



Special Exhibition

The History of Sport in Japan

— From the Edo Period to The Tokyo Olympics

Saturday, July 6 to
Sunday, August 25
Special Exhibition Gallery, 1F



Haori worn by a sumo wrestler said to have been 197 cm tall. A travel jacket that belonged to RAIDEN Tame-emon.
Worn by RAIDEN Tame-emon. From the collection of the Sumo Museum, Nihon Sumo Kyokai.

Special Exhibition

The History of Sport in Japan

— From the Edo Period to The Tokyo Olympics

The 2020 Tokyo Olympics/Paralympics are coming next year. To celebrate this event, a year before they start, our museum has organized an exhibition devoted to the history of sport and the Olympics in Japan. The exhibition is divided into the five parts described below.

Part 1: 'Sports' During the Edo-period

Edo-period sports differed a bit from the sports we know today. They included both traditional forms of physical training and games. During the Great Peace of the Edo period, sword-fighting and other military skills once needed on the battlefield became martial arts used as a form of self-cultivation by the samurai class. Records were kept of victories and defeats. For ordinary people, the most popular sport was sumo, but they also enjoyed archery contests held in temple and shrine precincts. Townspeople also took up *kemari*, a form of football once played by courtiers at the Imperial Court. The most skilled players took part in matches viewed by the shogun.

In this part of the exhibition, we introduce these Edo-period sports through contemporary paintings and equipment actually used in matches.

Part 2: Modern Sports and Tokyo

In the Meiji period (1868-1912), the martial arts, sumo, and other traditional sports underwent major changes in their situations. Meanwhile, all sorts of what we now think of as modern sports were introduced from the West and became highly popular. As part of the national push towards Europeanization, those new sports were introduced into school curriculums and spread throughout the country.

In this part of the exhibition, we introduce the paths to popularity in the Meiji and Taisho (1912-1926) periods followed by baseball, tennis, and other modern sports.



The Running of the Horses at Kan'eiji Temple in Ueno
Picture scroll depicting horseback archery at Ueno Kan'eiji Temple
Kanō Tomonobu; latter half of the Edo period

Part 3: The Road to the Olympics

Japan first took part in the Olympics at the Stockholm Olympics in 1912. While marathoner Kanakuri Shisō and sprinter Mishima Yahiko did not win medals, they opened the way for Japan's participation in international sporting events. They also set an important precedent that encouraged the subsequent spread of sports. In later Olympic games, Japanese tennis players Kumagai Ichiya and Kashio Seiichirō and track and field stars Oda Mikio and Hitomi Kinue were medalists. The summer Olympics were scheduled to be held in Tokyo in 1940, but, following the outbreak of the war between Japan and China and the subsequent deterioration of international relations, the games were cancelled. During the wartime period, taking part in sports itself became difficult. In this part, we celebrate the glory of Japan's first Olympic athletes and trace the history of the 1940 Olympics from invitation to the cancellation.

Part 4: 1964 Summer Olympic / Paralympic

After the end of World War II, while occupied Japan was governed by the GHQ, Japan was not allowed to participate in the 1948 London Olympics. Sports in Japan continued to go through a difficult period. That said, the activities of the de facto world record holder swimmer Furuhashi Hironoshin and other athletes encouraged Japanese even before the country was on the road to economic recovery. When Japan's economy entered its period of rapid growth, it was invited again to host the Olympics, in a demonstration of the results of that growth domestically and internationally. Japan thus hosted the 1964 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.

In this part we trace the paths to recovery taken by various sports during the postwar period and the success of their efforts in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. We then use film and other materials to showcase the 1964 Olympic and Paralympic Games themselves.

Part 5: 2020 Tokyo Olympic/Paralympic

The moment when the announcement was made that the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games would be held in Tokyo is still fresh in our memories. Here we use photographs, newspaper articles, and other materials to trace the path from efforts surging throughout Japan to bid on hosting the games to the passing of the torch to Japan at the closing ceremony at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics and Paralympics. This part also introduces the venues at which the games will be held and the sports to be included in the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo. With less than a year until the 2020 games begin, we look back at the developments thus far through photographs and newspaper articles. (Curators: Kutsusawa Hiroyuki and Yoshida Naoko)



Japan's first Olympic Gold Medal, won by ODA Mikio in the Men's Triple Jump at the Amsterdam Olympic Games
Won by Oda Mikio. From the collection of Oda Masao and Oda Kazuo.



Shoes worn by TSUBURAYA Kōkichi, marathon bronze medalist, 1964. (Only the left shoe will be on display.)
Marathon shoes worn by TSUBURAYA Kōkichi. From the collection of the ASICS Corporation.

Information

Open: 9:30-17:30 (Saturdays until 19:30; Fridays [July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 16, 23] until 21:00)

*Last entry 30 minutes before closing

Space: 1F Special Exhibition Gallery

Closed: Mondays (except for July 15, August 12), Tuesday July 16

Organizers: Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture, The Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum, The Yomiuri Shimbun, Japanese Olympic Committee, Japanese Para-Sports Association, Japanese Paralympic Committee

Admission:

| Admission Fee | Special exhibition only | Special and permanent exhibition |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Standard adult | ¥1,000 (¥800) | ¥1,280 (¥1,020) |
| University/college students | ¥500 (¥400) | ¥780 (620) |
| Middle and high school students. Seniors 65+ | ¥500 (¥400) | ¥640 (¥510) |
| Tokyo middle and elementary school students | Free | Free |

Notes:

- Fees in parentheses are for groups of twenty or more.
- Fees are waived in the following cases: Middle and elementary school students who are Tokyo residents and students at Tokyo schools; individuals with disability certificates or atomic bomb survivor certificates, and up to two helpers.
- Silver Parties (Wednesday, August 21): Free admission to special exhibitions for those 65 and older. Proof of age required.

Ticket Sales:

Edo-Tokyo Museum or E-Plus (For tickets to both special and permanent exhibitions, Edo-Tokyo Museum only)

Featured Exhibition Tales of the Creatures: Animals and Daily Life in Edo-Tokyo

Open from Tuesday, August 6 to
Monday, September 23 (national holiday)

Closed August 19, 26, September 2, 2019

Permanent Collection Gallery, 5F Featured Exhibition Gallery

*Items on display may change during the exhibition.

The presence of other living things was an inescapable fact of life for residents of Edo-Tokyo. Which creatures they were changed over time as society changed, but a wide range of animals were beloved, put to work, or used as the focus education or entertainment. Many also became symbols of good luck. They were connected with people's lifestyles in many ways. In this exhibition we explore the rich diversity of relationships between Tokyo-Edo people and animals, using primarily materials from our own collection. The exhibition is divided into four parts.

Part 1: Beloved animals

Loving and cherishing animals was a way to bring harmony to everyday life. It was during the Edo period that animals began being treated as pets even by the common people. Keeping pets involved appreciation for beautiful forms and interesting sounds and the pleasures of communication with others. In this part we introduce beloved animals kept as pets.

Part 2: Working animals

Back in the day before motor vehicles, the working population of Edo, that great metropolis, was not confined to human beings. Oxen and horses were used as beasts of burden and means

of transportation. Living creatures also played important parts in annual ceremonies and festivals. In this part we focus on these working animals, using paintings and other materials from our collection.

Part 3: Popular animals

Edo people loved novelties, and when elephants and camels were first imported to Japan they were sensations. They became enormously popular spectacles. During the Meiji period, horse raiding and circuses appeared. Zoos and aquariums were built. All remain popular today. Here we introduce Edo-Tokyo's most popular animals.

Part 4: Animal designs

Designs featuring animals regarded as auspicious symbols appeared on everyday utensils, clothing, and accessories. Animals were also hugely important motifs in the design of cute toys. In this part we feature living creatures converted into designs.

This exhibition also features experiential zones where visitors can learn from animals featured in ukiyo-e and illustrated reference books. This exhibition will thus be the perfect destination for young and old during summer vacation.

(Curator: Nishimura Naoko)



Celluloid Toy
Showa Era

Komagata embankment Series:
Twelve scenes of Tokyo
Kawase Hasui 1919
Exhibition period: Tuesday August 6 –
Sunday September 1

Visitor Information

Hours

9:30 - 17:30

Saturdays 9:30 - 19:30

Fridays 9:30 - 21:00 (Jul 19 - Aug 30)
(Last admission 30 minutes before closing.)

Closed

Mondays (When Monday is a national holiday, the next business day)
Year-End and New Year Holiday

Admission for Permanent Exhibition

| | Individual | Group (20 and over) |
|--|------------|---------------------|
| Adults | ¥ 600 | ¥ 480 |
| Students* | ¥ 480 | ¥ 380 |
| Ages 65 and over | ¥ 300 | ¥ 240 |
| Junior high** and high school students | ¥ 300 | ¥ 240 |

* Includes university and vocational college students

**Free admission for junior high school students resident or studying in Tokyo

Free Admission to Permanent Exhibition

- Pre-school and elementary school children
- Junior high school students who are residents of Tokyo
- Those in personal possession of disability certificates Mental disability, psychiatric disability protection and atomic bomb survivor chart holders upon showing of the document (documentary proof of age aslorequired) and their two custodians

Silver Day

Admission is free for ages 65 and over on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (documentary proof of age required)

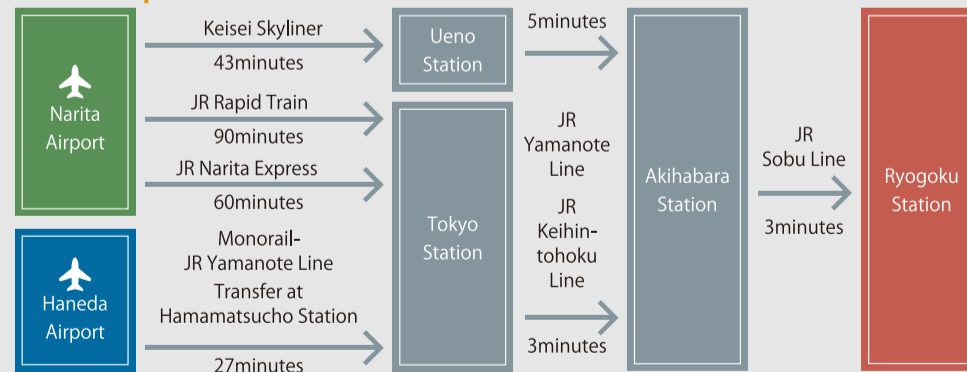
Family Day

The admission for two adult custodians (Tokyo residents) who bring children aged below 18 on the 3rd Saturday and the next day (Sunday) will be reduced by half for entrance to permanent exhibition

A separate admission fee applies to special exhibitions.

Getting Here

From Airports



by Train by Subway

- 3-minute walk from West Exit of Ryogoku Station, JR Sobu Line
- 1-minute walk from A4 Exit of Ryogoku Station (Edo-Tokyo Hakubutsukan-mae), Toei Subway O-Edo Line

