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Minor Hotels Announces Avani Kyoto, Marking Brand Debut in Japan



Bangkok, 16 June 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 travellers seeking access to the city’s historic and cultural centre.

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 traveller, 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 Minor International (MINT)

Minor International (MINT) is a global Company focused on two core businesses: hospitality and restaurants. MINT is a hotel owner, operator and investor with a portfolio of 643 hotels under the Anantara, Avani, Oaks, Tivoli, NH Collection, NH, nhow, Elewana, The Wolseley, Colbert Collection, Minor Reserve Collection, iStay, Four Seasons, St. Regis, JW Marriott and Radisson Blu brands in 66 countries across Asia Pacific, the Middle East, Africa, the Indian Ocean, Europe and the Americas (including upcoming owned and committed JV, together with signed lease and management contracts). MINT is also one of Asia’s largest restaurant companies with 2,763 outlets system-wide in 25 countries under The Pizza Company, The Coffee Club, Riverside Grilled Fish, Sanook Kitchen, Benihana, Bonchon, Swensen’s, Sizzler, Dairy Queen, Burger King and GAGA brands, as well as over 1,000 further outlets held through MINT’s strategic alliances (i.e. S&P and BreadTalk).

For more information, please visit www.minor.com.

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