Practical Information While in Japan

Poster Exhibition
All participants are welcomed to 25 posters exhibited at 1st floor in Science Council of Japan. Also, please drop by Room 6-C (6th floor) where experts give insightful explanations on some featured posters by different topics in every lunch break.

Access to Science Council of Japan
Participants are expected to make their own travel arrangements to the venue. It is recommended to use Tokyo Metro to get off “Nogizaka” station on the Chiyoda line. Take left from exit 5, with a few minutes’ walk, and you will see the Council on your left.

Currency (Yen)
The unit of currency is yen (¥).

Notes

¥10,000 ¥5,000 ¥1,000

Coins

¥500 ¥100 ¥50 ¥10 ¥5 ¥1

Exchange Rate (as of November 13th)
● $1 = ¥113.18
● €1 = ¥131.74

Smoking
In public buildings, smoking is prohibited except at designated areas, including SCJ. Some wards and cities have their own smoking regulations, such as imposing fine for violation. Please be confirmed that SCJ also prohibits smoking in parking spaces at the main entrance.

Food and Water
In Japan, you can enjoy cuisine of various countries, such as Japanese, European and Chinese. To eat Japanese food, chopsticks are used. If you have difficulty to eat with chopstick, you can use spoon and fork. Tap water is drinkable in Japan.

How to Get to Public Transportations
Japan has an excellent public transportation system, you can easily travel without a car.

Buses
Enter the bus through the front door, put the exact fare into the box next to the driver. If you use an IC card, touch the card against the reader near the driver. If you do not have the exact fare, use the changing machine to get small coins. A display above the driver shows the next stop. When your stop is approaching, press one of the buttons on the wall to signal the driver that you wish to get off at the next stop. Get off the bus through the back door.

Trains
Tickets can be bought ticket vending machines at all stations for use on that day, or bought in advance from ticket counters at every station. A particularly good feature of the system in Tokyo Metro if you cannot read Japanese is that every line on the network not only has a color but also has a letter (A for Asakusa Line, M for Marunouchi Line, etc.) and every station on each line has a number. For example, Nogizaka station on the Chiyoda line is C05.
**Electricity**
The electric current used throughout Japan is 100～110 volts, A.C. 2 flat pin plugs are only used in Japan. A voltage transformer should be used with electronic items brought over from overseas.
The double socket outlet is standard. Appliance made in other countries will need an adapter (A type) and convertre.

![Adapter (A type) Transformer Converter](image)

**Consumption tax**
Consumption tax at shops, restaurants, etc. is 8%. Please note whether the tax is included in the indicated price depends on the shop and product.

**Garbage Separation**
In SCJ, garbage is basically categorized into three different types as below.
1. Combustible
2. Incombustible
3. Recyclable (bottles and cans)
Please be sure to put your trash in the correct categories by keeping recyclable from others.

**Traveler's Cheque, Credit Cards & VAT**
Traveler's cheques are not as widely used in Japan as in most other countries and are accepted only by major banks and hotels. Major credit cards are widely accepted for payment, however, foreign credit cards (not issued by Japanese banks) are not usually accepted by ATMs in Tokyo for cash withdrawal. ATMs accepting foreign credit cards are at the Narita Airport and in central Tokyo (e.g. Ginza). Conventional checks are almost unheard of in everyday life. The consumption tax (VAT) rate is 8%.

**Insurance**
Participants are strongly advised to arrange their own overseas travel insurance.

**Time**
In relation to Greenwich, Tokyo is +9 hours.

**Tipping**
Tips are not required or expected in Japan, at hotels, restaurants and anywhere else. A 10-20% service charge is included in some bills.

**Climate and Travel**
November is a good time for visiting Japan, Tokyo, as the weather is usually sunny and dry, though it is getting cold in Tokyo, warmer clothes are recommended. Rarely, rain may occur. The average high temperature is 15ºC the low one is 9ºC.