

The Pros and Cons of City Living in Japan!

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The Pros:

- No need for a car – save money on rentals, gas, insurance, etc.
- Plenty of shopping
- International food
- English-speaking medical staff & 24 hour emergency rooms
- Famous places to visit & lots of events, concerts, festivals
- Easier access to everyday technology – internet, cable, air conditioning, ATMs
- More privacy – you are just another face in the crowd



The Cons:

- Small apartments – often only one or two rooms.
- Expensive
- Fewer JETs in your immediate area
- Less motivation to practice Japanese
- Very large class sizes – often 40 students or more per class
- Less sense of community
- Less nature



First Things First!

- Familiarize yourself with public transportation routes & schedules
 - Consider getting a commuter I.C. card. It can save you a lot of money!
- If you don't want a car, a bicycle is your best friend
 - Mamachari bicycles may not be stylish, but their baskets and racks sure are convenient!
- Learn where your closest supermarket is
 - Invest in some eco-bags. Many supermarkets charge 5-10 yen per plastic bag.
- Ask your teachers and students about their favorite restaurants and stores!
- Connect with other JETs in your prefecture – Facebook, LINE, AJET
 - The city is nice, but leaving it sometimes to travel and spend time in the inaka is awesome too!
- Learn your area's garbage and recycling pick up schedules

