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# TEACHING TUESDAY

## THE WORLD'S OLDEST HOTEL

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When most people think of Japan they envision the neon lights of Tokyo, anime, and the vast variety of cuisine. Modern Japan has become globalized and has made numerous contributions via pop culture and technology. Though Japan has become one of the most developed nations in the world, it is still home to many customs and traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation. The Nishiyama Onsen Keiunkan is one of those traditional treasures still remaining in modern Japan.

Located in the Yamanashi prefecture, the Nishiyama Onsen Keiunkan gained its fame from its status as the oldest hotel in the world. Being founded in 705 CE, the hotel is over 1300 years old. Its origins began with Fujiwara Mahito, an aid to the Emperor of Japan, who opened the onsen to samurai and other nobility. The majority of the hotel remains as traditional as it was over 1000 years ago, only being renovated a few times. The onsen is surrounded by an abundance of trees and mountains, creating a feeling of harmony within nature.

If you're looking to experience Japanese culture from the past, the Nishiyama Onsen Keiunkan is definitely a sight to behold.