

Setagaya Museum of History



Bird's eye view of Setagaya Museum of History
(MAYEKAWA ASSOCIATES, ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS 1987)

Welcome to Setagaya Museum of History

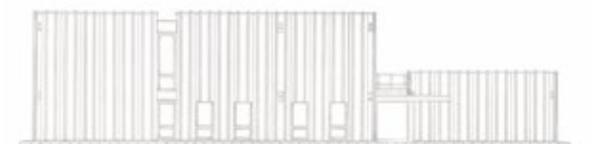
Setagaya Museum of History is the first public regional museum in Tokyo, opened on September 10, 1964 as a part of the project to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Setagaya City.

Due to the increase in the number of the collection, the storage space became not enough, so a new building was added in 1987.

With the aim of passing on the knowledge of valuable cultural properties of the local area to future generations and contributing to the improvement of the education of the residents of Setagaya City, education, academic research, etc., the museum collects and stores historical and folkloric materials related to Setagaya City, making them widely available to the public in the form of exhibitions, lectures, and publication of books.

In August 2023, after a one-year and four-month closure for facility renovation, the museum reopened with a new look for the permanent collection.

We hope that by visiting the museum, you will be familiar with and deepen your understanding of the history and culture of Setagaya City.



User Guide

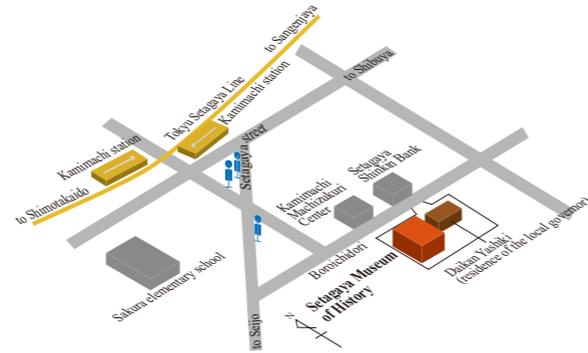
Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

When "Setagaya Firefly Festival and Heron Grass Market" (July) and "Setagaya Flea Market : Boro-ichi" (December 15 and 16, January 15 and 16) are being held this site will be open until the end of the events.

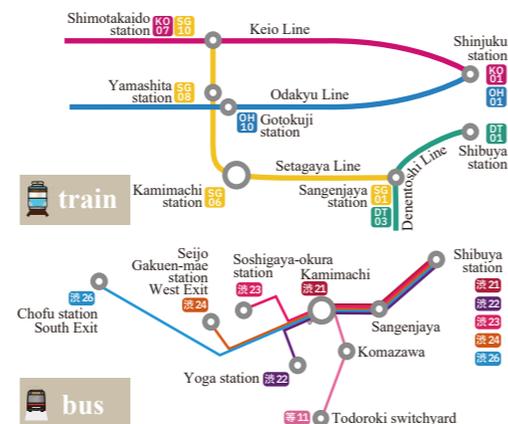
Closed: Mondays, national holidays (or the following day if Monday is a national holiday), Year-end and New Year holidays

Admission: Free

- ❖ Eating, drinking, and smoking are prohibited in all areas of the museum and the Daikan Yashiki (residence of the local governor).
- ❖ Please do not touch the exhibit materials.
- ❖ Please refrain from taking flash pictures in the museum.
- ❖ If you would like to view old documents or have an explanation on the exhibited objects, please contact us in advance.
- ❖ Wheelchairs are available. Please contact the office when one is required.
- ❖ A Multipurpose restroom (for wheelchair, Ostomate, and equipped with baby chairs) is located on the first floor of the main building.



Access 5 min. walk from Kamimachi station for both train and bus



Setagaya Museum of History

1-29-18 Setagaya, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 154-0017
TEL 03-3429-4237 FAX 03-3429-4925



Reference Space

Materials related to the history and culture of Setagaya City, as well as publications from other municipalities are available to view here.



Assembly Room

This room is used for various lectures and social studies tours. It can be rented for a fee to organizations that carry out activities related to local history, culture, cultural properties, etc. of the city. Prior application is required.



Video Booth

Videos about "The History of a flea market (Boro - ichi)" and other historical and cultural properties of Setagaya City can be viewed here.

Reception Desk

Please fill out the admission form. Books and maps including exhibition catalogs, historical collections, reports, etc. are sold here.

We offer history lectures, outdoor history classes, and workshops for children. For details, please see the city's announcement and the city's website.

Setagaya Digital Museum



This is a site where cultural properties and related materials in Setagaya City are digitally archived so that anyone can easily encounter valuable cultural properties. Also on display are the cultural assets housed in Setagaya Museum of History.

<https://setagayadigitalmuseum.jp/>

The people of the last glacial period in Setagaya

Upper Paleolithic period

: about 38,000 - 16,000 years ago

Stone tools from the Seta Site, Shimoyama Site, Dougayato Site, and Megurisawa-kita Site, which are representative of Setagaya City sites are exhibited by period.



Stone axes

The Appearance of pottery and Life in the village

Jomon period

: about 16,000 - 2,500 years ago

Focusing on pottery with various shapes, patterns, and uses, we exhibit tools that allow you to imagine the lives of people in the past.



Jomon pottery

Start of rice cultivation

Yayoi period

: about 2,500 - 1,750 years ago

Pottery from the late Yayoi period, when each region began to use its own distinctive pottery is displayed with a focus on materials from the Kitami Jinya and Dougayato sites.



Yayoi pottery

Rise of chiefs and construction of large tombs

Kofun Period : about 250 - 700 A.D.

Pottery used in dwellings from the early period to the end of this period, and burial accessories such as pottery, jades, stone objects, and haniwa excavated from burial mounds and tunnel tombs are exhibited.



Sakugata(fence-shaped) Haniwa

Setagaya in the Musashi Province

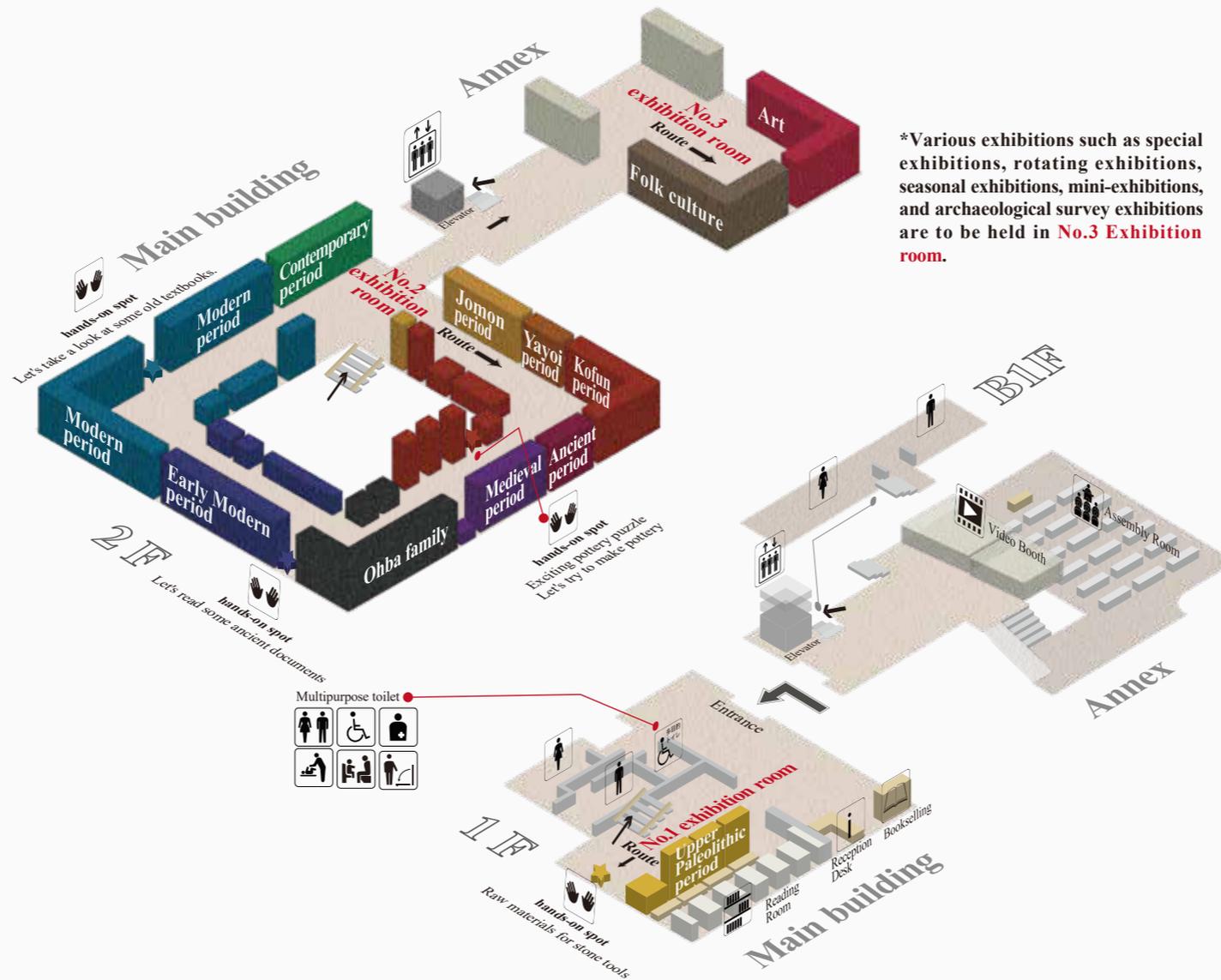
Ancient period

: Nara and Heian periods 710 - 1185

From Kitami to Futakotamagawa in the Tama River basin, and around Seta, there is a concentration of important sites from the Nara and Heian periods.



Belt fittings, etc.



*Various exhibitions such as special exhibitions, rotating exhibitions, seasonal exhibitions, mini-exhibitions, and archaeological survey exhibitions are to be held in **No.3 Exhibition room**.

Literary Arts in Setagaya

Art

Works and historical materials of painters and literary artists mainly related to Setagaya from the Edo period to the present day are exhibited, as well as literary items have been handed down to old-established families and shrines and temples in the city.



Folding screen depicting street entertainers

Life forms being handed down

Folk culture

Materials related to people's lives and culture, such as food, clothing, housing, livelihoods, annual events, and folk beliefs in Setagaya, are exhibited.



Ōkura daikon (Japanese radish)

Changing Lifestyles

Contemporary period : from 1945

After world war II Japan's economy developed significantly. Housing complexes began to be built, electricity, water, and gas were developed, and home electronics became mainstream household appliances.



Electric rice-cooker

From Village to City

Modern period : End of Edo period to Showa period 1853 - 1945

Setagaya, which was a farming village in the suburbs of Edo, was transformed into a city with the expansion of the Tokyo metropolitan area, and Setagaya City was established in 1932.



Tama-Den

Appearance of rural villages in the suburbs of Edo

Early Modern period : 1590 - 1867

There were more than 40 villages in Setagaya during the Edo period. Setagaya's villages, which were suburban farming villages in the huge city of Edo are shown from historical documents and drawing maps.



Public Record of Taishido village

The emergence of powerful samurai families and the state of domination of the territory.

Medieval period : from Kamakura period to Azuchi-Momoyama period Early 1200s - 1590

In medieval Setagaya, the existence of several influential local samurai families who have left their names in history has been confirmed, such as the Kitami clan and the Kira clan.



Cinerary urn

History of the Setagaya Daikan (local governor) Ohba Family

From Medieval period to Early Modern period

The history of the Ohba family, who served as local governors for 20 villages in the Setagaya province of the Hikone domain since the mid-Edo period, the work of the Setagaya governor, and the residence of local governor are introduced.



The 10th Family Head Yajūro