

A distinguished landmark in Ginza, the storied Kabukiza Theatre is a Tokyo institution. Opened in 1889, it is the largest kabuki theater in Japan and the only one that's fully dedicated to the kabuki tradition. This majestic building has gone through several transformations, the latest of which, completed in 2013, saw a makeover by renowned Japanese architect Kuma Kengo. Architecturally, it is an icon, showcasing the building styles from two distinctive periods in Japanese history, namely Nara (600–794) and Momoyama (late sixteenth century).

It is safe to say that Kabukiza Theatre is the most significant building in the kabuki world. The regal, expansive theater is adorned with classic Japanese motifs and designs. There are regular seats spread out over three floors, along with box seats, plus a fourth floor reserved for those watching just a single act at a discounted price. Kabukiza Theatre has also made it easier for non-Japanese speakers to enjoy the show by renting out a translation device that provides commentary, background, and plot explanation in English.

However, Kabukiza Theatre is more than just a show venue. There is a restaurant on-site serving meals during intermission (reservations required), and for visitors who are not catching a performance, they can still shop for kabuki-related souvenirs and memorabilia on the second basement floor as well as the fifth floor of the adjacent Kabuki Tower. Moreover, there's the interactive Kabukiza Gallery featuring sets, costumes, and props that visitors can touch and play with. Just outside the gallery is the scenic rooftop garden, which looks out to the modern skyline of Ginza