

THE PEAK

HONG KONG

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02

A Personal Encounter with Sumo Wrestlers and Kabuki Artists

The Palace Hotel Tokyo is offering personal experiences with sumo wrestlers and Kabuki artists. These are new additions to the hotel's "Palatial Pursuits" portfolio, in exclusive partnership with Toki, which is known for organising unforgettable cultural excursions in Tokyo.

In the Grappling Tokyo experience, the hotel's docent leads guests on a behind-the-scenes look at Japan's beloved national sport. An expert accompanies guests for an all-day spectacle at Ryogoku Kokugikan arena, followed by a visit to its museum. Rates start at 500,000 yen (HK\$31,500) for a two-night stay.

In the two weeks leading up to each sumo season, an expert will accompany guests on a private tour

of a sumo wrestling training stable, as well as a chance to meet wrestlers over a lunch of *chanko nabe*, a hearty stew commonly eaten by these heavy athletes. Rates start at 627,000 yen for a two-night stay.

In the Unmasking Tokyo experience, guests will be offered the chance to watch a Kabuki performance at the Kabuki-za theatre, meet and greet cast and crew, and even wear a Kabuki costume. Rates start at 458,000 yen for a two-night stay.



www.en.palacehoteltokyo.com/www.toki.tokyo



03

Getting Intimate and Local in Tibet, India and Iran

Singapore-based Country Holidays has curated new itineraries in Tibet, India and Iran for adventurous travellers who want to dive deeper into those cultures. As new additions to its Signature Departures collection, each itinerary limits the group to 16 travellers so that guests can get a unique experience.

A trip to Ladakh (pictured) on the Tibetan plateau is offered from September 19 to 27 this year. There, guests can discover Tibet's ancient culture amid some of the world's most stunning, albeit remote, landscapes. In Iran, the tour covers the fabled cities of Shiraz, Esfahan and Tehran, from September 24 to October 3. In India, guests can learn photography with British author, photographer and journalist Michael Freeman from November 22 to 30. The trip concentrates on Amritsar to coincide with Sikh Guru Nanak's birthday, and on Varanasi, the holiest city among Hindus.

www.countryholidays.com.sg