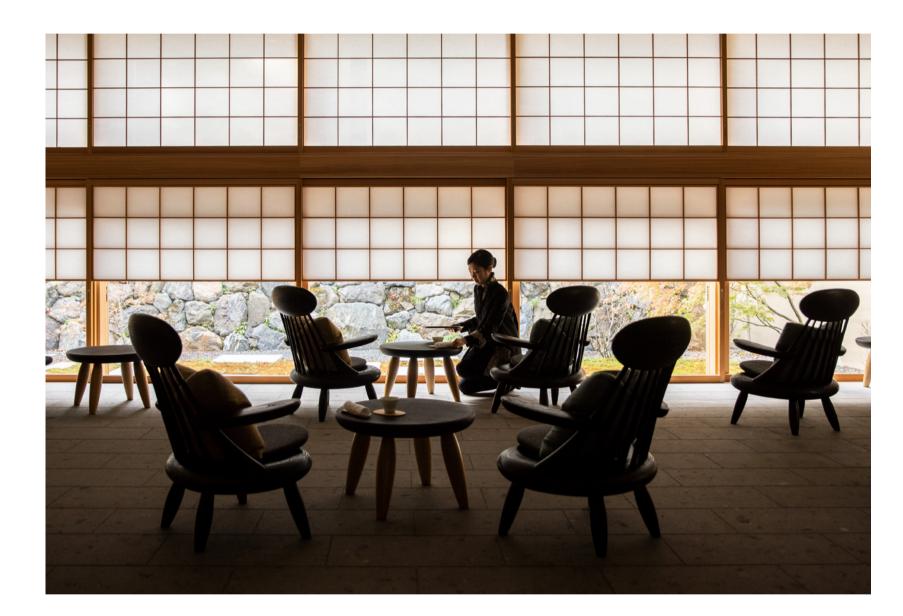


"DETERMINING THE HOUR BASED ON THE LIGHT ON THE RIVER, AND WHETHER INSECT, BIRD, OR FROG SONG IS FLOATING OUT OF THE FOREST ONLY COMPLICATES GUESTS' PERCEPTION OF TIME FURTHER."



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World War II. Viewed from above, the low-slung buildings that comprise the resort, set along the Ōi River, almost dis-

under the management of the Hoshinoya group. "We were surroundings, undisturbed by information from the outfortunate to inherit the traditional beauty of the architec- side world." Determining the hour based on the light on ture and landscape," says Hoshino. "The architecture itself the river, and whether insect, bird, or frog song is floating is traditional, but we applied classic yet modern art forms, out of the forest only complicates guests' perception of such as kyo-karakami [an artistic printed paper] designed to time further. subdue and scatter sunlight."

The property is isolated in a way that is rare in Japan a country with a high population density. A further touch appear into the verdure that surrounds them on three sides. is the prohibition of clocks or televisions in public areas or After the renovation, the property reopened in 2009 guestrooms, "so guests can relax and appreciate the natural