

Publicize from Tokyo the attractive of Japanese culture

Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2016

September 24 and 25 at Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum

October 15 and 16 at Hama-rikyu Gardens

Application deadline for the tea ceremonies: postmarked by Aug. 31, online by 23:59 on Aug. 31

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture) are organizing Japanese traditional culture programs with the aim of introducing world-renowned Japanese traditional culture and performing arts at home and abroad and passing on the underlying “Japanese hospitality” to the next generation. As part of these projects, Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2016 will be held to encourage visitors to experience and become more familiar with Japanese traditional culture and performing arts.

A number of programs will be provided for many people, including young people and foreigners, to enjoy and experience the “heart of Japanese culture” in accessible locations.



Tea ceremony at Hama-rikyu Gardens



Outdoor tea ceremony at Hama-rikyu Gardens

Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony will take place over four days in total at two venues: on September 24 (Saturday) and 25 (Sunday) 2016 at Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum (Koganei City, Tokyo), which exhibits a number of buildings whose historical and cultural value is highly praised, and on October 15 (Saturday) and 16 (Sunday) at Hama-rikyu Gardens (Chuo-ku, Tokyo), where rich natural environment is appreciated in central Tokyo with easy access to the Ginza shopping district.

The entrance to Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum will be free during the event period, but is charged at Hama-rikyu Gardens. Admission to the tea ceremony event is charged separately.

Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony started in 2008 in the hope that foreigners and anyone unfamiliar with tea ceremony could casually enjoy tea culture. Held annually, this will be the ninth year. This large-scale tea ceremony where various schools of tea get together attracted about 19,000 visitors last year and a total of 154,600 in past years, to become widely known as an autumn institution in Tokyo.



Tea ceremony workshop for children
at Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum



Outdoor Tea Ceremony in English
at Hama-rikyu Gardens

* Photos are from Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2015

In both venues an “**Tea ceremony**” will be held for authentic tea ceremony (prior application is necessary), as well as an “**Outdoor tea ceremony**” to casually enjoy the fun of tea ceremony outdoors in greenery, and a “**Tea ceremony for beginners**” designed for beginners and foreigners.

Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum will expand the event area and for the first time will offer “**Tea ceremony in English,**” where manners of tea ceremony will be explained in English. Other programs available will be a “**Tea ceremony workshop for children,**” where elementary school children or younger can learn through experience, Japanese performing arts to be presented and food and beverage stalls to be opened by the local Koganei City Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Programs provided in Hama-rikyu Gardens will include “**Outdoor tea Ceremony in English,**” where manners of ceremony will be explained in English, and “**Outdoor tea ceremony by high school students,**” where high school students will serve tea. On the special stage, the Japanese sit-down comedy called *rakugo* will be performed in both Japanese and English, and music by *shamisen* (Japanese three-string instruments) and *shakuhachi* (Japanese flute) will be played. As short-time traditional culture experience programs for foreigners, first-time trial sessions on flower arrangement, Tokyo Kumihimo (braided cords), and Kimono dressing will be offered.

«How to apply for tea ceremony»

Prior application is necessary to participate in a tea ceremony held in either venue except for “Tea ceremony in English.”

Please apply either from the official website(<http://www.tokyo-grand-tea-ceremony.jp>) or by double postcard. Applications will be accepted from August 1 (Monday) to 31 (Wednesday). Applications postmarked or received on August 31 are valid. In case of oversubscription, a drawing will be held. If the number of applicants falls under the capacity, or if cancellations occur on that day, tickets will be sold at the venues on the day of the event.

<Application procedures>

* A person is allowed to apply only one time per venue.

■ By the official website

Fill in necessary information on the application form on the official website and send it to us.

<The official website URL> <http://tokyo-grand-tea-ceremony.jp>

■ By reply-paid postcard

On a reply-paid postcard, write your preferred venue (①Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum or ②Hama-rikyu Gardens), date, time (AM or PM), the total number of people (up to 2), and the representative’s name, address and telephone number, and mail the postcard to the Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony Office.

* Please write the name and address of the person representing your party on the reply postcard as well.

[Application period] August 1 (Monday) to 31 (Wednesday) 2016
* Postcards postmarked by August 31 are valid.

[Inquiry] Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony Office (c/o Murayama Co., Ltd.)
Address: 8F Toyosufonesia. 3-2-24, Toyosu, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-0061
Phone: 03-3533-8199 (weekdays 10:00-18:00)

[Results of drawing] The result of the drawing will be e-mailed or be sent by the reply postcard to the applicants around Sep.9 (Fri).

[Other] Personal information obtained via the application process will be used only for the purposes of contacting event operations.

«Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony»

Based on the historical event known as Kitano Grand Tea Ceremony, a large-scale tea ceremony Hideyoshi Toyotomi organized in Kitano Tenmangu, a Shinto shrine in Kyoto, in October 1587, where he set up more than 800 seats and served tea to all worshippers, Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony has been held annually since 2008, marking ninth year this time.

Outline of “Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2016” (Plan)

Event outline		
Date	September 24 (Saturday) and 25 (Sunday) 2016	October 15 (Saturday) and 16 (Sunday), 2016
Time	10:00-17:10 (Museum is open 9:30-17:30) * Reception (9:30 – 16:30) * Entry to Museum is allowed until 17:00	9:30-16:10 (Hama-rikyu Gardens are open 9:00-17:00) * Reception (9:00 – 15:40) * Entry to Gardens is allowed until 16:30
Venue	Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum	Hama-rikyu Gardens
Location	Tokyo Metropolitan Koganei Park, 3-7-1, Sakuracho, Koganei City, Tokyo	1-1, Hama-rikyu-teien, Chuo-ku, Tokyo
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ From the North Exit of Musashi-Koganei Station (JR Chuo Line), take the Seibu bus at platform No. 2 or 3 near the north exit of Musashi-Koganei Station. Get off at Koganei-koen Nishi-guchi and walk for 5 minutes. ■ From Hana-Koganei Station (Seibu Shinjuku Line), take the Seibu bus for Musashi-Koganei Station, get off at Koganei-koen Nishi-guchi, and walk for 5 minutes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7 minutes walk from Shiodome Station or Tsukijishijo Station on Toei Oedo Line, or from Shiodome Station on Yurikamome Line. ■ 12 minutes walk from Shimbashi Station (JR, Tokyo Metro Ginza Line, or Toei Asakusa Line)
Admission	Free during the Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2016 (on September 24 and 25)	Adults: 300 yen; Seniors over 65 years old: 150 yen; Elementary school children or younger, and junior high school students living or studying in Tokyo: Free
Organized by	Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)	
Co-organized by		Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association
Supported by	Koganei City, Koganei City Chamber of Commerce and Industry.	Chuo city
Cooperated by	Tokyo Metropolitan Tea Ceremony Association Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum	Tokyo Metropolitan Tea Ceremony / Flower Arrangement Federation, Tokyo Metropolitan High School Cultural Federation; Tea Ceremony department
In case of rain	To be cancelled only in case of heavy rain	
Program outline		
Tea Ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue 1. House of Korekiyo Takahashi (Up to 30 people per ceremony) 2. Second House of the Nishikawa Family (Up to 30 people per ceremony) 3. Kawano Shoten (Up to 20 people per ceremony) ■ Fee: 700 yen * Prior application is required. (Participation fee to be paid on that day.) * Submit the notice or reply card of win to receive a ticket at the exchange counter on that day. * In case of oversubscription, a drawing will be held. * If the number of applicants falls under the capacity or if cancellations occur on that day, tickets will be sold at the venues on the day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue 1. Nakajima-no-ochaya (Up to 35 people per ceremony) 2. Hobai-tei (Up to 25 people per ceremony) ■ Fee: 700 yen * Prior application is required. (Participation fee to be paid on that day.) * Submit the notice or reply card of win to receive a ticket at the exchange counter on that day. * In case of oversubscription, a drawing will be held. * If the number of applicants falls under the capacity or if cancellations occur on that day, tickets will be sold at the venues on the day. * During the Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony, tea service will not be available at Nakajima-no-ochaya.

Tea ceremony in English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue: Farmhouse of the Tenmyo Family (Up to 20 people per ceremony) ■ Fee: 700 yen * Tickets will be sold on that day. * English explanation is available. 	
Outdoor tea ceremony in English		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue: Nakano-hashii area (Up to 32 people per ceremony) ■ Fee: 300 yen * Tickets will be sold on that day. * English explanation is available.
Outdoor tea Ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Gate of Date Family Residence (Up to 50 people per ceremony) ■ Fee: 300 yen * Tickets will be sold on that day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue: Nakano-hashii area (3 sections). ■ Fee: 300 yen * One section is for <i>Sencha</i> tea. * Tickets will be sold on that day.
Tea ceremony for beginners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue: Yoshino Family Farmhouse (Up to 40 people in 20 pairs per ceremony) ■ Fee: 300 yen/person * Tickets will be sold on that day. * Participation by individuals is allowed. * English explanation is available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue: Kaboku-en (Up to 40 people in 20 pairs per ceremony) ■ Fee: 300 yen/person * Tickets will be sold on that day. * Participation by individuals is allowed. * English explanation is available.
Tea ceremony workshop for children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue: House of the Leader of the Hachioji Guards (Up to 20 people per ceremony) ■ Participants: Children up to elementary and four and under elementary school students. ■ Fee: 200 yen/person * Tickets will be sold on that day. 	
Outdoor tea Ceremony by high school students		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue: Nakano-hashii area (Up to 20 people per ceremony) ■ Fee: 300 yen * Tickets will be sold on that day.
Performance / Stalls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lion dance Sep.24, ■ <i>Kendama</i> performance Sep.25 ■ Stalls by Koganei City Chamber of Commerce and Industry ■ Booth by Photo Senryu(Japanese poetry) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tsugaru <i>shamisen</i> and <i>shakuhachi</i> performance ■ <i>Rakugo</i> in Japanese and English ■ Original lantern making ■ Experience getting in a palanquin ■ Booth by Photo Senryu(Japanese poetry) ■ Stalls for small Japanese goods, Japanese sweets, green tea, etc.

Events held concurrently with Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony in Hama-rikyu Gardens		
Traditional culture experience program for foreign visitors	Organized by Arts Council Tokyo Supported by Tokyo Metropolitan Government	For foreign visitors to casually experience traditional Japanese culture (flower arrangement, braided cord, kimono dressing, etc.) Application is received on that day.
The Metropolitan Bonsai Exhibition	Organizer: Nihon Bonsai Cooperative Association	Bonsai, traditional Japanese culture popular overseas, will be exhibited in the outdoor rest space. No admission is required other than the entrance to Hama-rikyu Gardens.

* Content may be changed or cancelled depending on situation.

Venue outline

Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum

30 historic buildings of high cultural value from Edo through early Showa era have been relocated, restored, preserved, and exhibited in this outdoor museum. "House of Korekiyo Takahashi," which is used as an tea ceremony venue, is the main building of the residence of Korekiyo Takahashi, who led Japanese politics from Meiji to early Showa era.

Hama-rikyu Gardens

Hama-rikyu Gardens are representative of *daimyo* gardens built in the Edo period. They are the only gardens in Tokyo that have both *Shio-iri-no ike*, or a tidal pond, and two *kamobas*, or duck hunting grounds. The gardens serve as a familiar "urban oasis," with a rich variety of seasonal flowers blooming within the view of nearby skyscrapers built in the Shiodome area where large-scale urban redevelopment projects have continued. Since these Japanese gardens have high historic and academic value, as well as value in art appreciation, they are designated as special places of scenic beauty and special historic sites, according to the Cultural Assets Preservation Act.

Inquiry regarding this press release

«General inquiry»

Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony Office (c/o Murayama Co., Ltd.)
 Phone: 03-3533-8199 (weekdays 10:00-18:00)
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Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2016 official website
<http://tokyo-grand-tea-ceremony.jp>

«Press release inquiry»

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