

## New Open

### 1. A Hotel with Unparalleled Views of Tokyo Tower to the West and Tokyo Bay to the East, Opening July 1



This summer, the Fairmont Hotels & Resorts' first Japanese location will open in Tokyo. It is perfectly located for international visitors as it has direct access to Hamamatsucho Station, accessible directly from Haneda Airport just by getting on the Tokyo Monorail. The Fairmont Tokyo will be situated in the newly developed “BLUE FRONT SHIBAURA” at the edge of Tokyo Bay, occupying the 35th to 43rd floors, with sweeping views of the bay and the Tokyo skyline. In addition to 217 guest rooms including suites and Fairmont Gold rooms, the luxury hotel will also hold outdoor terraces, a sky banquet room, a sky chapel, a spa, indoor infinity pool, outdoor relaxation pool, sundeck, and 24-hr gym, which further lets you appreciate the beauty of the awe-inspiring views. The five restaurants and two bars serve unique culinary experiences that blend timeless authenticity with modern flair, which can be enjoyed while gazing upon the scenery. The Fairmont Grand Ballroom features a spacious 1,000-square-meter grand space, well-suited for international conventions and events.

[Fairmont Tokyo](#)

Festival and Event

**2. Uncover Hidden Gems and Artistic Masterpieces, June 21 – August 31, Osaka**



©Ito Jakuchu  
Bamboo and domestic fowls  
Before 1790  
Two-panel screen  
Ink on gold-leafed paper



©Important cultural property  
Earthenware with a foraminiferous brim with a human body design  
Excavated from the Imojiya Ruins  
Board of Education, Minami-Alps City, Yamanashi (Cultural folklore house)

Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka opened in February 2022. It is primely located in Nakanoshima, a central part of Osaka that, despite being home to many administrative, economic, and cultural facilities, also offers scenic water views and lush greenery. The upcoming exhibition, "Rich Veins of Japanese Art—Mining for Hidden Treasures" (June 21 - August 31), will spotlight long-overlooked works, including a newly discovered collaborative folding screen by renowned Edo-period (1603 – 1868) artists Ito Jakuchu and Maruyama Okyo, which has never been displayed before. This rediscovery aligns with Jakuchu's role in sparking the "Japanese art boom" following the 2000 Kyoto National Museum exhibition. Once regarded as an "unknown treasure trove," Jakuchu has since become one of Japan's most celebrated artists. Visitors will then explore the rich diversity of Japanese art, starting with a section featuring Edo masters of eccentric painting such as Jakuchu, Soga Shohaku, and Nagasawa Rosetsu, who have become icons of Japanese art. The journey continues through the intricate ink paintings of the Muromachi period (1336 – 1573) to the vibrant beauty of Taisho and Showa-era (1912 – 1989) works and more, offering a comprehensive exploration of Japan's artistic legacy. Pay a visit and make new discoveries among the many varieties of Japanese art set to be displayed at this exhibition.

[Rich Veins of Japanese Art—Mining for Hidden Treasures](#)

#### Seasonal Topic

### 3. Walk Through A Mystical Hydrangea Garden Set Within a Forest, Iwate



In early summer, Michinoku Hydrangea Garden in Ichinoseki City is filled with around 40,000 clusters of hydrangea flowers from approximately 400 different varieties. It is said to be one of the largest hydrangea gardens in Japan, and showcases several shades of hydrangeas including white, blue, pink, purple, and green. The flowers grow in an area with dense greenery that can be accessed by some bus routes from Ichinoseki and Hiraizumi Stations. They are nestled around towering trees, creating a mystical atmosphere with the blossoms gently illuminated with the light that shines through the leafy canopies. The Michinoku Hydrangea Festival also takes place during the flower season from late June to late July, and during this time, three walking paths are available to allow visitors to leisurely admire the flowers. Adding to the splendor of the scenery, a "hydrangea pond" appears for a limited time, where the surface of the pond is completely covered with multi-colored hydrangeas.

[Michinoku Hydrangea Garden](#)

#### Seasonal Topic

### 4. Explore The Rare Alpine Sanctuary Through the Seasons in Oze, Gunma, and Surrounding Area



©Oze Preservation Foundation

Oze National Park, a haven of alpine flora, boasts breathtaking landscapes shaped by volcanic activity and the changing seasons. Spanning across Gunma, Fukushima, Niigata, and Tochigi prefectures, it is home to over 900 species of plants, including endemic species found nowhere

else. Framed by majestic peaks, the expansive Ozegahara Plateau and serene Lake Ozenuma are standout features of the park. Ozegahara, the largest high moor on Honshu, covers 849 hectares and is rich in alpine plants and seasonal beauty. Visitors can stroll along boardwalks, witnessing an array of flowers bloom, especially in late spring, as well as skunk cabbages, daylilies, and vibrant fall foliage in autumn. The ecosystem of Oze, with its unique combination of flora, fauna, topography, and climate, is both rare and invaluable. Sealed off by three to five meters of snow for over half the year, the region's seasonal transformations are extraordinary in the natural world, making it an exceptional site for both scientific study and nature enthusiasts. It has a long history as a national park, originally designated as part of Nikko National Park in 1934 and then independently declared Japan's 29th national park in 2007. Oze is a symbol of conservation, even said to be the starting point for conservation in Japan, preserving its pristine landscapes for future generations through actions such as introducing the take-home-garbage movement, which spread all across the country. Be sure to follow the park's instructions to experience this precious natural heritage in a way that will allow others to enjoy it for years to come!

[Oze National Park](#)

#### Luxury Travel

### 5. Indulge in Top-Quality Sushi at a Luxurious Nature Getaway, Mie



Masaki Island floats in the Ago Bay off Mie Prefecture, surrounded by sparkling, azure water and covered in lush foliage. This little slice of paradise is home to Moku Iseshima, a luxury resort run by a master sushi chef that accepts only one party per day. The facility is made with materials sourced from the island that showcase the area's rich resources and beauty. Here, guests can escape from the busyness of city life while enjoying scenic nature and indulging in expertly prepared sushi. The sushi is made with ingredients hand-picked by the chef himself, including fish freshly caught from the bay, and other dishes boast regional flavors. The warm, wooden sushi bar looks out over the water that brilliantly reflects the sky. The chef also prepares a special breakfast offering a fabulous start to the day. The gorgeous resort suite that is only available to up to eight people per day includes an open-air bath, sauna, fire pit, and even an infinity pool with unhindered views of the bay. Other than exclusive culinary experiences, you may also enjoy a sunrise cruising ship or reset your mind and body with a therapeutic walk in the forest. This resort offers an island experience like no other. Apart from taking a cruiser from Kashikojima Port, visitors can reserve a private helicopter to get to Moku Iseshima directly from Tokyo or the Kansai area in style. Make the most of your travel time and enjoy stunning aerial views of Ago Bay!

[Moku Iseshima](#)

## Adventure Travel

### 6. Summer Adventure and Discoveries Await at Some of Hokkaido's Most Beautiful National Parks



Eastern Hokkaido is home to breathtakingly beautiful national parks. One of them, Kushiro Shitsugen National Park in the southeast, encompasses one of Japan's largest wetlands. Canoe down the Kushiro River, which gently meanders through the wetlands. With some 700 types of plants and around 1,300 different kinds of animals, there are endless discoveries to be found during your journey through this pristine waterway. Another national park located in the center of the east, Akan-Mashu National Park, boasts natural and cultural wonders, including primeval forests, a volcano, indigenous Ainu settlements, and more. Experience the best it has to offer through the Mount Meakan Loop Hike, which takes you all the way to the summit of Mount Meakan, an active volcano offering dramatic views from above, and down to the gorgeous Lake Onneto that appears to change color depending on the weather, season, and time of the day. In the summer, spot a variety of alpine plants, two species of which are named after Mount Meakan. Hokkaido is most known for its winter sports, but its national parks offer wild, scenic adventures throughout the rest of the year that will remain in your memory for a lifetime, so don't miss the chance to explore it for yourself.

[Venturing Into East Hokkaido's Untamed Wilderness](#)

[East Hokkaido](#)

## Japan Heritage

### 7. Meet the Friendly “Oni” Ogres, Oita



©Rokugo Manzan Japan Heritage Promotion Council

within northeastern Oita Prefecture lies Kunisaki, an area that not only has a name that refers to it as “the far end of the country,” but is also believed by locals to be the boundary between the physical world and the spiritual. There are many steep mountains shrouded in fog and miasma in this mystical area, creating an eerie atmosphere that suggests the presence of “oni” (ogres). Furthermore, Kunisaki also has many legends surrounding oni, such as one about a man who broke a large rock and built a stone staircase out of the remains overnight. Most “oni” (ogres) in Japanese mythology and folklore are frightful creatures that antagonize humans. However, the ogres that live in the jagged rocky areas and caves of the Kunisaki area are benevolent, bringing people happiness with their mysterious powers. The local oni have long been associated with Buddhism by monks, and their special presence can be felt by visiting temples and grottos in the area, which are collectively named “Rokugo Manzan.” Many of these temples hold events where visitors can interact with the oni, spending the night drinking, dancing, and laughing together. They also have masks of oni, all with different faces, so be sure to take the time to appreciate the detail that goes into creating their expressions. There are few places in Japan where you can interact with oni, and even fewer where you can have a merry time enjoying pleasantries and drinks with oni that want to get along with you.

[Japan heritage/Kunisaki](#)

## Sports Tourism

### 8. Learn Martial Arts and Traditional Samurai Culture, Ishikawa



Kanazawa is a treasure trove of Japanese culture, with traces and elements of traditional Japanese culture still prominent throughout the city. This 3-day-long tour will allow you to delve deep into the world of the samurai by allowing you to experience multiple aspects of samurai culture in Kanazawa. Of course, a samurai experience would not be complete without martial arts, and you will get to learn both Japanese archery and Japanese sword fighting with bamboo swords, as well as hold real samurai swords and see them in action through a thrilling sword art performance. You will also get to visit prominent samurai locations such as Kenrokuen Garden, maintained by a feudal family for generations, as well as former samurai residences. Spiritual activities also played a huge part in samurai culture, which you will experience by participating in a tea ceremony and Zen meditation. To top it all off, you will get to indulge in a traditional Buddhist course meal enjoyed by the samurai.

[Experience Samurai Martial Arts in Kanazawa](#)

## National Park

### 9. Collect the Unique Stamps of Japan's National Parks, Until March 31, 2027



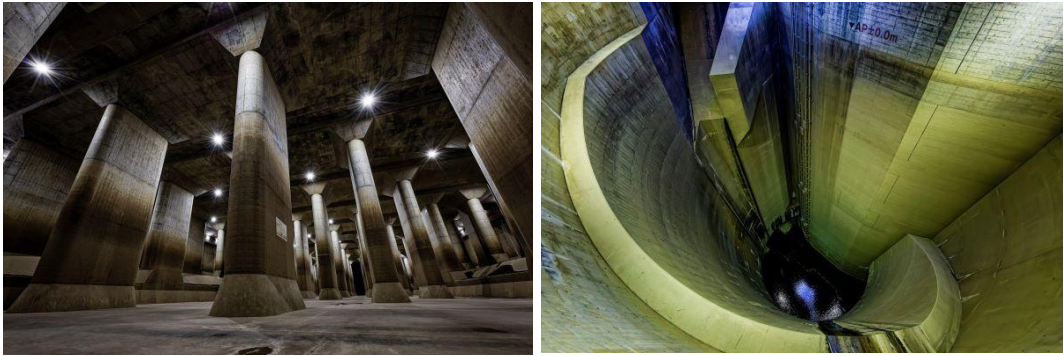
©Ministry of the Environment

Japan is home to 35 breathtaking national parks located across the country, each boasting its own unique features and awe-inspiring sceneries. If you need more reason to visit these stunning areas, the Ministry of the Environment has set up an initiative where visitors can collect stamps at each park's Visitor Center. While in the Visitor Centers and related facilities, make sure to spend time studying the respective displays and explanations to learn more about each national park. Each stamp is an eye-catching image of the park's name written in Japanese in a strong, bold calligraphy script font based on the design of traditional seals. You can obtain one stamp design at each national park, as well as at the National Parks Discovery Center in the Information Center at Tokyo's Shinjuku Gyoen, which introduces the charms of Japan's national parks. It is also a great idea to date the day you get the stamp, so you can remember exactly when you got each addition to your collection. The stamps are the perfect souvenirs and reminders of your time among the majestic nature of Japan's national parks, as well as proof of your wide exploration of the country.

[“NATIONAL PARKS OF JAPAN'S STAMP COLLECTION” Campaign](#)

### Special Experience

## 10. Learning Disaster Prevention in the Underground Temple – Guided Tours Now Available, Saitama



The Kanto Regional Development Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) has recently launched a public-private joint project on "Disaster Prevention Tourism" and devised eight enhancement plans. The stage for this initiative is the Metropolitan Area Outer Underground Discharge Channel, also known as the "Giant Underground Temple." Flowing 50 meters beneath the Tokyo metropolitan area, it is one of the world's largest underground flood control channels, constructed using Japan's cutting-edge civil engineering technology. With a new focus on "tourism," the project aims to provide experiences that allow both children and adults to enjoyably acquire disaster prevention knowledge. The Channel will serve as an information hub, offering various hands-on experiences. A new tour course has been added to the conventional guided tours, featuring not only the main attraction—the Underground Temple and the First Shaft—but also previously inaccessible areas, including an underground tunnel and the Third Shaft. Through these initiatives, MLIT aims to further promote a personal sense of responsibility for disaster preparedness.

Click the link below to apply for the guided tour.

[Metropolitan Area Outer Underground Discharge Channel](#)

Click the link below for more details about the Metropolitan Area Outer Underground Discharge Channel.

[Overview of Facilities](#)

**Expo 2025 Osaka Kansai**

## **Come Inside and Explore the Inspiring Women's Pavilion by Cartier**



© Cartier

The importance of women in society is recognized by all in the 21st century. Cartier is developing a Women's Pavilion, and its theme is straightforward: "WHEN WOMEN THRIVE, HUMANITY THRIVES." Women are key agents of development and change. Achieving gender equality and empowering women is vital to building fair, inclusive, prosperous, and peaceful societies across the globe. Safeguard the earth and champion innovative solutions with the adoption of sustainable practices, be it in clean energy, biodiversity preservation, and environmental conservation, that transcend continents and span generations. Embrace the role of change agents. Cultivate a sense of empowerment and conviction, recognizing that each individual can effect change within their communities. Es Devlin, the Global Artistic Lead of the Women's Pavilion, invites guests to donate their names, making their identity part of the narrative. This act symbolizes the power of a name as both an intimate and universal compass.

The Women's Pavilion aims to facilitate profound perspective shifts toward gender equality by guiding visitors through intimate personal stories, encouraging reflection, and ultimately connecting these experiences to a broader, universal context of global issues. At Cartier, women have always been a source of endless inspiration and a cornerstone of the Maison's creativity and values. Guided by the belief that when women thrive, humanity thrives, Cartier has long championed gender equality by joining forces with committed stakeholders, eager to collaborate and act to tackle some of the world's most pressing challenges. This unwavering commitment is central to the Women's Pavilion, which serves as a global platform for fostering dialogue, innovation, and collective action. Set within the context of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, the Women's Pavilion is open until October 13, 2025. At the core of the Women's Pavilion lies a powerful manifesto calling for a brighter future, one in which all individuals, regardless of gender, coexist in true equality and harmony. It is a world where mutual respect thrives, and where every individual has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Let's go to the Women's Pavilion collaboration with Cartier and broaden our perspective of the common sense of "When Women Thrive, Humanity Thrives"!

[Women's Pavilion in collaboration with Cartier](#)

**Notes:**

- The above details are correct as of the time of publication, and are subject to change.

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