

Ginkgo House (1 . Photos 2 . Introductory Essays)



All Residents of Ginkgo Dorm



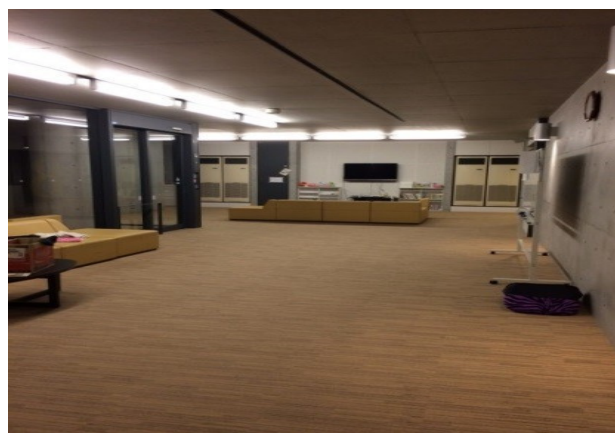
1st Floor



Christmas Party



Dorm Association



Social Room

(1 F)

Congratulations on your admission to ICU!

I am sure that you are filled with anticipation and anxiety as your university life is just around the corner. But fear not, life at Ginkgo House is fun and inspiring. Let me introduce you to the daily routine at our dormitory.

08:30 AM: The English Language Assessment (ELA) program for first-year ICU students is usually held in the first period (from 8:50 AM). It is a pain in the neck for those like me who are not morning person. But Ginkgo House offers help to such people. "It's ELA! Let's go!" morning calls echoed in my room every morning during the year. In Ginkgo House, when you are in trouble, no matter how trivial it is, someone will surely help you.

09:30 AM: Watching Major League Baseball on TV in the morning is one of the daily routines in the Ginkgo House. By the way, he is the captain of the baseball team. Next to him is the captain of the rugby team and the captain of the track and field team. There are also students who joined drama club and chorus. I am often asked, "Would you like to buy tickets for a performance?" When I see them practicing hard every night, I end up supporting them. And every I did, I was glued to the performance of my fellows. With so many people putting passions into their club activities and circles, Ginkgo House will be a place to inspire each other with heated discussions.

12:30 PM: Lunch break. Everyone likes enjoying lunch in the cafeteria, talking about classes and watching the news with takeout, etc. Of course, you can eat in the cafeteria, but many people prefer ordering takeouts and eat in the dormitory. Ginkgo House will be your second home and will always be there for you.

7:00 PM: After classes are over, the kitchen is always full of people cooking for themselves. When having conversations with other dorm mates, time passes so fast that you do not even have to wait for your meal. Oh, I see someone is preparing a whole yellowtail today. He says, "I want everyone to taste this delicious fish that we bought in Tsukiji! Yes, Ginkgo House regularly holds spontaneous events such as hand-rolled sushi and oden gatherings. You will be able to make new friends in the Ginkgo House at a surprisingly fast pace.

So far, we have introduced the daily routine at Ginkgo House. Perhaps you may have wondered: What do students in Ginkgo House usually talk about? The answer to the question is it is diversified. Naturally, everyone has different ideas and comes from various backgrounds. No matter what topic it is, we are always aware of our differences, and this becomes even more apparent when we live under the same roof. However, everyone at Ginkgo House believes that through continuous dialogue, mutual understanding will grow. Relationships fostered in such way is simply strong and will continue even after leaving the dormitory. In fact, one of the characteristics of Ginkgo House is the tight bond between alumni and alumnae. I am looking forward to building such bond with new students at Ginkgo House.

Former Ginkgo House 1st floor student Yuhi Miyako

Former Ginkgo House 1st floor student Keita Chris Harasaki

(2 F)

Hello everyone! I'm Satsuki from the 2nd floor of Ginkgo House!

Two years ago, after reading through ICU's dorm introduction, I decided, "I have no choice but to choose Ginkgo!" I will do my best to tell you all how great Ginkgo House is.

First, let me tell you about the location of the dormitory. Ginkgo House is located right in front of ICU's cafeteria. When you realize, "oh shoot I have nothing to eat for lunch today! "You can

run to the cafeteria in less than a minute and have a delicious lunch. Ginkgo House is also the most accessible of the nine dormitories on campus (in my opinion), since it is directly across from D-kan (usually used for club activities). It is also located in a direct pathway straight towards the main classroom building (honkan), where most of the lectures are held, and the gymnasium, which is located in the opposite direction. In any case, the location of Ginkgo House is very accessible to the campus.

Next, I would like to talk about the atmosphere on the second floor of Ginkgo House. What is your biggest concern after entering university? I was most worried about whether I would be able to keep up with my university studies. However! Ginkgo House 2nd floor is the perfect place to seriously study! There are many students who work hard on their assignments from early in the morning until late at night, and many who give their all during exam seasons. All the floor members enjoy a wide range of campus life, not only studying, but also participating in club and circle activities and part-time jobs. The 2nd floor of Ginkgo House is a place where we support each other's efforts, and is sure to become a very safe second home for you.

Let me introduce one more wonderful thing about the 2nd floor of Ginkgo House. In the first year of college, there may be many difficulties, especially until you get used to campus life. However, your fellow students at Ginkgo House 2nd floor are all people who are more than willing to help anyone in trouble, so you will get a lot of support from your seniors in terms of taking classes, club and circle activities, part-time jobs, and so on. You can also get along well with your peers by encouraging each other to get through the first year of ELA or JLP. We are able to get through the tough finals period because of the support from our dorm mates.

Finally, I would like to talk about the community of the dormitory as a whole. It has been three years since the pandemic started and dormitory interactions, which were pretty nonexistent, are finally resuming. The most recent event was the Ginkgo House Christmas party. There will be a New Year's calligraphy contest in January, a welcome party for new residents in April and September, and many other events in the near future. If this introduction resonated with you, why don't you join us and enjoy the events and dormitory life at Ginkgo House?

I hope I have been able to convey to you what a wonderful dormitory Ginkgo House is.

I am looking forward to the day when we can live together in Ginkgo House!

Satsuki Oyabu, Assistant Floor Manager, 2nd floor of Ginkgo House

(3F)

Hello everyone, this is the 3rd floor of Ginkgo House! Like many of you, I remember being anxious and excited while reading the dormitory introduction, imagining what kind of dormitory life awaited me. Now, I would like to introduce the charms of the 3rd floor of Ginkgo House to you!

If I had to name one characteristic of the 3rd floor of Ginkgo House, I would say it is the warm and homey atmosphere of the floor. There are about 40 members living on this floor, and we share our daily life together. Having lived with my family of four until I graduated from high school, I was initially overwhelmed by the size of the dormitory. However, the members of the Ginkgo House are all very kind and friendly, and it soon became a place where I felt at home. I know many of you are debating between living on your own and living in a dormitory. Of course, there are many great things about living alone. However, for me, there is no place as warm as the dormitory, where I have met a family that says "see you later" when I leave, and "welcome home" with a smile when I return. On people's birthdays, we have a thing called "birthday

storm," where we all celebrate someone's special day. I was so happy to have a warm birthday celebrated with so many people, where everyone eats cake together, which is something only a homey floor can offer. We also have parties during other events like Christmas, movie nights on holidays, and even a wargaming tournament on a rainy day... It is no doubt a fun dorm life!

Next, I would like to introduce a few charm points of Ginkgo House. First of all, we have the best access to school facilities. The main building for classes and the library are only a 3-minute walk away, and the cafeteria, called "Gakki", is right in front of you! Commuting to and from school is almost nonexistent! There is also a caretaker who lives and works at the dormitory and supports our daily life. He helps us with cleaning the dormitory and managing the facilities, which we could not have done on our own. We also have facilities for cooking, laundry, and showering 24 hours a day. Some of you may feel uneasy about cooking for yourselves. Don't worry! Many dorm residents, including myself, have begun cooking for themselves here and are living without any problems (lol). You can also use Gakki (cafeteria), supermarkets, and convenience stores, which are located nearby the campus. In addition, it is worth mentioning that we have monthly dormitory meetings and floor meetings, and we also take turns being in charge of cleaning duty. Through discussions and shared cleaning duties, we are able to create our own living space and create an environment suitable for communal living. At first glance, this may seem like a lot of work, but by working together, the burden on one person is reduced. Finally, let me introduce the residents of the third floor of Ginkgo House. The members of this floor are all unique and come from diverse backgrounds. They range from fourth-year students who have finished their job hunting and are working on their graduation theses, to first-year students who face their ELA assignments every day, to international students from overseas who are living in Japan for the first time. Each member leads a life that is uniquely their own. Some wake up in the morning and go for a run to start their day, others cook while chatting with friends in the kitchen, some work hard at night practicing their dance club activities, some study quietly in the study room, some read manga in the living room called "social," and some sit around the desk with their roomie and work on their never-ending assignments. Just by being in the dormitory for a day, you will see a wide variety of lifestyles. One of the great advantages of living in a dormitory is that you have both time to spend with others and time to focus on your own work. I have also greatly benefited from living with such a diverse group of friends. For example, I have received advice from my seniors on taking courses and job hunting, spent hours in the kitchen discussing deep topics, had my English essay assignments checked by native speakers, and vice versa, realized the depth of the Japanese language by helping with Japanese assignments. The list goes on and on. Through my experience here, I have learned an endless amount of things, and feel so lucky to be able to live in this dormitory. When you start your new life at a big university, you may feel anxious about your friends and studies. At such times, you will find your best support group in this dormitory!

I hope you have been able to imagine a glimpse of life on the 3rd floor of Ginkgo House. If you think it sounds appealing, it is your turn to join! We are all looking forward to your arrival!

Risako Yamamoto, Floor Manager, Ginkgo House 3rd Floor