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Tokyo: 29 Walks In The World's Most Exciting City

JOHN H. MARTIN and PHYLLIS G. MARTIN

Tokyo

29 Walks in the World's
Most Exciting City

Includes:
**FOLDED
TOKYO
MAP**

The definitive walking guide to all of
Tokyo's major sights and districts
Includes more than 100 color photos
and 50 detailed walking maps



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Synopsis

The only guide you'll need for walking around Tokyo! Everything you need is in this one convenient packageâ€”including a large pull-out map!Tokyo: 29 Walks in the World's Most Exciting City is the only Tokyo travel guide that is exclusively a walking guide, with lively text full of facts and stories that emphasize the history, culture, architecture and spirit of the city and its neighborhoods. On foot and by train or subway, it takes you through the most fascinating parts of the modern megalopolis, while making the shogun's cityâ€”the Edo of samurai and geishas, merchants and artisansâ€”and the outlines of old Tokyo come alive. From famous historical sites like the Imperial Palace to unique attractions like the Tsukiji Fish Market, this travel book offers something for every visitor and even long-term residents.Fully up-to-date, Tokyo: 29 Walks in the World's Most Exciting City contains: 19 walks in Tokyo 10 day trips that include Yokohama, Kamakura, Mt. Fuji, and Kawagoe More than 100 full-color photos 50 full-color maps A large pull-out map!

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Customer Reviews

I've been to Tokyo more than a dozen times, typically for a week at a time. Every trip I get another

guidebook or two just to learn something new and get new ideas; "29 Walks" is the latest. The book does a credible job with its topic, certainly better than many of the "best walks" type guides I've seen from other publishers and cities. It has 29 interesting areas in and around Tokyo and does a nice job of describing them with current and historical detail. The maps are especially good (a difficult thing in Tokyo). Overall the content is very well-selected and suggested a few interesting new routes and destinations to me even after so many trips there. And the pull out map was much better than I expected: instead of just being a cheap afterthought, it is a very nicely-printed and thoughtful map that will serve well to give you an decent medium-scale view of everything inside the central loop (Yamanote line). Of particular note is that the locations and sights chosen are especially good for getting a sense of Tokyo. If you visit even 1/4 of the areas in the book, you will have a great understanding of the city, certainly much better than that of someone who just sees the neon and western hotels. Still, there are limitations and you should know what you're getting. First, it is nothing more than a guide to the walks. In particular, there is nothing to help you with restaurants, lodging, etc. That's not a big problem, but means that it is not a complete guidebook. Second, the walks are all extremely urban with minor exceptions (e.g., Kamakura). It is not a guide to hiking or nature walks. Again, not a problem but an observation. Tokyo is perhaps the world's most vibrant and exciting city, and this guide is all about the *city* (plus a few day trips). Third, the book is nicely printed on thick paper with color photos and maps. Unfortunately that brings up the one serious problem: it is surprisingly heavy! When I took it out of the box my first thought was, "Oh, no, that's WAY too heavy to take along!" I'm still undecided about that, because I only travel with carry ons, and this book would take up the weight of a typical 2-4 other books (such as novels or lightweight travel guides). As for other books I'd recommend for Tokyo: my personal favorite single guidebook is *The Rough Guide to Tokyo*. If you will be walking and want to find your way, especially to addresses in Japan, then *Tokyo City Atlas: A Bilingual Guide* is an absolute necessity. Don't even bother with any of the printed-on-plastic maps, as they are too small to be useful for walking in Tokyo. Get the Atlas and find a way to carry it around (it will fit in a purse or backpack, but not a regular jeans pocket). Overall I'm satisfied with 29 Walks and would recommend it as the 3rd or 4th book for Tokyo, not first or second, and especially for those who are inveterate city walkers, who love armchair travel, who have been to Tokyo a few times already, or will be there longer than a week and don't mind its weight. Enjoy!

John H. Martin and Phyllis G. Martin have given novice and experienced travelers a truly practical, easy to read walking guide. *Tokyo: 29 Walks in the World's Most Exciting*

City is rich in color photographs showing the beauty of the sights to be seen, but even more important are the detailed maps that each focus on the specific walking tour highlighted in individual chapters. A pocket in the book's back cover contains a larger, folded map of the city. One side of that map shows Northern Tokyo; the other side shows Southern Tokyo and the subway system. An introductory chapter briefly addresses Tokyo's heritage; the chapter is short and is by no means a definitive history of that city. Chapter 1 includes six walking tours in Central Tokyo that provide visitors with multiple options to explore history, culture, art, and other sights of interest. The focus of Chapter 2 is Eastern and Northern Tokyo; there are six walking tours there. Chapter 3 addresses Southern Tokyo and includes three walking tours. Chapter 4 concentrates on Western Tokyo and three walking tours. Chapter 5 provides information on six walking tours through Yokohama and Points South. Finally, Chapter 6 wraps up the book with four walking tours through points West, North, and East of Tokyo. An appendix providing Tokyo General Information and an index conclude Tokyo: 29 Walks in the World's Most Exciting City. Each chapter begins with a detailed two-page map of the tour area. The ensuing discussion leads off listing points of interest on each area's tour. At the end of each walking tour, an information box provides very brief directions on Getting There. Some of the walking tour chapters include a map or maps specific to the particular tour. Tokyo: 29 Walks in the World's Most Exciting City is quite portable; it is an ideal size 5 1/2" X 8 1/2" - and weight 1 lb. 3 oz. - for travelers. It has a rigid, but slightly flexible cover, and the pages of the book are a slick, heavy paper. My only complaint is that, like other tour guides highlighting Japan, the print is a very small font and is not very dark. This makes it difficult for more mature eyes to read easily. Tokyo: 29 Walks in the World's Most Exciting City is a book I will use extensively to plan my stay in Tokyo and one that will travel with me when I visit that city. Definitely a 5-star guide for travelers!

I lived in Tokyo in college and have led tours there several times. This book provides such a comprehensive explanation of the sites and history of this fabulous city - almost step by step! It is a treasure - especially for those who are new to Tokyo or do not have capacity with the language. I am especially pleased that it explores the modern jewels of the city as well as its ancient ones. The walking maps are clear and logical; well labeled in English. If you are headed to Tokyo, buy this book and go explore! You will discover why some of us go back time and time again!

The best feature of this guide is the historical background for each area, to understand how a district has changed over the centuries. It has very good maps of each area, which are clear and detailed. The "walks" often are extensive and cover more than one would see in a day. I used this especially to visit a scenic area near Tokyo, Hakone, and found its guidance very helpful in pointing out the highlights to visit. Note, this guide was completed in 2012 and of course, Tokyo is constantly changing. A good value, especially if you enjoy using the trains and subway.

Good for walks around the megalopolis of Tokyo. The maps are pretty accurate. A couple of things to improve though. One: For each walk, the author should provide an estimated time for the walk. Some were pretty short whereas others were really long. It will help users to better plan for their visits. Second: I personally like to see more pictures of the various buildings/ shrines, etc. associated with each of the walks.

The map was good. The book itself is HEAVY. Like disproportionately heavy, unreasonably heavy. I usually just took the map and left the book at home, the map was really useful.

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