

Zaha Hadid Wins Tokyo National Stadium Competition

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[Zaha Hadid Architects](#) won the competition to design the [Tokyo National Stadium](#). Image: Zaha Hadid Architects

News sources are reporting that [Zaha Hadid Architects](#) (ZHA) has won the international competition for the new [Tokyo National Stadium](#), an 80,000-seat stadium planned for a site in the Shinjuku district of Tokyo, Japan.

The new 290,000-square-meter (3.12-million-square-foot) stadium will be built on a site, adjacent to [Fumihiko Maki's Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium](#) (1990), and will replace an existing open-air stadium that was used for the 1964 Summer Olympic Games. A 2019 completion date for the project is anticipated.



Aerial rendering of the new National Stadium, which will dwarf the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium. Image: Zaha Hadid Architects

The firm described the building's design with these words:

"The building volume sits gently within the urban landscape and is articulated as an assembly of stadium bowl, structural skeleton, cladding membranes and the museum, together forming an intricate structural composition that is both light and cohesive. The perimeter of the bowl structure becomes a new inhabited bridge, a continuous exhibition space that creates a new type of journey for visitors flowing along the project's North-South axis."

46 project entries were submitted. ZHA was selected from 10 other competition finalists including:

Cox Architecture pty Ltd

[Populous](#)

[UNStudio](#)/ Yamashita Sekkei Inc.

Tabanlıoğlu Architects Consultancy

Dorell.Ghotmeh.Tane / Architects & A+ Architecture

Azusa Sekkei Co.

[Toyo Ito & Associates, Architects](#)

[SANAA](#) + [Nikken Sekkei](#)

[gmp International](#)

Mitsuru Man Senda and Environment Design Institute

The competition jury comprises [Tadao Ando](#), the jury chair, as well as Hiroyuki Suzuki, Takayuki Kishii, Hiroshi Naito, Makoto Yasuoka, Junji Ogura, Shunichi Tokura, [Norman Foster](#), [Richard Rogers](#), and Ichiro Kono.



A nearly eye-level view of the stadium. Image: Zaha Hadid Architects

Competitors were limited to those with previous experience in the design of a stadium or previous recipients of one of the following major architectural awards:

- [Pritzker Architecture Prize](#)
- [AIA Gold Medal](#)
- [RIBA Gold Medal](#)
- [UIA Gold Medal](#)
- [The Praemium Imperiale](#)



The stadium in its local context. Image: Zaha Hadid Architects

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