

District of historic names

Ichigaya

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This area was home to many warrior residences during the Edo period, and Japanese history is etched into the neighborhood in the form of its historic town and hill names. These include Jorurizaka, Kurayamizaka, Ichigaya Takajomachi, and Nijikkimachi. This area was also once home to Shieikan, the sword fighting dojo of Kondo Isami, who became commander of the Shinsengumi police force; now, however, only the explanatory sign remains.

Distance & Time

4.8 km
Approx. 90 min

Ichigaya Course

5 Ichigaya Sta.
(Ichigaya Mitsuke ruins)

1 Ichigaya Kamegaoka Hachimangu Shrine

2 Ministry of Defense

3 Banknote & Postage Stamp Museum

4 Former site of Kondo Isami's Shieikan

5 Arakicho

6 Shinjuku Historical Museum

6 Yotsuya Sanchohome Sta.

Recommended Tourist Spots

Ichigaya Kamegaoka Hachimangu Shrine 市谷亀岡八幡宮

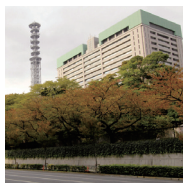
This shrine was originally established in Bancho (Chiyoda-ku) as the tutelary shrine of Edo Castle to enshrine the Hachiman God of Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine. Now known as Ichigaya Hachiman, it features the only copper torii in Shinjuku; a war fan, or *gunbai-uchiwa*, that is said to have been dedicated by Ota Dokan (not currently on public display); and a stone used to test strength, called *chikaraishi*.



Copper torii gate

Ministry of Defense 防衛省

The building that houses the Ministry of Defense was completed on the ruins of the residence of the Owari Tokugawa family. The Imperial Japanese Army Academy had been using this site since 1874. After the war, it became a military camp for the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force, and in 2000 was converted to use by the Defense Agency (now the Ministry of Defense). Tours of the facilities are available (advance registration required).



Building of the Ministry of Defense

Shinjuku Historical Museum 新宿歴史博物館

In addition to a detailed replica of Naito Shinjuku, post-station town from which Shinjuku derives its name, the museum's collection includes full-size reconstructions of a *kurazukuri*-style shop, a municipal streetcar 5000 model made in 1930, and a residential building in use back in those times. The museum also recreates the sights and sounds of the areas around Shinjuku Station in the early Showa period (the late 1920s).



Display of the life-sized model of a streetcar