

CULTURE SHOCK IN JAPAN

カルチャーショック

KARUCHĀSHOKKU



Япония

日本の

ADVERTISEMENTS, EVERYWHERE



Upon stepping on Japan's metropolitan area, one can quickly notice the vast amount of advertisements in public places such as trains, buses, cabs, malls, parks, and even on elevator doors, escalator handrails, staircases, wheels of rental bicycles, vending machines, free magazines and papers, pocket tissue papers, and any other place you wouldn't imagine.

TOILETS



I describe Japanese toilets as both sophisticated and crazy. I've encountered talking toilets in Japan. Most of them even produce sounds you can opt to play when taking a pee so that the embarrassing peeing sound would not get heard by other people inside the comfort room. Man, you won't even need your hands anymore when you use a toilet in Japan.



PUBLIC BATHS



It is said that Japanese homes didn't have bathtubs in the past which is why public bath houses were constructed to accommodate the locals who wanted to soak and relax in warm water. In modern Japan, where bath tubs are already a usual thing in Japanese homes, public bath houses are still widely available. They are common in traditional houses, dormitories, inns, and the like. Japanese public bath houses have also branched out into other varieties such as sauna for relaxation purposes.

ESCOLATORS



The Japanese are known for their discipline and order, and these traits are clearly manifested through how they use their escalators. When you ride an escalator in Japan, make sure to be observant of your surroundings. In Tokyo, people stand on the left side while keeping the right side open for rushing passengers. This is the other way around in Osaka. So be careful when riding the escalators in Japan, you might be blocking someone off the way!

LOCERS-FOR-RENT

Pay lockers in Japan might be one of the most useful things you can ever imagine. They are scattered all over the metro in train stations and streets. It is convenient because you can leave some of your items locked safely inside with a few coins, and you're good to go! There's no more need to worry over heavy and excess baggages when travelling short trips all over the city!



ENGLISH ILLETERACY



Believe it or not, only a few Japanese can speak English confidently with the least grammatical and spelling errors. And yes, this is the reason why most Japanese people are afraid of speaking in English to foreign tourists in Japan. English is a part of the curriculum in Japanese schools, but because the Japanese rarely use the language, it is most often forgotten. Recently, however, due to Japan's desire to uplift its citizens' English speaking capabilities, various efforts such as hiring English-native teachers for Japanese public schools are made.

ANIME CULTURE AND AKIHABARA



If you are a big anime or Japanese video game fan, then Akihabara is your paradise. Akihabara used to be the home of electronic gadgets and appliances, but is now also known as the anime capital of Japan. Cute young girls dressed up in maid or bunny costumes, cosplays, anime billboards and media advertisements, anime trains, anime and game-themed restaurants, cafes, and exhibits, a whole building of game centers by SEGA, anime stores, limited edition merchandise, adults only shops, and everything you can imagine.

THANKS FOR ATTENTION

**ご注意いただきありがとうございます GO
CHŪI ITADAKI ARIGATŌGOZAIMASU**

