Japanese Culture for Fun!

このページでは「日本」をいろいろな角度から紹介します。
This is a multi-faceted introduction to Japan.

今回のテーマは「秋葉原へ行こう」です。
We're hitting Akihabara today.

クイズ：あなたはアキバ通？
Quiz: Are you an Akihabara expert?

1. 秋葉原はどこにある？
   Where is Akihabara?

2. 秋葉原でうまれたカフェは何？
   What famous cafes had their origins in Akihabara?
   ① バトラー喫茶 Butler Cafés
   ② メイド喫茶 Maid Cafés
   ③ サーパント喫茶 Servant Cafés
   ④ プリンセス喫茶 Princess Cafés

3. 秋葉原でうまれた缶詰は何？
   Which of the following products was first launched in Akihabara?
   ① ラジオ缶 Canned radio
   ② Tシャツ缶 Canned T-shirt
   ③ 味噌汁缶 Canned miso soup
   ④ おでん缶 Canned odon stew (vegetables and fishcakes in soup)

答えは次のページだよ。See the next page for answers.
秋葉原 Akihabara

A
つくばエクスプレス 秋葉原駅
Tsukuba Express Akihabara Sta.
2005年に開通した鐵路「つくばエクスプレス」に乗り換え、つくば駅（つくば市）まで45分で行けるよ。
The Tsukuba Express railway was opened in 2005. It now only takes 45 minutes to get from Akihabara to Tsukuba, Ibaraki.

B
ヨドバシカメラ マルチメディアAKIBA
Yodobashi Camera Multimedia AKIBA
週末は、つくば方面から来る家族連れで賑わう。ゴルフの練習場もあるよ。
Shoppers from the Tsukuba area flood this mall on weekends, bringing their entire families with them. There is even a practice range for golfers here.

C
ドン・キホーテ
DON QUIJOTE
8階にAKB48劇場がある。アイドルグループAKBのライブをやっているよ。
The AKB48 Theater on the eighth floor features live performances by AKB, a pop-idol girl group.

クイズの答え（1－③、2－②、3－④）
全問正解だったあなたはかなりのアキバ通
Answers to the quiz: (1－③, 2－②, 3－④).
You're an expert on Akihabara, if you got them all correct.
The GHQ (Allied Forces) that occupied Japan after World War II wanted to rebuild Japanese society by revamping its infrastructure in particular the roads. It ordered in 1949 that the stalls that crowded the streets of Tokyo be torn down.

Facing the loss of their livelihoods, shop owners demanded an alternative location for setting up new stores. Tokyo Metropolitan Government, working with Japan National Railway (now JR), let them open new stores underneath the raised railway tracks. In the same year, Radio Store opened in Akihabara and gradually attracted other radio-related stores like Radio Center and Radio Department Store and turned the area into a shopping destination for all things electronics.

①ラジオ会館 Radio Kaikan (Radio Hall)

Radio Kaikan also known as Rajikan built in 1962, was the first high-rise in Akihabara and has since become a landmark.

The shops in Akihabara started off as purveyors of radios in the post-war era and expanded into home appliances and personal computers. Now they are famous for their extensive offerings of anime and game-related products.

②宝田無線 Takarada Musen

You will find people from all over the world working as clerks in this store. There is also a free information center and the Akihabara Tourism Promotion Association (http://www.npo-akiiba.com/), which offers guided tours of the area, called New Discovery of Akihabara, on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. The tours are free and are led by English-speaking guides.
使ってみよう、こんな表現！ Try Using These Phrases in Japanese

まずは、「〇〇語がわかる人がいますか。」（〇〇には国名の英語を入れてね。）
"Is there anyone who speaks ________ ?" (Insert the language you want.)

いなければ、「これは〇〇で使えますか。」（〇〇には国の英語名を入れてね。）
「英語のマニュアルがついていますか。」
Or, "Would this work in ________ ?" (Insert the name of the country.)
Or, "Does it come with an English manual?"

③チチプ デンキ Chichibu Electric
おでん缶で有名。元々は、地面が高齢者向けのコンビニで、狭い場所でも収益が上がる自動販売機を設置しようと
したオーナーが行方不明の缶詰で行方不明の缶詰でとどまらずにölったのが始まりなんだって。
This store is famous for launching canned odon. Real estate is costly in Akihabara, and the shop owner
wanted to maximize revenues by setting up vending machines that would fit into tiny spaces. He decided to
sell odon in order to drive sales in wintertime.

④秋葉原クロスフィールド Akihabara Crossfield
秋葉原電両鳥とUDXの2つが並ぶ複合ビル。UDXの4階には東京
アニメセンター（写真）もある。
This building is comprised of two sections, Akihabara Daibiru and UDX.
The Tokyo Anime Center is located on the fourth floor of UDX.

⑤ジーストア アキバ Geestore Akiba
6階には、今や秋葉原で珍しくないメイドカフェの一部
「キュアメイドカフェ」が入っている。店内に入ると、メイド姿の店員さ
らが迎えてくれるんだ。1階にはガチャポンの機械（玩具入りカプセルの
手動式自動販売機）がずらっと並んでいるよ。
Cure Maid Café, on the sixth floor is the original maid café, and has
become an Akihabara institution. Customers are greeted at the door by
waitresses dressed as maids. There is also a huge array of toy capsule
vending machines on the first floor.