

NEWS



IMPERIAL HOTEL TOKYO

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The 100th Anniversary of the Opening of the Wright Building

The Imperial Hotel, Tokyo offers the Frank Lloyd Wright® Suite.

Tokyo, Japan; January 24th, 2023: Tokyo's world famous, 132 year old Imperial Hotel, Tokyo is now celebrating the 100th anniversary of the opening of its second main building (commonly known as the Wright Building) designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

To celebrate the anniversary, the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, a member of the Leading Hotels of the World, is offering an exclusive Frank Lloyd Wright® Suite stay available from January 24th, 2023 to March 31st, 2024 (Special periods such as New Year's Day are excluded).

The Frank Lloyd Wright® Suite is a 214 square meters (2,303 square feet) luxury suite featuring original designs and architectural motifs from its world renowned 1923-1967 Frank Lloyd Wright hotel building and other landmark Wright structures. To be marketed as The Frank Lloyd Wright® Suite, the JPY 1,400,000 or approximately USD 10,850 (as of January 20th, 2023, exchange rate) per night accommodations overlook Hibiya Park and the imperial palace gardens in central Tokyo from a higher floor of the hotel's main building and houses a living room, a dining room and a bedroom (consumption tax and service charge are included, accommodation tax excluded). By using the Imperial Floor Deluxe Twin connecting room adjacent to the suite, guests can use these accommodations for up to four people at one time (JPY 1,410,000 for three persons and JPY 1,420,000 for four persons).

The Frank Lloyd Wright® Suite is the only suite in the world to bear the name of Frank Lloyd Wright under a name use agreement with the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation of the United States. The Frank Lloyd Wright® Suite incorporates the design of the former Wright Building of the Imperial Hotel, using Wright's original carpets, furniture and lighting, as well as the design of his private residence in the United States, and reconstructs them in a hotel room. Upon entering the room, one can feel Wright's unique compression and release techniques. The walls of the entrance foyer are decorated with reliefs of Oya stone, reproduced from

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designs from the Wright Building, and the carpets are based on the design sketches Wright drew when he created the Wright Building. Wright's designs are used throughout the building, including as wall decorations, ceiling moldings, furniture, and lamps. In addition to the decorations and furniture design, the suite also captures the flow of light and air, rather than confining them to a single space, with latticework on some walls and glass and air passageways in the doors, allowing the room space itself to reflect the life of Wright.

The suite opened in 2005. This is the first time it will be offered in an exclusive stay; the package includes daily breakfast, in room check in and check out, and guest attendant service. The hotel's exclusive concierge service will assist patrons with their trip from the moment they make their reservation. One drink service is available daily at the Old Imperial Bar, which includes the original 1923 Wright design. Also included is tea service in the Toko-an, a tea ceremony room designed by Togo Murano, an architect famous for his sukiya-style work (Japanese architectural style). An all-you-can-drink minibar with seasonal domestic juice, beer, wine, whiskey and Japanese sake is included. Usage of the laundry, pool and fitness center is available.



Living Room



Bedroom



Dining Area

In 2023, the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Wright Building, the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo started marketing Wright Building-related exhibits and products in addition to accommodations in The Frank Lloyd Wright® Suite.

Old Imperial Bar

A patrician salute to the hotel's architectural heritage of Frank Lloyd Wright, with fascinating motifs from the 1923 Imperial Hotel and masterfully concocted spirits from around the world, the Old Imperial Bar offers two original cocktails selected in an in-house competition to celebrate its 100th anniversary. Under the theme of the Jewel of the Orient, the Imperial Hotel held a competition in cocktail and non-alcohol categories. "LUGEND" was chosen as the best cocktail. (*LUGEND is a coined word that combines Lux in Latin, and Legend, in English). This is a cocktail that expresses the connection between the United States, the birthplace of Frank Lloyd Wright, and Japan, by combining American bourbon whisky with Amazake, which is a sweet, fermented drink well-known in Japan. The price is JPY 2,640 (consumption tax included, service charge excluded). In the non-alcoholic category, a cocktail named "Gratitude for 100 years" was created, flavored with peach and cherry blossom syrup. Soy milk is used so that patrons with various food cultures and backgrounds can enjoy the service. The price is JPY 2,200 (consumption tax included, service charge excluded).



Right: LUGEND

Left: Gratitude for 100 years



Old Imperial Bar

Hotel Delicatessen

Gargantua, the hotel delicatessen with an array of beautiful and delicious delicacies made with great care by the Imperial Hotel's artisans, offers a very rare cookie can designed using the design of a pamphlet created by Kenichi Shigeoka, who was commissioned to create a mural for the "Peacock Room" banquet hall in the Wright Building. "The Wright Imperial Anniversary Cookies" are JPY 4,320, consumption tax included.



"Imperial Times" Exhibition

In the exhibition space "Imperial Times" on the 1st floor of the main building, "The Wright Imperial; a Century and Beyond" is on display. It introduces the exquisite architectural beauty of the Wright Building, and the culture of the Imperial Hotel that has been created and passed on through the Wright Building. In addition to a reprint of the uniforms of the room attendants of the time, the exhibition will also introduce the Japanese who supported the Wright Building (architect Arata Endo and painter Kenichi Shigeoka), as well as the furniture and furnishings used in the Wright Building. Guests can also note the demise of the Wright Building, the birth of the current main building, and a perspective of the new main building scheduled to be reconstructed from 2031 under the concept of the Jewel of the Orient, which represents the Wright Building.



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For reference

Imperial Hotel 2nd Generation Main Building (commonly known as the Wright Building)

The Imperial Hotel opened on November 3, 1890 in Hibiya, Tokyo, the same location as today. It boasted the best facilities of its time, but as the number of foreigners coming to Japan from Europe and the United States increased in the Taisho era (1912-1926), the building and facilities became outdated, and it became necessary to construct a new wing. Aisaku Hayashi, the manager at the time, asked architect Frank Lloyd Wright, whom he had met through his collection of ukiyo-e woodblock prints while working as an antique dealer in New York, to design the new building. Wright conceived of a hotel structure where people could gather and socialize. Construction of the hotel began in 1919 and was completed in 1923. It was a reinforced concrete and brick structure with five stories above ground and one below, with a total floor area of 34,826 square meters (374,868 square feet) and 270 guest rooms. It unexpectedly proved to be earthquake and fire resistant.

After its opening, the new building spread new culture and services such as dance parties and hotel weddings, welcomed distinguished guests from Japan and abroad, and served as the setting for many historically significant events. It has also been called "The Jewel of the Orient" because of its architectural beauty, and has been well received by many people. In 1967, after the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, the building was closed for reconstruction due to earthquake resistance and other problems, bringing an end to its 44-year history. Today, the main entrance to the building has been preserved and restored at Meiji-Mura, an open-air museum, in Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.

Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959)

An American architect who developed his own style known for its prairie-style designs with low, horizontal lines, Wright came to Japan in 1916 at the request of Aisaku Hayashi, manager of the Imperial Hotel, to build a new hotel wing. In a career spanning 70 years, he is said to have created over 1,100 designs, nearly half of which were actually built. In the Wright Building, chairs, tables, carpets, textiles, lighting fixtures, and even dinnerware designed by Wright created a total work of art; sense of the world in combination with the building.