
When Books Travel, They Connect People’s Journeys — Introducing the “Traveling Bookshelf”

A sustainable book-exchange shelf for passing finished books to the next guest

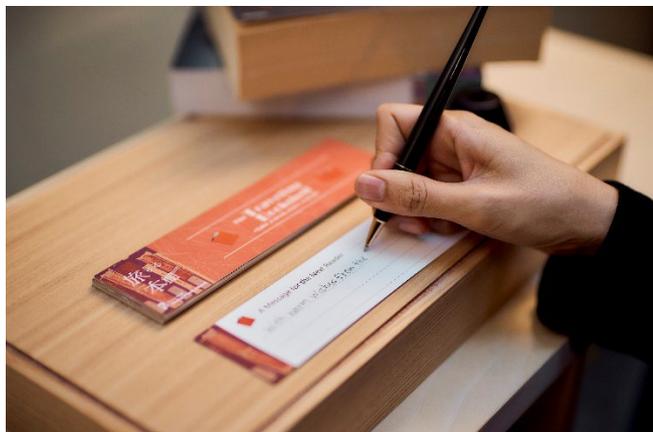
Shiba Park Hotel (Operated by Shiba Park Hotel Co., Ltd., Minato-ku, Tokyo; President: Rentaro Yanase) installed the “Traveling Bookshelf” on the hotel’s second floor in March 2026 as a new initiative. The bookshelf is stocked with books left by guests from around the world—novels finished mid-journey and guidebooks that have served their purpose. By passing books along instead of discarding them, this guest-to-guest recycling scheme offers a sustainable way to enjoy travel.



The “Traveling Bookshelf,” lined with books left by guests from around the world.

The Traveling Bookshelf is a book exchange open to all hotel guests. Leave one book you’re ready to pass on and take one from the shelf in return. When leaving a book, write a short note to the next reader on the bookmark-style message card provided by the hotel, tuck it inside, and place the book on the shelf. In this way, each finished book carries a quiet message from its previous owner—so that both the story and the owner’s thoughts continue on to the next journey.

At Shiba Park Hotel, where over 95% of our guests come from overseas, the books on the shelf also travel across borders. Brought by travelers from around the world—primarily from Europe, North America, and Australia—the collection spans multiple languages and genres. On a single shelf in Tokyo, books from many places come together, then set off again to somewhere new creating a continuing cycle of travel.



A short note to the next guest, tucked inside the



Time with a book discovered on your journey.

We created the “Traveling Bookshelf” because we hope to bring a small measure of richness to both the memories of guests who visit now and the time of those who will visit in the future. Encounters with books and encounters with people link together, and small coincidences lead to unexpected discoveries. Through this shelf, we hope to spark the gentle serendipity of travel, even if only a little.

As a “Library Hotel” with a collection of approximately 1,500 volumes curated by Ginza Tsutaya Bookstore, Shiba Park Hotel will continue to offer guests opportunities to engage with books and culture.

■ Overview of the “Traveling Bookshelf”

- Name:** Traveling Bookshelf
- Location:** Shiba Park Hotel, 2F Foyer Book & Culture
- Eligibility:** For hotel guests only
- How it works:** Leave one book on the shelf and take one in return. When leaving a book, write a message to the next reader on the bookmark-style card provided by the hotel, place it inside the book, and return it to the shelf.
- Features:** A sustainable initiative that passes books to the next guest instead of discarding them. As “traveling books” cross borders, the shelf fosters a circular project that connects guests from around the world.



Exterior of Shiba Park Hotel

About Shiba Park Hotel

Founded in 1948, Shiba Park Hotel began as a hotel for foreign trade missions and has a rich history and tradition. The hotel features 198 guest rooms, a restaurant offering Chinese, Western, and Japanese cuisine on the first floor, and four banquet rooms on the second floor. From 2020 to 2023, the hotel underwent renovations of its guest rooms and public spaces. Cultural experiences such as tea ceremonies and kintsugi workshops are also offered.

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