

AKASAKA WALK

Take the Subway : Ginza Line subway to Shimbashi,
 Asakusa Line subway to Shimbashi
Or JR : Yamanote Line to Shimbashi

Walk toward the river, follow the highway (that curves to the right (north), and then turn right (under the other highway) i.e. east curving south, to the far side of the next major intersection cross a small bridge to enter

HAMA RIKYU GARDEN

Located on the riverside. Entrance fee ¥300.
relax in the park for an hour or two
have a *matcha* (tea) and a sweet in the tea house on the lake ¥500.

Walk to the far Northeast corner of the park and take the Waterbus to Akasaka ¥650.
It will go south one stop and then cruise up the river
The boat will navigate under 13 different bridges
that cross the Sumida River on the east side of Tokyo.

Get off at **AKASAKA**

Walk slightly to the left (south) and then directly East
away from the river, along the big street for two blocks
Turn right, through the first temple gate Kaminari-mon,
into the beginning of the long shopping street in front of

SENSO-JI (TEMPLE)

walk through the street
buy any and all sweet treats and crackers (*osembi*) being made on the spot
walk through the big gate and look at the gods guarding the Temple
immerse yourself in incense smoke at the large burner
walk up the steps of the Temple, make a donation and say a prayer

Walk out the right-side gate (east)

Turn left and find **Maneki Neko Temple**

this is the place that started the whole 'cat with the raised paw'
that you see in every shop window that supposedly bring luck and prosperity

Walk back the direction you came, but walk behind the stalls on the left side
look at the restaurants
turn left halfway back up the street, walk to the next real street
eat lunch at the restaurant on the far left side (NE corner)
the place with the large staircase in the middle

Exit the restaurant and walk back the way you came (West)

Walk through the covered shopping street

Continue to walk out of the shopping district until you reach

KAPPA BASHI Dori

Turn right and check out all of the Restaurant Supply shops (North)

buy some fake food for window display
buy anything else you like,
but real restaurant items may require a purchase in bulk

Come back toward the temple.

On the left (west) side of the temple, the first street is Koen Hon Dori.

Along there you will find some salaryman *izakaya* that spill out onto the street.

The one halfway up the block on the west side [5-1]

 serves fish and vegetables as well as meat dishes.

They also have a liquor called Denki Bran, that is a brandy-like drink.

You can stay and call it dinner or look elsewhere for a more full dinner.

 Most of the neighborhood closes quite early.

There are few subway trains out there,

so you will have to walk back down Kappa Bachi Dori (South)

to the Tawaramachi stop of the Ginza Line

 on that first big street