



Tokyo

**“All you’ve got to do is decide to go
and the hardest part is over.**

So go!”

TONY WHEELER, COFOUNDER – LONELY PLANET

THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

**Timothy Hornyak,
Rebecca Milner**

4

easy-to-use sections

Plan Your Trip

Your planning tool kit – Photos, lists and suggestions to help you put together your perfect trip.

Explore

Your complete city guide – Top Sights features, in-depth reviews and local tips.

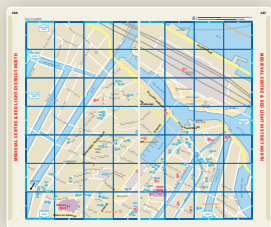
Understand

Get more from your trip – Learn about the big picture, so you can make sense of the city.

Survival Guide

Your at-a-glance reference – Vital practical information to help you have a smooth trip.

plus
full-colour
map section



How to Use This Book

Top Sights features provide in-depth coverage of the city's very best sights.



**TOP SIGHTS
SENSŌ-JI (SENSŌ TEMPLE)**

These symbols help you to quickly identify listings in the text and on the maps:



SIGHTS



EATING



DRINKING & NIGHTLIFE



ENTERTAINMENT



SHOPPING



SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

Reviews are ordered by author preference to help you get the most out of the city.

These symbols give you the vital information for each listing:



Sustainable Option



Swimming Pool



Telephone Number



English-Language Menu



Opening Hours



Family-Friendly



Parking



Pet-Friendly



Nonsmoking



Bus



Air-Conditioning



Ferry



Internet Access



Metro



Wi-Fi Access



Subway



Vegetarian Selection



Tram



Train

Cover photograph: Aerial view of Tokyo Tower, Michiaki Omori/amanaimagesRF/Getty Images

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GREG ELMIS / LONELY PLANET IMAGES ©



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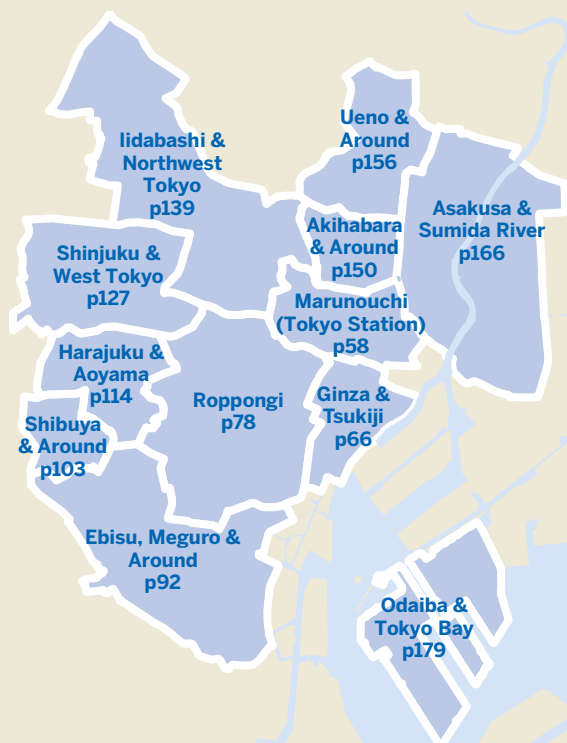
Left: Gusokku-style
armour at Tokyo National
Museum (p158)

Above: The Nijū-bashi
bridge at the Imperial
Palace (p60)

Right: Dining in Yūrakuchō
Yakitori Alley (p72)



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(Meiji Shrine).....116

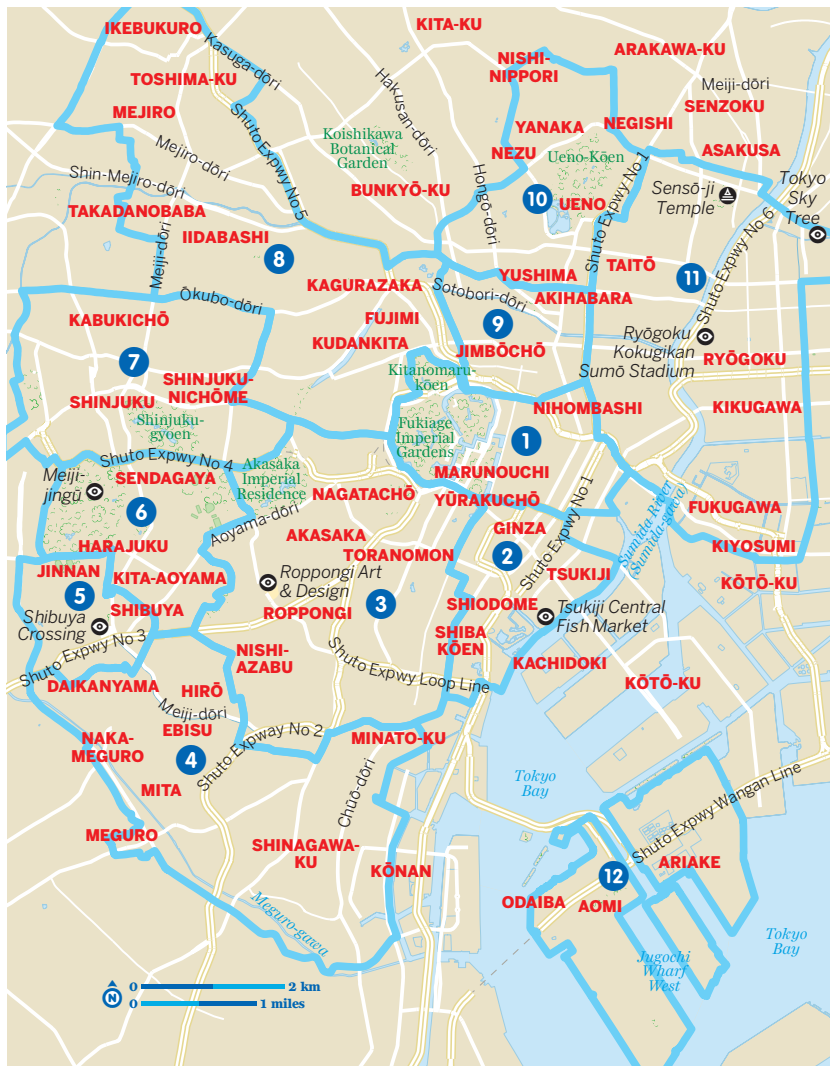
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Neighbourhoods at a Glance



Tokyo Maps

Map Legend

Sights

- Beach
- Buddhist
- Castle
- Christian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery
- Ruin
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo
- Other Sight

Eating

- Eating

Drinking & Nightlife

- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

Entertainment

- Entertainment

Shopping

- Shopping

Sleeping

- Sleeping
- Camping

Sports & Activities

- Diving/Snorkelling
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Skiing
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Sports & Activities

Information

- Post Office
- Tourist Information

Transport

- Airport
- Border Crossing
- Bus
- Cable Car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro
- Monorail
- Parking
- S-Bahn
- Taxi
- Train/Railway
- Tram
- Tube Station
- U-Bahn
- Other Transport

Routes

- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed Road
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian Overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour Detour
- Path

Boundaries

- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliff
- Wall

Geographic

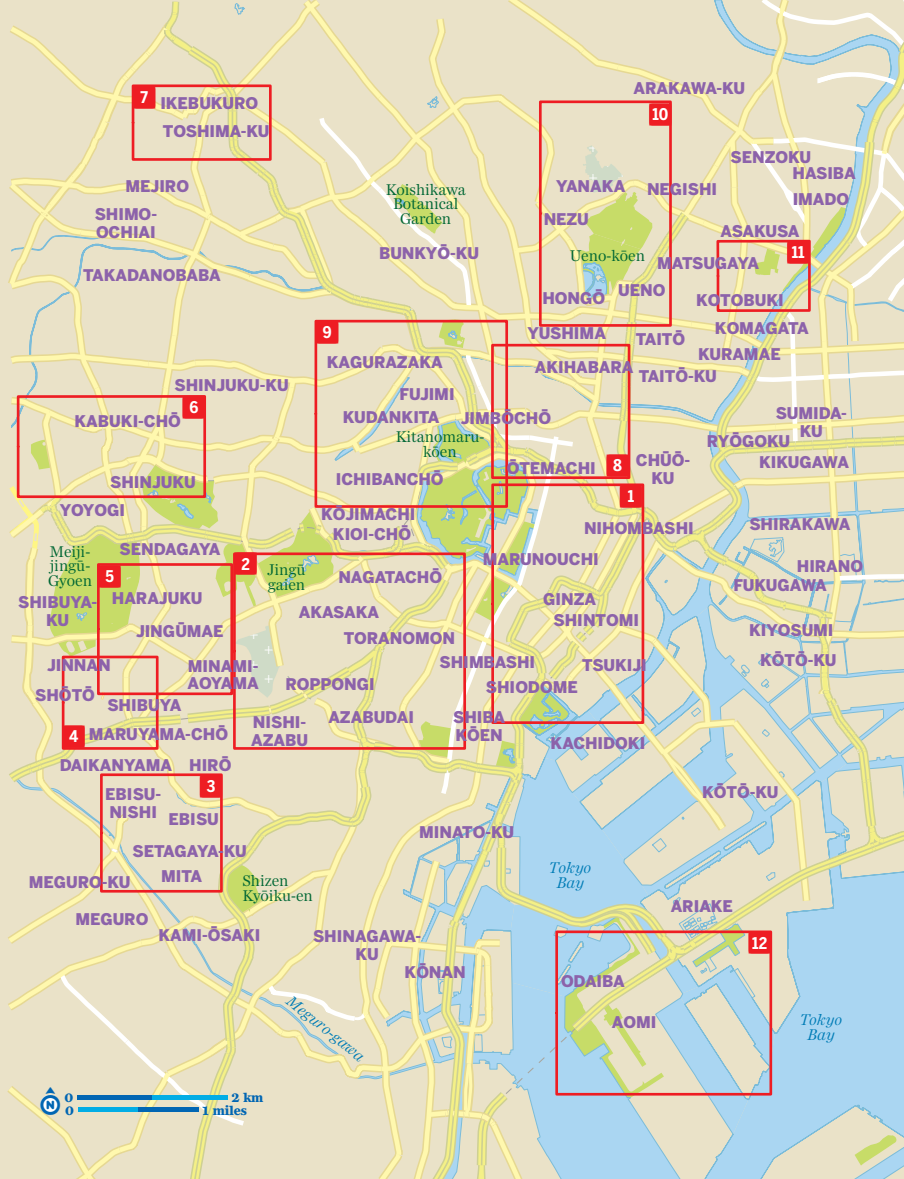
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

Hydrography

- River/Creek
- Intermittent River
- Swamp/Mangrove
- Reef
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Glacier

Areas

- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Park/Forest
- Sportsground
- Sight (Building)
- Top Sight (Building)



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7 Ikebukuro (p296)

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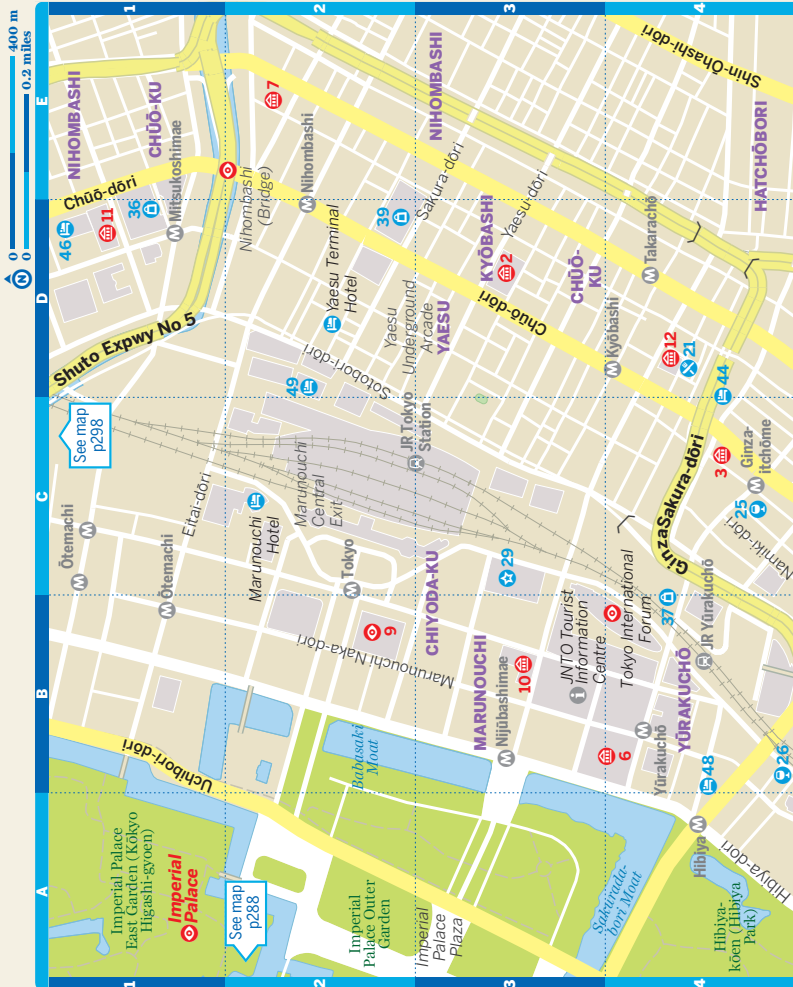
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2 Bridgestone Museum of Art.....B5
3 Gallery Koyanagi.....C4
4 Ginza Graphic Gallery.....B5
5 Hama-Rikyu Onshi-teien.....B8
6 Idemitsu Museum of Arts.....B4
7 Kite Museum.....E2
8 Konparu-yu Onsen.....B6
9 Marunouchi Building.....B2
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12 National Film Center.....D4
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18 Edogin.....C6
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20 L'Osier.....B5
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- 3 Hie-jinjaF2
- 4 Honda Welcome Plaza AoyamaB2
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- 8 National Diet BuildingG1
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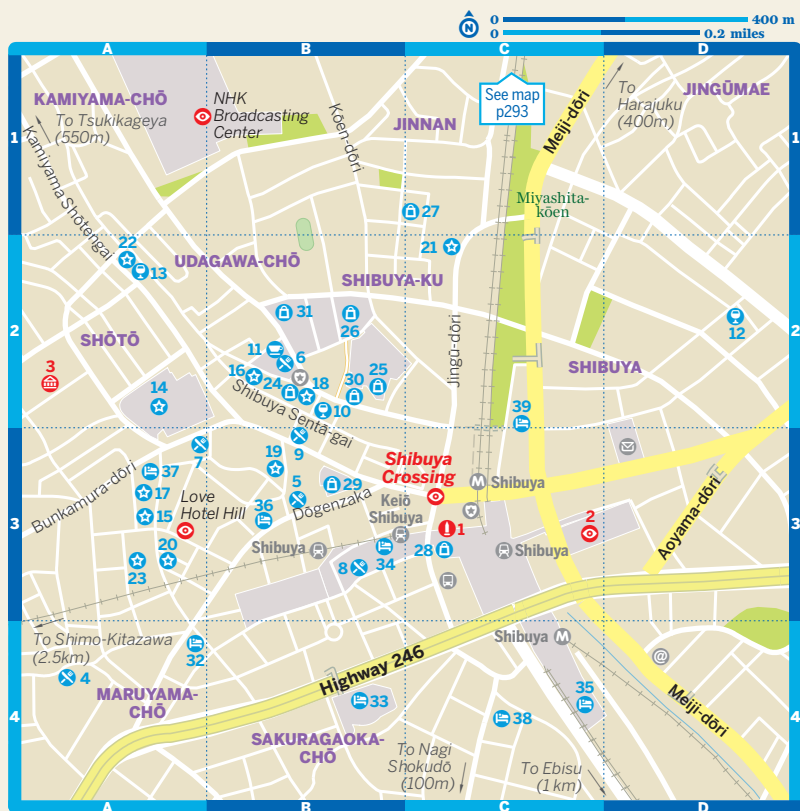
- 51 ANA Intercontinental Tokyo.....F4
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- | | | | |
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| 12 Ebisu 18-ban | B2 | 27 Westin Hotel Tokyo | D3 |
| 13 Ebisu Tachinomiya | C2 | | |
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- 29 Shibuya 109 B3
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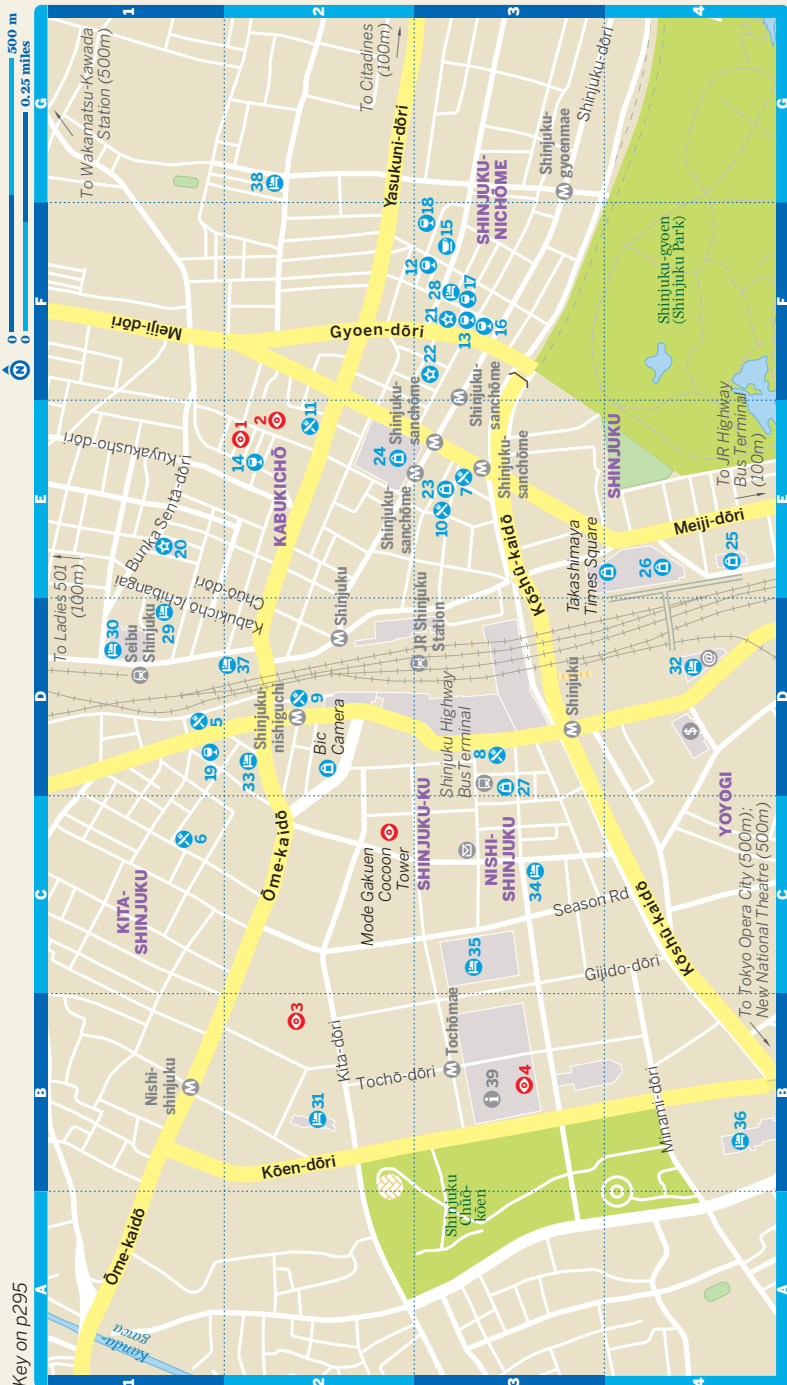
- 32 Capsule & Sauna Century A4
- 33 Cerulean Tower Tōkyū Hotel B4
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- 3** Shinjuku I-Land B2
- 4** Tokyo Metropolitan Government Offices B3
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- 7** Nakajima E3
- 8** Numazukō D3
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- 10** Tsunahachi E3
- 11** Za Watami E2
- 12** Advocates Café F3
- 13** Arty Farty F3
- 14** Champion E2
- 15** Cocolo Café F3
- 16** Dragon Men F3
- 17** GB F3
- 18** Kinsworn F3
- 19** La Jette (see 1)
- 20** New York Bar (see 36)
- 21** Zoetrope D1
- 22** Nagi (Nishi-Shinjuku) C1
- 23** Shinjuku Pk Inn F3
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- 25** Kinokuniya E4
- 26** Tokyo Hands E4
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- 28** City Hotel Lonestar F3
- 29** Gera Gera D1
- 30** Green Plaza Shinjuku D1
- 31** Hilton Tokyo B2
- 32** Hotel Century Southern Tower D4
- 33** Ibis Tokyo Shinjuku D2
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- 35** Keiō Plaza Hotel C3
- 36** Park Hyatt Tokyo B4
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Sleeping

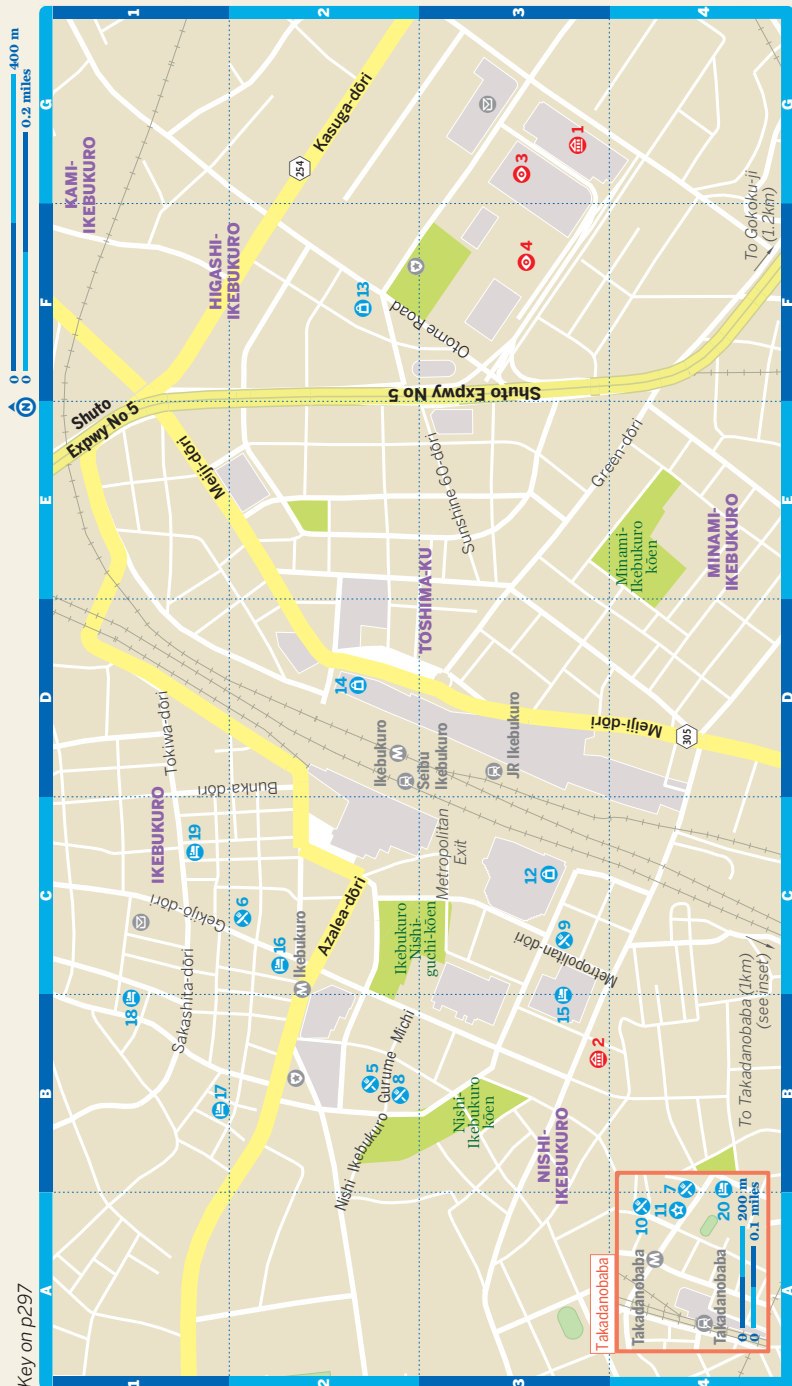
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Drinking & Nightlife

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- 13** Arty Farty F3
- 14** Champion E2

IKEBUKURO

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3	Namco Namjatown	G3		10 Taverna	A4	16 Hotel Strix Tokyo.....	C2
4	Sunshine City	F3	☆ Entertainment	11 Jazz Spot Intro	A4	17 House Ikebukuro.....	B1
						18 Kimi Ryokan	B1
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						20 Tama Ryokan	B4

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6	Anpuku	C2		13 Mandarake.....	F2
7	Kao Tai.....	B4		14 Parco	D2



Sights

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1 Akihabara Electric Town (Denki-gai) | C2 |
| 2 Akihabara Radio Center | D2 |
| 3 Kanda Myōjin (Kanda Shrine) | C1 |
| 4 Nikolai Cathedral | B2 |
| 5 Origami Kaikan | B1 |
| 6 Tokyo Anime Center Akiba Info | D2 |
| 7 Tokyo Wonder Site Hongo | A1 |
| 8 Yushima Seidō (Yushima Shrine) | C1 |

Eating

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| 9 Botan | C3 |
| 10 Isegen | C2 |
| 11 Kanda Yabu Soba | C2 |

Drinking & Nightlife

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
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| Boo | (see 14) |
| 13 Milonga Nueva | A3 |

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Shopping

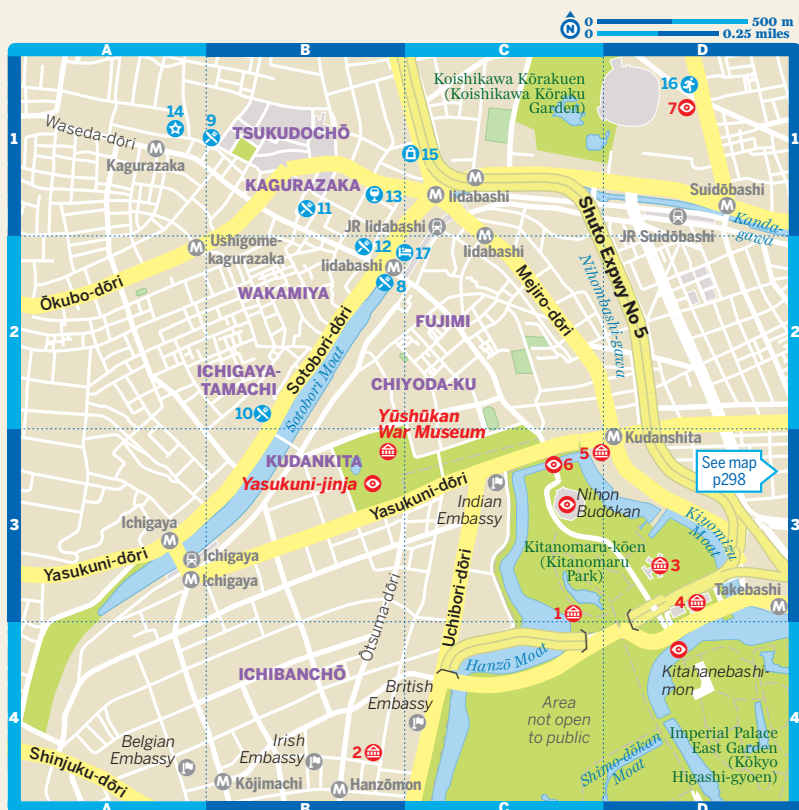
- | | |
|--|----------|
| 14 2k540 Aki-Oka Artisan | D1 |
| 15 Akihabara Radio Kaikan | D2 |
| Kaiyōdō Hobby Lobby | (see 15) |
| K-Books | (see 15) |
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| 16 Mandarake Complex | C1 |
| 17 Ohya Shobō | B3 |
| 18 Technologia | D1 |
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Sleeping

- | | |
|---|----|
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| 21 New Central Hotel | C3 |
| 22 Presso Inn Kanda | C3 |
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 - Yushukan War MuseumB3
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 - 2 JCII Camera MuseumB4
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Key on p301

0 400 m
0 0.2 miles

UENO



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2 Benten-dōB6

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4 Kanei-ji.....C4

5 Kiyōmizu Kannon-dō.....C6

6 National Museum of Western ArtC5

7 National Science Museum.....C5

8 Saigō Takamori StatueC6

9 SCAI the Bathhouse.....B3

10 Shitamachi MuseumC6

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13 Ueno-kōen.....C5

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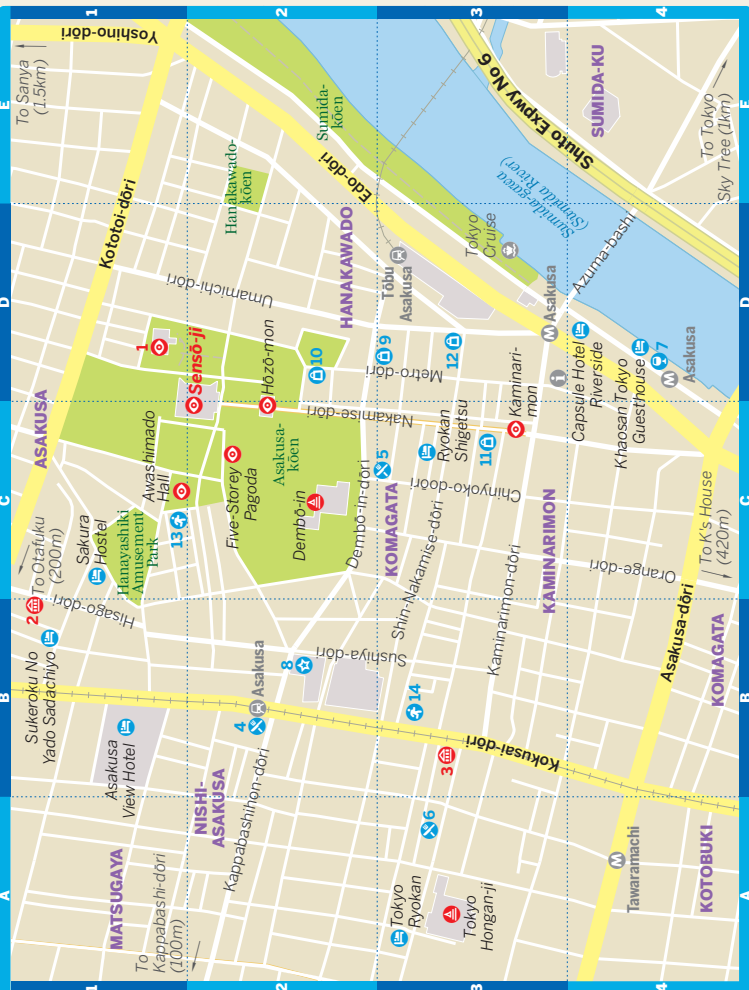
24 Ryōkan KatsutarōB4

25 Sawanoya Ryōkan.....A4

26 Suigetsu Hotel ŌgaisōB5

27 Sutton Place Hotel UenoD5

ASAKUSA



Top Sights

- Sensō-ji.....C2

Sights

- 1 Asakusa-jinja.....D1
2 Edo Shitamachi Dento Kōgeikan.....B1
3 Taiko Drum Museum.....B3

Eating

- 4 Asakusa Imahan.....B2
5 Daikokuya.....C3
6 Sometarō.....A3

Drinking & Nightlife

- 7 Café Meursault.....D4

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ODAIBA & TOKYO BAY AREA



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- 17 Tokyo Cruise Odaiba Kaihin-koen Pier B2
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Our Story

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

Our Writers



Timothy Hornyak

Coordinating author, Marunouchi (Tokyo Station), Ginza & Tsukiji, Roppongi, Iidabashi & Northwest Tokyo, Akihabara & Around, Ueno & Around, Asakusa & Sumida River A native of Montreal, Tim moved to Japan in 1999 after watching Kurosawa's *Ran* too many times. Since then, he has written on Japanese culture, technology and history for titles including CNET News, *Scientific American* and the *New York Times*. He has played bass in a rock band

in Tokyo, spoken about Japanese robots at the Kennedy Center in Washington, and travelled to the heart of Hokkaidō to find the remains of a forgotten theme park called Canadian World. As the author of *Loving the Machine: The Art and Science of Japanese Robots*, his favourite robot is Astro Boy, but he firmly believes that the greatest Japanese invention of all time is the onsen (hot springs). Tim also wrote the Welcome to Tokyo, Top Itineraries, If You Like, Tokyo Pop, Drinking & Nightlife, Entertainment, Tokyo Today, History, Architecture, Sleeping, Transport and Directory A-Z sections.



Rebecca Milner

Ebisu, Meguro & Around, Shibuya & Around, Harajuku & Aoyama, Shinjuku & West Tokyo, Odaiba & Tokyo Bay, Day Trips from Tokyo Rebecca came to Tokyo from California for 'just one year' that turned into 10. She studied at Keio University and now works as a freelance writer, covering Japan for overseas publications and interpreting American culture for Japanese publications. Rebecca also wrote the What's New, Need to Know, Month by Month, With Kids,

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Top Itineraries

Day One

Harajuku & Aoyama (p114)

 Start the day in Harajuku with a visit to **Meiji-jingū**, Tokyo's most famous Shintō shrine. If you get there by 8am you can catch the morning ritual, complete with *taiko* drumming. Next stroll down **Takeshita-dōri**, notorious for its wild teen fashions. If you skipped breakfast, treat yourself to a gooey, sweet crêpe – Harajuku's official street food.



Lunch Honoji (p118) is a local favourite for its *sakana teishoku* (fish set) lunch.



Take a detour to the **Ukiyo-e Ōta Memorial Art Museum** for a look at works by some of the masters of the medium. Then head down Omote-sandō to gawk at the architectural wonders of some of Japan's leading contemporary designers. Allow yourself an hour to explore the antiquities galleries and woodsy grounds of the **Nezu Museum**.



Dinner For perfect *tonkatsu* head to Maisen (p122), in an old bathhouse.



If the timing's right, you can catch a game at **Jingū Baseball Stadium** or a performance of traditional *nō* at the **Kokuritsu Nō-gakudō**. Otherwise make a beeline for swanky expat hangout **Two Rooms** in Aoyama to drink up the night views from the terrace.

Day Two

Asakusa & Sumida River (p166)

 Take the subway to the old-world district of Asakusa. Stroll through up **Nakamise-dōri** to the great temple of **Sensō-ji**. Wander the streets and shopping arcades around the temple and browse traditional crafts shops.



Lunch Sometarō (p175) serves tasty *okonomiyaki* (filled grilled crêpes).



Hop on a train to the **Tokyo Sky Tree**, the tallest tower in the world at 634m (see if you can stomach the top-deck glass corridor). Get on the subway to Ryōgoku to catch a bout of sumō wrestling (check bouts are being held beforehand). If not, take in the **Edo-Tokyo Museum**, and lean about the rich past of the shōgun's city.



Dinner Tomoegata (p177) dishes out hearty, sumō-sized *chankonabe* stew.



If you have the slightest liking for beer, hot-foot it to nearby **Popeye**. This delightful bar has the world's largest selection of Japanese beers, as well as a great happy-hour deal with free plates of food (if you can stomach more eating). If it's before 5pm, return to Asakusa and catch a Tokyo Cruise ferry down the Sumida River to Hinode pier, and the nearby Hamamatsuchō station on the JR Yamanote Line.

Day Three

Shinjuku & West Tokyo (p127)

 Head west to Mitaka to visit the fantastical **Ghibli Museum** (book your tickets early!). Instead of returning to Mitaka Station, stroll through **Inokashira-kōen** to Kichijōji Station. Don't miss the shrine in the park to Benzaiten, the jealous sea goddess.



Lunch Pepa Cafe Forest (p136) has toothsome Thai and park views.



Back in Shinjuku, check out the futuristic **Tokyo Metropolitan Government Offices**, including the view from the 202m-high observatories (free!). Wander among the skyscrapers all the way down to **Tokyo Opera City**, to visit the galleries there. Or head to the east side, to the beautifully landscaped **Shinjuku-gyoen**, stopping at a *depachika* (department store food floor) for picnic goodies along the way.



Dinner Queue up for divine *rāmen* at Nagi (p134) in Golden Gai.



Stop by for a few skewers of *yakitori* and old-time ambiance in **Omoide-yokochō**, then plunge yourself into the neon flashing lights of **Kabukichō**. Make your way to the narrow lanes and wooden shanties of **Golden Gai**, a late-night drinking haunt for artists and writers. If you're looking for something more upbeat, head to **Shinjuku-nichōme**, the country's largest gay and lesbian neighbourhood, with hundreds of tiny bars and dance clubs.

Day Four

Ginza & Tsukiji (p66)



Drag yourself out of bed at 4am and cab it to **Tsukiji Central Fish Market**. If you're lucky, you'll be one of the 120 people admitted to the tuna auctions from 5am, but if not the rest of the market is still worthwhile, especially the kitchenware shops in the Outer Market. Don't forget to have a sushi breakfast right on the premises. The unique shops and galleries of Ginza can keep you going until midday.



Lunch Yabaton (p72) rewards with *miso-katsu* (pork cutlets in miso).

Marunouchi (Tokyo Station; p58)



Take the subway to Ōtemachi and walk to the **Imperial Palace East Garden**, where you can see the remains of the old castle of the shōgun. If you have the energy, walk through Kitanomaru-kōen on the north side of the Imperial Palace to **Yasukuni-jinja** shrine. Explore its controversial **Yūshūkan war museum** and fantastic military hardware.



Dinner You won't find a better bowl of *rāmen* than at Kururi (p146).

Roppongi (p78)



Complete your visit to Tokyo by jumping on the subway and raising a glass (or a couple of dozen) in Roppongi. There are bars for every budget, but you could do worse than cocktails at the swanky **R2 Supperclub** or bookish **These**. Don't forget to say *kampai!* (cheers!) to Tokyo Tower in the distance when you call it a night.

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