

Press Release

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HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO Announces Exclusive Year-Round Private Access to Kiyomizu-dera Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Kyoto, Japan – [HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO](#) unveils a new, year-round luxury experience offering private entry to Kiyomizu-dera Temple, one of Japan's most iconic and revered cultural landmarks, with access to sacred areas typically closed to the public—including the treasured Hozoden Hall—guided by a temple priest.

This exclusive experience, available only to guests of HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO, provides early-morning access to the UNESCO World Heritage Site steeped in centuries of spiritual and architectural significance. Guests will be granted a rare opportunity to enter Hozoden Hall, which houses a collection of treasures and Buddhist statues—many designated as Important Cultural Properties.



“We are honored to offer our guests this extraordinary opportunity to connect more deeply with Kyoto's living heritage,” said General Manager Manabu Kusui. “Kiyomizu-dera is one of Japan's must-visit landmarks, and by making this sacred experience available year-round, we hope to welcome more travelers to discover the profound beauty and spirit of this city in a way few others can.”



The itinerary includes a guided journey through the temple grounds, featuring access to the West Gate (*Saimon*), the iconic Main Hall and Inner Sanctuary, and the secluded Okuno-in and Jojuin sub-temples—spaces rarely seen by the public. The morning culminates with the treasures in Hozoden followed by an intimate dialogue with Priest Shoin Onishi at Jojuin, offering insights into the temple's spiritual philosophy and cultural significance.

Kiyomizu-dera Temple Exclusive Private Experience

- **Time:** 6:00 AM – 9:00 AM
- **Capacity:** 1 group per day (maximum 4 guests) - advance booking required
- **Rate:** ¥400,000 per group
- **Includes:** Interpretive guide
- **Cancellation Policy:** 100% charge for cancellations within 7 days of tour date

For reservations and more information, visit <https://www.hotelthemitsui.com>.

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ABOUT HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO, a Luxury Collection Hotel & Spa:

HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO is the first of the HOTEL THE MITSUI brand of iconic, ultra-luxury properties, designed to reflect the harmony between the four seasons and five senses. Located in the heart of Kyoto adjacent to the legendary Nijo Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the 160-room hotel features three restaurants, including the innovative TOKI; Thermal Spring sourced from an on-site natural spring; and a modern tea ceremony alcove. Built on a 250-year-old historic site that was once the home of the executive branch of the Mitsui Family, the hotel presents an ambiance of refined sophistication and serves as a cultural gateway to discover Kyoto. The first Japanese hotel to receive a Five Star rating from Forbes Travel Guide in its first operating year's inspection—and maintain it for four consecutive years—is also featured on *Condé Nast Traveler's* 2024 Gold List and is the only Kyoto property, and one of just six in Japan, to earn the Michelin Three Key distinction in 2024.

The brand's new property, HOTEL THE MITSUI HAKONE, will open in late 2026, featuring 126 rooms, each with its own natural hot springs.