

Press release

Message from the Mayor of Shibuya City:

Cancellation of this year's countdown event and ensuring safety during the New Year holidays

The Shibuya Countdown Event in front of Shibuya Station has been canceled by the Shibuya Countdown Executive Committee, as concerns remain that a significant number of participants may gather around Shibuya Station and the Shibuya Scramble Crossing during the transition from New Year's Eve (December 31) to New Year's Day (January 1). Following this decision, the Mayor of Shibuya City has issued a message to all prospective visitors to wish everyone a New Year full of health and prosperity. We also provide information regarding the temporary fencing around the Hachiko statue and the arrangement of press areas during the New Year period.

We kindly ask for your understanding and cooperation to ensure the safety of all visitors to the Shibuya Station area during the New Year period.

Mayor's Message

Thank you for your tremendous understanding and support of Shibuya City this past year.

I am delighted that so many people have come to experience the charm of Shibuya and that our streets are so full of vibrancy and energy. At the same time, to ensure a safe and secure community, our city remains vigilant against rowdy behavior and crowd incidents caused by street drinking. Consequently, the Shibuya Countdown Executive Committee has decided to cancel this year's countdown event in front of Shibuya Station.

On New Year's Eve, we will strengthen security around Shibuya Station, and work in coordination with the police, public transportation operators, and local residents, to prevent crowd-related accidents. We are also requesting cooperation from convenience stores and other alcohol retailers to refrain from selling alcohol during nighttime hours.

Since October last year, Shibuya City has enforced a year-round ordinance prohibiting nighttime street drinking around Shibuya Station, with the goal of completely eliminating disruptive street drinking. As a result, such drinking has steadily decreased. We sincerely thank everyone for their cooperation and request your continued support in maintaining a safe environment around Shibuya Station during the New Year period.

Finally, I sincerely wish everyone a New Year full of health and prosperity.

HASEBE Ken

Mayor of Shibuya City

https://www.city.shibuya.tokyo.jp/contents/kutyo/aisatsu/hatsugen_20251203.html

Regarding the cancellation of the countdown event

The Shibuya Countdown Executive Committee has decided to cancel this year's Shibuya Countdown event. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

More information on Shibuya City's website:

<https://www.city.shibuya.tokyo.jp/bosai/bohan/chui/countdown.html>

Regarding temporary barriers and press area creation around the Hachiko Statue to alleviate New Year crowds

To ensure safety and prevent congestion and confusion around Shibuya Station during the New Year period, Shibuya City will install temporary fencing around the Hachiko Statue from 6:00 AM on Wednesday, December 31, until 1:00 AM on Thursday, January 1 (scheduled) and also set up press areas. Disruptions to public transportation due to crowding are expected during this period. Please check announcements from the police and public transportation operators.

■ Temporary barriers around the Hachiko Statue

As part of safety measures around Shibuya Station during the New Year period, temporary fencing will be installed around the Hachiko Statue from 6:00 AM on Wednesday December 31, until approximately 1:00 AM on Thursday January 1. If you plan to visit the Hachiko Statue, please consider doing so before Tuesday December 30, or later in the day on Thursday January 1.

■ Media are asked to conduct interviews at designated press areas

To avoid congestion and confusion, we kindly request that members of the press utilize the two press areas designated by Shibuya. The press areas will be operational from 7:00 PM on Wednesday December 31 to 1:00 AM on Thursday January 1.

About the press areas

Operation: Wednesday December 31 7:00 PM to 1:00 AM on Thursday January 1

Locations: ① Hachiko Square Around the Hachiko Statue
② In front of Shibuya Station Exit A6a

For permitted shooting times and other details, please see the next page.

Media inquiries

Public Relations and Communications Div
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Shibuya New Year Coverage: Guidance for Press Areas

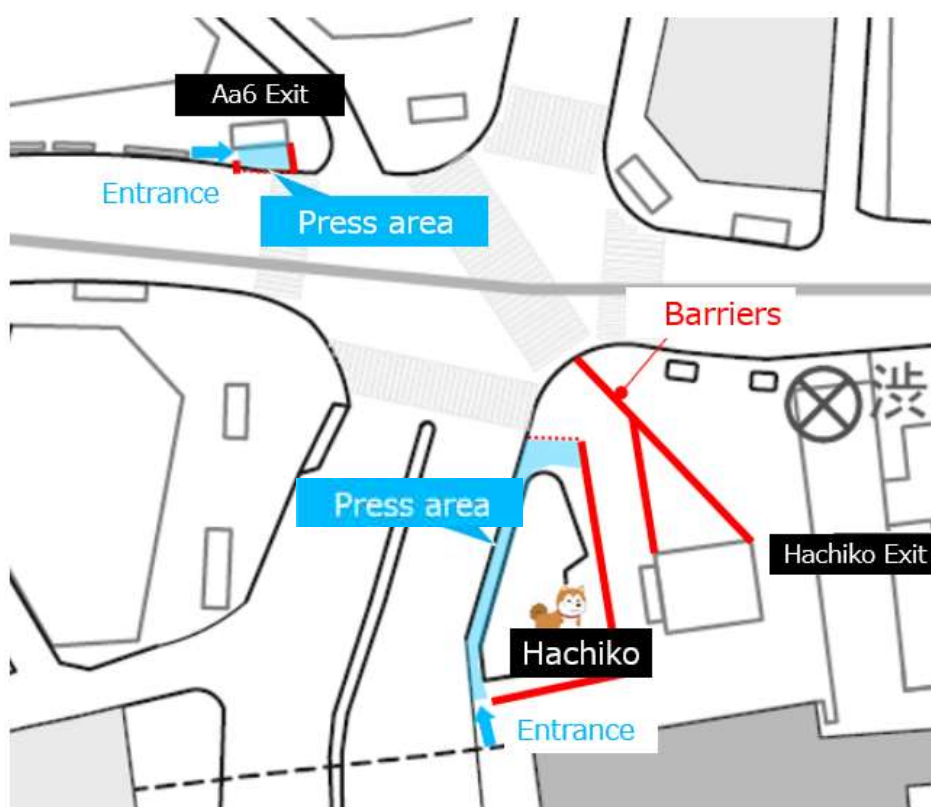
Press areas will be established at Hachiko Square and in front of Shibuya Station Exit A6a during the dates listed below. To ensure the safety of all press activities, we kindly request that all reporting during this period be conducted from within the designated press areas.

■ Press area hours of operation (subject to change)

- Hachiko Square side: Wednesday December 31 7:00 PM – Thursday January 1 1:00 AM
- Shibuya Station A6a Exit side: Wednesday December 31 8:00 PM – January 1 1:00 AM

■ Important notices

- Please use entrances marked on the map below.
- Shibuya City cannot be held responsible for any incidents occurring within the press area.
- You may shoot anywhere within the press area, but please be considerate and take turns when it becomes crowded.
- Heavy congestion is expected around midnight. Entry restrictions may be implemented depending on crowd levels.



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