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

So go!”

TONY WHEELER, COFOUNDER – LONELY PLANET
(left) Sensō-ji p160
Tokyo’s oldest temple.

(above) Shibuya Crossing p98
The busiest intersection in Japan.

(right) Tokyo Sky Tree p161
See all the way to Mt Fuji.
Top Itineraries

Day One

Harajuku & Aoyama (p107)
Start with a visit to Meiji-jingū, Tokyo’s signature Shintō shrine. Then walk down Omote-sandō to check out the stunning contemporary architecture along this stylish boulevard. Spend some time shopping in Harajuku’s trendsetting boutiques, or check out a museum like the Ukiyo-e Ōta Memorial Museum of Art.

Shibuya & Shimo-Kitazawa (p96)
Head next to Shibuya (you can walk) where the main attraction is Tokyo’s most photogenic (and chaotic) intersection, Shibuya Crossing. Shibuya is a youth-ful district, which you can get a feel for by wandering around the main drag, Shibuya Center-gai. At the end is supreme souvenir hunting ground, the variety store Tokyu Hands.

Shinjuku & Northwest Tokyo (p125)
Take the train to Shinjuku and immerse yourself in the swarming crowds and neon lights of this famous nightlife district. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building observatories stay open until 11pm for free night views. From around 9pm the shanty bars of Golden Gai come to life; take your pick from the eccentric offerings and finish up with a time-honoured Tokyo tradition: a late-night bowl of noodles at Nagi.

Day Two

Ginza & Tsukiji (p69)
Skip breakfast and head to Tsukiji Market, where you can cobble together a morning meal from the food vendors here. There are also stalls selling kitchen tools, tea and more. From Tsukiji it’s an easy walk to the landscape garden Hama-rikyū Onshi-teien, where you can stop for tea in the teahouse, Nakajima no Ochaya.

Odaiba & Tokyo Bay (p169)
Take an after-lunch stroll around Ginza, with its art galleries and luxury boutique windows. Then from nearby Shimbashi Station, take the meandering above-ground Yurikamome line to Tokyo Bay. Spend a couple of hours exploring the fascinating new digital-art museum, teamLab Borderless, and stick around until dark to see Unicorn Gundam all lit up.

Marunouchi & Nihombashi (p58)
There’s not much to do by the bay at night, so return to the centre city for some classic Japanese food and maybe a nightcap at a posh hotel bar, like Peter: the Bar, or see traditional performing arts at dinner theatre Suigian.
Day Three

Asakusa & Sumida River (p158)

Get an early start on the crowds at Tokyo’s top temple Sensō-ji; see the shrine Asakusa-jinja here, too, and the maze of narrow lanes that surrounds the whole complex, where there are lots of shops selling traditional crafts and foodstuffs. Then take the subway to nearby Ueno.

Ueno & Yanesen (p146)

Spend the afternoon exploring the many attractions of Ueno-kōen, home to the Tokyo National Museum and centuries-old temples and shrines. Then take a stroll through the old-fashioned, open-air market, Ameya-yokochō, and the historical neighbourhood of Yanaka; in the latter you’ll find art galleries and studios.

Asakusa & Sumida River (p158)

The east side of the city is quieter at night than the west side, but you can come back to Asakusa in the evening to see Sensō-ji lit up (and deserted) and catch a folk-music show at Oiwake, or dig into Japan’s craft-beer scene at legendary Ryōgoku beer bar Popeye, further south down the river.

Lunch
Go for classic Japanese cuisine in the park at Innsyoutei (p153).

Dinner
Eat at iconic izakaya (Japanese pub-eatery) Shinsuke (p154).

Day Four

West Tokyo (p118)

Take the Chūō line west to the magical Ghibli Museum (reservations necessary; we recommend getting in early at 10am). Afterwards, walk through woodsy Inokashira-kōen (stopping at Inokashira Benzaiten) to Kichijōji, which has some good homewares boutiques and an old market, Harmonica-yokochō.

Kōrakuen & Akihabara (p136)

After lunch, take the Chūō line back east to Akihabara, where you can visit manga and anime superstore Mandarake and ride go-karts through the streets with MariCAR (reserve ahead; international driving licence necessary). If you haven’t yet worked in an onsen dip, visit nearby Spa LaQua.

Dinner
Get the nouveau ramen experience at Mensho Tokyo (p142).

Roppongi & Around (p79)

For your last night, head to Roppongi to check out Roppongi Hills, the first of Tokyo’s new breed of live-work-and-play megamalls. On the top floor of a tower here is the excellent Mori Art Museum, which stays open until 10pm. Then head out into the wilds of Roppongi’s infamous nightlife. Make sure to fit in a round of karaoke.

Lunch
Stop off in Kōenji for amazing tempura at Tensuke (p122).
Behind the Scenes

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Simon Richmond
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<td>Peninsula Tokyo</td>
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<td>Rindō-no-ie (Nikkō)</td>
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<td>S</td>
<td>Sakura Hotel Ikebukuro</td>
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<td>Sawanoya Ryokan</td>
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<td>Wired Hotel Asakusa</td>
<td>Asakusa</td>
<td>200</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# Tokyo Maps

## Sights
- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

## Activities, Courses & Tours
- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Skiing
- Snorkelling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

## Sleeping
- Sleeping
- Camping
- Hut/Shelter

## Eating
- Eating

## Drinking & Nightlife
- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

## Entertainment
- Entertainment

## Shopping
- Shopping

## Information
- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

## Geographic
- Beach
- Gate
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

## Population
- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

## Transport
- Airport
- Border crossing
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro/MTR/MRT station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- Skytrain/Subway station
- Taxi
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- Underground station
- Other Transport

## Routes
- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

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

## Hydrography
- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

## Areas
- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park/Forest
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove

*Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book*
Top Sights p171
1 teamLab Borderless....................................... C3

Sights p172
2 National Museum of Emerging Science & Innovation (Miraikan).......................... B5
3 Odaiba Kaihin-kōen ......................................... B3
4 Toyosu Market............................................... C1
5 Unicorn Gundam........................................... B4

Eating p173
6 Bills ............................................................... B3

Drinking & Nightlife p173
7 Jicoo the Floating Bar................................. A3

Sports & Activities p174
8 Dai-kanransha............................................... C3
9 Ōedo Onsen Monogatari................................. B5
10 Tokyo Joypolis.............................................. B3
**Sights**
1. Beer Museum Yebisu ................................... E3
2. Institute for Nature Study .................................. F5
3. Meguro-gawa ................................................. B3
4. Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum ................. F5
5. TOP Museum .................................................. E4
6. Yebisu Garden Place ........................................ E4

**Eating**
7. Afuri ........................................................ E2
8. Delifucious .................................................... A2
9. Ebisu-yokochō ............................................... D2
10. Ippo .......................................................... E2
11. Ouca .......................................................... E2
12. Rangman Shokudō ........................................ D2
13. Tonki .......................................................... E6
14. Yakiniku Champion ........................................ D3

**Drinking & Nightlife**
15. Another 8 .................................................. E6
16. Bar Trench .................................................... D2
17. Gem by Moto ................................................ F2
18. Onibus Coffee ............................................... B3

**Entertainment**
19. Unit .......................................................... C2

**Shopping**
20. Cow Books .................................................. A2
21. Daikanyama T-Site ......................................... B2
22. Kapital ......................................................... D3
23. Minä Perhonen ............................................... B2
24. Okura ......................................................... C2
25. ...research General Store ............................... A2
26. Vase .......................................................... B3

**Sleeping**
27. Claska ....................................................... A7
28. Dormy Inn Express Meguro Aobadai ................. A2
Top Sights p120
1 Ghibli Museum ........................................ A4

Sights p121
2 Harmonica-yokochō ................................... C2
3 Inokashira Benzaiten .................................. B3
4 Inokashira-kōen ........................................... C3

Eating p121
5 Steak House Satou ..................................... C2

Drinking & Nightlife p123
6 Blue Sky Coffee ....................................... C4

Shopping p124
7 Outbound .................................................. C1
8 PukuPuku ................................................... B2
## Top Sights

1. Tokyo National Museum
2. Asakura Museum of Sculpture, Taitō
3. Benten-dō
4. Enju-ji
5. Gallery of Hōryū-ji Treasures
6. Heiseikan
7. Hyokeikan
8. International Library of Children’s Literature
9. Kiyōmizu Kannon-dō
10. Kuroda Memorial Hall
12. Kyū Iwasaki-teien
14. Nezu-jinja
15. SCAI the Bathhouse
16. Shinobazu-ike
17. Shitamachi Museum
18. Shitamachi Museum Annex
19. Sudo-kōen
20. Tōyōkan
21. Ueno Tōshō-gū
22. Ueno Zoo
23. Ueno-kōen
24. Yanaka Ginza
25. Yanaka-reien
26. Yūyake Dandan

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24. Yanaka Ginza
25. Yanaka-reien
26. Yūyake Dandan
27. Hagi Cafe
28. Hantei
29. Innsyoutei
30. Kamachiku
31. Sasa-no-Yuki
32. Shinsuke
33. Tayori
34. Ueno-Sakuragi Nanchana
35. Yangxiang Ajibo
36. Kayaba Coffee
37. Torindō
38. Yanaka Beer Hall
39. Tokyo Bunka Kaikan
40. Tokyo University of the Arts Performing Arts Center
41. Ameya-yokochō
42. Art Sanctuary Allan West
43. Geidai Art Plaza
44. Isetatsu
45. Yanaka Matsunoya
46. Buddha Bellies
47. Kitchen Kujo Tokyo
48. Rokuryu Kōsen
49. Tokyobike Rentals Yanaka
50. Annex Katsutarō Ryokan
51. Hanare
52. Nohga Hotel
53. Sawanoya Ryokan
54. Tourist Information Centre

## Drinking & Nightlife

36. Kayaba Coffee
37. Torindō
38. Yanaka Beer Hall

## Entertainment

39. Tokyo Bunka Kaikan
40. Tokyo University of the Arts Performing Arts Center

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45. Yanaka Matsunoya
46. Buddha Bellies
47. Kitchen Kujo Tokyo
48. Rokuryu Kōsen
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## Sports & Activities

46. Buddha Bellies
47. Kitchen Kujo Tokyo
48. Rokuryu Kōsen
49. Tokyobike Rentals Yanaka

## Sleeping

50. Annex Katsutarō Ryokan
51. Hanare
52. Nohga Hotel
53. Sawanoya Ryokan
54. Tourist Information Centre
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 Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, 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

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Ebisu, Meguro & Around, Shibuya & ShimoKitazawa, Harajuku & Aoyama, West Tokyo, Shinjuku & Northwest Tokyo, Odaiba & Tokyo Bay
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**Simon Richmond**
Marunouchi & Nihombashi, Ginza & Tsukiji, Roppongi & Around, Kôrakuen & Ueno & Yanesen
Journalist and photographer Simon Richmond has specialised as a travel writer since the early 1990s and first worked for Lonely Planet in 1999 on their *Central Asia* guide. He’s long since stopped counting the number of guidebooks he’s researched and written for the company, but countries covered include Australia, China, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Russia, Singapore, South Africa and Turkey. For Lonely Planet’s website he’s penned features on topics from the world’s best swimming pools to the joys of Urban Sketching – follow him on Instagram to see some of his photos and sketches.

**Contributing writer:** Thomas O’Malley (Day Trips)