

# Japan News

## September 2025

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## 1. HOTEL SOSEI SAPPORO

### Project Overview

Hotel Sosei is a boutique design hotel in central Sapporo, Hokkaido, built on the historic site of the 1876 Kaitakushi Brewery, birthplace of Sapporo Beer. Opened in January 2024, it has already been recognized by UNESCO's Prix Versailles as one of the "World's Most Beautiful Hotels 2025." The project blends post-industrial architecture with adaptive reuse and sustainable design, weaving in cultural references to the city's brewing heritage.

The interiors balance Japanese tradition with Western influences, combining reclaimed brick and timber with contemporary finishes. Art plays an important role – from Rie Kawakami's black iron sculpture "Wild Hops" in the lobby, to the restaurant's "Passion for Beer Research" installation, which honors Seibei Nakagawa, Japan's first brewmaster, through a glowing wall of recycled beer bottles. In the bar, a copper fireplace inspired by traditional German brewing kilns adds a warm historical touch. Natural materials, warm wood, and washi textures create a welcoming atmosphere, while curated art displays and guided tours connect guests to Sapporo's cultural and industrial history.

### Project Details

1. **Type of Business:** Luxury hotel
2. **Open Date:** 01/2024
3. **Location:** Sapporo Factory West Hall, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan
4. **Number of Rooms:** 118
5. **Room Rate:** Starting at around \$200 USD per night
6. **Interior Designer:** Studio Crow; [www.studio-crow.jp](http://www.studio-crow.jp)
7. **Hotel Operator:** Accor (MGallery Collection)
8. **Website:** [www.hotelsoseisapporo.com/en](http://www.hotelsoseisapporo.com/en)

### Location map



The hotel is located in central Sapporo, on the historic site of the Kaitakushi Brewery, close to attractions such as Odori Park and the Sapporo Beer Museum.







As guests enter, they are greeted by a three-dimensional sculpture of wild hops, the flowers used to brew beer, created by Rie Kawakami. The piece pays homage to Sapporo's brewing origins and the discovery of wild hops in Hokkaido during the Meiji era.



A collection of regional books and imported goods in the lobby evokes the cultural and social exchanges introduced by early pioneers.





The Bar Lounge is a modern reinterpretation of a beer cellar, featuring a sculptural copper fireplace inspired by traditional German brewing kilns.





In the restaurant, there is a striking glowing wall made from around 3,000 recycled beer bottles as part of the "Passion for Beer Research" installation, which honors Seibei Nakagawa, Japan's first German-trained brewmaster, and reflects the hotel's blend of historical and contemporary design.







In the public areas, salvaged elements like antique wooden beams and brick facades have been preserved to highlight the building's industrial past.







The meeting room features chairs upholstered in a cowhide-inspired motif, a subtle reference to Hokkaido's agricultural heritage.





The guestrooms combine Japanese and Western design elements, using soft washi textures, natural materials, and warm palettes of green and violet, with wallpaper motifs that highlight Hokkaido's flora and fauna.

