



For Those Starting a New Life in Shinjuku City

Helpful Multilingual Information for Everyday Living

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http://
www.foreign.
city.shinjuku.
lg.jp/en/

Also available
via the
Internet!



Nishi-Shinjuku
high-rise
buildings



Natsume Soseki Memorial Museum



Shinjuku Eisa
Festival



Rows of cherry
trees along Kanda-
gawa River



Shinjuku
Bunka
Center



Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza
For more information,
please read page 2.



The 100 Riflemen Team Procession

Shinjuku City provides useful multilingual information such as rules for everyday living and disaster information.



Guide to Living in Shinjuku



Information on Everyday Living



Shinjuku Start Guide



Information on Everyday Living
for Foreign Residents website



Foreign-language city bulletin
Shinjuku News



SNS Foreign-Language Editions



The next issue of *Shinjuku News* will be published in July 2023. *Shinjuku News* is available at various public facilities, including the Shinjuku City Office, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Branch Offices and public libraries.

Visit Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza!



The Plaza has various services for foreign residents. Please take advantage of these services!

Foreign Resident Consultation Corner



Do you have any questions about or problems in everyday life? At the Plaza, you can ask for advice on anything, from how to complete procedures at the Shinjuku City Office to even small concerns related to daily life. Instead of worrying all by yourself, please feel free to ask for help.

Languages

- English
- Chinese
- Korean
- Thai
- Nepali
- Burmese



Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

Location: Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku-ku 160-0021
Inquiries: Tel: 03-5291-5171
 Fax: 03-5291-5172

Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Closed: Second and fourth Wednesdays, and during the year-end/New Year's holidays (December 29 through January 3)



Multipurpose Space



This space holds Japanese-language classes and various lectures and events with the theme of international exchange and multicultural living.

The Japanese-language study corner has new books! Come and read them!

Japanese-Language Study Corner

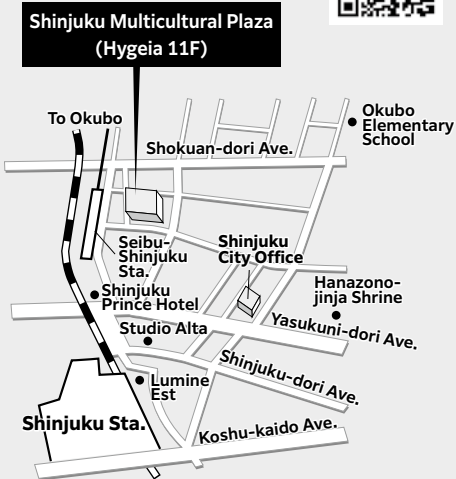


There are various teaching materials to help you learn Japanese, as well as books on culture and international exchange. You can use and enjoy this area like a library.

Reference and Information Corner



The center offers various information and reference materials, such as on everyday living that is useful for foreign residents, about lectures and events and Shinjuku City administration, on local municipalities, and about volunteer activities.



1. Enter through the front entrance



2. Turn left



3. You have arrived at the elevator hall



4. Go up to the eleventh floor



5. Follow the arrows on the sign



6. You have arrived!





Don't Throw Away Your Mail!!

It's spring, the time of year when children start kindergarten or school, and when young adults start new jobs. We imagine that many people are also starting a new life here in Shinjuku.

After you complete resident registration at Shinjuku City Office, you will likely receive mail from Shinjuku, such as important notices and invoices.

For example:

Individual number notification card

Eligibility: Those coming to live in Japan for the first time

When: About a month after completing resident registration

From: Family and Resident Registration Division

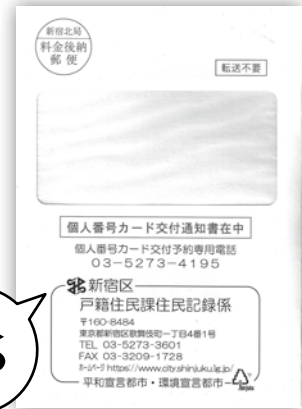


Mail notifying you that your individual number card is ready

Eligibility: Residents who have applied for an individual number card

When: About one or two months after you complete application procedures.

From: Family and Resident Registration Division



National Health Insurance premium payment notification

Eligibility: National Health Insurance members

When: Every year in mid-June. If you join during the fiscal year, this comes about one or two months after you complete the designated procedures.

From: Medical Insurance and Pension Division



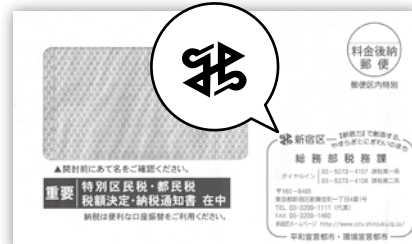
Resident's tax (special city/metropolitan resident's tax) amount decision/payment notification

Eligibility: Residents who pay resident's tax individually through regular collection

When: Every year in mid-June

From: Tax Affairs Division

Note: This notification is not mailed to individuals exempt from resident's tax.



Note: The design of the envelope is subject to change.

Letters from the Shinjuku City Office say “新宿区 (Shinjuku City)” or “新宿区役所 (Shinjuku City Office)” on the envelope. Look for the Shinjuku City logo  !

Notes:

1. Always open and read these letters! Payment notifications and reminders are particularly important.
2. It is smart to have your name written on your mailbox. If it is not, your mail may not reach you.

If you do not understand the letters, please ask for help at the Foreign Resident Advisory Corner or Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza.



Annual Events in Japan 2023 Attractive Qualities of Japanese Culture

Japan has a wide variety of traditional events, customs and festivals. This includes many that have been going on since ancient times as well as customs that began later. In this issue, we'll describe some typical Japanese events.

Hina Matsuri

(Doll Festival)—March 3 (Fri.)

This is a festival that features prayers for the happy growth of girls. People with daughters decorate their homes with dolls clad in kimono, and families enjoy eating *hina-arare* and *chirashizushi*.



Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza exhibits a seven-tier hina doll display.
Note: Please read more about Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza on page 2.



Hina-arare are small, colorful, sweet rice crackers



Chirashizushi is a type of sushi with vinegared rice and various toppings



Hanami

(Flower Viewing)

—Late March through Early April

Especially when cherry blossoms bloom, people go flower-viewing in various parts of Japan. Shinjuku Chuo Park and Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden are famous flower-viewing spots that many people visit.

For more information on flower-viewing locations in Shinjuku City, please scan here



Tango-no Sekku

(Boy's Day)—May 5 (Fri.)

This event features prayers for the good health and growth of boys. People with sons decorate their homes with *yoroi kabuto* armor and *koinobori* carp streamers.



Kashiwamochi is the special Japanese confection for *Tango-no Sekku*



Tanabata

(Star Festival)—July 7 (Fri.)

Tanabata is celebrated as the only day when the stars Hikoboshi (Altair) and Orihime (Vega), who are usually separated by the Milky Way, are able to meet. It is also said that your wish will come true if you write it on a *tanzaku* (paper strip) decoration hung on bamboo trees.



Otsukimi

(Moon-viewing)—Autumn

Otsukimi is an event in which people enjoy looking at the beautiful moon. The *odango* (dumplings) offered during *otsukimi* represent prayers for good health and happiness.



Omisoka

(New Year's Eve)

—December 31 (Sun.)

December 31 is known as *omisoka* in Japanese. Eating *toshikoshi soba* (New Year's Eve buckwheat noodles) is a Japanese custom that has been practiced since long ago.



Toshikoshi soba symbolizes prayers for good health, long life and financial prosperity.

Oshogatsu

(New Year's Day)

—January 1 (Mon.)

On New Year's Day, people display *kagamimochi* rice cakes and eat *osechi-ryori* New Year's food.



Osechi-ryori



Kagamimochi



For more information, please scan here

If you plan to go outdoors, be sure to practice COVID countermeasures, such as wearing a mask and washing your hands thoroughly.