

Minor Hotels Announces Avani Kyoto, Marking Brand Debut in Japan



▲ From left to right Mr. Onishi of Kyoto Shimbun, Mr. Tomita of Heiwa Real Estate, Mr. Yamazaki of Taisei Corporation, Mr. William E. Heinecke, Founder and Chairman of Minor International and Mr. Motoyama of Royal Minor Holdings

June 16, 2026: [Minor Hotels](#), a global hospitality group with more than 640 hotels, resorts, and branded residences across 66 countries, has announced the development of **Avani Kyoto**, marking the brand's entry into Japan. Scheduled to open in 2030, the hotel forms part of a joint development alongside **Taisei Corporation** and **Heiwa Real Estate Co., Ltd.**, with Minor participating as both investor and operator.

Located along Karasuma Street in central Kyoto, the hotel occupies the site of the former Kyoto Shimbun headquarters and benefits from direct connectivity to Marutamachi Station on the Karasuma Subway Line. The property sits within walking distance of key cultural landmarks including the Kyoto Imperial Palace and Nijo Castle, positioning it as a strong base for both domestic and international travelers seeking access to the city's historic and cultural center.

The development will see the renovation of the existing North Building alongside the construction of a new South Building, creating a hotel with approximately 240 guest rooms. The design approach reflects a considered balance between Kyoto's architectural heritage and the needs of today's traveler, with spaces planned to support both short stays and longer visits. Dining outlets and shared social areas will be integrated throughout the property, reinforcing Avani's focus on ease, flexibility, and contemporary urban living.

“Avani Kyoto represents an important step in Minor Hotels' long-term expansion strategy, bringing the brand into one of Asia's most culturally significant destinations,” said William E. Heinecke, Founder & Chairman of Minor International. “Through our local partners, we are creating a hotel that is aligned with the character of Kyoto while delivering a contemporary experience for guests.”

This development forms part of Minor Hotels' broader strategic entry into Japan through its joint venture with Royal Holdings Co., Ltd., which will see the group expand its presence in the market with a pipeline of hotels under the Anantara, Avani, and Tivoli brands in key gateway and leisure destinations.

Avani Hotels & Resorts, one of Minor Hotels' twelve hotel brands, has over 40 properties across five continents, spanning premium city hotels, tropical resorts, and retreats in nature, with a focus on smart design, upbeat service, and good value. The brand continues to expand in key global markets, with upcoming openings across Asia, Australia, and the Middle East.



About Avani Hotels & Resorts

Designed for today's traveler, Avani Hotels & Resorts offers stylish rooms, connected social spaces and relaxed and on-the-go dining that is locally inspired. Balance is central to everything Avani does, providing guests with the right measure of service, fun and privacy. Launched in 2011, Avani's over 40 properties across five continents offer premium city hotels, tropical resorts and retreats in nature with a focus on smart design, upbeat service and good value.

Avani Hotels & Resorts is a [Minor Hotels](#) brand and recognizes its guests through one unified loyalty program, [Minor DISCOVERY](#), part of GHA DISCOVERY.

Visit avanihotels.com for more information, and connect with Avani on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#), [X](#) and [YouTube](#).

About Minor Hotels

Minor Hotels is a global leader in the hospitality industry with more than 640 hotels, resorts and branded residences in operation and committed development across 66 countries. The group crafts innovative and insightful experiences through its hotel brands including Anantara, Elewana Collection, The Wolseley Hotels, Tivoli, Minor Reserve Collection, NH Collection, nhow, Avani, Colbert Collection, NH, Oaks, and iStay, as well as a diverse portfolio of restaurants and bars, travel experiences, and spa and wellness brands. With over four decades of expertise, Minor Hotels builds stronger brands, fosters lasting partnerships, and drives business success by always focusing on what matters most to our guests, team members and partners.

Minor Hotels is a proud member of the [Global Hotel Alliance \(GHA\)](#) and recognizes its guests through one unified loyalty program, [Minor DISCOVERY](#), part of GHA DISCOVERY.

Discover our world at minorhotels.com and connect with Minor Hotels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [TikTok](#) and [YouTube](#).

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We pride ourselves on developing superior communications at an affordable cost while providing reliable hands-on service. Most importantly, we focus our time & resources on the creation and distribution of valuable, relevant, and consistent messaging to attract and retain a clearly defined audience for every client - which ultimately drives brand loyalty and profitable customer action.

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