Part III

EXPO 2025 Chronology

Table of Contents

1. Chronology 323
2. Initiatives by Local Governments in Kansai to Host the Expo 324
3. Initiatives by Prefectures in Kansai for Expo 329
4. Trends in Large Hotel Construction 331

[About the Editing of the EXPO 2025 Chronology]

- The EXPO 2025 Chronology was written by the Chronology Group of the Asia Pacific Institute of Research (APIR).
- The last check date of the following data is November 30, 2024 (exceptions noted).
- EXPO 2025 OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN is referred to as “Osaka-Kansai Expo” and The Japan Association for the International Exposition, 2025 is referred to as “Expo Association” due to space limitation.
- EXPO 2025 OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN is referred to as “Expo” only in “1. Chronology” due to space limitation.
- Kansai is defined as Shiga, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo, Nara, and Wakayama prefectures, unless otherwise noted.

1. Chronology

○On November 23, 2018, the site for the Expo was decided to be Osaka Prefecture, and in December, the Expo Association was established. From 2019, the Osaka Prefecture and City, the national government, and the Expo Association took the lead in developing the legal framework for the Expo.

○In 2024, preparations for the opening of the Expo are accelerating, with the recruitment of Expo volunteers and the holding of the International Participant Meeting (IPM) (Table 1).

Table 1 Movements related to Expo: 2018-2024

Year	Date	Expo-Related Movements
2018	Jun 13	The three countries that had put forward their candidacies made their final presentations at the BIE General Assembly.
	Nov 23	At the BIE General Assembly, Japan (Osaka) was selected as the host country for the 2025 World Expo.
	Dec 11	Osaka Prefecture established the Expo Promotion Headquarters and held its first meeting.
2019	Jan 24	The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry has announced the official name of the Expo.
	Jan 30	The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition (hereafter, Expo Association) was established.
	Apr 19	"Act on Special Measures Required for Preparation and Operation of the International Exposition to be held in 2025" was passed.
	Nov 29	Expo Association has started accepting public submissions for the official logo mark.
	Dec 27	METI submitted the "Registration Dossier" to the BIE.
2020	May 04	The BIE has decided to postpone the Dubai Expo by one year.
	Aug 25	Expo Association has announced the official logo mark.
	Sep 16	The government establishes the International Expo Promotion Headquarters based on the Special Measures Law for the Expo.
	Dec 01	The "Registration Dossier" was approved at the BIE General Assembly.
	Dec 25	Expo Association has announced the basic plan for the venue design and operational plan, etc.
2021	Jun 16	Mr. Tokura was appointed as the new chairman of the Expo Association.
	Sep 16	Expo Association has started selling 44 official licensed products.
	Oct 15	Expo Association announced a public call for designs for the official Expo character.
2022	Mar 22	The official character design has been decided.
	Jun 03	The "Osaka-Kansai Expo Visitor Transportation Basic Policy" has been formulated.
	Jul 18	The nickname of the official character was announced at the Expo 1,000 Days to Go event.
	Oct 25	Expo Association held its first international conference with representatives from countries and regions that had announced their participation.

2022	Dec 20	The government's Expo Promotion Headquarters has revised its "Action Plan."
2023	Apr 12	Expo Association has started selling "Myakumyaku" goods.
	Apr 13	A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the main facilities, including the pavilion, on Yumeshima.
	Jun 06	Expo Association held the International Planning Meeting (IPM).
	Jun 12	Expo Association has formulated an action plan to build momentum for the Expo both in Japan and overseas.
	Jun 14	Expo Association announced the basic price of admission tickets.
	Nov 30	Advance tickets for the Expo have gone on sale.
2024	Jan 29	Expo Association has started accepting proposals for the utilization of the Great Roof Ring after the Expo closes.
	Mar 29	The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry estimated the economic impact of the Expo at JPY 2.9 trillion.
	Apr 12	Osaka Prefecture and City estimate the economic impact of the Expo in Osaka Prefecture at JPY 1.6 trillion.
	Jun 25-26	The International Participants Meeting (IPM) was held in Nara City.
	Jun 26	The organizing committee, made up of the countries participating in the Expo, has been established.
	Jul 26	Osaka Prefecture and City Announce Details of Call for Proposals for Development of Expo Site
	Aug 21	The "Great Roof Ring" under construction at the Expo site was connected.
	Sep 17	The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry has announced that it would be exhibiting "Martian rocks".
	Sep 25	Applications for the pavilion reservation lottery have been opened for those who purchased the Super Early Bird One-Day Ticket.
	Oct 13	Six months before the opening. Paper tickets go on sale at convenience stores nationwide.

Source: Prepared by APIR based on various press materials.

2. Initiatives by Local Governments in Kansai to Host the Expo

○Table 2 shows the projects that each local government in the Kansai region is working on in preparation for the Expo, organized by theme. Each local government plans to work on human and cultural exchange through its culture and history. On the other hand, there are also local governments that are working on economic exchanges with participating companies, and there are also activities that see the Expo as an opportunity to expand business opportunities.

Table 2 Initiatives by local governments in Kansai

Prefecture	Registered Municipalities	Partner Country/ Region	Main Initiatives	Theme
Fukui	Fukui Prefecture	Brazil	Invited residents of "Fukui Village" in Brazil to Fukui Prefectural University to give lectures introducing Brazil and "Fukui Village" to students, as well as lectures by experts on "Environment" and "Climate Change", from Brazil Pavilion at Osaka Expo.	Human and Cultural
	Fukui City	Slovenia	Conducted online exchanges (letters and video letters) between elementary, junior high and high school students in the city and children in other Slovenian cities such as Kranj. Mutual visits between the cities of Kranj and Fukui were also conducted.	Human
Mie	Mie Prefecture	Brazil	Exchange programs were held for junior high and high school students with partner countries to promote mutual exchange among the youth. Visiting delegation can stay at a farms and experience the nature, traditional culture, and Japanese lifestyle of Mie Prefecture.	Human and Cultural
Shiga	Shiga Prefecture	Brazil	In commemoration of the 45th anniversary of the sister city partnership, exchange activities were held with residents of the prefecture during the visit of the delegation from Rio Grande do Sul State	Human
	Omi Yawata City	Mozambique	Representatives from the partner country were invited to give lectures about the country and Africa as part of the multicultural coexistence initiative	Human and Cultural
Kyoto	Kyoto Prefecture	Vietnam	Invited a group of students from Hue Province to participate in events held in Kyoto, as well as cultural exchanges with students in Kyoto through dance performances and other activities.	Human
		Chile	Exchanges between the two universities through open seminars and open campus sessions to introduce Chilean culture and healthcare issues.	Human, Cultural and Economic
		Indonesia	Discussions with Yogyakarta Special Territory about the celebration of the 40th anniversary of friendship agreement in 2025, as well as exchange events in conjunction with Osaka Expo. Japanese speech contests for university students in the region are held to promote mutual understanding.	Human and Cultural
		United Kingdom	Osaka Expo aims to create global solidarity among the youth and to promote international exchange among the next generation, -Exchange of prefecture's public high school students with students from partner states, provinces and cities (England, China, France) -Exchange of paintings between students in the prefecture and students in the partner provinces and cities (Canada, China, France, and the United States) to promote mutual understanding of the lifestyle and culture"	Human and Cultural
		Canada		
		China		
		France		
		United States of America		
	Kameoka City	United States of America	Exchange programs were held for visitors from the sister city of Stillwater, such as partication in the Kameoka Festival for the delagations and homestays for the junior high school students. International exchange events featuring Osaka Expo were also held for local residents.	Human
		Austria	Providing homestay program in the sister city of Knittelfeld for junior high school students. International exchange events featuring Osaka Expo were also held for local residents.	Human

Osaka	Tondabayashi City	United States of America	English exchange programs with elementary and junior high school students were held for students from the sister city of Bethlehem as part of the 60th anniversary of the sister city partnership.	Human
	Sennan City	Philippines	Exchange events were held in collaboration with the Consulate General of the Philippines in Osaka, as well as online exchange between elementary and junior high school students from both regions focusing on environment, culture, and the arts.	Human and Cultural
	Osaka Prefecture	France	Series of exchange and experience programs for high school students with French international students to deepen mutual understanding of culture and common social issues.	Human and Cultural
		United States of America	Series of exchange and experience programs for high school students with American international students to deepen mutual understanding of culture and common social issues.	Human and Cultural
		Australia	Series of exchange and experience programs for high school students with Australian international students to deepen mutual understanding of culture and common social issues.	Human and Cultural
		United Arab Emirates	Series of exchange and experience programs for high school students with UAE international students to deepen mutual understanding of culture and common social issues.	Human and Cultural
		Vietnam	Series of exchange and experience programs for high school students with Vietnamese international students to deepen mutual understanding of culture and common social issues.	Human and Cultural
		Italy	Series of exchange and experience programs for high school students with Italian international students to deepen mutual understanding of culture and common social issues.	Human and Cultural
		China	Series of exchange and experience programs for high school students with Chinese international students to deepen mutual understanding of culture and common social issues.	Human and Cultural
		Indonesia	Series of exchange and experience programs for high school students with Indonesian international students to deepen mutual understanding of culture and common social issues.	Human and Cultural
	Osaka City	Australia	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs	Human and Cultural
		China	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs	Human and Cultural
		Brazil	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs	Human and Cultural
		Germany	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs. In addition, events to experience German food, music, and concerts by German chorus group were held.	Human and Cultural
		Vietnam	Food-theme exchange programs with the locals. Events aim at introducing cultural and hitory for local residents were also held.	Human and Cultural
		Korea	Food-theme exchange programs with the locals. Events aim at introducing cultural and hitory for local residents were also held.	Human and Cultural

Osaka	Osaka City	Ghana	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs	Human and Cultural
		Kenya	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs	Human and Cultural
		Bolivia	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs	Human and Cultural
		Rwanda	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs	Human and Cultural
		Papua New Guinea	Representatives from the partner country visited school and held activities to deepen the mutual understanding of culture and the SDGs	Human and Cultural
		Peru	Cultural exchange between Peruvians living in Japan and local residents through events held by the commercial distrist.	Human and Cultural
	Kishiwada City	France	Mututal cultural exchange through music-theme events, where participants engaged in cultural experiences and musical performances at Osaka Expo. In addition, efforts were made to raise awareness of environmental issues and promote deeper understanding of these challenges.	Human and Cultural
	Toyonaka City	United States of America	Children from both cities engaged in learning about the environment, exchanging opinions, recognizing and sharing common challenges. The initiative aimed at developing of ideas and visions for the future, and share with the world through metaverse.	Human and Cultural
	Suita City	Switzer-land	Exchange between local residents and partner country's companies, mainly in Kento, on life science theme, lectures by Swiss professors from local universities on the differences between Switzerland and Japan, along witha philosophy café, and exchange using comed performances by children	Human, Cultural and Economic
	Yao City	United States of America	International exchanges broadened beyond youth-oriented activities to encompass the industrial sector, through programs such as the 'machikouba'. The Osaka Expo provides an opportunity to foster business partnerships between Yao City and its sister cities.	Human and Economic
		China	Develop youth exchanges in cooperation with companies participating in TEAMEXPO 2025; in 2025, conduct local exchanges in conjunction with Osaka Week "Exchange Bon Odori".	Human
	Izumisano City	Uganda	Cultural exchanges related to Osaka Expo theme "Life" through cultural introductions by international exchange coordinators from Uganda	Human and Cultural
	Matsubara City	Tanzania	Through "Tingatinga Classroom", elementary students in Matsubara City learnt about Tanzanian culture and lifestyle using painting during summer vacation.	Human and Cultural
		Australia	Youth Exchange. Exposure to a multicultural society to learn about diversity and foster a love of one's hometown.	Human and Cultural
		Korea	Exchange with Korean Safe Community local government through the Safe Community activities, whose initiatives focus on building a safe and secure city	Human and Cultural
	Izumi City	Senegal	Cultural exchange through musical performance with Sachiko Nakajima's band, producer of the Osaka/Kansai Expo theme project, during the Expo.	Human and Cultural

Osaka	Higashi-Osaka City	Benin Côte d'Ivoire Tanzania Botswana	Business opportunities in Africa were shared with companies at the Osaka Africa Business Forum. At AFRICA, cultural exchange between African and local residents are promoted through cultural booths such as music stageand food market.	Human, Cultural and Economic
	Katano City	Ethiopia	Katano City's local performing arts group, 'Saeki Bayashi,' partnered with Expo-themed projects by producer Sachiko Nakajima, to organize cultural exchange programs between Ethiopian artists and the children and local residents of Katano City	Human and Cultural
	Kawachinagano City	Burkina Faso	A pre-event for the World Expo, scheduled for winter 2025 in the city, feature an exchange program through the 'Earth Organ Project'.	Human and Cultural
		United States of America	Local residents will participate in cultural exchange at the 'Carmel International Art Festival' held in the sister city. Additionally, representatives from the partner country will be invited to the multicultural exchange event 'World Melting Pot Festival' in Kawachi Nagano City to foster further interaction.	Human and Cultural
	Takaishi City	Madagas-car	School visits by officials from partner countries and football exchanges between Madagascar residents in Japan and local elementary and middle schools.	Human and Cultural
	Tondabayashi City, Habikino City, Fujiidera City, Osaka Sayama City	Egypt	The four cities of Tondabayashi, Habikino, Fujidera, and Osakasayama collaborate to facilitate exchanges between children and officials from partner countries, as well as cultural and historical exchanges with Egyptian residents in Japan.	Human and Cultural
Hyogo	Miki City	France	In addition to collaborations between Japanese sake, Japanese cuisine, and French cuisine, the program aims to address the issue of tendonitis faced by French wineries through traditional Miki metalwork. as well as cultural exchange between high school students to promote mutual cultural understanding.	Human and Cultural
	Minami-Awaji City	Italy	Refine tourism content using local resources, including cultural exchange of food with a focus on onions, a common feature with Tropea City.	Human and Cultural
		South Africa	Invited embassy officials and others from the partner country to an after-school program by the city's Board of Education to give lectures on traditional and culinary culture exchange, as well as proposing dishes that go well with Awaji Island milk and South African wine	Human and Cultural
	Nishinomiya City	Solomon Islands	The exchange with Honiara City, based on a memorandum of understanding for environmental learning and cooperation, deepened mutual understanding as both cities' children and youth learnt about each other's environment and culture, fostering a greater appreciation for each other hometowns.	Human and Cultural
Nara	Nara Prefecture	Uzbeki-stan	Young people from Nara Prefecture are sent to partner country for homestays and cultural exchanges with local university students, fostering a globally-minded generation. Friendship exchange events between Nara Prefecture and Samarkand Region are held in Nara Prefecture, in collaboration with embassies in Tokyo.	Human and Cultural
	Yamatotakada City	Australia	Held an exchange event with the sister city of Lismore to introduce each other's culture and history when students are sent to each other's cities.	Human and Cultural
	Kashihara City	Burkina Faso	Workshops on African language songs by a composer based in Burkina Faso for elementary schools in the city, as well as cultural exchanges through music and dance with Burkina Faso residents.	Human and Cultural

Wakayama	Arita City	United Arab Emirates	Partnership agreement with a school in Dubai for collaborative learning and exploration of environmental sustainability and energy, as well as and short-term exchange visits to experience each other's cultures and educational systems.	Human and Cultural
Tottori	Tottori Prefecture	Jamaica	SDGs-theme exchange program for the youth in Westmoreland County, focusing on learning about each other's cultures and nature	Human and Cultural
Tokushima	Matsushige Town	Ghana	Collaborated with Sachiko Nakajima, producer of the Expo theme project, to promote STEAM education and hold events for environmental education and cultural exchange through trash art.	Human and Cultural
	Kamikatsu Town	Nigeria	Focusing on future business and human exchanges, cultural exchanges and discussions are held in the town with visiting delegations, including embassy staff from partner countries, aiming to address issues like waste management and other challenges in the partner countries.	Human, Cultural and Economic
	Kamiita Town	Jordan	Elementary school students learning about ethical consumption and engage in cultural exchanges with children from Jordan through the shared traditional craft of indigo dyeing. Cultural exchanges with representatives from Jordan and embassy officials, focusing on indigo dyeing and food.	Human and Cultural

Source: Prepared by APIR based on the websites of each prefecture.

3. Initiatives by Prefectures in Kansai for Expo

○Table 3 shows the initiatives and concepts of the Kansai Pavilion, the Osaka Healthcare Pavilion, and Nara Prefecture. Many of the exhibits make use of the nature, history, culture and industry of each prefecture.

○There are also exhibits related to the Expo theme of "Life," and content that is conscious of the future society is planned to be developed.

Table 3 Kansai Pavilion, Osaka Healthcare Pavilion, and Nara Prefecture's initiatives and concepts

Kansai Pavilion

Name of Local Government	Theme	Approach and concept
Fukui pref.	Dinosaur Kingdom Fukui	In the Fukui Prefecture Zone, we are using "dinosaurs", which are local resources that are not found in other prefectures, to make use of "dinosaurs" that have an impact and are memorable, and we are holding an exhibition where you can learn about the "Dinosaur Kingdom Fukui" through exploration.
Mie pref.	The origin of Japan's heart A timeless story that continues to the beautiful country of Mie	Since ancient times, Mie Prefecture has been home to a diverse range of people, and while valuing its beautiful nature, history, and culture, it has always created new things with wisdom and ingenuity and developed. This is not only Mie Prefecture, but also the ""origin of the heart of Japan," and symbols of this are Ise Jingu Shrine and Kumano Kodo Iseji, which have been spun for more than a thousand years. Visitors will be able to experience this story, which can be said to be the "origin of the heart," along with the charm of "Beautiful Country Mie" such as the rich nature and food of Mie Prefecture through an entertainment-type spatial production.

Shiga pref.	Mother Lake ~ Sustainable Living with Lake Biwa ~	he people of Shiga have been living near Lake Biwa since ancient times. Making the most of Lake Biwa, protecting Lake Biwa, We have coexisted while using various wisdom and ingenuity. And from now on, while creating and incorporating new technologies, We will build a sustainable life. Why don't you touch such a unique cousin? And why not create a new future?"
Kyoto pref.	Let's build the future of Kyoto together ~Pioneering with Tradition and Innovation~	A place where people gather, talk, and build new relationships beyond the framework of the state While changing its shape like a river or water, it is connected to the prefecture and is a place that makes you want to visit Kyoto
Hyogo pref.	Mirai Bus -Experiential SDGs Space-	Experience the charm of Hyogo Prefecture on a journey that transcends time and space Attraction-type video space
Wakayama pref.	Wakayama 100 Views —The Land of Spirituality—	he Kii Mountains in Wakayama Prefecture have been regarded as a special place where the gods have calmed since the time of mythology, and with a spirit of tolerance, we have accepted, fused, and coexisted with all regardless of differences in religion, status, and way of thinking. We believe that this spiritual culture can be a model for Japan to realize a "sustainable world" that respects diverse values, and this is expressed through exhibitions."
Tottori pref.	Tottori charm detective!	At the introductory exhibition, we will disseminate information on the efforts of "Manga Kingdom Tottori" and tourism. In the main exhibition, you will have a video experience at the "Tottori Infinite Sand Dunes" and a magnifying glass device to explore the charm.
Tokushima pref.	GATEWAY ~to Tokushima, to Sustainable Future~	In the center, a symbolic traditional craft structure with the image of "the future spun from tradition" and "the whirlpool of Naruto" is installed. Inside, there is a virtual sightseeing theater, and there is an exhibition space with a common design on the walls and around the objects. A gentle conductor is created around the object, expressing the flow of water in the mountains, rivers, and seas.

Osaka Healthcare Pavilion

Osaka pref. and Osaka city	REBORN	Based on the objectives of the Osaka-Kansai Expo, Osaka will bring together all of Osaka's wisdom and ideas to create an exhibition that allows visitors to experience "life," "health," and the near future, while also conveying the vitality and charm of the city of Osaka to more people around the world.

Nara pref.	Nara Weaving the Future: Spinning the future from the land of beginnings	Nara has continued to evolve for over 1,300 years, creating new values as it has changed. Whether in times of peace or times of upheaval, it has carefully protected, cultivated and passed on its rich nature, history and culture, like spinning a story. And now, from this place, the birthplace of Japan, we will express the future to the next generation.

Source: Prepared by APIR based on the Union of Kansai Governments website, the Osaka Healthcare Pavilion website, and the Nara Prefecture website.

4. Trends in Large Hotel Construction

○There are 33 large-scale properties with construction costs (estimates) of over JPY 12 billion that will open between 2016 and 2027, and if we look at the management structure, 15 of the 16 overseas hotel brands are using the management contract (MC) method[1]. There are no cases of hotels building their own buildings and owning the real estate. On the other hand, of the 16 domestic hotel brands, 12 are owned and operated directly (Table 4-1).

Table 4-1 List of construction projects (estimated) costing more than 12 JPY billion, in order of year of opening (2016-2022)

Grade (per night per person): "**B**" around 10,000 JPY～ , "**A**" around 30,000 JPY～ , "**S**" around 50,000 JPY～ , "**H**" around 100,000 JPY～
Country Code: "**JP**" Japan, "**US**" USA, "**SG**" Singapore, "**TH**" Thailand, "**HK**" Hong Kong, "**CA**" Canada

Date of opening	Brand-Name	Operator	Brand	Grade	Management Style	Pref.	Property Introduction
Oct-2016	Four Seasons Hotel Kyoto	Four Seasons Hotels Limited	CA	H	Management contract method	Kyoto	The hotel nestled around Shakusui-en, an 800-year-old heritage pond garden. Every season unveils new splendours, providing an unrivalled setting for cultural rituals, wellness experiences and culinary explorations.
Jun-2017	CONRAD OSAKA	Hilton	US	H	Lease	Osaka	Hilton's top-of-the-line "Conrad" brand. Magnificent panoramic views from the upper floors of Festival Tower West (33rd to 40th floors).
Aug-2017	The Singulari Hotel & SkySpa at Universal Studios Japan	Candeo Hospitality Management Global Headquarter Pte. Ltd	JP	A	Lease	Osaka	The hotel has a Japanese-modern design. It also has a bridal space that is full of glamour. This space uses light and a view.
Mar-2018	Hotel Monterey Himeji	MARUITO Co., Ltd.	JP	B	Owned and operated	Hyogo	Conveniently located 15 minutes from the World Heritage and National Treasure "Himeji Castle". The hotel has chic and elegant guest rooms that blend Art Deco designs with accented Japanese elements.
Jul-2018	Hotel Universal Port Vita	ORIX Real Estate Corporation	JP	A	Owned and operated	Osaka	The concept is a "vibrant space full of sun and nature". The hotel has 14 types of rooms, such as a room with cute colorful designs that have sunlight, prism, star, cloud and rainbow motifs.
Jan-2019	THE THOUSAND KYOTO	Keihan Hotels & Resorts	JP	A	Owned and operated	Kyoto	The three rings in our corporate log firmly link people, society, and the future as we provide hotel stays foreseeing the coming one thousand years.

1) For details, see Chapter 3 Section 1.

Nov-2019	LIBER HOTEL OSAKA	MUSASHINO	JP	A	Owned and operated	Osaka	Developed by Musashino, a major delicatessen company, under the theme of "offering a stylish hotel stay like never before," the first to open in the Kansai region.
Nov-2019	Hotel Hankyu RESPIRE OSAKA	Hankyu Hanshin Hotels Co., Ltd	JP	B	Lease	Osaka	The first branch of the new hotel brand "Respire" based on the concept of "Healing Rest" and "Vitality Inspire".
Dec-2019	HOTEL ROYAL CLASSIC OSAKA	Bellco HOTEL ROYAL CLASSIC OSAKA	JP	A	Owned and operated	Osaka	Wedding and Funeral Service "BELCO" inherited the design of the former "New Kabuki-za". The magnificent appearance has been restored in the lower part of the building.
Jun-2020	ACE HOTEL KYOTO	Ace Hotel	US	S	Management contract method	Kyoto	Ace Hotel, the new trend of hotels in the world, opens its first branch in Asia in the redevelopment complex of "Shinpukan", which inherited the building of the former Kyoto Central Telephone Statio.
Jun-2020	Takarazuka Hotel	Hankyu Hanshin Hotels Co., Ltd	JP	A	Owned and operated	Hyogo	The official hotel of Takarazuka Grand Theatre, established in 1926, has been relocated and reconstructed under the concepts of "Dream Continues Here" and "CLASSIC ELEGANT".
Jul-2020	JW Marriott Hotel Nara	Marriott International, Inc.	US	S	Management contract method	Nara	Marriott Int'l's top-of-the-line "JW Marriott" brand. The core facility of the "Omiya-dori Interaction Hub Project", which includes convention facilities, NHK, etc.
Nov-2020	HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO	Mitsui Fudosan Resort Management Co., Ltd.	JP	H	Owned and operated	Kyoto	Located to the east of Nijo Castle, Mitsui Fudosan's flagship hotel will be revived along with the remains of the Mitsui Soryo family's residence, which has been in use for over 250 years.
Mar-2021	W Osaka	Marriott International, Inc.	US	H	Management contract method	Osaka	Marriott Int'l's luxury "W" brand. The hotel transmits "Whatever/Whenever" and "Osaka merchants' playful spirit" as a new culture to the world.
Apr-2022	OMO7 Osaka by Hoshino Resorts	Hoshino Resort	JP	A	Owned and operated	Osaka	The OMO Rangers will guide you to an extraordinary encounter in the "Shinsekai" area. Guests can interact with each other in the common space.

Source: Prepared by APIR based on press releases from various sources.

○From 2023 onwards, out of the 11.5 large-scale properties of foreign brands, brands from various Asian countries (3 from Singapore, 2 from Thailand, and 1 from Hong Kong) will open. Centara, Dusit, and Capella will be opening their first stores in Japan, and Shangri-La will be opening its first store in the Kansai region (Table 4-2).

Table 4-2 List of construction projects (estimated) costing more than 12 JPY billion, in order of year of opening (2023-2027)

Grade (per night per person): "**B**" around 10,000 JPY～ , "**A**" around 30,000 JPY～ , "**S**" around 50,000 JPY～ , "**H**" around 100,000 JPY～
Country Code: "**JP**" Japan, "**US**" USA, "SG" Singapore, "**TH**" Thailand, "**HK**" Hong Kong, "**CA**" Canada

Date of opening	Brand-Name	Operator	Brand	Grade	Management Style	Pref.	Property Introduction
Feb-2023	APA Hotel & Resort Osaka Umeda Eki Tower	APA Hotel	JP	B	Owned and operated	Osaka	The hotel has an observatory restaurant on the top floor, an observatory pool, a large public bath and open-air bath facilities, etc., providing a resort-like atmosphere while remaining in the city.
Mar-2023	OMO Kansai Airport by Hoshino Resorts	Hoshino Resort	JP	B	Owned and operated	Osaka	The largest hotel development in "Rinku Town" by WBF. After Hoshino Resort acquired the property, it resumed construction and opened under the "OMO" brand.
Jul-2023	CENTARA GRAND HOTEL OSAKA	CENTARA HOTELS RESORTS	TH	S	Management contract method	Osaka	Centara Hotels' first foray into Japan. With the concept of "fusion of Thai and Japanese beauty and culture," the hotel offers an authentic Thai spa, cuisine, and other services.
Sep-2023	Dusit Thani Kyoto	Dusit International	TH	S	Management contract method	Kyoto	Dusit International's first foray into Japan. A fusion of Japanese culture and Thai gracious hospitality, providing the ultimate in hospitality.
May-2024	DoubleTree by Hilton Osaka Castle	Hilton	US	A	Management contract method	Osaka	Hilton's up-scale hotel, Doubletree. Upper floors of the former Nikkei Shimbun Osaka headquarters development complex. Seasonal views of Osaka Castle and Sakuranomiya Park.
Jul-2024	CANDEO HOTELS OSAKA THE TOWER	Candeo Hotels	JP	A	Lease	Osaka	The largest and most prestigious 4-star flagship of Candeon Hotels. The top floor has an open-air bath with a view of Midosuji Boulevard from the guest rooms.
Jul-2024	THE OSAKA STATION HOTEL, Autograph Collection	WEST JAPAN RAILWAY HOTEL DEVELOPMENT,LTD. / Marriott International, Inc.	JP/US	S	Double-brand	Osaka	The concept is "The Osaka Time". Marriott Int'l's "Autograph Collection" is the fourth hotel in Japan.
Aug-2024	Four Seasons Hotel Osaka	Four Seasons Hotels Limited	CA	H	Management contract method	Osaka	"Four Seasons Hotel" opens for the first time in Osaka City. The concept is "Travel and Art". Luxury hotel located on the upper floors of a high-rise residential complex tower.

Sep-2024	Canopy by Hilton Osaka Umeda	Hilton	US	S	Management contract method	Osaka	Hilton's new "Canopy" brand is like a Neighborhood where you can relax and recharge. Simple service, comfortable space.
Sep-2024	Hilton Kyoto	Hilton	US	S	Management contract method	Kyoto	The concept is "Kyo SYNAPSE," meaning to connect guests with the various attractions of Kyoto. The exterior of the building is based on the theme of "Kyoto's deep and profound style" and the interior is based on the theme of "ORIMONO (textile)".
Oct-2024	Sanctuary Court Biwako	Resorttrust, Inc.	JP	H	Owned and operated	Shiga	Located on the west side of Lake Biwa. The concept is "Venetian Modern. A membership-only resort resembling a water palace where the vast water basin and the lake are combined. All rooms are suites with a lake view.
Oct-2024	APA Hotel & Resort Osaka Nanba Eki Tower	APA Hotel	JP	B	Owned and operated	Osaka	The Hotel is the skyscraper tower with the largest number of guest rooms in western Japan. It is an "urban resort" where guests can enjoy their stay with restaurants and swimming pool on the top floor.
Dec-2024	Hotel Hankyu GRAN RESPIRE OSAKA	Hankyu Hanshin Hotels Co., Ltd	JP	A	Lease	Osaka	An upscale hotel adding a cozy atmosphere of nature and peacefulness in the city and a mature quality.
Mar-2025	Patina Osaka	Capella Hotels and Resorts	SG	H	Management contract method	Osaka	Capella Hotel Group's hotel brand "Patina" opens its second hotel worldwide. A new generation lifestyle hotel that applies its unique sensibility and design.
Apr-2025	Waldorf Astoria Osaka	Hilton	US	H	Management contract method	Osaka	Hilton's premier luxury hotel brand, Waldorf Astoria, promises personalized service and a pursuit and commitment to food.
Jul-2025	Capella Kyoto	Capella Hotels and Resorts	SG	H	Management contract method	Kyoto	"Capella" first appearance in Japan. Offering the world's finest hospitality. Creating "new coexistence value" through the integrated development of a hotel, an opera house, and local facilities.
Sep-2026	Shangri-La Kyoto Nijojo	Shangri-La Group	SG	H	Management contract method	Kyoto	The second Shangri-La Group hotel in Japan. It is a five-star luxury establishment with an average room size of approximately 57 square meters.
Sep-2027	ROSEWOOD KYOTO	Rosewood Hotel Group	HK	H	Management contract method	Kyoto	The hotel utilizes traditional industrial products in its rooms to provide high-quality accommodation, contributing to the transmission of local history and culture and the revitalization of the area.

Note: The properties in red in the table are those that will open in 2025 or later.
Source: Prepared by APIR based on press releases from various sources.