

For Immediate Release

The Okura Tokyo
**Awarded the “Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport
and Tourism’s 40th Green City Award”**
A Landscape that Contributes to the Creation of a Sustainable Green City

TOKYO, JAPAN, December 9, 2020— Hotel Okura Tokyo Co., Ltd. announced today that it was awarded the “40th Green City Award” by the Organization for Landscape and Urban Green Infrastructure on September 30, 2020.

Commendation was given for the contribution made by the areas of greenery and other spaces totaling approximately 1.3ha, which is equivalent to half of the site area, that are open to the public and that provide a scenic spot to the local community as part of the living environment.



Awarded the “40th Green City Award”

- ◇ Winning space: The Okura Tokyo Landscape
- ◇ Name of prize: Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Awards
<Category> Green Business Activity
- ◇ Prize winners: Hotel Okura Co., Ltd. / Aoicho TMK /
Taniguchi and Associates / Taisei Corporation
- ◇ Organizer: Organization for Landscape and Urban Green Infrastructure
- ◇ Support: Min. of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism / Min. of Internal Affairs
and Communications / Min. of the Environment / National Governors’
Association / Japan Association of City Mayors / National Association of
Towns and Villages
- ◇ Special sponsor: The Dai-ichi Life Insurance Co., Ltd.

About the Green City Award

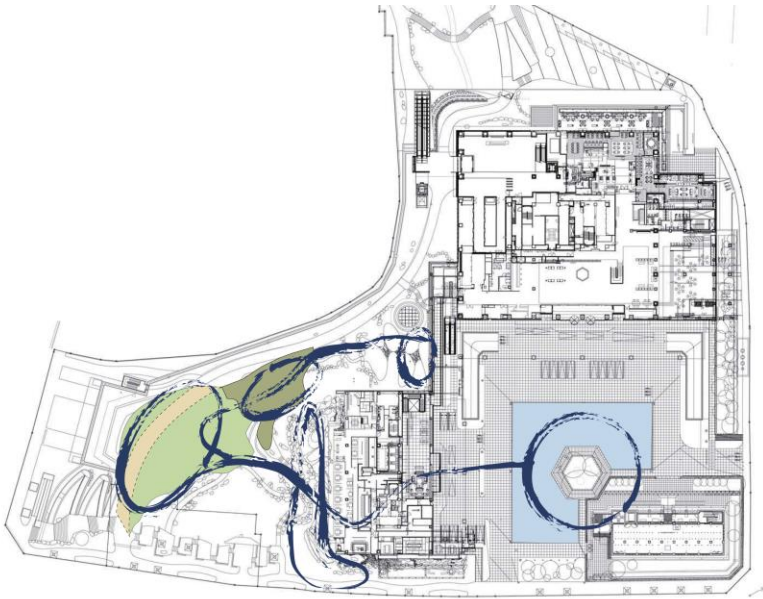
Launched in 1981. With the objective of promoting the creation of a sustainable green city, awards are conferred on citizen’s groups, companies and local governments, etc. that produce positive results from leading and ambitious initiatives such as environmental improvements using greenery, improvements to scenery, and the re-dynamization of the local community.

(Taken from the website of the Organization for Landscape and Urban Green Infrastructure)

The Okura Tokyo Landscape

The planning area of The Okura Tokyo covers approximately 2.6ha. Here, the two hotel buildings and the Okura Museum of Art are arranged around the common entrance area "The Okura Square", and the "The Okura Garden" and "Edomizaka Park" extending to the north and east of the site, with a slope of approximately 19 meters in height, create a dynamic natural landscape that takes advantage of the unique topography of the Toranomon district.

The design concept is to "create a sense of nature in the Japanese style" and to build a landscape that allows people to feel the nature with their five senses. The aim was to create a lush scene to be experienced while one walks through landscapes that are symbolic of Japan, including deep mountains, hills and fields, and wetland areas.

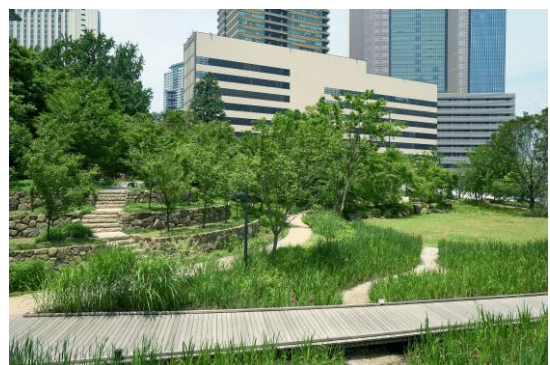


■ The Okura Garden

The area extending north of the Okura Heritage Wing symbolizes the flow of water that originates in the basin of the Okura Square in the area in front of the hotel entrance, which is based on a proposal by Yoshio Taniguchi, who also worked on the design of the lobby in both hotel buildings. A number of trees, such as the large ginkgo tree, which is the symbol of Okura, and the camphor tree that was planted by Heihachiro Togo, and landscape stones have been transplanted or moved from the main building to the Japanese landscape that combines representations of water, such as pools, running water, flowing water and wetlands, and that evokes the passing of the four seasons. Also, by opening up the garden with paths and benches, the combination of modernism and cultural heritage as a new form of public space is given a wider audience.

Opening hours: 5:00 – 23:00

Shinichi Kaburagi, General Manager of Design Division, Taisei Corporation commented *"We made a design that combines the changing appearance of water with the scenery. The water originates from the basin in the Okura Square and inundates the ground so that it can be seen from the rock garden in the Japanese restaurant Yamazato. Then, using rocks and pebbles, the "water" is seen as flowing back into the building as it passes through waterfalls, streams and pools."*



■ Edomizaka Park

Edomizaka Park covering an area of 2,500m² is a public park that represents urban planning and it is the first application of the "Urban Parks and Sustainable City Planning Initiative" by Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

The upper side of Edomizaka has a flat open area, while the downhill sloped area features five kinds of cherry tree, dogwood, ginkgo and other plants and trees that create a seasonal impression all year long. Also, to reinforce emergency functions, there are five portable toilets in the open area, while rainwater storage tanks are located underground, so that this area plays a role as a designated refuge place during disasters.



About the Urban Parks and Sustainable City Planning Initiative:

Launched in the "Public Parks and Green Spaces Development Policy" that was revised in 2011 by Tokyo Metropolitan Government and municipalities.

It is an initiative that combines urban development with the development of parks and green spaces by means of private entities with regard to parks that have not been in service for roughly 50 years or more since the city planning decision.

■ The Gardens of the Yamazato Japanese Restaurant

The design has the idea of the building being in complete contact with water, almost as if floating, as the water from the ground soaks and gushes out from the rock garden on the west side while enclosing the garden of moss and small trees in the North Garden.

It also carries on with the traditions of the gardens of Okura that originates in a design representative of water in the reconstruction of the stone waterfall arrangement by the master gardener Sentaro Iwaki who worked on the front garden of the "Terrace Restaurant" that was on the 1st floor of the main building and the "garden of the meandering stream" in front of the "Chosho-an" tea ceremony room on the 7th floor of the main building.



The Okura Tokyo

The Okura Tokyo, the new flagship hotel of Hotel Okura Co., Ltd, opened its doors to the public in September 12, 2019 under the concept of tradition and innovation. Offering a unique and enchanting experience for its guests and visitors, the hotel is the highest-branded property of Hotel Okura group. It reprises the famed traditional Japanese beauty of the former Hotel Okura Tokyo, which opened its doors in 1962, as well as its cherished simplicity and elegance, to offer a new combination of "Traditional Luxury – The Okura Heritage" and "Contemporary Luxury – The Okura Prestige." About half of the hotel grounds—1.3 hectares—is covered with lush gardens and greenery, allowing guests to view and enjoy the changing scenery during the four seasons. The Okura Museum of Art, Japan's first privately operated art museum, is also located on the hotel grounds.

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