



Area: 58.3ha  
Perimeter: 3.5km

# 新宿御苑 Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden

- Restroom
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Diaper Changing Table
- Ostomate
- Nursing Room
- Information Counter
- Dining
- Cafe
- Public Telephone
- Kiosk
- Coin Lockers
- Vending Machine
- Water Bottle Refill Station
- AED (Defibrillator)
- Free Wi-Fi
- Location Number Check your current location



Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden was originally a residence granted to Naito Kiyonari, a retainer of Tokugawa Ieyasu, who founded the Tokugawa shogunate in the early 1600s. Following the fall of the shogunate in 1868, the area served as an agricultural research station before becoming an imperial garden in 1906. After World War II, it was opened to the public as a national garden in 1949.

# Main Gardens

Shinjuku Gyoen comprises four distinctive gardens. The Formal Garden, with its striking symmetry, lies to the east, while the central area's Landscape Garden features a vast lawn dotted with towering trees. To the west, the Japanese Traditional Garden is designed for visitors to take in its views from various angles while strolling around central ponds. Finally, the Tamamo Pond area in the garden's northeast retains many original features from the Edo period (1603–1868).



## ① Formal Garden



The symmetrical Formal Garden is accented by geometric shapes. A meticulously trimmed topiary stands proudly at the center, surrounded by rose beds. Rows of plane trees line both sides of the garden.

## ② Landscape Garden



The Landscape Garden's expansive lawn, dotted with towering trees along its periphery, is intended to evoke natural scenery. A vista line extending from the Formal Garden through to the Landscape Garden is key to its majestic view.

## ③ Japanese Traditional Garden



The Japanese Traditional Garden is intended for leisurely strolls. Wandering along its ponds and streams, visitors can appreciate classic elements of traditional Japanese garden design and landscaping, with a particularly picturesque view to be found from the Upper Pond. Originally created as a pond for duck hunting, it took on its present form in 1903.

## ④ Tamamo Pond



The area around Tamamo Pond boasts the longest history of all Shinjuku Gyoen's sites. It was once part of the residence of the Naito family, vassals of the Tokugawa shoguns who ruled Japan from the early 1600s until 1868. Still retaining some of its original features, this scenic garden was formerly named "Tamagawa-en."

## ⑤ Kids Area/Cherry Tree Area, Azalea Hill, Maple Hill



This extra-safe playground is intended for children elementary school-age and younger. Cherry trees and azaleas bloom here in spring, and maple trees paint the area red and gold in autumn.

# Finding Nature in Shinjuku Gyoen

Shinjuku Gyoen has long been cherished by many as a green oasis in urban Tokyo where visitors can immerse themselves in the natural world and appreciate the changing seasons, from cherry blossoms in spring to colorful foliage and chrysanthemums in autumn.



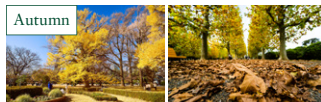
## Shinjuku Gyoen Through the Seasons



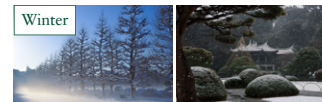
Shinjuku Gyoen is one of Tokyo's top spots for viewing cherry blossoms. Azaleas bloom soon after the cherry blossoms fall, followed by flowering dogwoods and tulip trees as the weather warms.



In summer, the garden's lush foliage takes on deeper shades of green as the season progresses. The relatively cool evening hours are some of the best times to enjoy the garden in summer.



In autumn, the numerous maple and ginkgo trees throughout the garden burst into vivid color, as do the rows of plane trees in the Formal Garden.



Winter, with the crisp breezes and clear blue skies characteristic of Japan's Pacific coast, is the perfect season to watch for birds among the trees' bare branches.

## Large Trees



Shinjuku Gyoen is home to over 10,000 trees, including some majestic specimens over 100 years old. Such awe-inspiring sights include a massive London plane tree with a trunk circumference of over 6 meters and bald cypress trees whose aerial roots rise above the ground.

## ⑥ Greenhouse



This glass-paneled greenhouse, gleaming in the sunlight, spans 2,750 square meters and displays approximately 1,000 species of plants.

## ⑦ Mother and Child Woods



This nature observation area was created in 1985 as a space for children living in the city to enjoy nature, cultivate their sensibilities, and develop an interest in the natural world.

# Facilities and Historical Structures

Shinjuku Gyoen contains Kyu-Gokyu-Sho, a former imperial rest house built in a Western style, and Kyu-Goryo-Tei, a former imperial pavilion, both of which survived the air raids of World War II. Other historical structures include the garden's main gate, the former Shinjuku and Okido gatekeepers houses, as well as an imitation wooden bridge.



## ⑧ Kyu-Gokyu-Sho



Originally built in 1896 as an annex to the former greenhouse, this building served as a rest house for members of the imperial family during their visits to view the greenhouse. It was designated an Important Cultural Property of Japan in 2001, following restoration work.

## ⑨ Kyu-Goryo-Tei (Taiwan Pavillion)



In 1927, a group of Japanese nationals residing in Taiwan had this building constructed as a gift to commemorate the marriage of Crown Prince Hirohito (later known as Emperor Showa).

## ⑩ Shinjuku Gyoen Museum



The museum presents the history and culture of Shinjuku Gyoen — a former imperial garden and one of Japan's premier modern Western-style gardens — through detailed and clear audio and visual exhibits.

## ⑪ Information Center / National Parks Discovery Center



The Information Center provides details about the history of Shinjuku Gyoen and seasonal highlights in the garden. It also houses the National Parks Discovery Center, which shares information about other national parks across Japan.

## ⑫ Shinjuku Gyoen Coworking Space



Shinjuku Gyoen established this coworking space to provide an innovative work environment where users can take in Shinjuku Gyoen's bountiful nature, a precious green oasis in the city center.