

August (葉月: Hazuki) Menu

July 16 - August 15, 2026

August is traditionally called Hazuki (葉月) in the old Japanese lunar calendar.

While several stories exist regarding the origin of its name, the most widely accepted is that it derives from *Haouchizuki* (葉落ち月) means “the month when leaves begin to change color and gently fall from the trees.” Another interpretation traces it to *Hoharizuki* (穂張月), referring to the time when rice ears become full and heavy with grain.

In either case, the eighth month of the lunar calendar marks the heart of autumn. It is the season of crystal-clear skies and the celebrated Harvest Moon, *Chūshū no Meigetsu* (中秋の名月), when the moon is said to shine at its most beautiful, and a timeless symbol of the Japanese autumn. Modern-day August, however, is the hottest time of the year.

At Ranzan, as we embrace the subtle arrival of autumn in accordance with the lunar calendar, we thoughtfully prepare dishes that restore the body during the lingering summer heat. Cool glassware, elegant presentation, and carefully selected seasonal ingredients all contribute to a dining experience that offers both visual and physical comfort.

This month's *Kamameshi* features eel (unagi), long treasured in Japan as one of the finest nourishing foods. For centuries, it has been enjoyed for its energizing effects, to prevent summer fatigue, and to support recovery during illness. Naturally, our signature Japanese Wagyu beef also provides excellent nourishment, making it an ideal choice during the hottest season.

To offer wholesome protein in lighter, more refreshing ways, we have prepared *Hamo* (pike conger) as a delicately marinated *Nanbanzuke*, while lightly coating *Kisu* (Japanese whiting fish) with *kudzu* starch and paired with beautifully chilled emerald-green eggplant. We also invite you to enjoy mineral-rich seasonal fruits such as fresh figs and watermelon, along with our most unexpected clear soup featuring tempura of fresh peach. We hope you will delight in this surprising yet beautifully balanced harmony of flavors.



Although the summer heat still lingers, we hope the seasonal cuisine at Ranzan will refresh your body and spirit, allowing you to enjoy a peaceful, restorative moment with us.

Owner of Ranzan