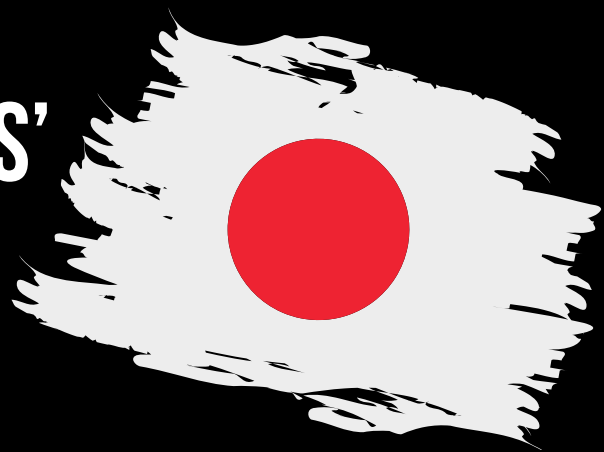




NUST SUPPORTERS' GUIDE TO JAPAN



Match Info

Urawa Red Diamonds (a)

Wednesday 31st July, 7.30pm local time
@ Saitama Stadium, Saitama.

Yokohama F Marinos (a)

Saturday 3rd August, 7pm local time
@ National Stadium, Tokyo.

Japan

NUFC are playing in Tokyo and the neighbouring city of Saitama. Expect the weather to be hot (around 35 degrees) and mainly dry as the rainy season has ended, though summer downpours are not unusual.

Getting Around Japan

Japanese trains are world-renowned and run on time ALL the time.

Jorudan is a good public transport app with an English version on iPhone and Android.

Travel cards such as the **Welcome Suica** can be used to tap and go on all transport nationwide. The Suica can also be used to buy refreshments on the train.

If you're staying in Japan for 1-3 weeks, you might want to consider the **Japan Rail Pass** for unlimited travel on most rail services.

Getting to the Games

You can reach the Saitama Stadium by train. The **Urawa Misono Station** served by the **Saitama Rapid Railway** is a 15-minute walk from the stadium. The station is about 90 minutes by train from Shinjuku, Tokyo.

The National Stadium, Tokyo, is a 1-minute walk from **Kokuritsu-Kyogijo Station on the Toei-Oedo Subway line**, or 5 minutes on foot from **Sendagaya Station on the overland Chuo-Sobu line**. It is also a 15-minute walk from **Gaienmae Station on the Ginza line**.



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Key information for visiting Japan

- **CASH AND CARDS:** Japan has been a predominantly cash-based society, but the recent tourism boom has seen wider acceptance of cards and mobile payments. Be aware you may have difficulty using cards issued outside of Japan and Cirrus, Maestro, Link and Delta cash cards are not widely accepted. Test your card at the nearest convenience store at the airport and take Japanese Yen as a back up.
- **ALCOHOL:** The Japanese enjoy drinking but very rarely does it lead to public disorder or violence. Drinking alcohol in public places is not illegal but not common.
- **PUBLIC BEHAVIOUR:** Japanese people pride themselves on '*omotenashi*', a concept of hospitality and mindfulness. While they can be a reserved people, when interacting with foreigners, the locals may seem direct: expect questions about where you are from, your family and what you think of Japan. Loud, boisterous behaviour in public could receive negative attention but exuberance in certain situations (like sports wins) is tolerated and even expected.
- **PERSONAL ID:** You must always carry your passport with you in Japan. The police can arrest you if you cannot show proof of your visa or residence status, though this is rare.



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- **SMOKING:** Smoking is now illegal on the streets of Tokyo and some other cities and penalties include on the spot fines. Smoke only in designated areas.
- **ILLEGAL DRUGS:** There is **zero tolerance of drug crime** and the penalties are severe. British nationals have been arrested and detained for testing positive for substances when police raid clubs or bars. Drug trafficking sentences range from 6 to 17 years alongside fines of 3 to 4 million yen.
- **TATTOOS:** Tattoos have an historical association with organised crime in Japan. While acceptance is increasing, some public facilities do not admit people with tattoos e.g. public pools, hot springs, beaches and some gyms. Other establishments request that you cover tattoos while using the facilities. Don't make a fuss – it's not personal, just the local rules.
- **MEDICATION:** If you're travelling with medication, check its status on the **Embassy of Japan in the UK** website. Japan has strict anti-stimulant laws and so some common UK medication is illegal to carry. This includes **Vicks inhalers, medicines for allergies and sinus problems, cold and flu meds containing pseudoephedrine, some over the counter painkillers containing codeine.**



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Local Lingo

- *Konnichiwa* - Good afternoon
- *Sayonara* - Goodbye
- *Arigatou* - Thank you
- *Hai* - Yes
- *lie* (pron. ee-eh) - No
- *Toon Ganbare!* - Howay the Toon!

Finally...

Japanese football fans and their teams are famed for clearing up after themselves, just as Geordies were praised by Westminster City Council after clearing up Trafalgar Square. Let's paint Tokyo black and white, enjoy Japan, tidy up after ourselves and get welcomed back every time.

Emergency numbers in Japan

Police - 110

Ambulance - 119

Fire service - 119

British Consulate (Tokyo) +81 (3) 5211-1100



www.nufctrust.co.uk

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Huge thanks to Simon Moran, a Geordie in Japan, for the information contained in this guide.

