

"Time Travel in Ginza Street of Meiji Era - Hyper Edohaku" Exhibition to be Held in Singapore

A new way to experience Meiji Era Japan through XR, starting from October 30

The Japan Foundation will be co-hosting the traveling exhibition, "Time Travel in Ginza Street of Meiji Era - Hyper Edohaku" at the Japan Creative Centre in Singapore starting on October 30, 2025.

For this exhibition, we will be presenting "Extreme Edohaku," an XR* content developed and produced by the Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum, as an interactive exhibit for visitors. The content will be available in multiple languages, and has been optimized for the venue where it is taking place. Visitors will be able to enjoy a variety of digital experiences during a 30-minute program that includes experiencing Ginza during the Meiji period (1868–1912) in virtual reality (VR) with a head-mounted display, and admiring cultural artefacts such as rickshaws and steam locomotives via mixed reality (MR). It features plenty of other digital experiences as well, such as interactive content where characters move in sync with visitors' movements, real-time projection of XR imagery combined with footage of visitors, and opportunities to take photos together with characters thanks to augmented reality (AR). Replicas of items from the Edo-Tokyo Museum's collection will also be on display. Through the visual and interactive content at the venue, visitors will be afforded the opportunity to broaden their understanding of the history and culture of the time while experiencing Japan in the Meiji period, a tumultuous time of rapid modernization following Japan opening back up to the world.



Conceptual image of what the VR experience

To commemorate the opening of the exhibition at the Singapore venue, on October 30 there will be a lecture by Hiroyuki Kutsusawa, a curator of the Edo-Tokyo Museum who was involved in the development of the "Extreme Edohaku." He will talk about how Meiji period Japan was digitized, together with the Edo-Tokyo Museum's aim in developing digital content and the production process.

Press Inquiries

Fukushima (Mr.), Kumakura (Ms.), Branding and Communication Dept. Public Relation Div.,
The Japan Foundation

Tel: +81-(0)3-5369-6075 / Fax: +81-(0)3-5369-6044 E-mail: press@jpf.go.jp

This exhibition is a new addition to the traveling exhibition project that the Japan Foundation continuously carries out as part of its work to introduce Japanese culture to other countries. After the exhibition finishes its run in Singapore, its next destination will be Thailand.

* XR is an abbreviation for extended reality, a collective term for cutting-edge technologies such as virtual reality (VR), mixed reality (MR), and augmented reality (AR), which combine the real and the virtual to open up whole new experiences.

■ Overview of the exhibition

Title	Time Travel in Ginza Street of Meiji Era - Hyper Edohaku
Dates	Thursday, October 30–Friday, November 7, 2025 The venue is closed on Sunday, November 2 and Monday, November 3
Opening hours	Thursday, October 30: 13:30–18:00 Friday, October 31–Friday, November 7: 10:00–18:00 (closed 13:30-14:30)
Admission fee	Free of charge
Venue	Japan Creative Centre (4 Nassim Road, Singapore 258372)
Opening commemorative lecture	Thursday, October 30: 19:00–20:00 (doors open at 18:30) Speaker: Hiroyuki Kutsusawa (Curator of the Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum)
Reservation for the commemorative lecture and other details	https://www.sg.emb-japan.go.jp/JCC/invite_hyper_edohaku_2025.html
Organizer	The Japan Foundation
Co-organizer	Japan Creative Centre
Special cooperation	Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum, Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture



■ About the speaker

Hiroyuki Kutsusawa

Hiroyuki Kutsusawa has a master's in Japanese history and folklore from Kanagawa University. He has been a curator at the Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum since 2007. Kutsusawa specializes in Japanese modern history and folklore. In addition to exhibitions, he is also responsible for the development of digital content, including app development, at the museum. Kutsusawa's publications include "Japanese Tiles: A Century of Beauty and Utility" (co-author, published by Two Virgins, April 2022), "The History of Sport in Japan - From the Edo Period to the Tokyo Olympics" (special exhibition catalog, July 2019), "Tokyo 150 Years" (special exhibition catalog, August 2018), "From Entertainment District to Movies: The Transformation of Asakusa 6-ku in the Late Meiji Period as Seen in Official Documents" published in Volume 33 of the Edo-Tokyo Museum Research Report (2018).

Press Inquiries

Fukushima (Mr.), Kumakura (Ms.), Branding and Communication Dept. Public Relation Div.,
The Japan Foundation
Tel: +81-(0)3-5369-6075 / Fax: +81-(0)3-5369-6044 E-mail: press@jpf.go.jp

The Japan Foundation

The Japan Foundation is an independent administrative institution that promotes “cultural and artistic exchanges,” “Japanese language education,” and “Japanese studies and international dialogue,” with the mission of “cultivating friendship and ties between Japan and the world.”



JAPAN FOUNDATION

国際交流基金

As part of its activities to introduce Japanese art and culture to other countries, the Japan Foundation continuously runs a traveling exhibition project.

The items on display range from exhibitions that showcase the traditional beauty of Japan, such as pottery, crafts, and Japanese dolls, to exhibitions that showcase modern Japan, such as contemporary art, photography, architecture, and design. There are about 15 exhibitions on tour at any one time, and they are held at over 100 museums and cultural institutions every year.

Japan Foundation official website: Traveling exhibitions program

<https://www.jpff.go.jp/e/project/culture/exhibit/traveling/index.html>

Partnership to co-create a future with the next generation: WA Project 2.0

Started by the Japan Foundation in 2024, the “Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0” is a decade-long comprehensive people-to-people exchange project conducted with ASEAN and other Asian countries, focusing on Japanese language education, culture and the arts, Japanese studies, and global partnership programs.

Centered around the Japan Foundation's NIHONGO Partners program and its initiatives for two-way intellectual and cultural exchange, this project strives to strengthen the multi-faceted networks of people in the region and build relationships based on mutual trust and respect between Japan and its Asian partners through sincere and open communication.

◆ NIHONGO Partners Program

NIHONGO Partners are teaching assistants dispatched to secondary educational institutions mainly in Asia to support local Japanese language teachers and students.

◆ Two-way Intellectual and Cultural Exchange

These exchange programs provide opportunities for people across the region to collaborate, thereby fostering mutual understanding and building strong bonds among those of the next generation who will serve to connect different countries in the world.

To learn more about the project, you can find articles and videos about past and current initiatives on the official website of the Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0 (<https://asiawa.jpff.go.jp/en/>). Check it out.

Press Inquiries

Fukushima (Mr.), Kumakura (Ms.), Branding and Communication Dept. Public Relation Div.,
The Japan Foundation

Tel: +81-(0)3-5369-6075 / Fax: +81-(0)3-5369-6044 E-mail: press@jpff.go.jp