# The 2020 Lydon-Mizoguchi Adventure Japan – Springtime! Including Okinawa

# A Three Week Adventure! (April 4 to April 26, 2020) 23 Days, 22 Nights

# A Rare Opportunity to experience the diversity of Japan

A wide-ranging adventure that includes small-town coastal Japan, the historic heartland of Kyoto and Nara, and the Far West of Nagasaki, and Okinawa. From the delicacy of sprijgtime cherry blossoms to semi-tropical Okinawa's fabled banyan trees.

# Price: \$9,650 per person, double occupancy

(A limited number of single spaces are available on a first-come basis at \$1,500 additional.)

Note: There are a few spaces on JAL's Premium Economy upgrade at \$1,200 additional on the round-trip SFO to Tokyo.

#### **Bare Bones Itinerary**

**April 4 – Depart SFO – JAL #1** 

April 5-9 Tateyama (5 nights)

**April 10 – 11 Sendai (2 nights))** 

April 12 – 14 Kyoto-Nara (3 nights)

April 15 – 16 Osaka (2 nights)

April 17 – 19 Nagasaki (3 nights)

April 20 – Kumamoto (1 night, onsen)

April 21-23 Okinawa (3 nights)

April 24 - 25 Tokyo (2 nights)

April 26 – Haneda to SFO – JAL #2

Arrive c. 1:00 PM on Sunday, April 26

Note: Only 1 1-night stand – Kumamoto where we'll be staying in a traditional (futons) Japanese hotel.

## **Pre-Trip Workshops**

The pre-trip preparation is intensive and illuminating. You'll learn a bit of the language, how to bow and bathe yourself while sitting on a child-sized stool, and why it's OK to SLURP your ramen.

# **Sunday afternoons 1:00 – 6:00**

Workshops will be held at Cabrillo College, with possible field trip to Monterey including tentative visit to gravesite of Gennosuke Kodani

#1 – Sunday, January 12

#2 – Sunday, February 2

#3 – Sunday, March 1

#4 – Sunday, March 22

## **Requirements/Restrictions**

- 1) Group members living within 200 miles of Aptos, attendance at workshops is required.
- 2) Must be at least 25 years of age or older
- 3) Freedom from restrictive dietary requirements that will limit ability to eat pre-set menus. We cannot customize individual diets to accommodate vegetarian, vegan, seafood allergies, etc.
- 4) Current passport with expiration date AFTER December 31, 2020
- 5) An open mind, and ability to keep personal opinions to yourself.

# **Themes** we will be developing will include:

• the75th anniversary of WWII's final year,

The 2<sup>nd</sup> (and last) **atomic bomb** used in warfare

- the tortuous story of **Christianity in Japan**, including the expedition of a group of samurai who went half way around the world to see the Pope
- the 9<sup>th</sup> year of recovery from the **Tohoku Tsunami**
- pursuing the actual (and sometimes embarrassing) legacy of Commodore Matthew Perry's fateful visits in the 1850s
- exploring rarely-visited temples and shrines and partaking in personal commemorations.
- Experiencing the meditative and exuberant side of the Japanese character
- The special place that abalone played in tying the Monterey Bay Region to Minamiboso
- The rarely explored history of the Okinawan people in mainland Japan, and on Okinawa.
- An exploration of the history of U.S. involvement in Okinawa including the long-standing debate over the presence of U.S. military bases.

## Celebrating 25 years of trans-Pacific research, collaboration and leading groups

## Sandy Lydon and Kaori Mizoguchi

This adventure was designed and led by two master trip designer and co leaders, Sandy Lydon and Kaori Mizoguchi. Now approaching his 60<sup>th</sup> year as a classroom teacher, author and historian, Sandy's been leading groups to Japan for 45 years, the last 25 in partnership with Kaori Mizoguchi. We explore both sides of the Pacific to learn more about Japanese and Japanese-American history.

## **Yoshie Morrissey**

The Lydon-Mizoguchi team was joined a decade ago by Yshie Morrissey who is a 30 year resident of the US, Japanese language teacher and fearless explorer of both cultures.

#### **Restrictions and Requirements**

- Freedom from restrictive dietary requirements that will limit your ability to eat the wide variety of cuisine that will be offered through the trip
- Have the mobility and stamina to handle three weeks of rigorous international travel.
- The commitment and time available to devote to preparing for the trip ahead of departure
- Have a valid passport with an expiration date AFTER December 31, 2020.

# Pre-trip instruction will include:

- Japanese language,\
- Japanese personal and social protocol (from the nuanced rules for giving personal gifts to how to behave at a major league baseball game)
- An introduction to the history of minorities in Japan, especially that of the Okiniawans.
- The incredible diversity of Japanese cuisine, the use of chopsticks and appropriate behavior at meals
- The history of the places to be visited
- the history of the Japanese in the Monterey Bay Region,
- The differences between Shinto shrines, Buddhist temples, and the family ihai (household devotional tablet)
- Money cash or credit cards?
- How and what to pack for the wide variety of social and regional climate

#### **Included** in the price

- Round trip air fare, economy class SFO to/from Tokyo, Japan Airlines
- All internal air fares, transfers.
- All transportation, Bullet train, ferries, Private air-conditioned bus, subways
- All hotels including one Japanese-style hot springs
- All tips and gratuities
- All admissions to included sites
- Most meals including Western-style breakfasts, most Lunches and dinners
- English-speaking guides and translations when in Japanese
- Extensive pre-trip instruction, materials, films and language
- Personally escorted by the Lydon-Mizoguchi and Morrissey team

#### Not included

- Trip cancellation insurance
- Passport fees
- Items of a personal nature, such as computer fees, wi-fi, laundry, etc.
- Transportation from home to SFO and return
- 4% handling fee for charging fee balance to credit card
- Any else not specified in the "Included" section above

#### **Refund Schedule**

- 1) Entire Deposit refundable up to January 1, 2020
- 2) Entire \$1,500 deposit non-refundable after January 1, 2020
- 3) Once final payment is made (due February 6) the entire trip fee non-refundable if group member cancels.

Where to find application? You can download a pdf version of the application using the "download application" button on the Japan web page at <a href="www.sanadylydon.com">www.sanadylydon.com</a>. Or you can e-mail Sandy Lydon at <a href="salydon@aol.com">salydon@aol.com</a> and we will send you a hard copy (or copies).

How to apply to join the group:

- 1) A completed application for each person. Applicants should take some care in completing the questions. We may request a personal interview if the submitted applications warrant it.
- 2) A \$1,500 deposit for each person. Must be made by check payable to Pacific Harbor Travel. The balance of the trip fee (due no later than February 6) may be paid by credit card, but will have an added 4% fee will be added due to credit card processing costs.
- 3) Mail a hard copy of the application directly to Sandy Lydon, PO Box 2578, Aptos, CA 95001. We recommend that you keep a copy of the complete application for your records. We will notify you of the status of your application via e-mail, so please make your e-mail address legible on the application.

Our state-side travel arrangements. We have been working with Pacific Harbor Travel for over ten years. You can contact Linca Schwedock with questions about the transpacific air travel and travel insurance.

- \*Linda Schwedock, owner, Pacific Harbor Travel
- \* 515 Seabright Ave, Suite 201 (above Seabright Brewery)
- \* Santa Cruz, CA 95062: phone 831-427-5000
- \* e-mail: linda@pacificharbortravel.com
- \* CST# 1014242-10

Trip not affiliated with nor endorsed by Cabrillo College