

# Receiving Foreign Dignitaries with Japanese **OMOTENASHI**

## State Guest Houses

The government-owned Guest Houses, which are to provide foreign dignitaries with Japanese style OMOTENASHI in a safe and comfortable environment.

The mission is

- To enhance foreign relations through providing a suitable venue as accommodations, place of banquets and other purposes for foreign dignitaries.
- To maintain and to operate buildings and facilities for official uses.

### The State Guest House-Akasaka Palace, Tokyo



- ◇ This building is the sole neo-baroque palace in Japan. It was originally designed as the Crown Prince's Palace and was built in 1909.
- ◇ It has been used as the State Guest House since 1974.
- ◇ The palace was designated as a national treasure in 2009. This is the first case as a Meiji Era building.
- ◇ The palace served as the venue for G7 Summit Meeting, The ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit Meeting and other international conference.

### The Kyoto State Guest House, Kyoto



- ◇ In 2005, another Guest House was built in Kyoto, the internationally famous city for its traditional culture.
- ◇ The architectural style of this Guest House is "Sukiya-Zukuri" (style of a tea ceremony arbor) with "Irimoya-Yane" (East Asia style of half-hipped roofs), surrounded by "Tsukiji-Bei" (roofed mud walls)
- ◇ This Guest House is also the venue for International Conferences such as Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting, G8 Kyoto Foreign Ministers' Meeting and others.

The Guest Houses have days of open visits, and this is a good occasion for the public to understand the State Guest Houses and their important functions.

- Open visit to Akasaka Palace in Tokyo and the State Guest House in Kyoto
  - 10 consecutive days in summer
  - Entry in advance needed, subject to final confirmation
- Open visit in the forecourt of Akasaka Palace
  - 3 consecutive days in autumn
  - No reservation required

For details → <http://www8.cao.go.jp/geihinkan/index-e.html>