

Recovery Continues



Japanese products are as safe and functional as ever.

I came to Akihabara to buy a fridge. I trust Japanese-made appliances because they have the best functions and are very durable. A new video game is being launched today so the streets of Akihabara have been full of people since early this morning. There are also a lot of cosplayers waiting in line, dressed up in full costume. Rebecca



World Heritage site remains beautiful, as always.

The World Heritage site of Hiraizumi, in Iwate Prefecture, was completely unaffected by the earthquake. The Konjikido (Golden Hall), decorated with gold, is a truly stunning site. There's also a path lined with 300-year-old Japanese cedars. A walk along it makes you feel like you've stepped back in time. Dean



Japan's traditional culture is thriving.

I'm a landscape gardener and I work on cultivating traditional Japanese gardens. There is so much to learn from Japanese culture—like the elegant garden designs or the concept of wabisabi (simplicity and impermanent beauty). Just being in a beautiful Japanese garden, with such wonderful use of space, is enough to put you in a natural state of tranquility. Arnaud



A variety of ingredients, presented with care.

My friend and I are eating at a Japanese restaurant in Ginza today. I love the way Japanese cooking draws out the natural flavors of the ingredients. I'm having eggplant tempura—eggplant is in season at the moment. This restaurant uses fresh ingredients and pays close attention to how the tempura is fried, so I know I'll get something delicious, no matter what I order. Celine

Foreigners living in Japan are enjoying life as normal again after the quake.



Tourist attractions are alive with visitors from around the world.

Today I'm sightseeing in Asakusa, an area which gives a real taste of downtown Tokyo. Through the Kaminarimon ("Thunder Gate") lies a long shopping street full of local Asakusa products. It's a great place to shop for souvenirs. Next I'm going to see the Tokyo Sky Tree—one of the tallest towers in the world! Eunsil



Japan's economy continues to hum.

This is Marunouchi, the central business district of Tokyo. During the day, it's bustling with business people on their way to meetings, and shoppers searching for the latest trends. Nighttime paints a different picture, with the area's many restaurants and bars coming to life. Tonight, we've booked a table at a nearby yakitori restaurant. Andrew

Andrew



Still harvesting tasty produce.

I've been helping to grow vegetables on farms here in Japan for the last five years. I've really learned a lot from the clever way Japanese farmers approach their work, and the technology they use to grow vegetables from the best soil and fertilizer. Steven



Bursting with life, just like before the earthquake.

I work at Tsukiji Fish Market, one of the world's largest fish markets. As usual, lots of people are here at the auction bidding for the world's finest fresh-caught seafood. The number of customers is back up to the level before the earthquake, so the market is extremely busy from very early in the morning. Meilan

Meilan