

## **Toyota Stadium**

Toyota Stadium is one of the most striking architectural landmarks in the city of Toyota. It was designed by Kurokawa Kisho (1934–2007), founder of the Metabolist movement in Japanese architecture. Kurokawa is one of Japan's most influential architects and is known for structures such as Tokyo's Nakagin Capsule Tower and the Kuala Lumpur International Airport. The stadium was opened in 2001 in time to mark Toyota City's 50th anniversary.

The 44,380-seat venue is Japan's largest rugby-specific stadium. It hosted matches during the 2019 Rugby World Cup and is the home field of the Toyota Verblitz rugby union team. It also serves as one of the home grounds of the Nagoya Grampus soccer team.

In keeping with Kurokawa's style, the stadium's undulating roof almost looks like something organic. It complements the skeletal arches of the nearby Toyota Ohashi Bridge, which was also designed by Kurokawa and opened in 1999. The roof's distinctive shape is a boon to spectators. Because it is suspended from four large masts, there is no need for the big support pillars often found in other stadiums, which can obstruct the view from the stands. There are 4,000 seats with built-in heaters, and the stadium has a small museum with memorabilia from different teams that have played there.