

# INTERNATIONAL HOMES

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THE FINEST HOMES, TRAVEL & LIFESTYLE





# Tower of plenty

## Toyosu Tower, Tokyo, Japan

The Toyosu Tower is a residential building developed by a conglomerate of Japan's four largest developers (Mitsui Fudosan, Nomura Real Estate Development, Mitsubishi Estate and Tokyo Tatemono). The project is built on 16,000m<sup>2</sup> of land area and it opened in March 2009 in Toyosu, Tokyo. Garde designed the interior public spaces including the rooftop deck, sky lounge, community plaza, library, gym, meeting rooms and guest rooms.

The design is based on an 'Urban and Nature' concept intended to appeal to people who want to experience a sophisticated urban lifestyle and still feel comforted by the surrounding nature. Unity, prestige and comfort are the main design themes that are carried throughout the project. The goal was to create a benchmark for future residential towers, by developing a design that would not age though time, and would feature advanced technology to satisfy residents' needs.

### Depth by design

The seven metre high entrance hall follows a grid-based design which adds depth by leading the viewer's line of sight far into the back and also helps to create an architecturally well balanced space.

High quality materials, furniture and props are used to express the prestige of this residential tower. This is reflected in the marble and leather finishes applied to the walls, the polished floor tiles, and the five-star hotel level amenities. The various materials also serve to mark the different zones. The warm coloured granite flooring has two distinct finishes (flamed and chopped) in order to achieve this zoning effect. The deep joints between the limestone slabs on the walls create visual lines that reflect the grid based design and enhance the sense of depth. The prominent columns also falling along the line of sight of the viewer feature a more rugged surfaced stone. This textured quality is also visible in the ceiling which is painted with a plaster-like finish, adding to the soft feel of the environment. The seating area is placed next to the glass wall looking out into the

garden outside and is delineated by a warm, dark wood ceiling.

Artistic design elements are included throughout the interior to accentuate certain areas. For example, the elevators are decorated with patterned panels and indirect lighting to attract attention to this area. The lounge area is distinguished from the corridor leading to the elevator hall by specific design features, such as the dark wooden ceiling, the rugs and the plants. Warm coloured planters and furniture



are chosen to create a relaxing atmosphere. Aimed to serve as one's second living room, the lounge functions as a space where residents can welcome guests in a more intimate environment than the entrance halls. The large glass wall allowing a view of the garden outside and the wide and comfortable sofas contribute to the luxurious atmosphere.

### Warm and welcoming

Guest rooms offer unique services and high quality amenities by creating an extraordinary space to offer a unique experience. The entrance to the common space is accentuated with onyx stones and indirect lighting, clearly marking the entry into the next rooms. Although the ceilings are rather low, the indirect lighting placed around the upper edges of the wall serve to give

the impression of height. Glass walls are used to open up the space and to give a view of the greenery outside. More glass is used along the central staircase which has been designed in an elegant shape. Gradation sheets are applied to some of the walls and curtains to give a sense of privacy but still allow you to see through to a certain degree.

The design of the walls and columns are inspired by the shapes of the trees outside and viewed together, interior and exterior, create one unified space. Even the gym environment is designed to be in touch with nature. This is achieved by installing a natural wooden flooring and tall floor to ceiling windows on two sides of the room, allowing a view of the outside. The calm and chic private room is designed to offer an out of the ordinary environment that is not readily available at home. Here one can enjoy music, home theatre, high spec audio visual equipment, and other high tech features.

Last but not least, a simple and straightforward design is used in the library, meant to be a practical and comfortable space. The main material used is natural wood. The prominent, dark wooden bookshelf against the wall spreads from floor to ceiling and adds a unique quality. The library is equipped with special lighting and furniture not usually installed in apartments, therefore making it a place for residents to enjoy.

## GARDE

Garde is a leading interior design firm with offices in Tokyo, Osaka, Singapore, Milan, Paris, New York and Los Angeles. Originally specialized in the high-end retail sector, Garde provides creative design and consulting services for a wide variety of projects ranging from shops and boutiques to department stores and shopping centers, food and entertainment venues, to corporate interiors, residential and hospitality projects. The company has a solid, 25-year track record and has worked for clients around the world including in Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Macao, Estonia, Azerbaijan, Italy, France and Spain.  
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