



# Traditional Places

STUDENT EDITION, FEBRUARY 2024

Class 4

## Culture in Kyodo



Kyodo Station / photo by CASA MiA  
<https://casamia.trust5.co.jp/blog/pos>



Festival / photo by Mitsuru Katakura

In the past, most people could not read and write. When a doctor came to the area with many books, people thought they were sutra books. So, the doctor built a hall and people began to call it "Kyodo."

This area used to be a castle town of Setagaya Castle and prospered as a commercial city.

In the Edo period, the "Tamagawa Josui" canal was diverted, and the Kyodo area, blessed with water resources, developed as a farming village.

The road had been developed along the remains of the "Shinagawa Aqueduct" which

was very important for people's lives in Kyodo, and it is now called Chitose Street. It is a charming road with cherry blossoms and stone walls, delighting the eyes of those who visit in spring.

The Kyodo Festival is held here every year. This festival began around 1907. Since then, shopkeepers in the shopping district formed the "Murasakiren," and they have played a central role in making the festival a success. More than 25 groups participate in the festival, including the Awa

Odori dance, a samba carnival, and clubs from nearby schools. This festival consists mainly of a parade in the Kyodo Nodai shopping street.

The performance on the stage under the elevated railway tracks is located in front of Kyodo station, which immediately attracted many people.

And in the parade, Awa Odori, Eisa, Samba, etc. are performed, and the brass band, cheerleading club, and cheering squad of Tokyo University of Agriculture, which is also part of the name of the shopping street, participate in the parade.

In 1927 (Showa 2), the Odakyu Odawara Line opened, and "Kyodo" station began operations. The area around the station thrives with commercial facilities, and thanks to the presence of many schools nearby, it is used by a lot of commuters and students.

Kyodo has a place where children can learn and have fun. It is a museum called Tokyo University of Agriculture's Food and Agriculture Museum.

In the museum, you can see

old agricultural tools and a diorama display that recreates an old farm house, and also about 120 stuffed animals such as Japanese chickens, which are designated as a national natural treasure, and rare sake vessels. The museum is a natural place for interaction between visitors and researchers. Also, best of all, admission of the museum is free and the museum has a variety of special exhibitions and hands-on events.

The large chicken statue at the entrance is a landmark, and the building was designed by architect Kengo Kuma.

Moreover, the museum has also a "Biorium Tour" where specialized researchers explain parts of the biorium and museum, making it a place where both children and adults can learn and have fun together.

Kyodo is definitely a popular town with a lot of culture because it's easy to go to the city center and it has a thriving shopping district.

By Meguru Sato  
 Yuyuno Arai, Mayu Kato, Kanon  
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## ENTERTAINER

## History of Hachimanyama



Hachimanyama Station / Photo by Yuko Sano

The earliest record of Hachimanyamais from 1553. At that time, the area was called "Kachiyama". The village was then settled by immigrants between 1648 and 1652, and the village of Hachimanyama was established.

The name "Hachimanyama" is said to have originated from Hachiman Shrine, but this is not certain.

Due to the small size of the area and poor water supply, the population was about 154 until World War II. After the war, however, thanks to the proximity to the city center and that the nearly undeveloped land was very attractive, the population exploded.

Before the population grew, however, it was a lonely affair, with villagers gathering every year only to drink alcohol. Today, the Hachiman Shrine festival is held every year on September 22 and is crowded with many food stalls.

Moreover, the area around Hachimanyama Station on the Keio Line is crowded with many family-oriented restaurants and taverns almost every day.

By Meguru Sato

## The Town of Sweets, Kamikitazawa

Sweets Shop "Miyahara"  
<https://komuken.com/setagaya-miyahara/>

Kamikitazawa is a quiet area with three cake shops. It has famous items include Patisserie Miyahara, Conditrairspirane, and Kepo Bagel. One of the shops is called Padishly Miyahara.

This shop is located along a row of cherry blossom trees, about a 3-minute walk from the south exit of Kitazawa Station on the Keio Line. One of their characteristics is that they make cakes and other items using the most delicious fruits of the season, without specifying the

production area. They also sell grapefruit jelly, cream puffs, cheesecakes, baked goods, and breads. This shop has an eat-in space, so it might be a good idea to eat the cake you bought there. Moreover the store also lets in a lot of light, so you can take beautiful photos. Kamikitazawa has many delicious cake shops like Padishly Miyahara . .

By Sora Kondo, Rian Sasaki, Soshi Takano, Hiroto Ikeda

## ENTERTAINER

## Shimotaka Sakura Festival



Shimotaka Sakura Festival / Photo by Tadao Kato

Shimotaka Sakura Festival is an annual event at Shimotakaido. It's held at Nihon University College of Arts and Sciences. The streets are packed with events, including fairs and flea markets, outdoor dances, entertainments, and bingo tournaments. In addition, a kick target game is held in the game corner with the cooperation of FC Tokyo. Shimotaka Sakura Festival give us a chance to meet FC Tokyo members.

Kick Target game can be enjoyed by both children and adults.

You can also experience an earthquake-generating car. That's why many people visit there to enjoy.

By Harutaro Kimura

## Nihon University Cafeteria

Sakurajosui is known for the Nihon University College of Humanities and Sciences campus.

The university cafeteria "Cosmos" is easily accessible from the Keio Line and Setagaya Line's Shimo-Takaido Station. It is a popular spot not only for students but also for the residents who live near the college.

The school cafeteria is also available to the students from Sakuragaoka High School affiliated with Nihon University, and always crowded with many university students and high school students.

Among the many menu items, the daily ramen is the most popular. You can eat it for 280 yen. All types of ramen taste great. It's worth going here to eat some delicious foods.

By Harutaro Kimura



Shimotaka Sakura Festival / Photo by Tadao Kato



## ENTERTAINER

# Shopping Street in Chitose-Karasuyama



Elmall Karasuyama / <https://www.ellmall.or.jp/>

The shopping street "Elmall Karasuyama" is nicknamed Karasuyama Ekimae Street

Shopping Street and has the meaning of "walking in life". People named it with the hope

that I can shop with a relaxed feeling, like walking leisurely in the green.

The shopping street spans north and south around Chitose-Karasuyama Station, and has more than 150 member stores of the Karasuyama Eki Street Store Promotion Association.

In 1950, it started as a neighborhood shopping street for local residents, mainly three fresh products, clothing and household goods. After that, with the development of Chitose-Karasuyama Station, many detached houses were constructed and a residential area progressed, as the number of residential increased. Moreover, at the same time, a regional shopping street that attracts people from the surrounding area was developed.

The street has the annual main events like the Karasuyama Summer Festival, Chitokara Performance Carnival, Illumination Sale.

The street has many good points, on the other hand, also a challenge of road parking. Parking on the street is a problem because it will disturb pedestrians and emergency vehicles. Especially, in case of emergency vehicles, it will not be able to park when a disaster occurs.

You will be surprised at the number of bicycle parking on the street when you go to Chitose Karasuyama. Chitose-Karasuyama, including the shopping street, was a very lively town. So, people think it will be better if people can get rid of such challenges.

By Koharu Sakai

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