



For Immediate Release

Arts Council Tokyo,
Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture

Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Arts Council Tokyo Announce

Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019

Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum - October 5th and 6th

Hama-rikyu Gardens - October 19th and 20th

Everyone is invited to enjoy unique Japanese traditional culture

July 23, 2019, Tokyo, Japan – Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture) announce that the Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019 will be held on October 5th and 6th and October 19th and 20th at two renowned locations in Tokyo, Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum and Hama-rikyu Gardens. Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony was created to help pass along the unique Japanese tradition and cultural entertainment of tea ceremony to people of all ages living in Japan and visiting from abroad including those not familiar with tea ceremony or Japanese traditions and regardless of Japanese language skills.

This year marks the 12th anniversary of the Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony which was started in 2008. Approximately 210,000 visitors enjoyed this Japanese traditional cultural entertainment in the past. This special event will be held over two weekends in the autumn. On October 5th and 6th (Saturday & Sunday) at Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum in Koganei City in West Tokyo. This outdoor museum displays thirty buildings of historic value from the Edo to Mid-Showa eras which have been relocated, restored and preserved. On October 19th and 20th (Saturday & Sunday) at Hama-rikyu Gardens in Chuo City in central Tokyo. Hama-rikyu Gardens is a representative local *Daimyo* (Feudal lord) garden built in the Edo period. It is the only garden in Tokyo that has both *Shioiri-no-ike* (an incoming tidal pond) and *Kamoba* (duck hunting sites). This garden serves as a familiar urban oasis with seasonal flowers blooming in the prime of every season.

Various traditional schools of Japanese tea will attend with all teachers, staff, and students from the schools coming together to help entertain, educate, and support guests through tea ceremony procedure. Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony is a loved and cherished annual event where guests can experience wonderful Japanese tradition. It is not to be missed.

Photos from last year's Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2018 can be seen below.

- Indoor Tea Gathering



- Nodate (Outdoor Tea Gathering)



- Tea Ceremony Workshop for Beginners



[Program Outline]

● Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019 at Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum

Date and Time:

October 5th and 6th, 2019 (Saturday & Sunday)

9:30am - 4:30pm (Reception closed at 3:20pm, entry closed at 4:00pm)

Venue:

Edo- Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum

3-7-1 Sakura-cho, Koganei-shi, Tokyo (inside Koganei Park)

Organized by:

Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)

Supported by:

Koganei City

Koganei City Society of Commerce and Industry

In cooperation with:

Tokyo Metropolitan Tea Ceremony Association

Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)

Park Admission Fee: Free of charge during this event

Details of Events:

1. Tea Gathering in English at Farmhouse of the Tsunashima Family

This program is an authentic tea gathering with an English guide.

- Ticket price: ¥700
- English translation available

2. Tea Ceremony Workshop for Beginners at Farmhouse of the Yoshino Family

This program is a lesson for beginners to learn about the traditional Japanese tea ceremony culture with an English guide.

- Ticket price: ¥300
- English translation available

[Other Events on the Same Days]

Traditional Culture Experience Program for Foreign Visitors

- Time: 9:30am – 4:00pm
- Various exhibits and experiences such as dressing Kimono (free of charge), making traditional crafts (¥500)

- English translation available

● **Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019 at Hama-rikyu Gardens**

Date and Time:

October 19th and 20th, 2019 (Saturday & Sunday)

9:00am – 5:00pm (Reception closed at 3:30pm, entry closed at 4:30pm)

Venue:

Hama-rikyu Gardens

1-1 Hamarikyu-teien, Chuo-ku, Tokyo

Organized by:

Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)

Co-organized by:

Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association

Supported by:

Chuo City

In cooperation with:

Tokyo Metropolitan Tea Ceremony/Flower Arrangement Federation

Tokyo Metropolitan High School Cultural Federation; Tea Ceremony Department

Garden Admission Fee:

General: ¥300

65 or over: ¥150

Details of Events:

1. Nodate (Outdoor Tea Gathering) in English at Fujimi Yama area

This program is an open air tea gathering under the clear autumn sky with an English guide.

- Ticket price: ¥300
- English translation available

2. Tea Ceremony Workshop for Beginners at Kaboku-en

This program is a lesson for beginners to learn about the traditional Japanese tea ceremony culture with an English guide.

- Ticket price ¥300
- English translation available

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[Other Events on the Same Days]

Traditional Culture Experience Program for Foreign Visitors

- Time: 9:30am – 4:00pm
- Various exhibits and experiences such as Japanese flower arrangement, dressing Kimono (free of charge), making traditional crafts (¥500).

Regarding the organizer, Arts Council Tokyo, Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture, please find as follows.

Arts Council Tokyo, Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and

Culture: In order to improve the infrastructure and environment for new artistic and cultural creation, Arts Council Tokyo plays a key role in Tokyo's cultural policies by implementing programs that explore Tokyo's originality and diversity, promoting international cultural exchange and providing opportunities for promising young people who engage in a variety of artistic and cultural pursuits. Furthermore, Arts Council Tokyo is conducting projects that will serve as the driving force of the Cultural Program in the run-up to 2020.

For more details regarding Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019 or press inquiries, please feel free to contact:

[Public Inquiries]

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* Schedule and contents are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.