

Odaiba & Tokyo Bay

ODAIBA | TENNŌZU ISLE

Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Odaiba Kaihin-kōen** (p173) Seeing Tokyo's glittering waterfront and the lantern-festooned pleasure boats gliding languidly across the water from this seaside promenade.
- 2 Ōedo Onsen Monogatari** (p173) Soaking in some honest-to-goodness natural hot springs (and experienc-

ing an onsen theme park) right here on the bay.

- 3 National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation** (p173) Meeting the robots of the future at this museum of cutting-edge technology.

- 4 Archi-Depot** (p174) Getting an up-close look at more than 100 works by

leading Japanese architects – all in one room, at this museum for architectural models.

- 5 Bay Cruises** (p175) Gliding atop Tokyo Bay on a traditional flat-bottomed boat (*yakatabune*) or on the manga-inspired party cruise ship, Jicoo the Floating Bar.



For more detail of this area see Map p265 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

One of the most exhilarating (if not mildly terrifying) ways to experience Odaiba is by driving a go-kart over Rainbow Bridge. If you want to sign up for a tour with Maricar (p175), you must have a valid international driver's license – which you'll need to acquire from your home country.



Best Places to Eat

- ➔ TY Harbor Brewery (p174)
- ➔ Bills (p174)
- ➔ Hibiki (p174)

For reviews, see p174. ➔



Best Views

- ➔ Odaiba Kaihin-kōen (p173)
- ➔ Jicoo the Floating Bar (p175)
- ➔ Fuji TV Building (p174)
- ➔ Yurikamome line (p175)
- ➔ Dai-kanransha (p176)

For reviews, see p173. ➔



Best for Kids

- ➔ National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation (p173)
- ➔ Tokyo Joypolis (p176)
- ➔ Mega Web (p173)
- ➔ Tokyo Disney Resort (p176)

For reviews, see p173. ➔

Explore Odaiba & Tokyo Bay

In central Tokyo, it's easy to forget that the city started as a seaside town. Not so on Odaiba, a collection of artificial islands on Tokyo Bay tethered to the mainland by the 798m Rainbow Bridge. Visit in the evening for romantic twinkling views of the city skyline. The bay can also be appreciated from the water on pleasure cruises.

Odaiba, largely developed in the 1990s, is an alternative vision of Tokyo; one with buildings on a grand scale, broad streets, spacious parks and waterfront views – even a beach! There are major attractions here, such as Ōedo Onsen Monogatari (p173) and the National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation (p173); both can easily take up a half-day. Tokyo's youngsters and families can't get enough of Odaiba's several malls, with masses of chain stores, restaurants and amusements under one roof. They're less interesting for foreign tourists; however, if you're travelling with kids, these all-in-one complexes can be excellent on rainy days.

Tennōzu Isle, historically a warehouse district, offers a different vibe, with the new Archi-Depot museum, galleries, street art and canalside eateries. Several of the new sites for the 2020 Summer Olympics will be also be on Tokyo Bay; the new fish market will be in Toyosu, should the move from Tsukiji go ahead.

Local Life

- ➔ **Boat Cruises** Groups of friends and colleagues organise private parties on the bay, particularly during the summer and winter holidays.
- ➔ **Conventions** Crowds descend on Tokyo Big Sight for major conventions such as the comic market Comiket (www.comiket.co.jp) and Tokyo Game Show.
- ➔ **Date Spot** Odaiba's malls are classic date destinations for Tokyo teens.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Monorail** The Yurikamome line runs from Shimbashi through Odaiba to Toyosu; stops include Odaiba Kaihin-kōen, Daiba, Telecom Center and Kokusai-tenjijō-seimon.
- ➔ **Train** The Rinkai line runs from Ōsaki through Odaiba to Shin-Kiba, stopping at Tennōzu Isle, Tokyo Teleport and Kokusai-tenjijō stations.
- ➔ **Boat** Tokyo Cruise water buses run between Odaiba Kaihin-kōen (Odaiba Seaside Park), Hinode Pier and Asakusa. A shorter, infrequent route connects Palette Town and Tokyo Big Sight.