



< Hiroyuki Takeuchi >

Country / Region: Caracas, Venezuela

Age : 70 years old

Current Position: Owner chef of “Avila Tei”

Japanese Cuisine Goodwill Ambassador

○Spreading and promoting Japanese food culture in Venezuela

- 1978: Appointed ambassador's chef at Embassy of Japan in Venezuela.
- 1985: Appointed owner chef of “Avila Tei”.
- 2017: Awarded Foreign Minister's commendation of Japan.
- 2022: Appointed Japanese Cuisine Goodwill Ambassador.

Hiroyuki Takeuchi went to Venezuela in 1978 as chef for the Japanese ambassador to Venezuela.

In 1981, He became a chef at Japanese restaurant “Avila Tei”. Since 1985, he has contributed to spreading Japanese cuisine in Venezuela as the owner and chef of the restaurant for a long time up to date. “Avila Tei” is a pioneering restaurant of Japanese cuisine in Venezuela, loved by local people as one of a few precious places allowing them to enjoy authentic Japanese dishes.

He has made significant contributions in particular to the popularization of sushi, which has now become synonymous with Japanese cuisine in Venezuela, making him renowned as “the chef who introduced sushi to Venezuela.” He has elevated the popularity of sushi there, successfully boosting Venezuelan people's interest in Japanese cuisine as a whole.

In 2017, he was awarded the Foreign Minister's commendation of Japan in recognition of his contribution to promoting Japanese cuisine culture in Venezuela.

Currently, not only he serves Japanese cuisine himself as a chef but also engages in a wide range of activities to promote Japanese dishes, including lectures at universities, appearances in the local media community, and the mentorship of aspiring chefs.