WGCU Explorers presents...

Cultural Treasures of Japan

March 23 – April 5, 2019







For more information contact Stewart Travel Service Inc. (239) 591-8183

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Small Group Travel rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

14 Days • 21 Meals: 12 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 7 Dinners

Book Now & Save \$200 Per Person:

Double \$7,439pp **Double** \$7,239pp* Single \$8,739pp Single \$8,539pp

For bookings made after Aug 31, 2018 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Regional Southwest Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers, Pickup from WGCU to and from the Airport Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$290 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from RSW

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)







Immerse Yourself

- Explore the famous Ginza district where skyscrapers and neon lights meet high fashion.
- Explore the hot springs and spas of Hakone, on the shores of Lake Ashi.
- Travel by express train and the famous Shinkansen bullet train.

Must-See Inclusions

 Take in magnificent views of Mt. Fuji from the Kachi Kachi Ropeway.

Culinary Inclusions

 Taste the local culture during a variety of included local meals.

Highlights: Tokyo, Asakusa, Tea with Locals, River Cruise, Hakone, Lake Ashi Cruise, Scenic Cable Car, Matsumoto Castle, Takayama, Sake Brewery Tour and Tasting, Shirakawa-go, Kanazawa, Kyoto, Bullet Train, Hiroshima, Geisha Show

Day 1: Saturday, March 23, 2019
Overnight Flight Come to know
Japanese culture — both ancient and modern. Discover its timeless temples, unimaginable natural beauty, and technological marvels.

Day 2: Sunday, March 24, 2019 Tokyo, Japan - Tour Begins Welcome to "the Land of the Rising Sun." Your tour opens in Tokyo where rich traditions and pop culture thrive side by side. This evening, meet your fellow travelers at a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 3: Monday, March 25, 2019 Tokyo Excitement builds this morning as you explore the famous Ginza district

where skyscrapers and neon lights meet high fashion. Traverse Shibuya Crossing, the busiest intersection in the world! Find peace and harmony at Meiji Shrine, which rests amid a forest in the shadow of the city. See the Imperial Palace, a fine example of traditional Japanese architecture. Next, it is time for a true taste of Japan; a sushi lunch in Tokyo's famous fish market. (*B*, *L*)

Day 4: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 Tokyo This morning join the locals to experience a tea ceremony in an authentic setting. Next, have free time to explore the Nakamise Shopping Arcade, the best place to find a souvenir of your



trip. Later, **travel to Asakusa**, **Tokyo's oldest Geisha district.** See its famous Senso-ji, a Buddhist temple dedicated to the Bodhisattva Kannon. Soak in the relaxed atmosphere and old-world Japanese architecture. Return to Tokyo by boat on a cruise down the Sumida River. (*B*, *D*)

Day 5: Wednesday, March 27, 2019
Tokyo - Hakone Today we head to the lakeside resort of Hakone. Renowned for its hot springs and spas, this scenic town hugs the shores of Lake Ashi. With magnificent Mt. Fuji (UNESCO) rising in the distance, sit back, relax and soak up the incredible setting. Take to the deep-blue waters of Lake Ashi on a cruise featuring epic views of the mountain and stops at some of the lakeside towns. Tonight, gather for a leisurely walk to the charming town of Moto-Hakone. (B, D)

Day 6: Thursday, March 28, 2019
Hakone - Matsumoto - Takayama This breathtaking day begins in the Kawaguchi's "Five Lakes" area. Climb aboard the Kachi Kachi Ropeway which ascends over 1,300 feet and affords you a glorious panorama of Mt. Fuji and the surrounding lakes. Next, stop in Matsumoto for a traditional

Japanese lunch. Then it's on to see Matsumoto Castle, known as the "Crow Castle" due to its striking black exterior. Later, step back in time in Takayama, a rural Edo period town nestled in the Japanese Alps. Well known to the locals for its connection to *sake*, this is the perfect place to gather for a visit to one of Japan's last family-owned sake breweries. You are in for a treat as we sample some traditional rice wine. In the old city, a special Hida beef dinner is on tonight's menu. (*B*, *L*, *D*)

Day 7: Friday, March 29, 2019

Takayama Embrace the ancient culture of Takayama as you explore its historic district. Next, head to the bustling openair markets that date back over 600 years. Catch a glimpse of the past at the 19th-century Jinya government building. Explore the winding streets lined with charming traditional inns and houses. Your afternoon is free to explore however you like, including joining your local guide at a nearby nature park. (B)

Day 8: Saturday, March 30, 2019
Takayama - Shirakawa-go - Kanazawa
Today we cross the mountainous
Shokawa Valley on our way to
Shirakawa-go (UNESCO). Uncover the

unique charm of this village with *gassho-zukuri*-style (resembling two hands joined in prayer) thatch-roofed houses. The adventure continues as we travel to the scenic town of Kanazawa. Once one of the country's richest regions, gold leaf-making began here in the 16th century. Explore at your leisure and enjoy the timeless feel of this special place. Tonight we gather in town for dinner. (*B*, *D*)

Day 9: Sunday, March 31, 2019
Kanazawa Adventure awaits as we travel as the locals do - aboard a local transport. We will make our way through the Omicho market, the Samurai district, Higashi tea district, and *Kenroku-En* (Garden of Six Qualities), one of Japan's most beautiful gardens. Then it is time for your hands-on gold leaf class. Dive deep into this ancient craft as you create your own bento box to take home. Once again you have a free afternoon to independently experience this dynamic culture. (B)

Day 10: Monday, April 1, 2019 Kanazawa - Thunderbird Express Train - Kyoto Board an express train bound for Kyoto. This former Imperial capital of Japan (784 - 1868) is now one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the nation. Even as it has taken its place as an international city, it remains true to the past and is home to a staggering 2,000 temples and shrines. Next, head to the Gion (Geisha) district. Along its narrow lanes you will find teahouses and women in traditional dress. Dine tonight in the heart of the city at a traditional yakitori (grilled chicken) restaurant. (B, D)

Day 11: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 Kyoto Explore Nijo Castle (UNESCO), home of the first Shogun. See elaborate woodcarvings, wall paintings, and the Ninomaru Garden, designed by Kobori Enshu, a landscape architect and tea master. Travel to Kodai Yuzen-en Gallery for a lesson in the art of stenciling. Ascend the hillside to Kiyomizu temple and take in a wonderful view of the city. Then, it's on to the Fushimi Inari Taisha for a tour of the most revered shrine of Inari. Find yourself strolling along its spectacular rows of orange Torii (made famous in the movie Memoirs of a Geisha) as they weave through the forest and lead you to the inner shrine. (B)

Day 12: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 Kyoto - Bullet Train - Hiroshima - Kyoto **Board the Shinkansen bullet train** to travel to Hiroshima. Pause to see the ruined building known as the Atomic Dome (UNESCO) before visiting the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and park. After lunch in the city we will make our way south to board a ferry for the short trip to Miyajima Island, "Shrine Island." See the iconic great Torii gate which appears to be floating on the water. As this moving day comes to a close, return to Kyoto by Shinkansen bullet train for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 13: Thursday, April 4, 2019 Kyoto Relax or set out to explore Kyoto on your own. Tonight, experience Japanese culture during a special farewell dinner that features a Geisha show. (*B*, *D*)

Day 14: Friday, April 5, 2019 Kyoto - Tour Ends Your tour comes to a close in this fascinating land. As you depart, reflect on its beauty and all you have learned about its rich history and culture. (B)

Itinerary at a glance

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 – 4 Grand Prince Hotel New Takanawa, Tokyo

Day 5 Odakyu Hotel de Yama, Hakone

Days 6, 7 Hida Plaza Hotel, Takayama

Days 8, 9 ANA Crowne Plaza Kanazawa, Kanazawa

Days 10 - 13 Westin Miyako Kyoto, Kyoto

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Experience It! Hiroshima

Best known as the site of the atomic bomb attack that helped end the Second World War, Hiroshima (founded in 1598) is now a modern Japanese city. Here, among the blend of bustling streets and neon lights, you'll find Peace Memorial Park. Resting in the center of the city, the park was dedicated to those killed in the bombing and to world peace. Its main site, the A-Bomb Dome, marks the ruined remains of the Prefectural Industrial Promotion Hall. At the nearby Peace Memorial Museum you can learn about life in Hiroshima before, during and after the war. For those interested in world history, Hiroshima is a must-see.

Please Note:

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected with observance of religious or local holidays.

To complete your tour, we <u>include</u> roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your <u>own air</u>, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Triple and child accommodations are not available.

Travel with just 24 passengers on this Explorations tour where a smaller group setting means a more personal travel experience.

This tour includes moderate physical activity. The itinerary blends some longer days with shorter days and more leisure time. Walking tours, as well as walking slightly longer distances, up stairs or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.

Each guest is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are traveling to and from.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

If you have any dietary restrictions please notify us at time of booking so we can accommodate you as best as possible.

Flights arrive into Tokyo and depart from Osaka.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$500 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of August 24, 2018 are based upon availability. Final payment due by January 22, 2019. Deposits are refundable up until August 31, 2018.

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† Full credit is valid for travel within 12 months of the original trip. \$100 of the credit remains valid for travel within 13-24 months and the entire credit expires after 24 months.



Stewart Travel Service Inc. 2355 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. Ste. 160 Naples, FL 34109-2768





Phone: 1-800-852-5655 Fax: 1-401-727-9014

If paying by credit card, please complete this form and return to Stewart Travel Service Inc. We can only charge your credit card for the amount noted if the signature, address and phone number are listed below. Thank you!

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM

BOOKING NUMBER: 837273 TOUR: Cultural Treasures of Japan GROUP NAME: Stewart Travel Service Inc. DEPARTURE DATE: March 23 2019

Name of Passenger: Salutation: First Name: (Mr., Mrs., Rev.)	Middle Initial: Last Name: (Please print as it appears on Passport)					
, , ,	.) (Please print as it appears on Passport) (Jr (Please print as it appears on your Credit Card)					
ardholder Address: (as it appears on your credit card statement)						
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Credit Card Type:America	an ExpressDiscoverMasterCar	dVisa				
Credit Card Number:						
Expiration Date:	Amount to be charged: \$					
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I agree to pay according to the card policy, terms and conditions.	issuer agreement. I understand and accept	Collette cancellation				
FRAUD PREVENTION. All info	are now requiring a billing address and pho ormation MUST be provided. Thank you for the please return this Authorization Form by	r your cooperation!				
Stewart Travel Service Inc Attn: Monique Benoit & Liz 2355 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. Ste. 160 Naples, FL 34109-2768						
Or by Fax to: (239) 592-6734						
Above credit card information has bee	en called in to Collette.					



TRAVEL DATE: 3/23/2019 TERRITORY: SB

RES#: 837273

Cultural Treasures of Japan

For Reservations Contact: Stewart Travel Service Inc. (239) 591-8183

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Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be

First:	Middle:		Last:		Suffix:
Nickname:	_ Gender: () Male	() Female	Date of Birth: month	da	ay year
Address:		City:		State:	Zip Code:
Phone: ()	Cell: ()		Email Address	S:
Passport Number:	Expiration D	ate: (month/day	day/year) Date of Issuance: (month/day/year)		
City, State, Country of Issuance:				_ Citizenship:	
Should you become ill or injured, whom	should we contact (not traveling w	vith you):	PI	hone: ()
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I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation policy, terms and conditions. Call for details regarding the full terms and conditions of your purchase.

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