**55** 

# **Hibiya Park**

Administrator Tokyo South Parks Group

Hibiya-Koen, Chiyoda Ward I ocation

Contact Information Hibiya Park Administration Office tel: 03-3501-6428 (1-6 Hibiya-Koen, Chiyoda-ku 100-0012)

Transport 2-minute walk from Hibiya (Tokyo Metro Hibiya line, Chiyoda line, and Toei Subway Mita line),

> 2-minute walk from Kasumigaseki (Tokyo Metro Marunouchi line) 7-minute walk from Yurakucho (JR line), parking lot (underground public parking, toll)

8-minute walk from Yurakucho (JR Yamanote line). Underground toll parking facilities available.

This area held the estate of Matsudaira Hizen-no-kami and others until the fall of the shogunate, and was a military parade ground through the Meiji era. It was later planned, designed, and developed as an urban park, becoming Japans first western modern park. The park saw its 115th anniversary in 2018. Enthusiasm of the park designers who were pioneers of culture can be seen in the small outdoor music hall, first flower garden, ginkgo now of trees, and so on. Hibiya public hall and the large outdoor music hall are widely used even today.

The parks flowerbeds are blooming with colorful seasonal flowers year-round. That helps make the park a place of relaxation for people working in the nearby business district.

## Risky ginkgo

Opened / June 1, 1903

The largest ginkgo in the park, this tree estimated to be 400 or 500 years old has a trunk circumference of 7 meter. It was to be cut down to make way for expansion of Hibiya Street in 1901. But Dr. Seiroku Honda, the parks main designer, declared that he would relocate the tree even if he had to risk his career to do so. It ended up taking 25 days to move the tree 450 meters in the park.



Risky ginkgo

### Remains of Hibiya quardpost

The ivy-covered stone walled mound is what remains of the Hibiya quardpost for Edo castle, artfully included in the park plans. Shinji Pond was made utilizing the guardposts moat.











**Dogwoods** 

Dogwood trees here were presented to Japan in return for cherry trees sent to the United States and planted along the Potomac River. The trees were planted here at Hibiya Park and in other parks. Those visible today are descended from the original gifts.

# **Monuments** and sculptures

The Lupa Romana statue presented by Italy in 1938 depicts two brothers said in Roman mythology to be raised by wolves. A Bell of Liberty from the United States also stands in the park.



First flower garden

#### Seagull field and local forest

A fountain that stands in the center of the park was designed after the

black-headed gull, the prefectural bird of Tokyo. The 51 species of trees circling the were brought from all over Japan to commemorate the second Japan Ur-



The fountain

Area / 161,636.66 m<sup>2</sup> (some areas are state-owned property provided under gratuitous loan

ban Green Fair in October 1984.

Trees / Tall trees: 3,100 , Shrubs: 10,100 m2, grass: 11,300 m2

Main plants / Ginkgo, Japanese apricot, camphor, buttonball, dogwood, pine, tulip tree, rose, leopard plant

Events / Concerts at the small music hall (Wednesday and Friday Concerts), morning glory display (July), seedling sale (April and October), chrysanthemum display (November)

Facilities / Hibiya Public Hall (Contact Tobu District Park Office Administration at 03-3821-6145.)

Large Open-Air Concert Hall (Contact at 03-3591-6388.), small music hall, parade ground, Hibiya Library (tel; 03-3502-3343), Felice Garden Hibiya (tel: 03-5501-4441), tennis courts, children's playground, food and drink stands, College of Green and Water for Citizens (tel: 03-5532-1306) 99



Kumogata pond

#### Health field

This 2,200m<sup>2</sup> field has equipment for measuring strength and for physical training. People from the business district stop by at lunch to work on improving their health.

#### Hibiya Park Flower Calendar

January Sasangua

June

February Japanese apricot, chimonanthus

March Pansy, camellia, spiraea thunbergii, daphne odora

April Cherry, forsythia, wisteria, Dogwood

May Rose, azalea, southern magnolia, aesculus, satsuk, azalea

Hydrangea, water lily, acanthus

July Gardenia, crape myrtle, agapanthus, tulip tree, kalmia

August Hibiscus syriacus, crape myrtle, white lilyturf, nerium oleander

September red spider lily, orange osmanthus

October Dogwood fruit, orange osmanthus, yucca recurvifolia November Sasanqua, chrysanthemum,qinkqo colored leaves

December Leopard plant, Sasangua

