

# 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 Ota-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 Classical species orchards

At the suggestion of His Majesty, planted here have been some fruit trees of old-fashioned species once popular in Japan till the latter half of the 19th century but now hardly seen. They include Japanese pear, peach, plum, citrus fruit, persimmon and Japanese apple.



Oshibafu



Classical species orchards



Rose garden

#### 11 Wild Grass Island

A variety of mainly native wild grasses were planted.

#### 12 Oshibafu (Lawn)

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

#### 13 Rose garden

Roses were transplanted from the residential quarter of the Imperial Palace following the suggestion by the Emperor.

#### 14 Bamboo grove

Thirteen species of bamboo of Japanese and Chinese origins were transplanted again on the idea of the Emperor.

#### 15 Cherry Blossoms Island

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



Bamboo grove



Tokagasaki Concert Hall



Tomshaki



Fujino-yagura

## Ninomaru Area

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

### 23 Bairin-zaka Slope (Plum-grove Slope)

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

### 39 Ninomaru Grove

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 Emperor saw to it 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.

### 38 Iris garden

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



Ninomaru Grove



Ninomaru Garden



Seiyun-chayu Tea House

## Sannomaru Area

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

### ● Sannomaru Shozokan

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.



Obasen Gate

Sannomaru Shozokan

(Museum and commemorative stamp counter)

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Information and photos: the Imperial Household Agency

# East Gardens of the Imperial Palace Guide Map



- 1 Ote-mon Gate
- 2 Sanonmaru Shozokan (The Museum of the Imperial Collections)
- 3 Resting place with kiosk
- 4 Doshin-bansho Guardhouse
- 5 Hyakunin-banano Guardhouse
- 6 Hormaru Entrance
- 7 O-bansho Guardhouse
- 8 Fujimi-yagura (Mt. Fuji-view tower)
- 9 Remains of the Chujaku-mon (moon bridge)
- 10 Classical species orchards
- 11 Wild Grass Island
- 12 Hormaru Dohibafu (Law)
- 13 Site of Matsuno-o-roka Corridor
- 14 Tea garden
- 15 Fujimi-tamon Defence house
- 16 Rose garden
- 17 Ishimuro (stone water)
- 18 Cherry Blossom Island
- 19 Bamboo grove
- 20 Terashudai (stairs of the main tower)
- 21 Kitanebashi-mon Gate
- 22 Tokagakudo Concert Hall
- 23 Site of Choku
- 24 Resting place with kiosk
- 25 Lookout
- 26 Shimi-zaka Slope (Tide-view Slope)
- 27 Gakujo (Music Department)
- 28 Shoryobu (Antiques and Materials Department)
- 29 Beiri-zaka Slope (Pine grove slope)
- 30 Hirakawa-mon Gate
- 31 Resting place
- 32 Ninomaru Grove
- 33 Traces representing Japan's 47 prefectures
- 34 Suwan-chaya Tea House
- 35 Ninomaru Garden
- 36 Iris garden
- 37 Rest Room