

East Gardens of the Imperial Palace



The East Gardens of the Imperial Palace were created as part of the renovation project of the Imperial Palace grounds. The project was authorised by a cabinet decision in 1960. The Gardens are located in the eastern part of the Imperial Palace grounds and occupy main quarters of the former Edo Castle. The gardens cover 210,000 square meters and have been open to the public since 1 October 1968.

[Opening hours]

- From 1 March to 14 April
9:00a.m.-4:30p.m.(entry up to 4:00p.m.)
- From 15 April to 31 August
9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.(entry up to 4:30p.m.)
- From 1 September to 31 October
9:00a.m.-4:30p.m.(entry up to 4:00p.m.)
- From 1 November to the end of February
9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.(entry up to 3:30p.m.)

[Closures]

- On Mondays and Fridays (except for most of the National Holidays)
- From 28 December to 3 January
- In unavoidable circumstances

[Entrances]

The Ote-mon Gate, Hirakawa-mon Gate and Kitahanebashi-mon Gate.

The Composition of the Gardens

The Gardens offer opportunities for visitors to appreciate a wide variety of trees and flowers in four seasons.

Honmaru Area

The wide expanse of lawn lies at the center of the Honmaru Area. The remains of the main tower of the Edo castle, gardens of roses, bamboos, cherry blossoms, tea trees, orchards of classical species and others encircle the lawn.

10 Orchard

At the recommendation of His Majesty the Emperor Emeritus some fruit trees of old-fashioned species once popular in Japan until the latter half of the 19th century but now hardly ever seen were planted. They include Japanese pears, peaches, plums, citrus fruit, persimmons and Japanese apples.



Honmaru O-shibafu (Lawn)



Orchard



Rose garden

11 Wild Grass Island

A variety of mainly native wild grasses were planted.

12 Honmaru O-shibafu (Lawn)

Here, in November 1990, H.M. the Emperor held the Daijō-sai enthronement rite (the first harvest festival of the reign).

16 Rose Garden

Roses were transplanted from the residential quarters of the Imperial Palace following a recommendation by His Majesty the Emperor Emeritus.

19 Bamboo Garden

Thirteen species of bamboo of Japanese and Chinese origin were re-transplanted based on a recommendation by His Majesty the Emperor Emeritus.

18 Cherry Blossoms Island

The East Gardens boast more than thirty species of cherry blossoms, half of which can be seen on the island.



Bamboo Garden



Toka-gakudo (Concert Hall)



Tenshu-dai (Base of the main tower)



Fujimi-yagura

Ninomaru Area

This area features a Japanese garden, woodland grove and trees representing Japan's 47 prefectures.

29 Bairin-zaka (Slope)

The grove features more than fifty plum trees of various kinds.

32 Ninomaru Grove 37 New Wooded Area

The grove was created following the suggestion by the Emperor Showa as an area reminiscent of woodlands which had been disappearing in and around Tokyo. The current At the recommendation of His Majesty the Emperor Emeritus the grounds were re-designed so that a brook ran through the grove, which was enlarged in 2002.

35 Ninomaru Garden

The Ninomaru Garden is a garden based on a 18th century garden map. A pond can be found today in nearly the same position as the original garden attributed to Kobori Enshu.

36 Iris Garden

84 species of irises have been introduced from the famous Iris garden in Meiji Jingu.



Ninomaru Grove



Ninomaru Garden



Suwa-no-cha-ya

Sannomaru Area

This area features the Sannomaru Shozokan (The Museum of the Imperial Collections) and a resting place.

2 San-no-maru Sho-zo-kan

The collection of art pieces owned and inherited by the Imperial Family was donated to the Japanese government in 1989. The collection is displayed in turn on various themes.



Ote-mon (Gate)



San-no-maru Sho-zo-kan

(Memo and commemoration stamp column)

※Detailed guidance of the East Gardens of the Imperial Palace "East Gardens of the Imperial Palace Self-guide Book" (JPY700) is available for purchase at kiosks in the Gardens.

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Information and photos: the Imperial Household Agency

East Gardens of the Imperial Palace Guide Map



- ① Ote-mon (Gate)
- ② San-no-maru Sho-zo-kan (The Museum of the Imperial Collections)
- ③ Ote Rest House (with kiosk)
- ④ Doshin-bansho (Guardhouse)
- ⑤ Hyaku-nin-bansho (Guardhouse)
- ⑥ Honmaru Entrance
- ⑦ O-bansho (Guardhouse)
- ⑧ Fujimi-yagura (Mt. Fuji-view keep)
- ⑨ Chu-jaku-mon (Gate)
- ⑩ Orchard
- ⑪ Wild Grass Island
- ⑫ Honmaru O-shibafu (Lawn)
- ⑬ Site of the Matsu-no-o-roka (Corridor)
- ⑭ Tea Garden
- ⑮ Fujimi-tamon Defence House
- ⑯ Rose Garden
- ⑰ Ishi-muro (Stone Cellar)
- ⑱ Cherry Blossom Island
- ⑲ Bamboo Garden
- ⑳ Tenshu-dai (Base of the main tower)
- ㉑ Kita-hane-bashi-mon (Gate)
- ㉒ Toka-gakudo (Concert Hall)
- ㉓ Site of the O-oku
- ㉔ Honmaru Rest House (with kiosk)
- ㉕ Observation Point
- ㉖ Shiomi-zaka (Slope)
- ㉗ Music Department Building
- ㉘ Archives and Mausolea Department
- ㉙ Bairin-zaka (slope)
- ㉚ Hirakawa-mon (Gate)
- ㉛ Ninomaru Rest House
- ㉜ Ninomaru Grove
- ㉝ Symbolic Prefectural Trees
- ㉞ Suwa-no-cha-ya
- ㉟ Ninomaru Garden
- ㊱ Iris Garden
- ㊲ New Wooded Area
- ㊳ Rest Room

As from June 1, 2019 the opening hours in spring and summer of the East Gardens of the Imperial Palace and the Museum of the Imperial Collections, Sannomaru Shozokan, is be extended as the tables below.

The Gardens

	The opening hours
March 1 - April 14	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
April 15 - August 31	9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
September 1 - 30 September	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
October 1 – 31 October	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
November 1 - 28(29) February	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Last entry: 30 minutes before the closing time.

The Museum

	The opening hours
March 1 - April 14	9:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
April 15 - August 31	9:00 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.
September 1 - 30 September	9:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
October 1 – 31 October	9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
November 1 - 28(29) February	9:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Last entry: 15 minutes before the closing time.