

Ebisu, Meguro & Around

EBISU | MEGURO | SHIROKANE & TAKANAWA | DAIKANYAMA & NAKA-MEGURO

Neighbourhood Top Five

1 Daikanyama & Naka-Meguro (p92) Exploring the boutiques, cafes and leafy lanes of these fashionable neighbourhoods, far removed (spiritually, at least) from central Tokyo.

2 Beer Museum Yebisu (p89) Learning about the history of beer in Japan at

the site of one of the country's first breweries.

3 TOP Museum (p89) Catching an exhibition at Tokyo's leading photography museum, where the collection includes both the icons of Japanese photography and the up-and-comers.

4 Bar Scene (p94) Squeezing into a space at

one of Ebisu's popular after-work watering holes, such as Buri.

5 Happō-en (p89) Finding peace at the bottom of a bowl of *matcha* or alongside the koi (carp) pond inside this centuries-old strolling garden, now an urban oasis.



For more detail of this area see Map p274 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Daikanyama and Naka-Meguro get a late start; don't expect cafes or boutiques to open before 11am (and sometimes not until noon). The exception is Daikanyama T-Site (p92), which opens from 7am.



Best Places to Eat

- Tonki (p93)
- Afuri (p90)
- Ouca (p90)

For reviews, see p90. ➡



Best Places to Drink

- Nakame Takkyū Lounge (p93)
- Buri (p94)
- Bar Trench (p93)

For reviews, see p93. ➡



Best Places to Shop

- Okura (p94)
- Kapital (p94)
- Daikanyama T-Site (p92)

For reviews, see p94. ➡

Explore Ebisu, Meguro & Around

Bookmark this area for a day when you're looking to take it easy. Ebisu and Meguro, both nodes on the Yamanote loop line, are gateways to largely residential (and often upscale) neighbourhoods, where Tokyo takes on a more human scale. Ebisu, named for the prominent beer manufacturer that once provided a lifeline for most of the neighbourhood's residents, is now a hip district anchored by Yebisu Garden Place (p89). Attractions here include the TOP Museum (p89), the city's principal photography museum, and the Beer Museum Yebisu (p89), in the old factory, which traces the history of beer in Japan.

From here it's a short walk to Daikanyama and Naka-Meguro. These adjacent neighbourhoods, with their uncrowded streets, are favourite haunts of fashion, art and media types, whose tastes are reflected in the shops and restaurants here. Alternatively, take the train one stop south to Meguro, where you can sip tea in a garden (p89), light incense at a historic temple (p90) or examine the centuries-old pottery used in tea ceremonies – and see nary another traveller.

Ebisu makes for a fun night out. The bars here, mostly tiny and clustered on a few strips, are a beacon for young professionals, which gives the neighbourhood a definite buzz.

Local Life

➤ **Eating** Locals pile into retro arcade Ebisu-yokochō (p91) for grilled fish, fried noodles and copious amounts of beer.

➤ **Events** Yebisu Garden Place (p89), with its wide open plaza, hosts weekend events year-round, including a twice-monthly farmers market (first and third Sundays) and open-air movie screenings during the summer.

➤ **Shopping** Meguro-dōri (p94) is Tokyo's design district and is lined with furniture and homeware shops.

Getting There & Away

➤ **Train** The JR Yamanote line stops at Ebisu, Meguro, Gotanda and Shinagawa Stations. The Tōkyū Tōyoko line runs from Shibuya to Daikanyama and Naka-Meguro; some Fukutoshin subway trains continue on the Tōyoko line.

➤ **Subway** The Hibiya line runs through Ebisu to Naka-Meguro. The Namboku and Mita lines stop at Meguro and Shirokanedai. The Asakusa line runs from Gotanda Station to Takanawadai and Sengaku-ji.