



High-rise buildings and rich greenery in Tokyo

Chapter 4

Tokyo Takes the Leap to Become a World City

Accumulating urban functions and bolstering international competitiveness (1980s-2010s)

Amid striking advancements in globalization and computerization, Tokyo raised its presence as a global city. But with the manifestation of the ill effects of heavy concentration, efforts were advanced to build a multi-center city structure as the vision the city should aim for.

After the collapse of the bubble economy, Tokyo's international position entered a slump. With competition between cities of the world growing increasingly severe as the 21st century began, new city structure was reviewed and initiatives were advanced for urban development that would enhance the appeal of Tokyo.

[Highlights of the 1980s and beyond]

1982 ▶

- Formulation of the "Tokyo Metropolitan Government long-term plan for My Town Tokyo: A vision for the 21st century" (proposal for a multi-center city structure)

1986 ▶

- Start of the bubble economy

1987 ▶

- Privatization of Japan National Railways, start of JR

1991 ▶

- Opening of the new Tokyo Metropolitan Government buildings

1995 ▶

- The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake strikes

2000 ▶

- Release of "Tokyo vision 2000" (proposal for a circular megalopolis structure)

2001 ▶

- Formulation of the "New city planning vision for Tokyo"

2011 ▶

- The Great East Japan Earthquake strikes

2013 ▶

- Tokyo selected to host the Games of the XXXII Olympiad

2016 ▶

- The annual number of inbound tourists tops 20 million