

Color autumn in Tokyo! Large-scale tea ceremony for enjoying the culture of Japanese tea

The 10th Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2017

~23,800 visitors last year~

October 7 and 8 at Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum

October 21 and 22 at Hama-rikyu Gardens

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 generations. As part of these projects, Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2017 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 both beginners and advanced level, including young people and foreigners, to enjoy and experience the “heart of Japanese culture” in accessible locations. The support in English is available some of the ceremonies.



Outdoor Tea Ceremony in English
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 October 7 (Saturday) and 8 (Sunday) 2017 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 21 (Saturday) and 22 (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. The Admission fees are 700 yen for indoor tea ceremonies and 300 yen for outdoor tea ceremony. “Ceremony workshop for children” costs 200 yen (In all ceremonies, tea and Japanese confectionery will be served. Tax is included with these fees.) The prior applications are necessary for all of the indoor ceremonies, except “Tea ceremony in English” that tickets are available at the venue on the day of the event.

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 10th year. This large-scale tea ceremony where various schools of tea get together attracted about 23,800 visitors last year and a total of 178,000 in past years, to become widely known as an autumn institution in Tokyo.



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



Indoor tea ceremony at
Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum

* Photos are from Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2016

«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 10th year this time.

In both venues, an “Indoor 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 are able to learn the basics of tea ceremony while making tea with two pairs.

Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum offer “Tea ceremony in English,” where manners of tea ceremony are explained in English. Other programs available will be a “Tea ceremony workshop for children,” where elementary school children or younger can learn through experience. In the garden, dynamic performance "martial arts" and "jump rope" according to Japanese traditional songs. Stalls for foods and beverages are 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 by the corporation of the Tokyo Metropolitan High School Cultural Federation; Tea Ceremony department, “Outdoor tea ceremony by high school students,” where high school students will serve tea. On the special stage, enjoy the talk show from a special guest, “Noh work shop,” “Shamisen,” and “Kamikiri ” performances. In the garden, may purchase Japanese sweets and green tea, which serve at the ceremonies. For visit commemoration and SNS post photos, enjoy experience of the palanquin which used by common people in Edo-period.

«How to apply for tea ceremony»

Prior application is necessary to participate in an indoor 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/en/>) or by double postcard. Applications will be accepted from August 1 (Tuesday) to 31 (Thursday). 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/en/>

■ By reply-paid postcard

On a reply-paid postcard, write your preferred venue (1.Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum or 2.Hama-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 name, postal code and address of the person representing your party on the replying side (the back side) of the post card.

[Application period]	August 1 (Tuesday) to 31 (Thursday) 2017 * Online application will close at 23:59 on August 31. * Postcards, postmarked by August 31 are valid.
[Address for post card registration]	Japan Post Holdings Co.,Ltd Tokyo Post Office PO Box No. 79 Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony Office
[Inquiry]	Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony Office Phone: 03-6426-0558 (weekdays 10:00-17:00)

[Results of drawing] The result of the drawing will be e-mailed or be sent by the reply postcard to the applicants around September 8 (Friday).

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

Outline of “Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2017” (As of August 3)

Event outline		
Venue	Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum	Hama-rikyu Gardens
Date	October 7 (Saturday) and 8 (Sunday), 2017	October 21 (Saturday) and 22 (Sunday), 2017
Time	9:50-16:10 (Museum is open 9:30-16:30) * Reception (9:30-15:30) * Entry to Museum is allowed until 16:00	9:30-16:10 (Gardens are open 9:00-17:00) * Reception (9:00-15:40) * Entry to Gardens is allowed until 16:30
Location	3-7-1 Sakuracho Koganei Shi, (inside Koganei Park) 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 2017 (on October 7 and 8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 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. (In case of oversubscription, a drawing will be held.) * Submit the notice or reply card of win to receive a ticket at the ticket counter on that day. * Participation fee to be paid on that day. * 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. (In case of oversubscription, a drawing will be held.) * Submit the notice or reply card of win to receive a ticket at the ticket counter on that day. * Participation fee to be paid on that day. * 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 2017, normal tea service will not be available at Nakajima-no-ochaya.
Tea ceremony in English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Venue: Farmhouse of the Tsunashima 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"> ■ Venue: 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, up to 32 people per ceremony). ■ 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: Farmhouse of the Yoshino Family (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 * 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"> ■ Performances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Martial arts (October 7) * Jump rope (October 8) ■ Stalls by Koganei City Chamber of Commerce and Industry ■ Providing photo spots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Stage events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Talk show from a special guest (October 21) * Shamisen performance (Common for 2 days) * Kamikiri performance (Common for 2 days) * Noh work shop (Common for 2 days) ■ Providing photo spots ■ Experience getting in a palanquin of Edo period and taking photos ■ Stalls for small Japanese goods, Japanese sweets, green tea, etc.
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Events held concurrently with Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2017 in Hama-rikyu Gardens

Traditional culture experience program for foreign visitors	Organized by Arts Council Tokyo Supported by and in cooperation with Tokyo Metropolitan Government	For foreign visitors, prepare casual experience in traditional Japanese culture. * Flower arrangement * Making chopsticks * Kimono dressing * Making chopsticks charge 500 yen, others for free * Application is not required * Inquiry: Tokyo Tradition Office, Arts Council Tokyo Phone: 03-5428-3655 (10:00~18:00)
The Metropolitan Bonsai Exhibition	Organized by Nihon Bonsai Cooperative Association Co-organized by Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association	Bonsai, traditional Japanese culture popular overseas, will be exhibited in the outdoor rest space * Inquiry: Nihon Bonsai Association Phone: 03-3821-4587

* 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 the middle of Showa period have been relocated, restored, preserved, and exhibited in this outdoor museum. "House of Korekiyo Takahashi," which is used as a tea ceremony venue, is the main building of the residence of Korekiyo Takahashi, who led Japanese politics from Meiji to early Showa period. The second floor was used as his study room and bedroom, where became the site of "2・26 incidents" of the Showa period 11 (1936).

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 Phone: 03-6426-0558 (weekdays 10:00-17:00)

E-mail : tgtc2017@shutten-support.biz

Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony official website <http://www.tokyo-grand-tea-ceremony.jp/en/>

«Press release inquiry»

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