

BANYAN TREE GROUP

PRESS RELEASE

Banyan Tree Group Expands “The First Trip” to Japan



Immerse in the refined culture, age-old heritage, and picturesque scenery of Kyoto, as Japan fully reopens its borders to independent travellers. Explore the charming Kyoto with The First Trip offers to two of our newest hotels.

Singapore, 5 October 2022 – As Japan prepares its long-anticipated full-scale tourism reopening for October 11, independent travellers can look forward to celebrating the quiet beauty of Kyoto and other popular destinations in the Land of the Rising Sun. Ahead of the country easing its border-control requirements, Banyan Tree Group is set to welcome guests to its two newly opened hotels in the country – [Garrya Nijo Castle Kyoto](#) and [Dhawa Yura Kyoto](#) – with special savings on stays and experiences under “The First Trip” campaign.

In addition to dropping the current requirement of signing up for package tours, Japan is reinstating visa-free short-term stays for visitors from 68 countries and regions – including South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the U.S., the U.K., and Australia. Visitors will only need to show proof of having received three doses of coronavirus vaccines or a negative test result.

First rolled out in Thailand, Mexico, the Maldives, Indonesia and Malaysia earlier this year, “The First Trip” aims to make the return to travel not only as smooth as possible, but to also help travellers explore new locales and revisit favourite destinations in a more purposeful way.

With both packages focusing on unique experiences that distil the essence of Kyoto, “The First Trip” Japan edition offers complimentary cultural adventures connecting visitors to local culture and history, as well as savings on BAR (Best Available Rate) rate and more. At Garrya Nijo Castle Kyoto, guests will have the chance to explore the UNESCO World Heritage site of Nijo Castle, while at Dhawa Yura Kyoto they will get to experience the legendary sento ritual at the Kyoto Public Baths where locals visit to bathe and socialise.

Garrya Nijo Castle Kyoto – “The First Trip”

As the first opening under the Group’s newest concept, Garrya Nijo Castle Kyoto presents a new and distinct approach to wellbeing through simplistic design and amenities that recharge and rejuvenate. The 25-room hotel is located right in front of Nijo Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site first built in 1603 during the Tokugawa Shogunate, and offers a meditative view of lush greenery from the lobby, seasonal cuisine at its innovative French restaurant, Singular, and a Wellbeing Room for restorative exercises and yoga. Urbane and pared-back, Garrya was built for the sophisticated traveller looking to escape the chaos of everyday life.

Guests booking “The First Trip” package at this peaceful and intimate property will benefit from the following:

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- 15% accommodation savings on Best Available Rate
- Two complimentary tickets to the UNESCO World Heritage site Nijo Castle
- Complimentary pick-up and drop-off services between the Kyoto Station and the hotel
- Complimentary minibar service (except for wine and champagne)
- 10% savings on dining at the signature restaurant - Singular

For Reservations, visit [Garrya Nijo Castle Kyoto](#), or email nijocastle@garrya.com.

Dhawa Yura Kyoto – “The First Trip”

The first Dhawa property in Japan, Dhawa Yura Kyoto, is located in Sanjo, in the heart of Kyoto, where temples clouded with incense smoke, centuries-old shrines, museums filled with precious artefacts and world-class shopping and dining all vie for one’s attention. With its serene setting on the Kamo River right by the iconic Sanjo Ohashi bridge, the 138-room boutique hotel offers a convenient base from which to explore the city’s many sights, while its interior design and artworks reflect the historic ties to the Edo period in Japan.

A mesmerising blend of old and new, East and West, ancient history and modern technology, Dhawa Yura Kyoto is deeply rooted in history while offering a full range of premium contemporary comforts, including 8LEMENTS Spa that will nurture with healing therapies and indigenous treatments.

Guests booking a stay at Dhawa under “The First Trip” will benefit from the following:

- 15% accommodation savings on Best Available Rate
- Two tickets to the Kyoto Public Baths
- Welcome drink at bar & lounge
- 30% savings on spa treatments at 8LEMENTS
- 10% savings on dining

For Reservations, visit [Dhawa Yura Kyoto](#), or email Reservations-yurakyoto@dhawa.com.

Both packages are open for bookings and stays from 5th October 2022 until 30th June 2023, with a minimum stay of one night.

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For high-resolution images, please [click here](#) to download.

ABOUT BANYAN TREE GROUP

Banyan Tree Group (“Banyan Tree Holdings Limited” or the “Group”) is one of the world’s leading independent, multi-branded hospitality groups centred on the purpose-driven mission of stewardship and wellbeing while offering exceptional, design-led experiences.

The Group’s diversified portfolio of hotels, resorts, spas, galleries, golf and residences features an ecosystem of 10 global brands, including the award-winning [Banyan Tree](#), [Angsana](#), [Cassia](#), [Dhawa](#) and [Laguna](#), and the highly anticipated new brands of [Homm](#), [Garrya](#), Folio, and two new Banyan Tree brand extensions - [Escape](#) and [Veya](#).

Established in 2008, with the goal of advancing people development and management excellence, Banyan Tree Management Academy has nurtured over 8,000 associates across 23 countries. The Group is recognised for its commitment to environmental protection and community development through its Banyan Tree Global Foundation. Operating over 60 hotels in 17 countries, it has 47 new properties in the pipeline.

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