



# Les Clefs d'Or Japan Key News



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## UICH Les Clefs d'Or 9th Asian Congress Special Issue

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Les Clefs d'Or Japan members are making progress in the preparation for the upcoming Asian Congress together with the Japan Concierge Association members.

It is almost one year until the Congress and we would like to focus on this particular special issue.

### 1. Outline of the Asian Congress

The Asian Congress is an official event of Les Clefs d'Or held every other year. Some aims of the Congress are to inter-communicate among the participating members to improve their concierge skills. Also to study the host country and its culture that will lead to development of the travel industry. Nearly 250 participants are expected from overseas and domestically. The period will be from August 24 until August 27, 2015.

### 2. Congress Schedule

Day 1: August 24

All Day Arrival of Congress Delegates

14:00 Asian Presidents' Meeting

19:00 Welcome Reception @ The Prince Park Tower Tokyo

Day 2: August 25

9:00 Keynote Speech "Future of Asian Hospitality"

11:00 Symposium "Ryokan, Washoku, Local Culture and Local People"

14:00 "Best of Tokyo" Educational Tour

18:00 Cultural Experiences

20:00 "Natsu Matsuri (Festival)" Dinner @ Happo-En

Day 3: August 26

9:00 Presentation by Respective Country Chapters "Unique Hospitality and Requests from Each Chapters"

11:00 Showcase "Japanese Whisky, Latest Event Technologies and more"

14:00 Free Time for Leisure/Activity

17:00 "Tokyo at Sunset" Drive Tour

19:00 Gala Dinner @ Palace Hotel Tokyo

Day 4: August 27

All Day Departure of Congress Delegates

On Day 1, the participants will share time and stories among the re-uniting members as well as the new friends.

On Day 2, the educational programs will begin. Keynote Speech will be given by the Rev. Matsuyama, the Deputy Priest of Taizoin Zen Buddhist Temple.

In the next session, Mr. Takeuchi, the General Manager of the prestigious Japanese inn "Kayotei", will give speech and woodcraft making demonstration is also being considered.

In the afternoon, the participants will enjoy a city tour in open-air double-decker buses. Following the tour, Japanese cultural experiences such as tea ceremony, calligraphy, origami paper folding and traditional craft-making will be experienced and followed by Japanese Summer Festival-style dinner buffet.

On Day 3, each chapter will share their unique hospitality.

In the showcase, Japanese whisky and the latest events and technology will be presented.

Following the free time, the participants will enjoy a short city view tour before arriving at the venue for the Gala Dinner. Over 350 attendees are expected for this final program of the Congress.



(Photo: the organizing committee for the Asian Congress)

### 3. "Natsu-Matsuri" Dinner venue walk-through

On July 16, the monthly Organizing Committee meeting was held at the Happo-En. In the meeting, the members did a walk-through of the venue for the second night (Photo: right).



### 4. "Natsu-Matsuri" dinner rehearsal



On July 16, the Japan Concierge Association monthly meeting and networking dinner party was also held at the Happo-En. This was a rehearsal for the second night's dinner buffet. In their garden, the movable tea ceremony room was set up (Photo: above left), which was beautifully lit-up. Shaved ice stalls are what you often see in the Japanese summer festivals. The Happo-En style stall was set up in their garden (Photo: above right). The participants all enjoyed the party and were enthusiastic on what Happo-En had to offer.

## New Members from Japan!

Ms. Miki Saito, the Assistant Chief Concierge at the Conrad Tokyo, became a new adherent member and the pinning ceremony by Mr. Heinrich Grafe, the General Manager, was held.

Mori Building City Air Services Co., Ltd. became a new associative company.

As of August 1, 2014, Les Clefs d'Or Japan consists of 2 honorary members, 15 full members, 12 adherent members and 12 associative companies.

