

Odaiba & Tokyo Bay

Neighbourhood Top Five

- ① Seeing a different side of Tokyo. From the promenades of **Odaiba Kaihinkōen** (p181) or the terrace of a waterfront restaurant, the city appears as a glittering port rather than tightly woven, endless sprawl.
- ② Soaking in the hot spring baths at **Ōedo Onsen Monogatari** (p181), Tokyo's only 'onsen theme park.'
- ③ Looking into the future at the **National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation** (p181).
- ④ Circling the harbour on a pleasure boat, like Tokyo Cruise's **Jicoo The Floating Bar** (p183).
- ⑤ Trying out virtual-reality games at the arcade-meets-amusement park **Tokyo Joypolis** (p181).



Lonely Planet's Top Tip

The Yurikamome Line – fully automated and run entirely on elevated rails – is an attraction itself. The best seats are right up front. Kids love it, but grown-ups do, too, especially at night. From Shimbashi Station, the train snakes through skyscrapers before crossing the Rainbow Bridge to Odaiba. The fares are a bit higher than for other city trains; unless you're just making a round trip it makes sense to get the ¥800 day pass.



Best Places to Eat

- ➔ TY Harbor Brewing Company (p182)
- ➔ Hibiki (p182)
- ➔ Bills (p182)

For reviews, see p182 ➔



Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Jicoo The Floating Bar (p183)
- ➔ Waterline Floating Lounge (p183)
- ➔ Canteen (p183)

For reviews, see p182 ➔



Best Places to Play

- ➔ Ōedo Onsen Monogatari (p181)
- ➔ National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation (p181)
- ➔ Tokyo Joypolis (p181)

For reviews, see p181 ➔

Explore Odaiba & Tokyo Bay

Developed mostly in the '90s on reclaimed land, Odaiba is a bubble-era vision of urban planning, where the buildings are large, the streets are wide and the waterfront is the primary attraction. Love or hate it, you'll definitely feel as though you're in an alternative Tokyo.

Not all of the sights here will appeal to everyone, so pick and choose. For most visitors, Ōedo Onsen Monogatari and the nearby National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation are the big attractions; both could easily take up a half-day or more. There's also interesting, contemporary architecture, notably the Fuji Television Japan Broadcast Centre and Tokyo Big Sight.

The shopping, dining and amusement centres clustered around Tokyo Teleport Station are popular with local teens. 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.

With pavements and promenades, Odaiba is manageable on foot, though the walk from one end to the other is long. Alternatively, the Yurikamome Line makes a neat and easy circuit of the major sights. Note that Odaiba can get crowded on weekends and school holidays.

Even if you don't make it out here for a day, it's worth visiting in the evening for the views of the bay and the skyline. If you stick to the city centre, it's easy to forget that Tokyo started as a seaside town.

Local Life

- ➔ **Boat Cruises** Groups of friends and colleagues organise private parties on the bay, particularly during the summer and winter holidays (see boxed text, p183).
- ➔ **Photo Spot** Waterfront park Odaiba Kaihin-kōen (p181) is popular with amateur photographers working to perfect their city-by-night shot.
- ➔ **Dining** Weekend brunch on the terrace at TY Harbor Brewing Company (p182) is a favourite ritual for Tokyo's expat community.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Train** The Rinkai Line runs from Osaki through Odaiba to Shin-Kiba, stopping at Tennōzu Isle, Tokyo Teleport and Kokusai Tenjijō Stations. The Yurikamome Line runs from Shimbashi through Odaiba to Toyosu, including stops at Odaiba Kaihin-kōen, Daiba, Telecom Centre, Aomi, Kokusai tenjijō-Seimon and Ariake.
- ➔ **Boat** Tokyo Cruise (see boxed text, p73) stops at Odaiba Kaihin-kōen (Odaiba Seaside Park), Palette Town and Tokyo Big Sight (Ariake).