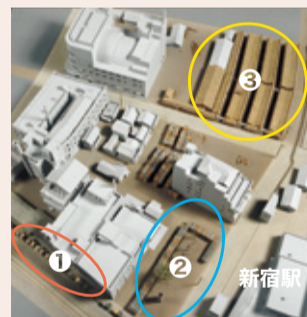
Picture Scroll of Terraced Houses for Kurume Domain’s Samurai Working in Edo. Picture of Drinking Party

Painted by: MITANI Shōha,  
Introduction: TODA Kumajirō  
Meiji period  
(On display until October 6.  
It will be replaced by a replica thereafter.)

From the Permanent Collection Gallery

Exploring the Large-scale Models

The black market at Shinjuku station (east exit)



1: The black market at Shinjuku station (east exit)  
Restoration time period: 1948,  
fall Scale: 1/120



2: Shinjuku (Night view of black market) / model  
Restoration time period: 1947, fall Scale: 1/10

The Tokyo Revived corner in the Tokyo zone of the Permanent Exhibition presents a model of the black market that sprang up at the east exit of Shinjuku Station after World War II. When our museum opened, the curator in charge of that corner participated in the research team led by Matsudaira Makoto, who was then a professor of sociology at Rikkyo University.

Our research included thirty-seven interviews conducted over three years as well as surveys of maps, photographs, films, and other materials. We learned that there were black markets operated by several groups at the Shinjuku east exit and that the market was roughly divided into areas meeting daytime demand (food, snacks, and everyday goods) and nighttime demand (drinking and amusements).

Photo 1 gives a macro view, from above, of the 120:1 scale model. We see 1 the

market that developed first along Shinjuku Avenue, 2 the cluster of stalls in front of Shinjuku Station, and 3 the market to the south of the station, with an impressive arches at its entrances. To make the layout easier to understand, buildings not part of the black market are painted gray.

In Photo 2, we see at 10:1 scale view that gives an almost visceral feel of the atmosphere of the Shinjuku black market at night, based on Professor Matsudaira’s research. Please examine these models carefully. Details of the research can be found in Edo-Tokyo Museum, ed., 1996, “Report on the research for the black market model and preparation of the permanent exhibition display,” Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum survey report II (Japanese version only). That report is available in the library on the seventh floor of the museum. (Curator: Matsui Kaoru)

