



**Commonwealth  
Club Travel**

*ANCIENT TRADITIONS OF THE*

# INLAND SEA OF JAPAN

Kyoto • Hiroshima • Miyajima •  
Matsue • Himeji • Osaka

A voyage aboard the  
Exclusively Chartered Small Ship  
**Five-Star M.S. L'AUSTRAL**

April 30 to May 10, 2017





# Commonwealth Club Travel

Dear Club Members,

*Konnichiwa!* Experience the timeless splendor of Japan and South Korea by sea and on land. During this custom-designed nine-night itinerary enjoy two nights on land and seven nights cruising while you explore ports steeped in the traditions of ancient Buddhist shoguns and Samurai warriors, and admire landscapes dotted with Shinto shrines, imperial castles and meticulous Japanese gardens.

Spend two nights in the enchanting city of Kyoto, its serene landscape brimming with fragrant cherry blossom trees. It was the imperial capital of Japan from A.D. 794 until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and has been the cultural capital of this island nation for more than 1000 years. See its historic UNESCO World Heritage-designated monuments, visit the opulent temples of Ryōan-ji and Kinkaku-ji, the imperial Nijō Castle and stroll through the iconic red-orange torii gates and temple grounds of the Fushimi Inari Shrine.

On board the exclusively chartered, Five-Star **small ship** M.S. L'AUSTRAL, featuring only 110 ocean-view Suites and Staterooms, cruise for seven nights from Himeji, Japan, along the coast of the tranquil Inland Sea and South Korea, and visit captivating port calls that showcase five UNESCO World Heritage sites.

See the impressive 14<sup>th</sup>-century Himeji Castle complex, the oldest surviving feudal structure of medieval Japan; walk through the poignant Peace Memorial Park and Museum in Hiroshima following President Obama's recent historic visit; and tour picturesque Itsukushima Shrine in Miyajima with its awe-inspiring Great Torii Gate. Admire the extraordinary collection of Japanese paintings and ceramic works at the acclaimed Adachi Museum of Art near Matsue, whose impeccable gardens are considered "living Japanese paintings." In Gyeongju, South Korea, see the glorious Buddhist Bulguksa Temple, which symbolizes the material expression of Buddhist utopia on Earth, and the ancient Silla Kingdom Royal Burial Mounds. Visit the Mekari Shrine, a legendary Shinto shrine juxtaposed with Moji's contemporary architecture, and just outside the city, walk through the beautiful and sacred 12<sup>th</sup>-century Akama Shrine, dedicated to the child emperor Antoku. Nearby, observe the lively excitement of a Japanese fish market, known for its locally caught *fugu* (pufferfish), a delicacy of Japanese cuisine.

We are sharing this unique itinerary with Johns Hopkins University, Duke University and National Trust for Historic Preservation. It is an excellent value featuring Five-Star accommodations and at least one excursion each day, and it highlights the most beautiful and culturally fascinating ports along Japan's Inland Sea. This program sells out quickly, so I encourage you to book now while space and Early Booking Savings are available.

Best regards,



Kristina Nemeth  
Travel Director  
(415) 597-6720



# TRADITIONS, CEREMONY AND RITUAL



*A mysterious island nation, one of unsurpassed natural beauty and a way of life found nowhere else in the world, Japan and its fascinating culture is laden with ancient spiritual rituals, symbolism, stately ceremony and rich, storied tradition—the beginnings of which originated thousands of years ago. Tea ceremonies, Noh drama, ikebana (flower arrangement, also known as kado or “the way of the flowers”), matsuri (the many seasonal festivals of worship) and classical landscape gardens are just some of the long-held traditions an immersion into Japanese culture will unveil. Look for the four different types of gardens: the paradise garden, kare-sansui (dry landscape) garden, stroll garden and tea garden, each with a different symbolic interpretation. Enjoy the opportunity to stroll the harmonious landscaping of the tranquil Koraku-en Gardens near Okayama. And, perhaps silent contemplation will reveal to you the lessons of the kare-sansui rock garden at Ryōan-ji, Kyoto’s Temple of the Peaceful Dragon, founded in 1450. This garden, one of the most famous in the world, represents the ultimate expression of Zen Buddhism—legend says that only 14 of the 15 rocks in the garden can be seen at once, and only when one attains spiritual enlightenment does the final stone reveal itself.*

## U.S.

### Sunday, April 30

Depart the U.S. and cross the International Date Line.

## Osaka, Japan/Kyoto

### Monday, May 1

Arrive in Osaka, then transfer to beautiful Kyoto, the impeccably preserved former imperial capital of Japan. Check into the ideally located deluxe KYOTO HOTEL OKURA. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

## Kyoto

### Tuesday, May 2

In timeless Kyoto, discover an ethereal setting of grand imperial castles, tranquil Zen gardens and graceful Shinto shrines that manifest Japanese culture in its purest form. Many of Kyoto’s ancient buildings and gardens are designated UNESCO World Heritage sites, including grandiose Nijō Castle, built by the shogun of the powerful Tokugawa dynasty (1603 to 1867);

iconic Kinkaku-ji Temple, the famed 14<sup>th</sup>-century Temple of the Golden Pavilion, whose top two floors are adorned completely with gold leaf; and the Ryōan-ji Temple, originally an aristocrat’s villa during the Heian Period (794 to 1185), featuring a famous contemplative rock garden.

Drawing inspiration from the Zen gardens of Kyoto, Apple™ co-founder Steve Jobs used Ryōan-ji Temple as a place of meditation and its minimalistic simplicity as the guiding aesthetic principle of the company’s products.

Join your traveling companions for a Welcome Reception this evening. (B,R)

## Kyoto/Himeji

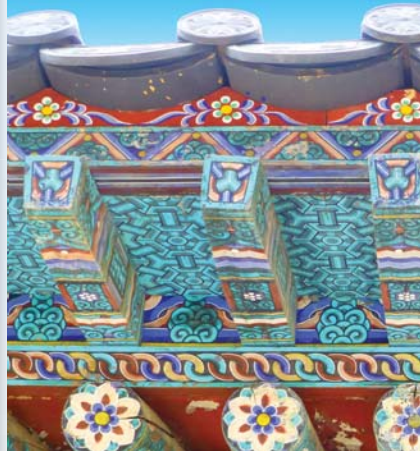
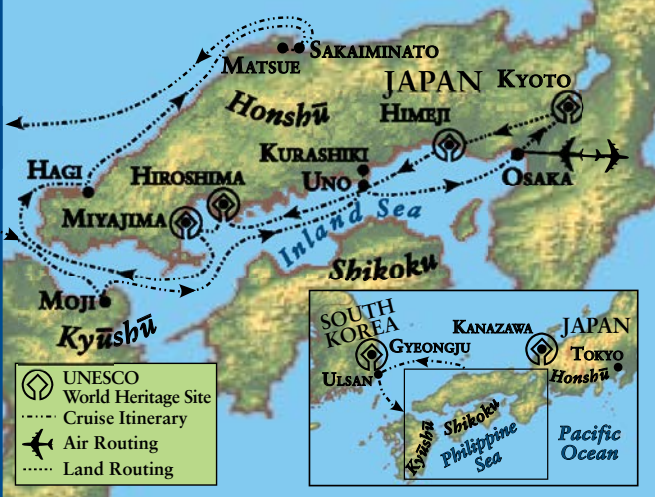
### Wednesday, May 3

This morning, visit the captivating Fushimi Inari Shrine, one of the oldest Shinto shrines in Japan—the earliest structures were constructed in A.D. 711—and dedicated to the deity of sake and rice. Its thousands of carefully aligned iconic red-orange *torii* gates lead to the magnificent Inari Mountain.

Cover photo: Miyajima’s Great Torii Gate is thought to be the boundary between the spirit and the human worlds.

Photo this page: Kyoto’s UNESCO-designated Golden Pavilion functions as a shāriden, housing relics of the Buddha.





Gyeongju's Buddhist Bulguksa Temple is an important site, one of seven of Korea's National Treasures, including

Enjoy lunch and a scenic transfer to see the extraordinary Himeji Castle complex, a UNESCO World Heritage site regarded as the oldest and grandest surviving feudal castle in the world, dating from 15<sup>th</sup>- to 17<sup>th</sup>-century Japan. Admire this elegant structure, which was crafted entirely out of wood and comprises 83 buildings.

Later this afternoon, embark the Five-Star M.S. L'AUSTRAL. (B,L,D)

## Hiroshima/Miyajima Thursday, May 4

Visit Hiroshima's compelling Peace Memorial Park, a tranquil, urban green space where the remains of the Genbaku Dome, which survived the forces of the atomic bomb, are a designated UNESCO World Heritage site and a universal symbol of peace. See the solemn Children's Peace Monument and explore the Peace Memorial Museum, which chronicles the history of Hiroshima.

Continue to the small island of Miyajima, or "Shrine Island," and go ashore via Zodiac to tour the impressive sixth-century Itsukushima Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage site. See its stunning vermilion Great Torii Gate, which appears to float on water during high tide. Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening. (B,L,R,D)

*The Purification Hall, or Haraiden, of Itsukushima Shrine faces the Great Torii Gate and has been used for monthly festivals and for performing religious dances on rainy days.*

## Hagi Friday, May 5

Originally a small fishing port, the cultural town of Hagi was fortified by Mōri Terumoto in 1604. On the walking tour of the old samurai quarter, where many former samurai dwellings still stand and the roads are lined with original 19<sup>th</sup>-century earthen walls, visit the early 17<sup>th</sup>-century Kikuya House, the former residence of a merchant wealthy enough to live among the samurai and one of the best-preserved examples of merchant-style architecture from the Edo Period. Tour the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Toko-ji Temple, from the Obaku School of Japanese Zen Buddhism, and see its 500 moss-covered stone lanterns honoring the Mōri clan lords. Visit the Hagi Uragami Museum, which displays over 5000 traditional woodblock prints and porcelain pieces. (B,L,D)

## Sakaiminato for Matsue Saturday, May 6

Enjoy a scenic drive through Matsue to tour the acclaimed Adachi Museum of Art. This stunning combination of Japanese art and garden design features a collection of 20<sup>th</sup>-century paintings and modern art, while the perfectly landscaped gardens, featuring celebrated *kare-sansui* (dry landscape) gardens seen through the museum's vast

*Walk through the elaborately decorated monuments of ancient Kyoto de*





Important example of Silla architecture and is home to the Seokgatap and Dabotap stone pagodas.



The UNESCO-designated Himeji Castle is referred to as Shirasagi-jo, meaning “white egret castle,” for its resemblance to a bird taking flight.

windows as “living Japanese paintings,” are widely considered to be the best in the country.

See distinctive Matsue Castle, a feudal structure whose five-story keep is the tallest in Japan, en route to the ship for lunch and an afternoon of cruising with lectures by our onboard study leaders. (B,L,D)

### Ulsan, South Korea, for Gyeongju Sunday, May 7

Travel across South Korea’s verdant rural landscape from Ulsan to the cradle of the Silla Kingdom (57 B.C. to A.D. 935) in the historic city of Gyeongju. Visit the glorious Bulguksa Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site and part of a religious architectural complex that represents a material expression of Buddhist utopia on Earth. The complex is divided into three areas—the Vairocana Buddha Hall, the Hall of Great Enlightenment and the Hall of Supreme Bliss—and comprises a series of wooden buildings on raised stone terraces, featuring multiple bridges and two pagodas.

Visit Gyeongju National Museum, which houses priceless archaeological and historical artifacts. Enjoy a specially arranged Korean lunch and a traditional dance performance.

Decorated karamon gate to enter Nijō Castle, one of 17 historic sites designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage site.



After lunch, visit the Royal Burial Mounds at Tumuli Park where, in 1974, the 43-foot-high Cheonmachong (Heavenly Horse) Tomb, dating from the fifth century, was excavated, revealing over 10,000 royal treasures inside. (B,L,D)

### Moji, Japan Monday, May 8

Visit the Mekari Shrine, founded in the third century and uniquely juxtaposed against the modern architecture of Moji along the Kanmon Straits. The shrine was built by Empress Jingu, wife of the 14<sup>th</sup> emperor of Japan, to give thanks to the gods. Nearby, visit the impressive Akama Shrine, built in 1191 and dedicated to the child emperor Antoku. Then, experience the lively excitement of the Karato Ichiba Fish Market, dominated by locally sourced *fugu* (pufferfish)—a delicacy in Japanese cuisine—where professional chefs come to purchase the freshest seafood to prepare time-honored recipes and sushi in their restaurants.

Enjoy the Captain’s Farewell Reception on board this evening. (B,L,R,D)

### Uno Tuesday, May 9

From the port of Uno, participate in one of two included excursions. Enjoy a scenic drive to the lovely town of Kurashiki, which translates to “storehouse village,” one of the best-preserved mercantile towns in Japan—its distinctive black and white latticed buildings remain from the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Edo period. Visit the old merchant quarter and walk among the traditional *kara* (granary) buildings beside small, tranquil canals framed by languid weeping willows. Or, choose to visit the famous Koraku-en Garden, situated on the outskirts of Okayama. Commissioned by Lord Ikedo in 1700, it is a classic strolling garden divided into three sections featuring bamboo, pine, plum and cherry trees and tea bushes. (B,L,D)

### Osaka/U.S. Wednesday, May 10

Disembark in Osaka and continue on the Kanazawa Post-Program Option, or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S. (B)



## Five-Star Small Ship

M.S. L'AUSTRAL

### Five-Star, State-of-the-Art Design

The exclusively chartered M.S. L'AUSTRAL represents the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms and distinctive French sophistication.

### Elegantly Appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies

Each air-conditioned, deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 484 square feet) features a private bathroom with shower, luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities and minibar with complimentary beverages; most have two twin beds that convert into one queen bed. Enjoy accommodation amenities including individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

### Chic and Casual Dining

International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious Le Coromandel dining room in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual Le Rodrigues Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise. Continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Complimentary wine is served with lunch and dinner.

### Spacious Public Areas/ World-Class Service and Facilities

In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting and can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge, nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge and lectures, cultural performances and film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment and two elevators. The infirmary is staffed with a doctor and nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

### Respect for the Environment

The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious "Clean Ship" designation due to its advanced eco-friendly features, a rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has two tenders and 10 Zodiacs.



*Stateroom with Balcony*



*Dining Room*



*Lounge*



*Pool Deck*

## **Included**

- ◆ Exclusive lectures and presentations by study leaders
- ◆ Two nights in the deluxe KYOTO HOTEL OKURA
- ◆ Seven nights aboard the exclusively chartered, Five-Star M.S. L'AUSTRAL
- ◆ Cruise from Himeji, Japan, featuring port calls at Hiroshima, Miyajima, Hagi, Sakaiminato for Matsue, Moji, Uno for Kurashiki or Okayama, and Osaka, Japan; and Ulsan for Gyeongju, South Korea
- ◆ Meals, as specified in the itinerary
- ◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise
- ◆ Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions
- ◆ All entrance fees and tours as described in the itinerary
- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s)
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers
- ◆ Hospitality desk in the hotel and aboard ship
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program
- ◆ Pre-departure materials, including a reading list
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company

## **Not Included**

- ◆ International airfare
- ◆ Taxes of \$455 per person (subject to change)
- ◆ Gratuities to ship personnel (approximately \$105 per person)
- ◆ Hotel staff gratuities (Main Program and Pre-/Post-Cruise Options – approximately \$1-2 per person, per day) and gratuities for activities on your own
- ◆ Passport and visa fees
- ◆ Meals and alcoholic beverages not listed as included
- ◆ Transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel on day(s) of arrival and/or departure if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s)
- ◆ Any overnight on land due to flight schedule(s)
- ◆ Personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls and Internet access
- ◆ Accident/sickness, trip cancellation and baggage insurance
- ◆ Baggage charges on aircraft; airfare and associated local taxes not listed as included
- ◆ Airport facility taxes and federal inspection fees not listed as included
- ◆ All other services not specifically mentioned in the "Included" section



*En route to Kyoto aboard the Shinkansen Bullet Train, admire majestic Mt. Fuji, Japan's highest mountain, in the distance.*

## **Iconic Tokyo** featuring the famous **Shinkansen Bullet Train** Pre-Program Option

*\$1595 Double occupancy, \$2295 Single occupancy*

Begin your journey in Japan's vibrant capital city of Tokyo—an iconic Japanese city brimming with UNESCO World Heritage sites and great cultural significance. Beneath Tokyo's layers of thriving business districts, amid the contemporary architectural achievements and a wellspring of Japanese pop culture, you will find venerable wooden houses fronted by bonsai trees and shrines wreathed in incense smoke—the inherent cultural core of this historic city. Explore Tokyo's most important Shinto shrine—the Meiji Shrine—and the magnificent East Garden and Plaza of the Imperial Palace. Enjoy a full-day excursion to Hakone to view the tallest peak in Japan—the iconic Mt. Fuji—a UNESCO World Heritage site. Experience a high-speed transfer aboard the legendary Shinkansen Bullet Train to charming Kyoto, amongst its landscape of flowering cherry blossom trees. Accommodations are for three nights in the prestigious Five-Star ANA INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL TOKYO.

## **Kanazawa's Cultural Landscape** Post-Program Option

*\$1325 Double occupancy, \$1625 Single occupancy*

Step back in time into the remarkably well-preserved city of Kanazawa, dating from the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Experience the art of Washi papermaking, a centuries-old Japanese handcrafting tradition, noted on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list. Enjoy an excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage site of historic Shirakawa-go and the village of Ogimachi, famous for its traditional *gassho-zukuri* (praying hands) farmhouses—a reference to the shape of the roofs. In Kanazawa, visit Kenroku-en Garden, one of the three Great Gardens of Japan, created in the *kaiyu*-style (many pleasures) for the enjoyment of feudal lords who lived in its 16<sup>th</sup>-century castle; the Higashi Chaya district with historic teahouses where geisha once lived; and the Nagamachi samurai district. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe ANA CROWNE PLAZA KANAZAWA and for one night in the Five-Star ANA INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL TOKYO.

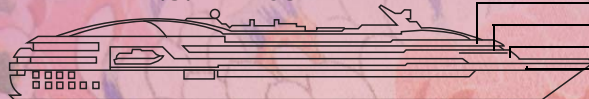
*Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

*Ogimachi, the largest village of Shirakawa-go—a UNESCO World Heritage site—is home to dozens of well-preserved, centuries-old gassho-zukuri farmhouses.*





# M.S. L'AUSTRAL



Deck 6, Mahé  
Deck 5, Bengale  
Deck 4, Chandernagor  
Deck 3, Calicut

## LAND/CRUISE TARIFF (per person, based on double occupancy)

Stateroom Category*	Description- Staterooms range from 200 to 484 sq. ft. and most have two twin beds that convert to make one queen bed. All feature a private bathroom with shower and individual climate control.	Early Booking Price through September 26, 2016	Regular Price after September 26, 2016
8	Ocean-view, one large window. Deck 3, Calicut, forward. (limited availability)	\$5795	\$6795
7	Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 3, Calicut, aft. (limited availability)	\$7295	\$8295
6	Ocean-view, small window and single door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 3, Calicut, midship.	\$7695	\$8695
5	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private, partial wall balcony. Deck 4, Chandernagor, forward.	\$7995	\$8995
4	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 4, Chandernagor, midship.	\$8595	\$9595
3	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 5, Bengale, forward.	\$8995	\$9995
2	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 5, Bengale, midship.	\$9395	\$10395
1	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony. Deck 6, Mahé.	\$9795	\$10795
Deluxe Suite	Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 6, Mahé. (limited availability)	\$10395	\$11395
Prestige Suite II	Two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, two bathrooms, large sitting area with sofa, two closets, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 5, Bengale. (limited availability)	\$11395	\$12395
Prestige Suite I	Two-room, ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto large private balcony, two bathrooms, large sitting area with sofa, two closets, writing desk and dressing table. Deck 6, Mahé. (limited availability)	\$12395	\$13395

◆ An Owner's Suite (Deck 6, Mahé) is available upon request at a cost to be advised, on a first-come first-served basis.

◆ Singles are available in category 6 at \$14795 and in category 4 at \$16995 on or before September 26, 2016. Add \$1000 for reservations made after September 26, 2016.

◆ Taxes are an additional \$455 per person and are subject to change.

\*M.S. L'AUSTRAL has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

## ANCIENT TRADITIONS OF THE INLAND SEA OF JAPAN RESERVATION FORM

Send to: Commonwealth Club Travel  
P.O. Box 194210  
San Francisco, CA 94119

Fax to:  
(415) 597-6729  
or call:  
(415) 597-6720

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)

Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)

City State ZIP Code

Telephone: (Home) (Mobile)

Email Address (Business)

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 140-04/30/17-252

Program reservations require a deposit of \$800 per person plus \$200 per person Tokyo Pre-Program Option and/or \$200 per person Kanazawa Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$\_\_\_\_\_ as deposit.

Make checks payable to **Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.**

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to:  
 Visa  MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by January 25, 2017.

We require membership to the Commonwealth Club to travel with us. Please check one:

- I am a current member of the Commonwealth Club.  
 Please renew my membership with the credit card information provided here.  
 I will visit commonwealth club.org/membership to sign up for a membership.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).  
 Double occupancy (one queen bed).  
 Single accommodations.  
 I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):

Tokyo Pre-Program Option

- Double at \$1595 per person.  
 Single at \$2295 per person.  
 I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Kanazawa Post-Program Option

- Double at \$1325 per person.  
 Single at \$1625 per person.  
 I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

I/We want you to book my/our air from

(fill in departure city)

to and from Osaka, Japan, at additional cost to be advised.†

Class:  Economy  Business  First

†Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements.



*Maiko, apprentice geiko, are recognized by their kanzashi (hair ornaments) and colorful kimonos.*

## RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The Commonwealth Club and Thomas P. Gohagan & Company and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively "Gohagan"), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a trip participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders or third parties, or who Gohagan determines to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motor coach transportation using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to weather, water conditions or levels, other events of force majeure, mechanical or other conditions beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. Gohagan, however, is not required under these circumstances to refund the cost of any purchased travel insurance. Gohagan is not required to cancel any trip for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Gohagan makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute vessels, hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure.

**ELIGIBILITY:** We require membership to the Commonwealth Club to travel with us. People who live outside of the Bay Area may purchase a national membership. To learn about membership types and to purchase a membership, visit [commonwealthclub.org/membership](http://commonwealthclub.org/membership) or call (415) 597-6720.

**AIRFARE:** Airfare is subject to change and availability and, depending on the fare basis, likely is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Gohagan.

**LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without notice.

**PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling equipment.

**DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS:** Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of The Commonwealth Club in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by September 26, 2016. In the event a "discounted" reservation must be cancelled, no "replacement" reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A "replacement" reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

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Company

Commonwealth Club Travel  
P.O. Box 194210  
San Francisco, CA 94119  
(415) 597-6720 [www.commonwealthclub.org/travel](http://www.commonwealthclub.org/travel)

**CANCELLATIONS:** Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of The Commonwealth Club. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a \$200 (\$50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, \$800 (\$200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, "no-show," or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply. **TRIP INSURANCE:** We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Information about trip insurance will be sent with your confirmation.

**RATES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

**REGISTRATION:** Commonwealth Club CST#: 2096889-40; Gohagan CST#: 2031868-40, WST#: 601 767 666, OST#: TA 0905.

**BINDING ARBITRATION:** Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating in any way to this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement, the brochure, or any other information relating in any way to the trip, or to the trip itself, shall be settled solely and exclusively by binding arbitration in Chicago, Illinois, in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association then existent. In any such proceeding, the substantive, but not procedural law of Illinois will apply. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, consistency, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable.

**ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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