A National Important Cultural Property

YOYOGI NATIONAL STADIUM





It marked its 60th anniversary in 2024.
Together with you, we will continue to create the history and culture.

Completion of the Yoyogi National Stadium (1964)

The Yoyogi National Stadium, a symbol of Japanese architecture, was designed by **Kenzo Tange** (architect and overall designer), **Yoshikatsu Tsuboi** (structural engineer), and **Uichi Inoue** (mechanical engineer) for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, serving as the National Indoor Stadium.

This stadium harmoniously combines both the beauty of the structure and the outstanding functionality of a sports venue. It includes a dynamic roof, traditional Japanese elements, a column-free space that unites athletes and audience, and circulation paths designed for over 10,000 people.

Kenzo Tange introduced the innovative 'suspension roof structure' using cables and wire ropes between two 40-meter-high columns. This unprecedented use of civil engineering techniques, originally developed for bridges, was a groundbreaking approach in large-scale architecture.

With the Tokyo Olympics fast approaching, **the project was incredibly tight timeline —only 18 months** to complete. Japan's leading engineers faced considerable challenges, applying the latest technologies and their expertise. To achieve the roof's curve, they adapted the suspension elements to pre-formed steel frames, creating a "semi-rigid suspension roof."

Finally, **the Yoyogi National Stadium was completed on August 31, 1964**, just 39 days before the start of the Tokyo Olympics.



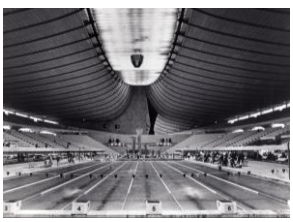




Construction in progress (1961-1964).



Aerial view during construction (1964).



Interior of the 1st Gymnasium (1964).

A Legacy of Two Olympic Games

During the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, aquatics competitions were held at the First Gymnasium, while basketball was hosted at the Second Gymnasium.

In the 2020 Olympics and Paralympics, held in 2021, the First Gymnasium hosted handball, wheelchair rugby, and para-badminton.

The Yoyogi National Stadium is one of the world's most distinguished sports venue, with a remarkable legacy of hosting two Olympic Games.

Facility Overview

The First Gymnasium
-Arena Area : 4,000m^2
-Total Area : 28,705m^2
-Maximum Capacity : 12,934 people

The Second Gymnasium
-Arena Area : 1,300m^2
-Total Area : 5,644m^2
-Maximum Capacity : 4,002 people
-Recent Major Events

Indoor Swimming Pool
-Pool Lanes: 50m x 6 lanes

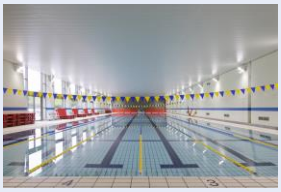
Futsal Court
-Artificial Turf: 4 fields



The 1st Gymnasium Arena



The 2nd Gymnasium Arena



Indoor Swimming Pool



Futsal Court

*Additional photos are provided on the reverse side.

Destinated as an Important Cultural Property (2021)

In August 2021, the First and Second Gymnasium were designated as Important Cultural Properties (buildings) by the Japanese government, becoming the newest buildings to receive this designation.

<Description>
Built for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, this iconic work of architect Kenzo Tange features a suspension structure that supports the roof and seating, creating a grand interior with a soaring central space. The circulation plan, formed by two offset semicircular, is both clear and beautiful. Top engineers of the time, who developed and applied unprecedented techniques and construction methods, merging design, structure, and function at an exceptionally high level to achieve an unprecedented dynamic architectural achievement. Both in design and technology, it stands as a highly valuable postwar modernist architectural masterpiece.
Source: Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, important Cultural Properties Database (unofficial English website).

Though designated as an Important Cultural Property, the stadium continues to serve as a sports venue and concert hall, hosting over 300 events annually.

< Major Past Events>

1964	Tokyo Olympic Games
1964-	Ice skating rink opens to the public*1
1965-	Swimming pool opens to the public*1
1977-	World Cup Volleyball*2
1977&1985	World Figure Skating Championships*2
1979-	The 1st World Cup Swimming Championships
1983&2014	World Table Tennis Championships
1994-	Cirque du Soleil "SALTiMBANCO","ALEGRIA" and more
2021	Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games

Global artist who have geld concerts at the Yoyogi National Stadium

-QUEEN (1985)
-Metallica (1985, 1993, 2003)
-BILLY JOEL (1987)
-Bon Jovi (1996)
-Rihanna (2006)*
-Bruce Springsteen (1985)
-Stevie Wonder (1985)
-Aerosmith (1990)
-Oasis (2002, 2005)
-BTS (2016)
-Arena di Verona Festival opera "Aida" (Italy, 1989)

*MTV VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS JAPAN 2006

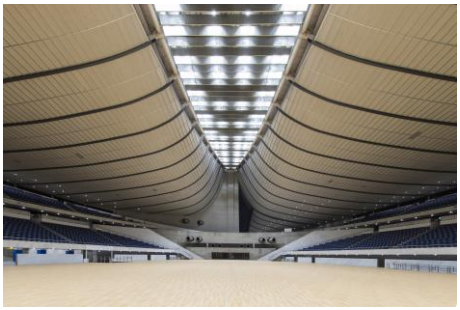
*1 The facility operated as an ice skating rink in winter and a swimming pool in summer.
*2 First time hosted in Japan.

Inside the Venue: Photo Gallery

The First Gymnasium



Arena



Ceiling



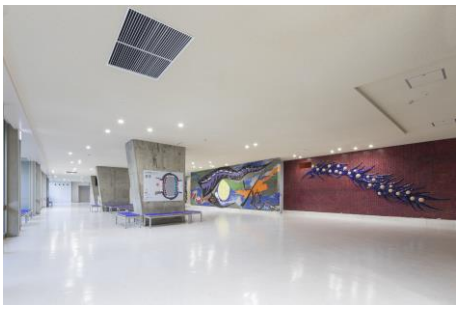
VIP Seating



VIP Room

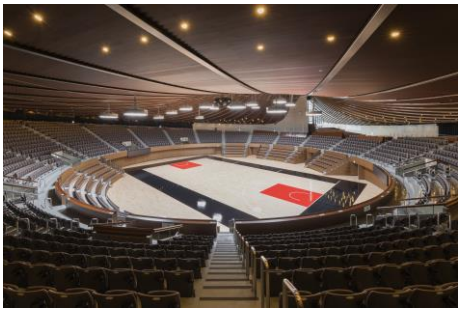


Lounge

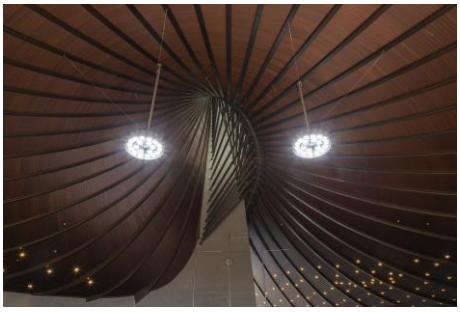


Lobby

The Second Gymnasium



Arena



Ceiling



Athlete's Changing Room



Lobby

Several Artworks at the Stadium

















Featured Artists and Locations

1-4. **Taro Okamoto** [the 1st gymnasium]
5. **Seiji Shimizu** [the 1st gymnasium]
6. **Toko Shinoda** [the 1st gymnasium]
7. **Agustín Cárdenas** [outdoor]
8. **Yasuo Mizui** [the 2nd gymnasium]