

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

## Ritz-Carlton serves up pearl-themed fare with Mikimoto

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*The Ritz-Carlton, Shanghai, Pudong is hosting a Mikimoto-themed tea. Image courtesy of The Ritz-Carlton*

By STAFF REPORTS

The Ritz-Carlton, Shanghai, Pudong is partnering with Japanese jeweler Mikimoto to create an afternoon tea inspired by pearls.

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Available at the hotel's Aura Lounge & Jazz Bar from August to October, the "Pearl Treasures" afternoon tea includes treats that mimic the look of the precious material. Afternoon teas offer an opportunity for culinary exploration of a brand's codes or design themes.

### Pearl plates

The Mikimoto-branded afternoon tea includes white chocolate balls that have a sheen to them, much like the pearls on which they are based. A litchi rose dessert is made to resemble a Mikimoto earring.

For sweets, there is also a sugary yet tart yuzu coconut cake and lemon ivory chocolate mousse.

On the savory side, the chefs have developed a smoked salmon flan with Japanese soy jelly and oyster salsa. Another dish features lobster that has been infused with orange flavor, which is topped with a mango and asparagus jelly.

"We hope our guests to feel the spirit of quality pursuing from each of these pieces," said Chef Christophe Gillino in a statement. "Of course, the most important thing is the fabulous experience brought by the delicious food."

This branded experience extends beyond the culinary offerings. Those who partake in the afternoon tea will have the chance to enter to win two round-trip tickets from Shanghai to Tokyo as well as a three-night stay at The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo.



*Aura Lounge & Jazz Bar at The Ritz-Carlton, Shanghai, Pudong. Image credit: The Ritz-Carlton*

The trip to Tokyo also includes a visit to Mikimoto's boutique in Ginza.

Ritz-Carlton and Mikimoto are teaming up with airline All Nippon Airways to present the experience.

Afternoon teas are often the basis for branded hospitality partnerships.

For instance, in 2015, The Ritz-Carlton, Hong Kong's Italian eatery Tosca took inspiration from the craftsmanship of Ferrari with a themed Red Afternoon Tea.

Based on the Ferrari Junior Collection, a lifestyle collection for children created specifically for Asia, the tea served intricate treats made of ingredients sourced from Maranello, the home of Ferrari. This afternoon tea, a first for Tosca, enabled the hotel to provide a memorable experience for guests while also associating Ferrari with the property in consumers' minds ([see story](#)).

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