

Architecture Tour Guide in Meguro (1) – Mingei-kan

Japan Folk Crafts Museum Main Building and West Building
(Former Residence of Soetsu Yanagi)

Japan Folk Crafts Museum houses about 17,000 pieces of artwork made by unknown craftsmen in Japan and other countries,. Although the collection does not include expensive antiques, it features the beauty of crafts used in daily life, such as ceramics, textile and wooden lacquerware.

The museum was founded by Japanese philosopher Muneyoshi Yanagi, who initiated Japan's folk art movement in the 1920s and 1930s. This museum is worth visiting because of its vast collection, valuable cultural heritage, and also its buildings with unique and precious architectural styles.



The Main Building is wooden and two-story high with a tile roof in a quasi-warehouse style ("kura-zukuri"). The West Building (Yanagi's former residence), located across the street, has two parts: a peculiar gate built at early Meiji era called a row-house gateway ("nagayamon"), relocated from Tochigi Prefecture, and a main house designed by Yanagi himself. Its roof, external walls and floors are made of Oya stone, a material indigenous to Japan.

The West Building is open to the public only four times a month.

Please visit <http://www.mingeikan.or.jp/english/> for more information, including admission fee.

Address: 4-3-33 Komaba, Meguro-ku, Tokyo **Tel:** 03-3467-4527

Tokyo Tech Cafeteria serving Halal food Open to the public



Tokyo Institute of Technology(Tokyo Tech), Ookayama Campus located in Ookayama is open to the public. Cafeteria for students, 'gakushoku' in Japanese, is also available not only to the students attending Tokyo Tech but also to the public.

Cafeteria 1(Daiichi Shokudo) is a large scale cafeteria with 400 seats, open from Monday to Friday, 11am-2pm.

The seasonal menu with the tasty food is served as well as the d special menu every month. The price of the food is mostly between ¥400 and ¥500. That is quite affordable for students.

Cafeteria 2(Daini Shokudo) is a stone building with large arched windows, open from Monday to Friday, 11am-8pm. As there are many students from all over the world, halal food for the Muslin students is served. You can eat cakes for dessert.

As for the other places to enjoy drinks and meals, a café and French restaurant called Tokyo Tech Front located in front of the Ookayama Station, serve fascinating food.