



Japan, your gateway to Asia

Every year, Japan's warm hospitality welcomes millions of visitors to vibrant festivals, historic castles and breathtaking landscapes. Be the next to be inspired by its ancient traditions and sophisticated, culture.

Make Japan your next travel destination, or part of a longer trip to Asia. Contact the Japan Travel Specialist below and find out more about a variety of affordable packages. No matter how long you stay, an adventure awaits!

Japan National Tourist Organization
www.jnto.go.jp
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Yokoso! JAPAN
www.visitjapan.jp

Japan, your gateway to Asia

In the coming weeks you may start to see the above message in some publications, such as the Globe and Mail, Toronto Star, World



Journal and Sing Tao Daily. The objective of launching this campaign is to remind consumers to include

Japan in their journey to Asia, even during their transit time in airports. Please access: <http://www.jnto.go.jp/transit/index.html>

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Total number of Canadian visiting Japan from 2000 to 2005

Although the official data for Canadian arrivals during the entirety of 2005 has not been published yet, there is an indication of steady growth when comparing the Jan-Nov 2005 numbers to the same period in 2004. For this, JNTO would like to extend the utmost appreciation to the marketing partners for their support and we hope to receive continued support in the years to come.

For statistical data, please access <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/STA/PDF/E2005.pdf>

Year	Total Canadian Visitors	Estimated arrival numbers
2000	120,000	120,000
2001	125,000	125,000
2002	130,000	130,000
2003	125,000	125,000
2004	140,000	140,000
2005	150,000	150,000

Please submit your comments and suggestions to the Editor, Athena Ho, at athena@jntooyz.com.

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CALENDAR OF SPRING EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

During the flower blooming season, JNTO invites you to plan a Spring trip.
Find more information at www.jnto.go.jp

March

1st - 14th

Omizu-tori, The Water-Drawing Festival of Todaiji Temple, NARA

The most spectacular sight of this 1,200 year-old event is on the evening of the 12th. The Nigatsu-do Hall of Todaiji is lit up with the large pine torches of the monks as they perform the sacred water sprinkling ceremony.

<http://www.kiis.or.jp/rekishi/nara/nara11-e.html>

3rd

Hina Matsuri, The Doll Festival, celebrated throughout Japan

This tradition began in the 18th century; Hina-dolls were displayed in the homes of families with girls. Recently, many establishments such as hotels and department stores have also been displaying these splendid Hina-dolls during the weeks prior to this event.

<http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/TD/festivals.html>

23rd - 26th

Tokyo International Anime Fair, TOKYO

The Anime Fair 2006 will unveil such attractions as a business-focused trade fair and various other events that people of all ages can enjoy.

<http://www.taf.metro.tokyo.jp/en/faq/index.html>

12th - 26th

March Grand Sumo Tournament, OSAKA

Experience the excitement of watching a live sumo match. Tickets start at just 3000 yen.

<http://www.sumo.or.jp/eng/>

April

1st - 30th

Miyako Odori Dance, KYOTO

Since 1872, this event has been held to retain the tradition of performances by geigi (artisans), and maiko, the young geisha apprentice. An excellent opportunity to see a performance of the cherry-blossom dance in the Gion district.

<http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/spn/kyoto/entertainment/index.html>



14th & 15th

Spring Takayama Festival, TAKAYAMA, GIFU

In honour of the deities of the Hie Shrine, 12 lavishly decorated, high-wheeled floats parade through the streets of Takayama to the accompaniment of music and song.

<http://www.hida.jp/english/>

May

3rd & 4th

Hakata Dontaku Festival, FUKUOKA

This festival originated in the 13th century for the local people to praise their feudal lord. Dontaku comes from a Dutch word meaning holiday. Today it is celebrated as a civilian festival and regarded as the most exciting carnival in the city.

http://www.media-line.or.jp/dontaku/don_english/index.html

7th - 21st

May Grand Sumo Tournament, TOKYO

The sights and sounds of a live sumo tournament will make a memorable part of any trip to Japan.

<http://www.sumo.or.jp/eng/ticket/index.html>

19th - 21st

Sanja Matsuri, The Three Shrines Festival, ASAKUSA, TOKYO

A parade of about 100 portable shrines.

<http://jnto.go.jp/eng/TD/festivals.html>

<http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/RTG/RI/kanko/tokyo/asakusa/asakusa.html>

Direct Limited Express Service to Link Shinjuku Station and Tobu Nikko / Kinugawa Onsen Stations via JR East and Tobu Railway Lines

Starting on Saturday, 18 March 2006, JR East and Tobu Railway will offer direct limited express service connecting Shinjuku Station to Tobu Nikko and Kinugawa Onsen stations.

In order to operate this direct service, a new connecting line will be constructed at Kurihashi Station, presently a junction where passengers transfer between JR East and Tobu Railway trains. The connection of the JR Utsunomiya Line and the Tobu Nikko Line will provide the shortest route between Shinjuku, a key hub of western Tokyo, and the Nikko-Kinugawa area renowned for its hot springs (onsen) and its shrines and temples which have been designated World Heritage Sites.

1. Service Area

From JR East Shinjuku Station to Tobu Nikko Station or Kinugawa Onsen Station of Tobu Railway
 Note: A new line linking JR East and Tobu Railway will be constructed at Kurihashi Station.

2. Station Stops

Shinjuku Station, Ikebukuro Station, Omiya Station, Tochigi Station, Shin-Kanuma Station, and Shimoimaichi Station, ending at Tobu Nikko Station or Kinugawa Onsen Station

3. Timetable (Schedule)

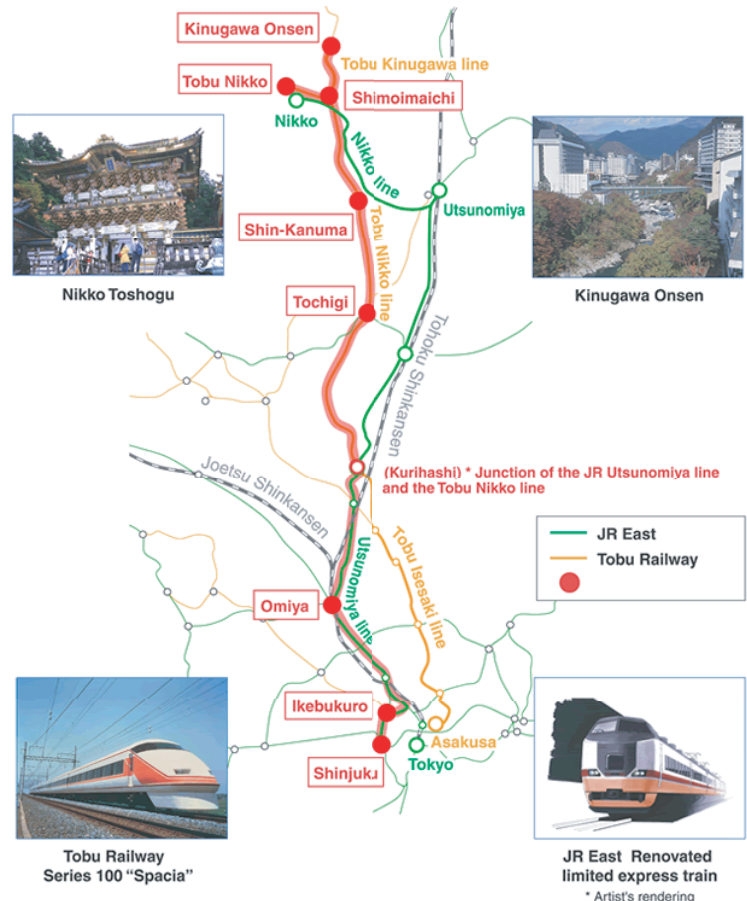
Shinjuku ⇒ Tobu Nikko, Kinugawa Onsen

	Departure		Arrival	
Nikko No.1	Shinjuku	07:12	Tobu Nikko	09:08
Specia Kinugawa No.3	Shinjuku	10:35	Kinugawa Onsen	12:38
Kinugawa No.5	Shinjuku	13:05	Kinugawa Onsen	15:10
Specia Kinugawa No.7	Shinjuku	17:35	Kinugawa Onsen	19:38

Kinugawa Onsen, Tobu Nikko ⇒ Shinjuku

	Departure		Arrival	
Specia Kinugawa No.2	Kinugawa Onsen	07:12	Shinjuku	09:08
Kinugawa No.4	Kinugawa Onsen	10:35	Shinjuku	12:38
Kinugawa No.6	Kinugawa Onsen	13:05	Shinjuku	15:10
Nikko No.8	Tobu Nikko	17:35	Shinjuku	19:38

Note: This is a tentative timetable as of 8 November 2005. Please reconfirm the schedule if you use these trains after service begins in March.



4. One-Way Fare (Round-trip fare is yet to be determined)

Shinjuku ↔ Tobu Nikko, Kinugawa Onsen (One Way)	¥ 3,900
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※ Japan Rail Pass & JR East Pass is not applicable to these trains. The Japan Rail Pass and the JR East Rail Pass do not cover these trains because Tobu Railway is not part of the Japan Railways Group.

2. Trains

- ◆ JR East: Renovated limited express trains (six-car trains)
- ◆ Tobu Railway: Series 100 "Spacia" (six-car trains)

Information provided by: East Japan Railway Company and Tobu Railway Co., Ltd.

Internet Cafes in Tokyo

Internet Cafes are an easy way to keep in touch with home while you are in Japan. Whether writing emails or sending home holiday photos, there are plenty of comfortable and convenient internet cafes with high speed access.



Shop & Location	Nearest Station	Business Hours	Charge	Notes
FedEx Kinko's Tokyo Station Yaesu North Exit, Tokyo Sta. 1-9-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku TEL: 03-3213-1811	JR Tokyo Sta.	6:40~21:50 (Open daily) 6:40~20:00 (Dec. 30) Closed (Dec. 31~Jan. 3) 9:00~20:00 (Jan. 4)	¥210/10 min.	Wireless LAN not available Customer's Service Center TEL: 0120-001-966 http://www.english.fedexkinkos.co.jp/
Marunouchi Café 1st fl., Shin-Tokyo Bldg., 3-3-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku TEL: 03-3212-5025	JR Yurakucho Sta. Subway Nijubashi-mae Sta. on Chiyoda Line or Hibiya Sta. on Hibiya Line	8:00~21:00 (Mon.-Fri.) 11:00~20:00 (Sat., Sun. & national holidays) 8:00~21:00 (Dec. 30 & 31) Closed on New Year Holidays.	Free	☆ <u>Free wireless LAN available</u> ID required http://www.marunouchicafe.com
YAHOO! Café Hibiya 1st fl., Shinsei Bank, 2-1-8 Uchisaiwaicho, Chiyoda-ku	Subway Hibiya Sta. on Hibiya Line	9:00~20:00 (Mon.-Fri.) Closed on Sat., Sun. & national holidays.	Free	Wireless LAN not available ID required http://café.yahoo.co.jp
FedEx Kinko's Hibiya 1st fl., Yurakucho-Fuji Bldg. 1-2-12 Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku, TEL: 03-5251-4808	JR Yurakucho Sta. Subway Hibiya Sta. on Hibiya Line	Open 24 hrs. (Open daily)	¥ 210/10 min.	Wireless LAN not available Customer's Service Center TEL: 0120-001-966 http://www.english.fedexkinkos.co.jp/
Necca Azabu-Juban B1 fl, No.2 Twin Ichinohashi Bldg., 4-4-1 Azabu-Juban, Minato-ku TEL: 03-3451-3388	Subway Azabu-Juban Sta. on Chiyoda or Toei Oedo Line	10:00~24:00 (Open daily)	Member: ¥200/30 min. Nonmember: ¥250/30 min. Pack 5: ¥1,500/5 hrs. Pack 3: ¥1,000/3 hrs.	☆ <u>Wireless LAN available</u> Member registration: free ID required Free drink available

*YAHOO! Cafe has branches at both Haneda and Narita Airports.

Shop & Location	Nearest Station	Business Hours	Charge	Notes
YAHOO! Café Shinagawa Prince Shinagawa Prince Hotel 7th fl., Executive Tower 4-10-30 Takanawa, Minato-ku	JR Shinagawa Sta.	Open 24 hrs. (Open daily)	One drink	Wireless LAN not available ID required http://café.yahoo.co.jp
Space Create Shibuya Hachi-ko 3rd fl., Nishimura Sohonten Bldg., 22-2 Utagawa-cho, Shibuya-ku TEL: 03-5728-1186	JR Shibuya Sta. Subway Shibuya Sta. on Hanzomon Line or Ginza Line	Open 24 hrs. (Open daily)	Member fee: ¥100 ¥280/first 30 min. ¥100/next every 15 min. 4 hrs. pack: ¥1,200	Wireless LAN not available ID required
FedEx Kinko's Shinjuku-Gyoen 1st fl., Shinjuku 171 Bldg., 1-7-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku TEL: 03-5368-8326	Subway Shinjuku-Gyoen-mae Sta. on Marunouchi Line	Open 24 hrs. (Open daily) 0:00~20:00 (Dec. 31) Closed (Jan. 1~Jan. 3) 8:00~24:00 (Jan. 4)	¥210/10 min.	Wireless LAN not available Customer's Service Center TEL: 0120-001-966 http://www.english.fedexkinkos.co.jp/
Necca Akihabara 4th fl., Hirose Honsha Bldg., Soto-kanda, Chiyoda-ku TEL: 03-5294-3380	JR Akihabara Sta.	10:00~23:30 (Open daily)	Internet: ¥130/15 min. Pack 5: ¥2,050/5 hrs. Pack 3: ¥1,250/3 hrs. LAN: . ¥210/30 min.	☆ Wireless LAN available ID required Member registration: free
YAHOO! BB PARK with ST-MARC Café 1st fl., Yodobashi Akiba Bldg. 1-1 Kandahanaoka-cho Chiyoda-ku TEL: 03-5294-7390	JR Akihabara Sta.	9:30~22:00 (Open daily)	Free/1 hr.	☆ Free wireless LAN available (Yahoo BB mobile only) ID required http://vodobashi-akiba.com

All information is based on data as of January 2006 and is subject to change without notice.

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