

Visions and Voices and the USC Libraries have collaborated to create a series of resource guides that allow you to build on your experiences at many Visions and Voices events. Explore the resources listed below and continue your journey of inquiry and discovery!



# LITTLE TOKYO

## A Culinary and Historical Tour

### USC LIBRARIES RESOURCE GUIDE

As part of the **EXPERIENCE L.A.** series of events presented by **VISIONS AND VOICES**, USC students will attend a walking tour of Little Tokyo on September 18, 2010.

**KEN KLEIN** of the **USC LIBRARIES** has selected a variety of resources to help you build on your experience at the tour.

**LibGuide URL:** [libguides.usc.edu/littletokyo](http://libguides.usc.edu/littletokyo)

## Books

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### HISTORY

#### *Japanese American Celebration and Conflict: A History of Ethnic Identity and Festival, 1934–1990*

By Lon Kurashige

**Doheny Memorial Library F869.L89J338 2002**

#### *The Battle for Los Angeles: Racial Ideology and World War II*

By Kevin Allen Leonard

See especially these chapters: “‘While We Are at War with their Race’: Pearl Harbor, ‘Race,’ and Japanese Americans” and “‘The Long Day of the Jap-baiter in California Politics Appears to Have Ended’: Japanese Americans and ‘Race’ in Los Angeles, 1943-1945”

**Doheny Memorial Library F869.L89A2535 2006**

#### *Little Tokyo: One Hundred Years in Pictures*

By Ichiro Mike Murase

**Special Collections F869.L89J354 1983**

### ART AND LITERATURE

#### *Asian American Art 1850–1970*

By Gordon H. Chang

See the chapter by Karin Higa: “Hidden in Plain Sight: Little Tokyo between the Wars”

**Architecture and Fine Arts Library N6538.A83A835 2008**

#### *Death in Little Tokyo*

By Dale Furutani

A mystery set in Little Tokyo

**Doheny Memorial Library PS3556.U778D43 1996**

#### *Little Tokyo Opportunities Inventory*

Published by the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles

**Architecture and Fine Arts Library HT177.L7C67 1994**

## Web Resources

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### USC's Japanese American Relocation Digital Archive (JARDA)

Includes 222 photographs, part of the Online Archive of California's JARDA project.

<http://digitallibrary.usc.edu/search/controller/collection/jarda-m4.html>

### Rafu Shimpo

The "newspaper of record" for Los Angeles's Japanese community

<http://rafu.com/news/>

### Little Tokyo Historical Background Bibliography of Resources (1998)

Compiled by Michael Seval

[http://www.publicartinla.com/Downtown/Little\\_Tokyo/little\\_tokyo\\_bib.html](http://www.publicartinla.com/Downtown/Little_Tokyo/little_tokyo_bib.html)

Photographs, maps and other visual resources are available on the online version of this guide at [libguides.usc.edu/littletokyo](http://libguides.usc.edu/littletokyo).

## Food

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Aside from language, food is probably the strongest means for preserving culture among Japanese Americans and one of the best ways for the rest of us to appreciate Japanese culture. Many people continue to return to Little Tokyo to eat, often at a favorite restaurant or to taste once more a favorite dish. The late actor Richard Mulligan (*Soap*) was such a loyal customer at Aoi that his photo is still on the restaurant's wall, ten years after his death. There is a wide range of choices and pricings, so whether you are craving the *oroshii* soba at Suehiro's, sushi from any number of restaurants, vegan fare at Shojin, the only thing going on at the Shabu Shabu House, pork *katsudon* from Koraku or pizza from one of the gourmet food trucks that now frequent Second Street, there is always a reason to come back to Little Tokyo.

## Getting There

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### LADOT Dash

One easy and inexpensive way to get from campus to Little Tokyo is the LA DOT (Department of Transportation) Dash network. If you are traveling on weekdays during work hours (6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.), it will only cost you \$0.35 each way. Take the Route F Dash up Figueroa Street (ask for a transfer) and transfer to the Route A Dash. It's a nice way to tour downtown. For routes, fare structure and scheduling, visit the LA DOT Dash website at [www.ladottransit.com/dash](http://www.ladottransit.com/dash).

### Metro Bus and Rail Service

If the Metro Rail Service is convenient for you, there is now a Little Tokyo/Arts District station on the Metro Gold Line, just to the east of the Japanese American National Museum. Routes, fares and schedules can be found at the LA Metro Home website at [www.metro.net](http://www.metro.net). If you use the Trip Planner on that site, you can enter "University of Southern California" and "1st Street and Los Angeles Street" as points of departure and arrival and you will see several alternative routes.

### By Car

Of course, there is always the option to drive to Little Tokyo. From campus, you can drive north on Figueroa Street and turn right on either Second or First Street, then look for parking once you have passed Los Angeles Street. Parking can be expensive, but if you go to the mall parking lot at Fourth and Central and buy something, you can get your parking validated.