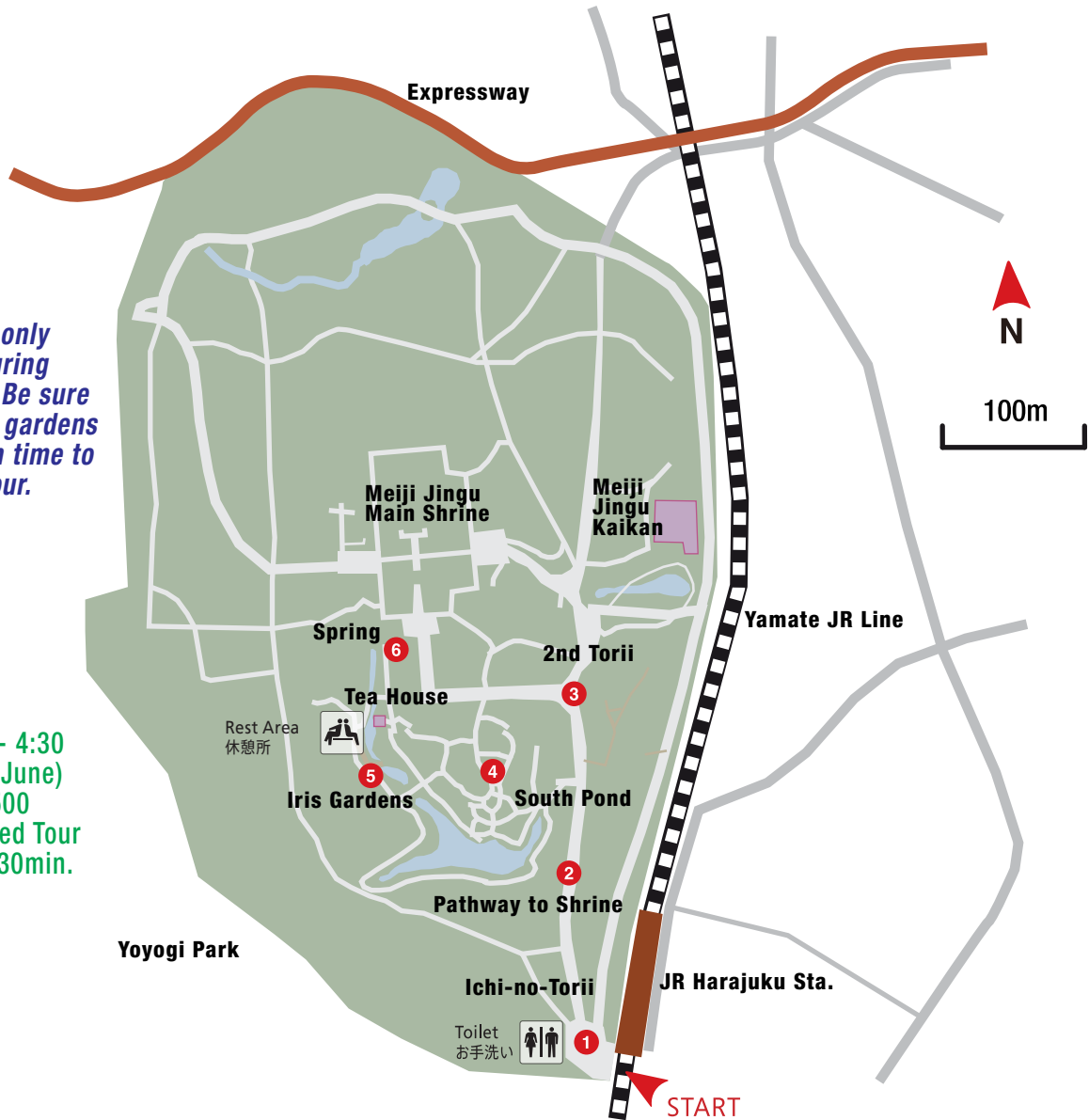




*This tour is only available during park hours. Be sure to enter the gardens with enough time to finish the tour.*

Hours: 9:00 - 4:30  
(8:00 - 5:00 June)  
Entrance: ¥500  
Recommended Tour Length: 1hr 30min.



Yoyogi Park

walk-caster.com



Toilet  
お手洗い



Rest Area  
休憩所



## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing Japan Walk-Caster's Meiji Shrine garden tour. Start each track after you reach the corresponding audio point, so listen to track 2 after you reach location 2 on the map.

After the emperor's death in 1912, the Japanese Diet passed a resolution to commemorate his role in the Meiji Restoration. An iris garden in an area of Tokyo where Emperor Meiji and Empress Shōken had been known to visit was chosen as the building's location. Construction began in 1915, and the shrine was built in the traditional *Nagarezukuri* style and is made up primarily of Japanese cypress and copper. It was formally dedicated in 1920, completed in 1921, and its grounds officially finished by 1926.

The original building was destroyed during the Tokyo air raids of World War II. The present iteration of the shrine was funded through a public fund raising effort and completed in October, 1958.

Meiji Shrine was brought into the flow of current events with the 2009 visit of United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. After arriving in Tokyo on her first foreign trip representing the newly elected President Barack Obama, she made her way to this shrine in advance of meetings with Japan's leaders to show her "respect toward history and the culture of Japan".

September 2009

