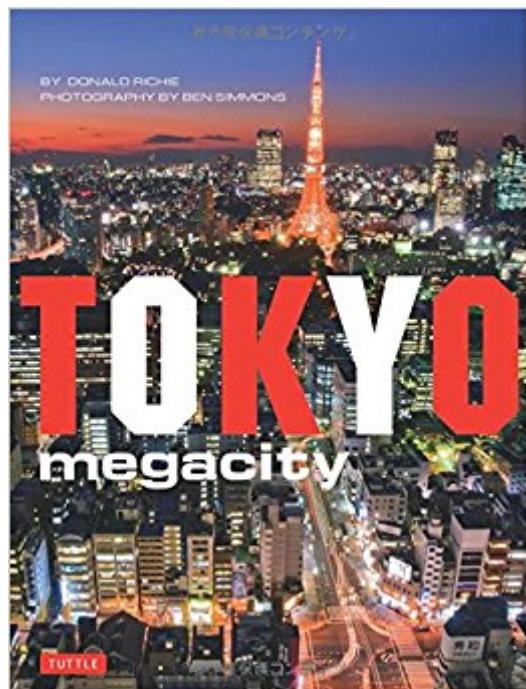


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# Tokyo Megacity



## Synopsis

This photographic Tokyo travel guide explores the dynamic Japanese culture, art and architecture that make Tokyo a world-class city. It has been said that "every city has its high points, but Tokyo is all exclamation points!" The largest and most populous city in the world, Tokyo must be experienced in person to truly be understood. The next best thing? Tokyo Megacityâ "a visual and descriptive exploration of a city that combines old with new and traditional with trendy, like no other city in the world. This extraordinary book explores Tokyo through 250 revealing photographs by well-known photographer Ben Simmons and over 30 essays by famed author Donald Richie. Their love of the city, their sense of its history, and the deep respect and pure joy felt in being here, shine through on every page. Simmons and Richie show us how modern Tokyo evolved from a patchwork of villages that still exist today as distinct neighborhoods and districts, to the modern, trendsetting metropolis renowned the world overâ "that combine to make Tokyo a unique and special place. Tokyo Megacity presents the districts of the city in the order that they originally developed, starting with the Imperial Palace, sliding down to the "Low City" along the Sumida River, soaring back up to the "Mid-City," and finally, climbing the hills to the newer districts of the "High City." The combination of Ben Simmons' photographs and Donald Richie's text capture, as never before, the tremendous diversity, vitality and sheer livability of the megacity that is Tokyo.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A splendid tour through the 'real' Tokyo." â "Japan Times"â |this book should retain some lasting value." â "Metropolis" This extraordinary book explores Tokyo through 250 revealing photographs by

well-known photographer Ben Simmons and over 30 essays by famed author Donald Richie. Their love of the city, their sense of its history, and the deep respect and pure joy felt in being here, shine through on every page. Simmons and Richie show us how modern Tokyo evolved from a patchwork of villages that still exist today as distinct neighborhoods and districts, to the modern, trendsetting metropolis renowned the world overâ "that combine to make Tokyo a unique and special place."

â "Just One Cookbook blog

Donald Richie, novelist, essayist, composer, journalist, and film scholar, was born in Ohio but spent most of life witnessing and reporting on the transformation of Japan from the postwar devastation to its economic resurgence. He was the author of some forty books of fiction and nonfiction, dozens of speeches and essays, and hundreds of book, film, and arts reviews. Ben Simmons studied photography and psychology before completing a Master of Fine Arts in photography and art history. He taught photography at Penland School of Crafts in North Carolina before relocating to Japan. Owner of Ben Simmons Photography Inc., he travels the world to capture evocative images for assignments, photo essays, books, and original prints. Recent books include Traditional Japanese Architecture and Kyoto: City of Zen.

This book is excellent. For some reason, it wasn't as easy to find a book of photographs of Tokyo as I expected it to be. I went in May of this year and loved the city so much. I wanted a book of photos to keep on the coffee table. I have brilliant London and New York books and expected to find a similar one for Tokyo. There are a lot of guidebooks but not many photo books. This one does not disappoint. It's large and has tremendous photos. It makes me want to go back!

Very interesting book about Tokyo all the different parts of Tokyo explained! This is very good writing from Donald Richie and fabulous photography by Ben Simmons. The book is worth buying for the exceptional photography only. However one really would like to visit Tokyo after reading Donald Richieâ™s fantastic text.

Few other books about Japan's capital combine striking, vibrant, interesting and varied images like this one. The text, clearly a love declaration for the city of Tokyo, is also very informative without being too technical. A feast for the eye, a treat for your Japanese travelling ambitions, "Tokyo, megacity" stands out amongst many other publications on the subject (also noteworthy is Livio Sacchi's "Tokyo"). Highly recommended!

A great overview, yet simple but interesting, of Tokyo, made with nice photographs and text. Donald Richie's knowledge and opinion of Tokyo is what makes this mostly photobook an interesting and fascinating journey of the several districts of the biggest city on earth. Great for the Japan amateur or anyone who wish to learn more about the city itself beside all its cultural clichÃ©s!

Donald Richie has once again given us a view of Japan with a narrative that excites the tourist in us all. The photographs are superb. I visit Tokyo yearly and this book stimulates memories and also gives me new perspectives of the largest city in the world. Richie has lived most of his life in Japan and you should read his other books relating to his experiences.

A great album of Tokyo!

good book - cheap!

I lived in Tokyo for six months and this book is such a great overview of the city! I highly recommend it to anyone who is traveling to Tokyo, has lived there and wants a great memory book, or who just loves the city in general!

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