



GRAND OPENING

Inn Style

A MODERN INTERPRETATION OF a traditional Japanese *ryokan*, or inn, the **Ritz-Carlton, Kyoto** (www.ritzcarlton.com), debuted in February along the former imperial capital's Kamo River. The 134-room retreat's vantage allows for expansive views of the Higashiyama mountain range and convenient access to the shops, geisha houses, and teahouses in the city's Gion and Pontocho districts. Inside the hotel, customary Meiji-style architectural details include metal latticework, washi paper artwork, and a peaceful courtyard with a four-story waterfall. Bonsai plants, calligraphic artworks, and light wood furnishings adorn the 134 guest rooms and suites, which include the Tsukimi Suite with its private moon terrace. In a break from tradition, the Ritz-Carlton offers an Italian eatery and a Pierre Hermé–helmed patisserie. Guests in search of an authentic Japanese meal can dine at Mizuki, where *kaiseki* cuisine is prepared using the traditional method of five flavors, five colors, and five cooking techniques. —DANIEL SCHEFFLER

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Incan Immersion



THE **PALACIO DEL INKA**, a **Luxury Collection Hotel** (www.starwoodhotels.com), in Cusco, Peru, is located on the site of a centuries-old Incan palace that once housed sacred virgins. Originally opened as a hotel in the 1970s, the property reemerged last October following a two-year renovation that included an intricate restoration of the palace's original stone walls. Spanish colonial artworks and hand-carved Cariniana wood doors that date to the 16th century—when Spanish conquistadors seized the Incan capital's royal citadel—suit the historic setting, as do the Incan-inspired cocoa-leaf treatments at the hotel's new spa. The 203 guest rooms are adorned with rich textiles and wrought-iron chandeliers, and several offer views across the street to Koricancha, the temple of the Incan sun god. —AMANDA MILLIN



WORLD-CLASS COLLECTION

Antique maps and atlases hit the auction block.

On June 3, the New York-based Swann Auction Galleries will present its **Maps & Atlases, Natural History & Historical Prints, Ephemera** (www.swannalleries.com) auction of more than 300 vintage drawings, watercolors, maps, atlases, and historical prints. In addition to a collection of printed maps of Africa and South America, lots will include a circa-1825 map of lower Manhattan featuring one of the first cartographic references to Lafayette



Place (now Lafayette Street) and a 1798 sketch of the Battle of the Nile attributed to Captain James Weir. Expected to fetch upwards of \$60,000 is an unprecedented 17th-century manuscript map of Kyoto as the capital of imperial Japan, mounted on a six-panel screen (shown). —J.C.

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MIDTOWN MAKEOVER

OPENED IN NOVEMBER, the **Quin** (www.quinhotelnyc.com) sits on a flourishing block of Manhattan's West 57th Street, across from the new Viceroy New York and steps from the future Park Hyatt New York. But the hotel—which in its past life as the Buckingham Hotel hosted such artists as Georgia O'Keeffe and Marc Chagall—stands out from its neighbors for both its historic cachet and its modern-day glamour. The New York-based firm Perkins Eastman filled the public areas and 208 guest rooms with rich materials and bespoke details that include leather-covered drawer handles, blown-glass chandeliers, and custom-designed umbrellas by the Swedish painter Daniel Egnéus. Most impressive, however, are the Quin's signature services, which range from an exclusive partnership with Bergdorf Goodman to concierges who can arrange after-hour tours of the city's museums and galleries. —JACKIE CARADONIO

