





Area Colorful International Town



Okubo has become popular as one of Tokyo's international spots. Starting at Shin-okubo station and continuing Northwest along the larger roads are a large number of Pan-Asian restaurants, shops, and general stores. Korean stores are the most numerous, but Okubo's visitors include people from all parts of the world. Night and day, Okubo gives off a lively and international vibe.

Area The Town of the Teppogumi Hyakunin-tai



About 400 years ago, Tokugawa Ieyasu moved the seat of government to Edo, and in order to guard the Western reaches of the capitol deployed 100 musketeers there. The place they lived became known as Hyakunin-cho (100 person town). The shrine these musketeers prayed, Kaichuinari-jinja shrine, name comes from these musketeers as well. Kaichu means "hitting all targets". Even now, the torii gate, wash basin, and garden lanterns they dedicated still remain.

Area A Town of Instruments



Before World War II, a large number of German musicians and Japanese classical musicians lived around Okubo. Thus, this area became famous as a "music town" and a "town of instruments". Even now there are many long-established music stores, used instrument stores, and studios, and international musicians are known to drop by when in Japan. In addition, many instrument repair shops and craftsmen, most notably for wind instruments, are active in the area.

