



Claude Monet, *Water Lilies*, 1916, oil on canvas, Matsukata Collection

NMWA Main Building Designed by Le Corbusier

The NMWA features not only splendid artworks such as those in the Matsukata Collection, but the architecture of the building housing and displaying the collection is also a major highlight of the Museum. The Main Building opened in 1959, was designed by Le Corbusier (1887-1965), one of the masters of modern architecture active in France. It was constructed on Le Corbusier's Museum of Unlimited Growth concept, which allows for the building to expand as the collection grows. Le Corbusier's design for the Main Building is also a nexus of the theories and systems that he pursued as the basis of architecture for a new era. These concepts include his Maison Dom-Ino architectural concept in which pillars, floors, stairs and other simple constructs become the basic units; his "five elements for modern architecture" brought together the architectural potential, not realizable in old European stone architecture and the Modular, his proposed measuring unit aimed at harmonizing architecture with the human body.

As the NMWA collection and activities expanded, the New Wing (1979) and the Special Exhibitions Wing (1997) were added to the site, although this was not

The Collection of the National Museum of Western Art

The National Museum of Western Art (NMWA) aims to provide a broad introduction to the entirety of Western art through its collection and exhibition activities. The NMWA's collection began as the Matsukata Collection, focusing on French modern era paintings and sculptures. The Japanese industrialist Kojiro Matsukata (1866-1950) planned to build Japan's first museum of Western art, and from 1916 spent a decade or so assembling a massive collection of artworks in Europe. Later, changes in his circumstances led to the majority of his collected works being scattered among other collections and his museum plans were not realized. During World War II the French government seized some 400 or so Matsukata Collection works still in France, but they were returned to the Japanese people after the war, and in 1959 The National Museum of Western Art was established to preserve and display them.

Since its opening the NMWA has received generous gifts of artworks from many individuals, including Tokutaro Yamamura, Ryuzaburo Umehara and Kanshi Hashimoto, and has conducted an active acquisition program to broaden and deepen the NMWA collection.

Throughout the year the Permanent Collection Galleries display works from the NMWA collection - including Old Master paintings from the late Medieval period to the 18th century, modern paintings spanning the Realist and Impressionist works of the latter half of the 19th century, and works from the first half of the 20th century. The permanent display also presents examples of modern sculpture, featuring works by Auguste Rodin. Small special exhibitions on specific themes are also organized from the NMWA collection, introducing a variety of works including prints, drawings and decorative arts.

Museum visitors are also invited to enjoy the related programs held in conjunction with the works and themed displays in the Permanent Collection Galleries.

the expansion of the structure envisioned by Le Corbusier. In 1998 the present-day Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism designated the NMWA Main Building as one of the "100 Selected Public Buildings," highlighting its excellence as a public facility well established in the local community. In 2007 the Japanese government designated the Main Building an Important Cultural Property (Architecture), and on July 2016, UNESCO included the NMWA Main Building, as a World Heritage site under the designation "The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement". To further introduce the Main Building and its fascinating aspects as part of our cultural heritage, the NMWA has prepared a pamphlet of the NMWA facilities, and volunteer staff members lead architectural tours.



Hours

9:30-17:30 / Fridays and Saturdays 9:30-20:00

*Last admission: 30 mins. before closing time

*Opening hours may change on an occasional basis

Closed

Mondays and December 28 - January 1

- Except when a national holiday falls on a Monday, the museum is open on the holiday and is closed the next day, Tuesday.
- The gallery may be temporarily open or closed at other times.

Admission fee to the permanent collection

	Individual	Group (20 Persons or more)
Adults	¥500	¥400
College students	¥250	¥200

School children, Children under 18

Seniors 65 years and over

Free

Visitors with disabilities and their companions

- Separate charges for special exhibitions
- See website for details.



The National Museum of Western Art

Free Admission to the Permanent Collection

Kawasaki Free Sunday (As a general rule, the 2nd Sunday of every month), International Museum Day (May 18), Culture Day (November 3)

URL

<https://www.nmwa.go.jp/en/>

Telephone

Hello Dial 050-5541-8600 (for domestic calls)



The National Museum of Western Art

Independent Administrative Institution National Museum of Art



7-7 Ueno-koen, Taito-ku, Tokyo 110-0007, Japan

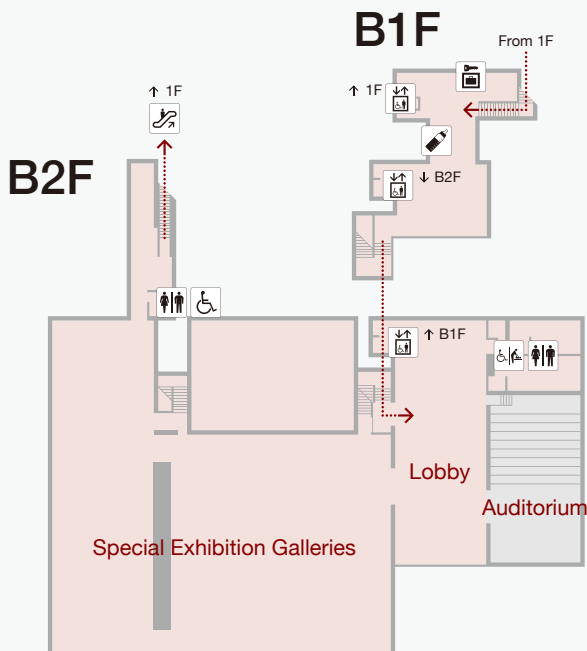
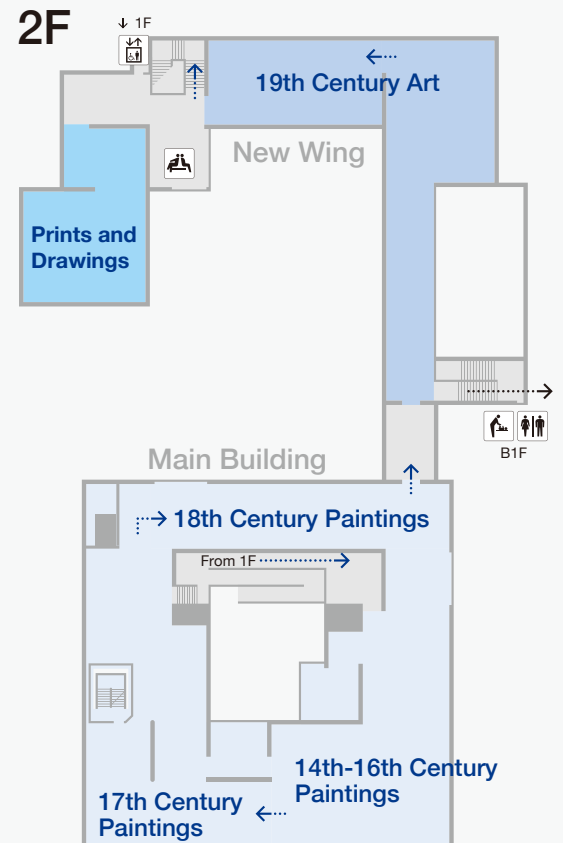
- 1 minute walk from Park Exit of JR Ueno Station
- 7 minutes walk from Keisei Ueno Station of Keisei Line
- 8 minutes walk from Ueno Station of Tokyo Metro Ginza or Hibiya Line
- There are no visitor parking facilities available, so please use other means of transportation when visiting the NMWA.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART

1F



2F



Free Zone



Tickets Not Required

The Collection



14th-18th Century Paintings



The Matsukata Collection & 19th-20th Century Art



Prints and Drawings

Special Exhibition



Information



Restrooms



Lockers



Tickets



Universal Access Toilet



Café Suiiren



Elevator



Accessible Restroom



Lounge



Escalator



Changing Station



Nursing Room