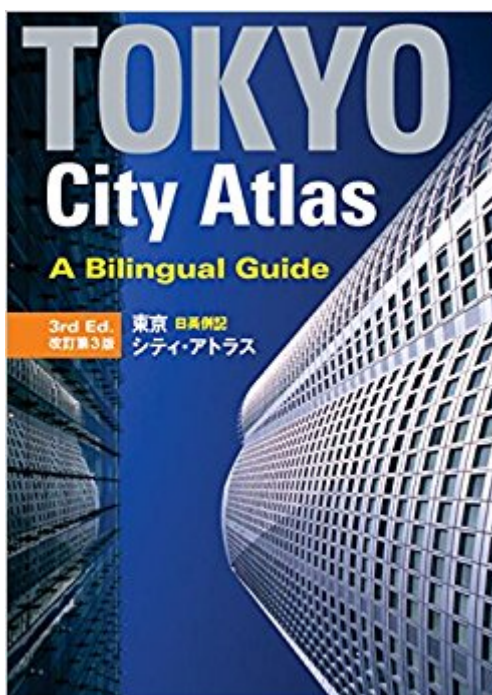


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Tokyo City Atlas: A Bilingual Guide



Synopsis

This is the updated third edition of an atlas first published in 1998. During the past six years, the transportation network of the metropolitan area of Tokyo has changed a good deal. In the case of the subway system, lines have been extended, and some rapid-transit lines have been added, so code numbers for each station are given in our atlas for foreign travelers to identify them easily. In addition, as a result of urban development in areas such as Roppongi, Shinagawa, and Shiodome, quite a few new company buildings, stores, and hotels have appeared. These developments are also covered in this updated edition. **21 area maps of Metropolitan Tokyo (42 pages)** showing not only chome numbers but also block numbers (banchi). **18 detailed maps of Central Tokyo (30 pages)** to guide the reader even to numbered subway station entrances. **An additional 7 maps of central Yokohama and Kawasaki and access maps to 3 U.S. military bases (Yokosuka, Yokota and Zama).** **Comprehensive index:** More than 3,600 entries of town and station names, as well as major organizations and buildings, provide the user with easy access to all destinations.

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Customer Reviews

..."the handiest of all Tokyo atlas guides. Some help is necessary as one explores this vast, fascinating, confusing city, and this new edition offers the best assistance." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Compiled by the editors of Kodansha International under the supervision of ATSUSHI UMEDA

If you want to get out and explore Tokyo, and want to see more than just a few blocks around the train stations, this book is an absolute necessity. It presents a level of detail that is simply unavailable in any other map book that I've seen in English, and is far, far more useful than any folding map. Tokyo is simply too large for folding maps and you need this level of detail. I've been to Tokyo more than a dozen times, and I always take this book -- it's become even more valuable as I've marked it up with locations of restaurants and stores and is now like my own personal guidebook. If you have this book and a *Rough Guide to Tokyo*, you'll be extremely well-prepared to enjoy Tokyo. As other reviews note, Tokyo addresses use a system of successive specification: City, Area, Sub-area, Block, Building Number. This book gives you detail down to the level of every block in the city. Thus, if you have an address, you will be able to find the block and then walk around it to find the building number. And it's even more useful than that. In addition to block level maps, it has higher resolution maps for most of the key areas (Shinjuku, Akasaka, Omotesando, Ginza, etc) with many buildings labeled -- and even numbered Metro exits! Thus, you can tell in advance that to get to such-and-such building, you will want to take a particular exit from the Metro. There is also minor coverage of some non-Tokyo areas that you might find useful, such as Minato Mirai in Yokohama and the area around Yokosuka base. It has great maps just inside the cover of the Subway (Metro and Toei) and JR Systems. In fact, the JR map is so good and complete but readable that a Japanese colleague of mine commented on it and used it to find something. The combined map of Subway plus inner JR lines is brilliant and superbly useful to get around the city much faster than simply relying on Metro (hint: figure out how to ride the Yamanote and Chuo lines!) The only drawback is that its coverage requires it to be larger than will fit in most pockets. It fits well in a purse or backpack, but not in most pants pockets. I think it's worth carrying a small bag just to take this guide along. And when you're not out and about (or in Tokyo) it is delightful simply to browse and marvel at the city.

I have been using this Atlas for the last ten years and just purchased the new edition as my old one is worn out. This is by far the best Atlas of Tokyo you will ever find. It is updated and addresses are actually possible to find, something other maps and guides manage for only the most prominent addresses. I love the way they have this set up and find it has simplified my travels throughout Tokyo.

This book helped a great deal during my family's nine day trek around Japan.

My husband and I visited Japan recently for the first time. We spent three or four days in Tokyo, and we loved having this Atlas. It's great. First, it has zoomed out maps of the entire city. Then, about half the book is devoted to more zoomed-out maps. Finally, the last half of the book has zoomed-in maps. The zoomed in maps actually have all the major buildings (and many not-so-major buildings) identified. For example, the hotel we stayed at was on the map in the book. The book focuses on central Tokyo, the parts of the city you're most likely to visit, not the suburbs. Before we went, this book helped me orient myself much better than the other guidebooks I had. The book is slim and light, 120 pages, easily carried around in a large purse and thrown in the suitcase. I think it's a must have if you plan to spend 2 or more full days in Tokyo, especially if you like to know your way around. The only disadvantage of the book is that the map of the JR rail lines is not the greatest. If you buy a rail pass, you should get a map when you pick up your pass. Hold on to it, and combined with this book (which has a map of the JR rail lines, just not a very good one) you'll be set for Tokyo.

I used this guide 20 years ago when I was a summer student in Tokyo, and was very happy with it. Bought the latest version when I went to Japan last month, still very happy with it. I supposed nowadays you can probably pay 5 bucks for an app on your phone, but I am old fashion. Besides, who knows what you are getting when you just download something on the web. The best thing about this guide is it has the names not just of the streets, but also of important buildings, stores, hotels and other landmarks. Also, everything is in both Japanese and English, so in case you run into a sign that is only in Japanese, you can do "pattern recognition" and tell whether it is the right place.

I don't speak a word of Japanese but I really wanted to explore Tokyo on my own. I was worried that I wouldn't be able to get around by myself so I bought the "Tokyo City Atlas; A Bilingual Guide," and I walked everywhere with confidence and I didn't get lost once! The book contains nearly twenty extremely detailed maps of the most popular districts of the city. These maps provide depictions of many of the major sites, buildings and parks. For example, the maps show the exact locations of specific subway station exits. Because Tokyo neighborhoods are dense and disorienting, it's easy to get lost just by exiting from the wrong side of a subway as many of the streets have no names and the buildings aren't designated with street numbers. Being able to pinpoint and identify the number of the subway exit made it much easier for me to get oriented once I was above ground. In addition, there is an excellent English language index that covers more than thirty five pages and provides

detailed information on streets, neighborhoods, buildings, shrines and parks. There are also excellent subway and train maps. The only weakness is that there could be more detailed maps and fewer that cover larger areas of the city. That however is a small quibble for what is an indispensable guide for English-speaker who wants to explore the urban amazement that is Tokyo.

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