

■ ■ January 2022 ■ ■

Happy 2022!

New year, and therefore new beginnings: welcome to our brand new newsletter!

We hope to share what Tricolage has been up to, interesting things happening around Japan, and some of the latest news and information on travel and sustainability.

In this issue, we talk about our recent trip to Mount Yatsugatake, discuss whether luxury can be compatible with sustainability, and take a look at some incredibly interesting projects initiatives in Japan and around the world.

Finally, we wish everyone a very happy new year! We are looking forward to 2022, the exciting opportunities it brings, and helping to build back a more sustainable tourism industry and society for all.

Hidden Treasure in the Japanese Alps



We recently took a trip to Hokuto, Yamanashi Prefecture, in the foothills of Mount Yatsugatake. Under the clear blue skies and the alps that towered above us, we tested out

the city's new electric bikes, met friendly local grannies who were eager to teach visitors how to cook, and discovered a delightful little French restaurant deep in the countryside.

But what was more rewarding was talking to local DMOs and city governments, seeing the effort they're putting into advancing sustainable tourism, as well as how closely they engage with local communities while making those development plans.

[See more photos and read more about our trip to Yatsugatake here](#)

Can Luxury be Compatible with Sustainability, or is that an Oxymoron?



Sustainability - which essentially is about “meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs” - can most certainly go hand in hand with luxury. In the realm of travel, modern luxury is virtually synonymous with travelers’ well-being and having priceless experiences.

[Read our blog post](#) about the shifting luxury travel trends towards sustainable travel, how luxury travel can be done with minimal impact on the environment, and how it essentially makes business sense when sustainability is prioritized.

Immerse in Nature at this High-Tech, Sustainable Villa in Toyama



Float above the clouds. Drift in the water. Bath in a forest of lush greens. This is the design concept of a new high-tech art villa scheduled to open in Toyama Prefecture in the fall of 2022. Incorporating technology with natural elements such as light, wind, water, soil, and greens in the surrounding environment, ONEBIENT Jinzukyo is a new and unique vacation retreat that allows guests to immerse in nature.

The sustainable villa aims to be completely off-grid by utilizing solar power generation and firewood boilers for energy. It also plans to introduce an integrated control system to automate the operation of the facilities, using the latest Calm Technology to provide smart, safe, non-contact support.

[Read more about this fascinating project here](#)

Finding Sustainable Accommodation Gets Easier with Booking.com's Travel Sustainable Badge



On 15 November, online travel giant Booking.com announced the inaugural launch of the Travel Sustainable badge - a credible sustainability measure that will provide information to help travelers worldwide make more sustainable travel choices.

The badge aims to credibly recognize the impactful sustainability efforts that properties around the world are able to achieve, and to provide travelers with a transparent, consistent, and easy-to-understand way to find sustainable accommodation all over the world.

Properties that meet the required standards receive a Travel Sustainable badge which recognizes their efforts in five key areas: waste, energy and greenhouse gases, water, supporting local communities, and protecting nature.

[Read more about the Travel Sustainable Badge here](#)

Japan Covid-19 Update

As of 5 January 2022, only Japanese nationals and returning foreign residents are allowed to enter Japan.

79% percent of the population has received at least one dose and 78% is fully vaccinated.

For more statistics on Covid-19 statistics and vaccination rates in Japan, refer to [Reuters' Covid-19 Tracker](#) and [Covid-19 Vaccination Tracker](#).

We would love to hear from you! What do you want to see in our newsletter? Want to learn more about sustainable travel and events in Japan? [Get in touch!](#)



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