

## *Reading and Talking*

### All-you-can-eat peaches and melon

Summer is the season for melon and peaches. If you like them, Sweets Paradise has lots of them for you. From now until the beginning of September, the Sweets Paradise restaurant chain has “Melon Tabehoudai” (All-you-can-eat Melon) for 2,200 yen (children 1,770 yen) for 100 minutes. That price includes Sweets Paradise all-you-can-eat food, desserts, Häagen-Dazs gelato, and all-you-can-drink drinks. Eat as many melon slices as you like. From July 22nd to August 16th, there is also “All-you-can-eat Peaches” for the same price.

(98 words)

Do you want to try the Sweets Paradise “All-you-can-eat Melon” and “All-you-can-eat Peaches”?

↳ Yes, I do. / Kind of. (--Which one do you want to try? / Have you ever been to a Sweets Paradise restaurant? / Have you ever eaten a whole melon all by yourself?)

↳ No, I don't. (--How come you don't want to try them? / Have you eaten a dessert at a café recently? / Is there a cute or cool café near your place?)

Have you been to a “tabehoudai” all-you-can-eat restaurant recently?

↳ Yes, I have. (--Which all-you-can-eat restaurant did you go to? / Who did you go with? / How much did you eat there?)

↳ No, I haven't. (--How about a “nomihoudai” all-you-can-drink café? / Have you ever been to an all-you-can-eat dessert café? / What's your favorite cold dessert?)

What's your least favorite fruit?

↳ I don't like [XXX]. (--How come you don't like them? / Is there any other fruit that you don't like? / Anything else? / What's your favorite fruit?)

(July 17, 2020)

## *More information*

### All-you-can-eat peaches and melon

By the time you read this, the rainy season ought to be over and it should be feeling like summer. Melons and peaches are in season. If you feel like celebrating summer by eating plenty of them, Sweets Paradise might be the place to go.

Sweets Paradise is an all-you-can-eat restaurant chain. It serves food, but, as its name suggests, it is best-known for desserts. From now until the beginning of September, it has a “Melon Tabehoudai” (All-you-can-eat Melon) course that is ¥2,200 (children ¥1,770) for a full 100 minutes. If that seems like a lot of money, the price includes Sweets Paradise regular all-you-can-eat food, desserts, Häagen-Dazs gelato, and all-you-can-drink drinks, all at no extra charge.

Eat as many melon slices as you like. You can even ask for a whole melon. From July 22 to August 16, there’s also “All-you-can-eat Peaches” for the same price and time. **Note:** These courses are more expensive than Sweets Paradise other all-you-can-eat options, so if you go with a group and one of you orders a fruit option, everyone else must order a fruit option as well.

(104 words)

(July 17, 2020)

## *Reading and Talking*

### “Go To” discount travel

Covid-19 stopped tourism in Japan. Now the government wants to start tourism again. Beginning with the July 23rd four-day holiday weekend, the Japan Tourism Agency is going to pay half of your travel expenses. It's called the “Go To Travel” campaign. The government pays up to 10,000 yen per person if you take a day trip, and up to 20,000 yen for overnight travel. You can ask for and receive this money as often as you like until mid-March 2021, or until the budget runs out. However, travel to and from Tokyo is not part of this plan.

(102 words)

What do you think about the “Go To Travel” campaign?

↳ I think it's great. / I think it's OK. / I think it's terrible. (--How come you think so? / Do you want to apply for it? / Do you think it's going to be popular?)

Are you planning to travel somewhere this summer?

↳ Yes, I am. (--Where are you going to go? / How long are you going to go for? / Who are you going to go with? / Why did you decide to go there?)

↳ No, I'm not. / I don't know yet. (--Did you go somewhere last summer? / Did you travel somewhere over the New Year holidays this year? / Do you like traveling alone?)

Have you ever used JR Seishun Juhachi Kippu discount rail tickets?

↳ Yes, I have. (--How many times have you bought Seishun Juhachi Kippu tickets? / From where to where did you go? / Have you ever stayed overnight at a station?)

↳ No, I haven't. (--Do you know about Seishun Juhachi Kippu tickets? / Do you know someone who used Seishun Juhachi Kippu tickets? / Do you like traveling by train?)

(July 17, 2020)

## *More information*

### “Go To” discount travel

Covid-19 has been a knockout punch for domestic tourism, and the government wants to help it get back on its feet. Beginning with the July 23 four-day holiday weekend, the Japan Tourism Agency is willing to subsidize half of your in-country travel expenses.

It's called the “Go To Travel” campaign, and it's a way to support virus-hit businesses, and to get tourism up and running again. It works like this. The government pays up to ¥10,000 per person for a day trip, and up to ¥20,000 for overnight travel. This money is split so 70% covers transport and accommodation, and 30% is in the form of vouchers for meals, shopping and souvenirs. Because the government is covering 50% of the total cost of your travel, you need to be spending ¥20,000 per day or ¥40,000 per night to get the full benefit.

You can apply personally, but if you book through a travel agency, the agency does the paperwork for you. You may apply for and receive the subsidy as often as you like until mid-March 2021, or until the budget runs out.

**Note:** On July 16, because of a spike in coronavirus cases, it was decided to exclude travel to and from Tokyo for the time being.

(212 words)

(July 17, 2020)