PALACE HOTEL TOKYO

HOTEL FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW

Palace Hotel Tokyo commands some of the city's most exclusive real estate and stands as the heir to a legacy dating back more than half a century as one of the city's most iconic hotels.

The contemporary iteration of the property debuted in May 2012 after a three-year reconstruction at an investment of USD 1 billion. Re-built entirely from the ground up, the hotel features 284 exquisite guestrooms, 10 distinctive restaurants & bars, Japan's only evian SPA and extensive meetings & events facilities.

Imbued with understated luxury, sophisticated restraint and subtle Japanese touches throughout, the hotel stands as a tribute to design and *omotenashi* (Japanese hospitality).

Palace Hotel Tokyo was the first wholly Japanese-owned and managed hotel to garner the prestigious Five-Star rating from Forbes Travel Guide – the industry's most coveted mark of distinction and one which the hotel has held since 2016. Its evian SPA has been rated Five-Star since 2024.

Now in its second decade, the property enviably stands as the singular Japanese brand to have received Forbes Travel Guide's Five Stars as well as Three Keys from MICHELIN in the guide's inaugural year (2024) of celebrating the world's most outstanding hotels. It has since retained its esteemed Three-Key status.

Drawing deeply from the country's history, arts and culture, the much-lauded property remains committed to offering an unparalleled experience of Tokyo with its distinctive *omotenashi* by redefining luxury in Japan with grace, elegance and authenticity.

LOCATION

The hotel's singular moat-side setting across from the Imperial Palace gardens - a 3.5-square-kilometer green space in the heart of the city - delivers an incomparable perspective on Tokyo's natural splendor from every single guestroom, its spa and nearly all of its restaurants and bars.

Claiming prime frontage at 1-1-1 Marunouchi, the hotel also offers its guests centrality in the prestigious Marunouchi district.

Just beyond the hotel's entrance is Marunouchi Naka Dori. Tantamount to New York City's Madison Avenue and London's Bond Street, the tree-lined boulevard is an upscale dining and shopping destination for tastemakers.

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LOCATION continued…

Tokyo Station – one of the country's most enduring cultural assets and the hub where the city's subway, light rail and high-speed rail intersect – is a mere ten-minute stroll away.

Adjacent to Tokyo Station is KITTE, another neighborhood destination that honors its roots while adapting to the modern era. Designed by starchitect Kengo Kuma and located on the site of the original Tokyo Central Post Office, which opened close to a century ago, the shopping, dining and office complex is home to an array of concept stores which showcase Japanese design. It also features a restoration of what was formerly the postmaster's office as well as a rooftop garden perfect for trainspotting.

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HISTORY

The 23-story hotel succeeds two previous hotels on the site – Hotel Teito (under separate ownership) and Palace Hotel. Each was razed to make way for its successor.

Hotel Teito opened in 1947 in what was formerly the Forestry Office of the Imperial Household. The government building was converted into a hotel to meet the growing demand for accommodations from overseas travelers in post-war Japan. The property was eventually sold into the private sector in 1959 and redeveloped as Palace Hotel, which officially opened in 1961 as a lead up to the 1964 Tokyo Olympics.

The 407-room Palace Hotel was an esteemed property. Leading artists from Japan and around the world performed there. And from 1972 to 1991, 284 ambassadors each took their turn traveling by horse & carriage from the hotel to the Imperial Palace for the formal presentation of their credentials to the Emperor.

HISTORY continued…

While the original Palace Hotel may have been razed to make way for the next iteration, not all was demolished. Some of the 1.6 million *Shigaraki-yaki* tiles (produced in kilns in Shiga Prefecture) that once adorned the original exterior were incorporated into the new interior design. The original bar counter from Royal Bar, designed by legendary bartender Kiyoshi Imai, was also lovingly restored.

In addition, stone sculptures by Masayuki Nagare – an artist whose works were featured at the World Trade Center and at the 1964-1965 New York World's Fair, and are also counted as part of the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art – can be found throughout the premises.

Click here for more information on the hotel's history.

ORIGINAL OPENING

1 October 1961 (Palace Hotel)

RE-OPENING DATE

17 May 2012 (Palace Hotel Tokyo)

ACCOMMODATIONS

266 guestrooms and 18 suites offer picture-perfect views of the Imperial Palace gardens and the surrounding Tokyo skyline.

Accommodations range in size from an ample 45 square meters to a spacious 255 square meters.

Most of the hotel's guestrooms have open-style bathrooms with separate soaking tubs & showers, and more than half feature private balconies – a rarity in Tokyo.

With leafy carpet motifs and earthy color palettes throughout, the hotel's luxuriously cozy and contemporary interiors invoke its proximity to Tokyo's much-loved natural splendor.

IN-ROOM AMENITIES

Uniquely Japanese touches include bath linens made in Imabari – a city in the Ehime prefecture of Japan renowned for the quality of its towel manufacturing since it began well over a century ago – and premium Jugetsudo brand teas by Maruyama Nori, a venerable Japanese brand founded in 1854 in Tokyo's historic Tsukiji district.

Accompanying the Jugetsudo teas are *nambu-tekki* cast iron teapots as well as tea cups handmade in Saga prefecture in the *Arita-yaki* style of pottery. The lacquer tea cup saucers originate from Sabae, a city in Fukui prefecture known for the emperor-commissioned Echizen lacquerware it began producing over 1,500 years ago.

Bath amenities are by British brand Bamford and for the youngest guests, the hotel offers, upon request, a range of children's amenities.

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RESTAURANTS & BARS

Much more than a complement to travelers' stay experiences, the hotel's 10 restaurants & bars are dining destinations in and of themselves in one of the world's most vibrant culinary scenes.

One Michelin-starred **Esterre by Alain Ducasse**, the first collaboration between a Japanese hotel and DUCASSE Paris (founded by the world-renowned chef and restaurateur), presents a contemporary approach to *haute cuisine* – with the distinctive, natural flavors of the country's *terroir* taking pride of place.

Among the hotel's Japanese offerings are *kaiseki* at **Wadakura**, *teppanyaki* at **GO**, *tempura* at **Tatsumi** and sushi at **Sushi Kanesaka**.

Managed by Chugoku Hanten Group, Amber Palace serves up some of the city's most exquisite Chinese.

The lively all-day dining restaurant **Grand Kitchen** and the hotel's elegantly appointed bars and lounges round out one of Tokyo's most dynamic eating and drinking collectives.

Each uniquely designed space cultivates a mood of its own, from the brooding refuge of **Royal Bar** to the cheerful disposition of **The Palace Lounge** and the chic allure of **Lounge Bar Privé**.

Please refer to the Restaurants & Bars Fact Sheet available in our online Newsroom for additional details.

IN-ROOM DINING

In-house guests of Palace Hotel Tokyo can also turn to the wide range of fare featured in its extensive in-room dining menu, including signature offerings from Wadakura and Sushi Kanesaka for Japanese, and Amber Palace for fine-dining Chinese.

EVIAN SPA TOKYO

Occupying 1,200 square meters of space on the fifth floor, evian SPA TOKYO encompasses five treatment rooms, one dual-bedded spa suite and separate men's & women's relaxation lounges. French savoir-faire and Asian therapies set the stage at this Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star spa.

FITNESS FACILITY

The hotel's fifth floor is also home to an indoor swimming pool with Jacuzzi as well as a 127-square-meter fitness center outfitted with equipment by Technogym as well as a Kinesis system.

Please refer to the evian SPA TOKYO Fact Sheet available in our online Newsroom for additional details.

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MEETINGS & EVENTS

Eight multi-purpose rooms comprise Palace Hotel Tokyo's meeting facilities in addition to a formal boardroom that seats 28 and three smaller meeting rooms. The signature flourish in the 1,160-square-meter, pillar-less Aoi ballroom is a 7-meter-tall by 22-meter-wide window directly overlooking the picturesque Wadakura moat and surrounding gardens.

The hotel's much sought-after, on-site wedding chapel also features wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling windows directly looking out over Wadakura moat, the Imperial Palace gardens and the Marunouchi skyline.

To complement, and to accommodate both Western and Eastern traditions, the hotel also has its own Shinto shrine, featuring spectacular *kumiko saiku* sculptural woodwork designed by multi-faceted artist Jotaro Saito and exquisite *kirikane* gold- and platinum-leaf artistry by Mimari Yasukawa.

HOTEL ARCADE

A vast basement level features an array of retail outlets, including Sweets & Deli, Palace Hotel Tokyo's cake & pastry shop, where the chocolate is homemade and the breads freshly baked.

PROXIMITY TO TRANSPORTATION

Direct underground passage to Otemachi Station, a major subway interchange, and also Tokyo Station is located on this B1 level.

ART COLLECTION

More than 1,000 permanent pieces of art can be found throughout the hotel, with the grandest pieces hung on the walls and placed upon pedestals throughout the hotel's public spaces, including the main lobby and at reception. The extensive collection is detailed on a dedicated website and in *The Art of Palace Hotel Tokyo* book.

Curated by Art Front Gallery, the eclectic array of pieces showcases the talents of up-and-coming creators as well as that of more prominent artists, with many of the paintings, watercolors, sculptures and other works commissioned specifically for Palace Hotel Tokyo.

With an overarching concept of complementing the beauty of the hotel's natural surroundings and the uniqueness of the country's heritage, nature plays a central role as the inspiration behind many of the works.

The immense 'Echoes-Crystallization' wall installation by Shinji Ohmaki, Masahito Katayama's 'Sunflower' painting and Satoshi Uchiumi's striking floral 'Shikisai no Shita' piece that's become a sought-after backdrop for wedding portraits are just a few prominent examples.

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DESIGN HIGHLIGHTS

The hotel's connection to its environment is echoed in its design, from the hand-tufted, deep green carpets to the leaf-shaped bar of Lounge Bar Privé and the sculptural *tamukeyama momiji* Japanese maple planted outside one of the lobby seating areas.

This reverence for nature was a vital element when local design studio SIMPLICITY conceived the interiors for Esterre. With a restaurant whose name translates as 'Mother Earth', the design team chose to reflect the continuous, circular flow of life through an earthy color palette. Richly tactile materials such as *washi* paper, textile and wood were chosen to emphasize the harmony between nature and humans.

In the hotel's driveway, the striking artistry of the *aji*-stone wall installation that leads to the main entrance echoes the natural beauty of the stonework that lines the moats of the Imperial Palace grounds.

At the hotel's signature Japanese restaurant Wadakura, imagined by A.N.D. (Aoyama Nomura Design), a team of local artisans were brought together to skillfully combine traditional Japanese techniques and building materials with contemporary artistic interpretation to showcase new possibilities in craftsmanship.

A.N.D. is also behind the in-house wedding chapel, winner of the 2012 DFA (Design For Asia) Grand Award and DFA Gold Award.

In 2013, the property was recognized with a design award from *Travel + Leisure* magazine USA for the category of 'Best Hotel, 100 or more rooms'.

ARCHITECTURAL FIRM

Mitsubishi Jisho Sekkei Inc.

LEAD INTERIOR DESIGN FIRM

G.A Group, as led by Executive Design Director Terry McGinnity

SUSTAINABILITY

In 2026, Palace Hotel Tokyo was awarded the industry-leading GSTC (Global Sustainable Tourism Council) certification for its commitment to sustainable practices, becoming the first Japanese-owned and managed hotel to receive this international recognition.

The hotel has long been a proponent of eco-friendly initiatives, including food safety, waste reduction, disaster prevention, resource management, CO_2 emissions reduction and decarbonization. In addition to the GSTC certification, the property has been recognized as a "Sustainability Leader" by The Leading Hotels of the World, further affirming its adherence to a comprehensive sustainability management plan.

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For the latest news, press releases and fact sheets as well as a detailed list of awards & accolades, please visit our online Newsroom.

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