

Setagaya City Outline

Published by International Affairs Division,
Civic and Cultural Department

City of Setagaya

4-21-27, Setagaya, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 154-8504, Japan

Tel : 03-5432-2070

Fax : 03-5432-3005

Print Registration Number:1490



SETAGAYA CITY OUTLINE

Setagaya Appeal

The city of Setagaya has developed as a residential community that features an abundance of greenery and water. Setagaya is built upon a rich legacy of traditional culture created by its residents, fosters an environment where residents have easy access to cultural activities and sporting events, and is filled with excitement. It is a city with a great deal of intrinsic appeal, and it is continuing to grow and develop. We hope that it will help residents rediscover the best of Setagaya and help enhance everyday life here. Likewise, we hope that it will encourage those from other parts of Japan and all around the world who are unfamiliar with Setagaya, to come and get a taste of this wonderful city. We will all continue to strive to make Setagaya the best place to raise children in Tokyo, and a safe and comfortable city where people will want to stay forever.

Contents

- 1 SEASONS of Setagaya
- 2 6 ELEMENTS of Setagaya
- 4 LOCATION of Setagaya
- 6 5 Districts of Setagaya
 - Setagaya District 6
 - Kitazawa District 10
 - Tamagawa District 14
 - Kinuta District 18
 - Karasuyama District 22
- 26 History
- 27 City's Structure
- 28 Setagaya's Sister Cities
- 29 Symbols

SEASONS of Setagaya

Spring

Summer

Autumn

Winter

6 ELEMENTS of Setagaya



ACTIVITY



CULTURE



NATURE



AGRICULTURE



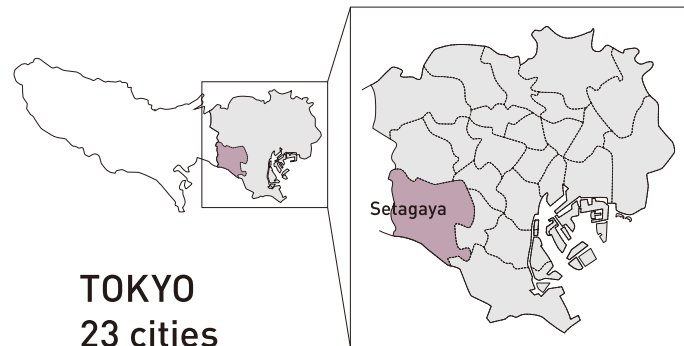
TOWN



SPORTS



LOCATION of Setagaya



Setagaya City is located in the southwest part of Tokyo's 23 cities. The City of Setagaya is bounded by Meguro City and Shibuya City to the east, Suginami City and Mitaka City to the north, Komae City and Chofu City to the west and Ota City to the south. Across the Tama River on the south, we also face Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture. It is approximately 58km² and is the second largest city in Tokyo - after Ota City - and about six times larger than the smallest city, Taito City. The main rivers are the Tama, Nogawa, Sengawa, Yazawagawa and Marukogawa rivers. The terrain consists of plateaus and lowlands, and there is a long area with steep slopes and uneven levels along the Tama River. There are also many woods and agricultural areas, mainly near the riverside. This is a part of Tokyo with a lot of greenery.

Within the city there are expressways and avenues such as Metropolitan Expressways Route No3 and 4, Kannana-dori Avenue and Kanpachi-dori Avenue, as well as elevated and underground railways to the center of Tokyo. Setagaya is a residential city with about 60% of its land area used for residential purposes, mainly because it is close to the center of Tokyo.



5 Districts of Setagaya

Setagaya has a variety of faces, depending on which part of it one views. To promote community development efforts that highlight these unique characteristics, the city was divided into five districts-taking into consideration the everyday needs of residents, traffic concerns, and trends in the city's development-each with its own District Administration Office. The following section will introduce each of these districts.





Setagaya Line



Setagaya

世田谷



1
5

The Setagaya district is the seat of local government, where city hall and other municipal facilities are located. It is the most populous district in the city and has a rich historical background that includes the popular Setagaya Boroichi Fair.



Carrot Tower



1/5 Setagaya



Setagaya Now & Then

Sangenjaya Intersection

This photo was taken from the Sangenjaya intersection on Setagaya-dori Avenue looking toward Seijo area.

Sangenjaya, which originally developed as the crossroads of the Tamagawa Line, has now become the connecting point for the Den-en Toshi Line and the Setagaya Line. The area has changed significantly, as manifested by such developments as the construction of Carrot Tower.

2017



1969



Character

Sanchawan

He is a dog with a teacup head and tea-leaf ears. He was born and raised in Sancha Sharenado. He is a male puppy. In order to make his town safe and secure, he patrols Sancha's shopping street. There are many characters in Setagaya district other than Sanchawan.





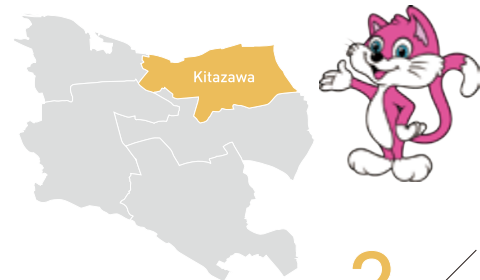
Shimo-kitazawa Shopping Street



Kitazawa

北沢

The Kitazawa district is a convenient center of urban life, featuring many different shops and easy access. While serving as a cultural center, with theater and musical entertainment offerings, it also offers several forms of traditional culture.



2

5





2/5 Kitazawa



Hanegi Park



Setagaya Now & Then

Shimo-kitazawa Shopping District

This photo was taken from around 32 Kitazawa 2-Chome looking towards Shimo-kitazawa Station.

Shimo-kitazawa has long been a popular shopping district, and is continuing to develop and grow. Today, visitors will see row upon row of buildings here, and an area bustling with young people.

2017



1950



Character

Plumy

Since plum petals look like cat paws, he has been adopted as a cat character. The kids of Umeaoka named the character



Plumy. In the shopping street, members of the local merchants' association created a Plumy sticker to place at their entrances. These are part of the "Safe and Secure" movement to protect children in emergencies. The members conduct enlightening activities through the local monthly newsletters.

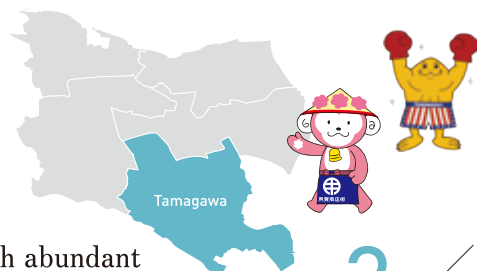


Hyogojima Park

Tamagawa

玉川

The Tamagawa district is a quiet residential neighborhood with abundant natural attractions like the Tama River. In the Futako-tamagawa Station area, a redevelopment project with commercial facilities and hotels has been completed, attracting a growing number of large-scale commercial stores and company offices.



3

5





Futako Tamagawa Rise S.C.



Kishin-en Garden



3/5 Tamagawa

Setagaya Now & Then

Yoga Nakamachi-dori Street
(near the front of Todoroki Station)

This photo was taken from the intersection toward Futako-tamagawa at Todoroki Station on the Tokyu Oimachi Line, looking toward Fukasawa along Yoga Nakamachi-dori Street.

Yoga Nakamachi-dori Street near the front of Todoroki Station has served as a bus thoroughfare and shopping district since the late 1950s.

2017



Now

1961



Then

Character

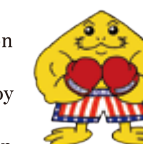
Yockey

As the head of the Yoga shopping street, Yockey brings excitement and good luck! He is the spirit of the crape myrtle on the street, and he has lived in the town for a long time. Since he was helped by children after falling out of a crape myrtle (Japanese name, Sarusuberi -literally "monkey slip"), he plays with and helps the people of this town.



Todorocky

Todorocky is a mighty sea lion born in Todoroki. He is a native-born Todoroki boy who loves boxing and sweets. To keep everyone smile in Todoroki, he has to train every day. His body is bulky, but he is a fun-loving, smiling fighter. When you see him in the town, please cheer him on by yelling, "Nice bulk"!





Kinuta Park



Kinuta 砧



4
5

The Kinuta district is a tranquil residential neighborhood that retains aspects of its historically rural culture. It is also an area of natural beauty featuring abundant water and greenery resources, such as the Kokubunji Cliffs.



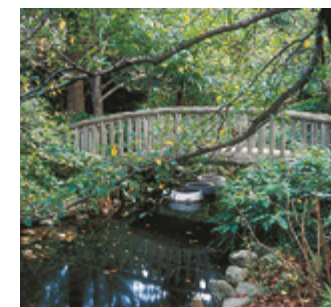
Setagaya Tama River Fireworks Display



Taiji Kiyokawa Memorial Gallery



4 / 5 Kinuta



Setagaya Now & Then

Seijogakuen-mae Station-North Entrance

This is a photo of the north entrance of Seijogakuen-mae Station on the Odakyu Line.

The neighborhood around Seijogakuen-mae Station, which has grown as a residential area since the station first opened, has changed significantly over the years. Such changes have included the underground development of the Odakyu Line and the opening of many station buildings.

2017



Now

1961



Then

Character

Kinuta

Created by the Public-Health Promotion Division, Kinuta District Administration Office, this character helps spread the word about a health emphasis project called, "Arukinuta," (Let's walk in Kinuta).

Based on suggestions for the name gathered by the department in 2014, the character was named by the group of promoting health activities among resident participants in Setagaya.





Karasuyama Tera-machi

Karasuyama

烏山

The Karasuyama district features many areas of historical and cultural significance, and is home to the expansive natural features of Musashino. It is also a vibrant area featuring a series of shopping centers that run along the Keio Line and Old Koshu Kaido Street.



5

5





Setagaya Now & Then

Gas Tanks and the Incineration Plant

This photo was taken from the Chitosedai intersection on Kanpachi-dori Avenue, looking toward Suginami.

The area around Roka Koshun-en Garden was surrounded by rural landscapes in the late 1950s. Since then, the scenery has changed significantly due to residential development and the reconstruction of the Chitose Incineration Plant.

2017



Now

1957



Then

5/5 Karasuyama



Character

Karapyon

She is Karapyon, a crow girl in the first grade of elementary school. She loves festivals! She is from the Karasuyama district of Setagaya. She is really good at dancing the Karapyon dance, and she has its own song, too. She gives energy to everyone in this area.



History

01



The City of Tokyo(Tokyo-shi) first came into being during the Meiji period in 1889, with four villages (Setagaya, Komazawa, Matsuzawa and Tamagawa) becoming part of Tokyo Prefecture (Tokyo-fu) and another two local villages becoming part of Kanagawa Prefecture. In 1907, the Tamagawa Electric Railway began rail services in the area, and new lines (Keio, Odakyu, Oimachi and Inokashira) were added from the Taisho period through the early Showa period.

After the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, many people moved from the heavily damaged downtown areas to outlying suburban areas with inexpensive land and convenient transportation. Setagaya's population surged as a result, transforming the areas along train lines into residential areas. Temples in central Tokyo affected by the earthquake also began moving to Setagaya as well; 26 temples relocated to Karasuyama district from 1923 through the Showa period, creating a "Tera-machi."

In 1932, the city of Tokyo expanded its wards. The towns of Setagaya and Komazawa, and the villages of Tamagawa and Matsuzawa became Setagaya Ward under the City of Tokyo. Four years later in 1936, the villages of Kinuta and Chitose were added. The geographic boundaries remain same as today, but the

population of Setagaya Ward at this time was approximately 210,000 people.

Although Setagaya suffered damage from air raids during World War II, as there was low amounts of damage compared with other areas many people moved into Setagaya after the war, and the population grew rapidly over the next three decades.

In the past, Setagaya City had two distinct administrative "faces": one as a large-scale administrative authority as a tokubetsu-ku (special ward of Tokyo) under the todofuken (metropolitan and prefectural) system and the other as a basic local authority at the city, taking care of everyday matters for its citizens at town and village level. However, reforms to the special ward system in 2000 turned Setagaya and Tokyo's other special wards into basic local authorities. The reforms clearly delineated the special wards as basic local authorities, and today Setagaya City handles all municipal matters carried out by local governments, with the exception of certain matters handled by the Tokyo Metropolitan government.

The FY 2015 national census showed that Setagaya is home to more than 900,000 people, and the number of residents is continuing to grow each year.

City's Structure

02

Executive Body

The Mayor

The mayor is elected directly by city residents, and he/she is the city's highest representative official. In implementing administrative affairs, the mayor organizes and directs subsidiary organs with deputy mayors.

Other duties include administrative work concerning Setagaya City government matters, as well as that dealing with the national and Tokyo Metropolitan governments(specifically delegated matters), according to national laws and ordinances of Tokyo Metropolitan Government.



Subsidiary Organs

To carry out the administrative work and projects that fall under the mayor's authority, deputy mayors are appointed and other staff(regular government employees)provided as subsidiary organs to the office of mayor.

The specially appointed staffs consist of two deputy mayors.

In order to appoint deputy mayors, the mayor must obtain approval from the city assembly. Their duties are to assist the mayor and help in determining mayor policies for the city, working as one with for the mayor. In the event that the mayor is absent for an extended period of time or is unable to carry out his duties for any reason, the deputy mayors will take over said duties as designated by law. Their terms of service are four years.

The regular government workers take orders from their managers and carry out administrative work and projects.



Setagaya's Sister Cities

03

With society changing and becoming more international, there is a growing demand for interaction with people around the world and a deepening of mutual understanding through friendship, goodwill and coop-

eration. Setagaya City has sister city relationships with Winnipeg(Canada), the Döbling District of Vienna(Austria) and Bunbury(Australia). The city is keen to promote "exchange by residents of the cities".

Winnipeg

Canada

The city of Winnipeg is the home of the state's (Manitoba)capital. The city has modern atmosphere with office buildings lined along the street, in combination with the beautifully peaceful ambiance of traditional Europe.

The cities of Setagaya and Winnipeg first became friends through the children's art exchange program in 1960. The friendship grew deeper and the cities agreed to a Sister Cities relationship in October 1970.



Döbling District in Vienna

Austria

Döbling is located in the northeastern part of Vienna. Surrounded by the Vienna Forest and Donau River, Döbling is a quiet, residential area with vineyards. In May, 1985, the cities signed the Sister Cities Agreement. And in 1992, the Japanese garden, "Setagaya Park" was constructed in Döbling District with technical assistance by the City of Setagaya.



Bunbury

Australia

Bunbury is a harbor town and the center of government located 180 kilometers south of Perth, the capital of West Australia. The city has a beautiful beach that is walking distance from the town, and you can see dolphins come near the shore at Koombana Beach. In 1992, the two cities signed Sister Cities Agreement. Since then, our two cities have promoted friendly exchanges in the fields of sports, art and education.



Symbols



Fringed Orchid (Sagiso)

A perennial belonging to the orchid family, this exquisite flower takes its Japanese name (literally, "heron grass") from its three-centimeter-long white flowers which resemble a white heron spreading its wings.



Official Mark

Setagaya's official logo was adopted in 1956. It features a stylization of the first character in "Setagaya" (世) in the center of a circle which symbolizes peace. The design depicts both the cooperation among Setagaya's residents and the ongoing development of the city.



Zelkova Tree (Keyaki)

This straight, thick-trunked tree can be found at historic sites around Setagaya. In April and May, it simultaneously develops new leaves and small flowers of pale yellow-green.



Azure-Winged Magpie (Onaga)

The azure-winged magpie is a bird common to eastern Iberia, China and Japan, where it is found in large number especially in the Kanto Plain. It features a grayish-blue coloring over its entire body and is distinguished by its black head and long tail of pale blue.

Setagaya's Official Symbols

In 1968 it was decided to designate a bird, flower and tree as the official symbols of Setagaya. Suggestions were invited from the public, and final selections were made based on the opinions of a panel of experts.