

# JAPAN'S KYUSHU BY RAIL

- scenic rail tour around the island of Kyushu,  
history, nature, art and food-

Thursday 6 - Wednesday 19 October 2022



Join us for one of our new tours to Japan – a fourteen day in-depth tour of the southern of Japan's four main islands – Kyushu. With a combination of **splendid coast line** and **scenic mountainous hinterland**, the natural landscape is spectacular. Add to that the rich **culture** and **history** of the island, with **gardens**, famed **pottery**, **textiles**, **art** and **food**, there is much to see. We **travel on a range of trains, from the modern shinkansen (including the new Nagasaki line opening September 2022), to scenic private trains, and special 'resort' trains** where the train is itself the destination. Experience a variety of accommodations, including **excellent hot spring (onsen) resorts in beautiful ryokans**. We've included meals when it is prudent, and for special locations, but also provided freedom to dine when, with whom and where you wish. Taste **local cuisine at 'Izakaya' restaurants and fine traditional (Kaiseki) dinners** featuring local produce as well as western fusion cuisine. The tour is led by Japanese speaking expert **Takako Ishige** and **Owen Johnstone-Donnet**, who have designed and organised the tour. We are proud and passionate about our tours - we make it possible to experience the real Japan, visiting **not only iconic cities and sights, but also 'off the beaten track' small villages and islands**, meeting local people. The tour is limited to 14 guests – we look forward to you joining us on this special journey around the island of Kyushu.

## Thursday 6 October 2022 - to Japan

Begin your experience of Japanese culture aboard a daylight flight from Sydney to Tokyo with Japan Airlines, or from Melbourne or Brisbane with Qantas, then transfer to Osaka, where we stay for one night. Alternatively fly overnight on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October with Qantas or All Nippon Airlines and as you arrive in Tokyo in the morning, travel to Shin-Osaka by comfortable high speed train. Overnight in Shin-Osaka.

## Friday 7 October 2022 (B/D) - High speed train (the Shinkansen) Kumamoto, Kyushu and Kumamoto castle

After a relaxing breakfast in the morning, commence our rail experiences with the 740km journey from Shin-Osaka to Kumamoto, aboard the **excellent Japanese 'Shinkansen' service**. Running at speeds of up to 300 km/h, the Shinkansen is known for punctuality (most trains depart on time to the second), comfort, safety and efficiency it is an exhilarating and comfortable experience. On arrival in Kumamoto, transfer to our hotel adjacent to the station, and then visit Kumamoto Castle - one of the most impressive castles in Japan. With large castle grounds and a variety of buildings, Kumamoto Castle offers its visitors one of the most complete castle experiences in Japan. Only a few structures have survived the centuries since the castle's construction in 1607 intact. The castle keep and most other buildings are modern reconstructions, but the reconstructions are mostly of a high quality and new buildings are continually being added. Enjoy our first group dinner. Overnight in Kumamoto.

## Saturday 8 October 2022 (B/D) – Kurume Kasuri Textiles and scenic Hisatsu Orange Railway

Today we travel a short distance south to the area known as **Kurume**, famed for its **Kasuri** textiles - an integral part of Japanese history and culture. From ancient times, people have learned to spin yarn out of plants such as hemp, wisteria, kudzu (a Japanese herb), kouzo (Japanese mulberry paper), and later, silk and cotton. In each region, people developed skills and tools to weave them into beautiful textiles with unique colours, patterns and texture. In Fukuoka, the local textile is called Kurume Kasuri. It is a cotton textile, known for its unique blurry 'ikat' patterns, which is still made in a complicated resist-dye technique of



yarn. Takako has organised **visits to see the textile production**, and opportunities to see the fine products that result. In the afternoon we return by rail via Kumamoto and travel south to join the **private Orange Hisatsu Railway** - a scenic journey along the coastline of south western Kyushu. When the shinkansen line opened south to Kagoshima, the original rail line was transferred to the private railway, and today offers a **journey with spectacular coastal scenery that was lost with the introduction of the shinkansen**. Travel from Sendai along the coast to Shin-Yatsushiro, enjoy evening meals, sunset and return to Kumamoto for overnight.



## Sunday 9 October 2022 (B/MT/D) – Suizenji Garden, 'A' train to Misumi and to Nagasaki by ferry

This morning for the early riser, we offer the opportunity to visit the lovely Japanese **Suizenji Garden** - a spacious, Japanese style landscape garden built by the Hosokawa family in the 17th century. This garden reproduces the 53 post stations of the Tokaido, the important road which connected Edo with Kyoto during the Edo Period, in miniature form, including a small Mt. Fuji. After we check out from the hotel, enjoy a train ride aboard the **'A-train' to the seaside town of Misumi**. **Named after a famous jazz tune, the A-train reflects on the good old days**. The theme behind this train is "the Southern European culture prevalent in Amakusa in the 16th century." The interior is constructed using dark tone woods and stained glass and will give you the feeling of being in a movie scene. Misumi is a small port at the tip of the peninsula southwest of Kumamoto. Just off the peninsula are the Amakusa Islands, famous for having been the home to a large population of Hidden Christians. Enjoy the atmosphere and morning refreshment onboard. We return to our hotel to collect luggage and purchase a **bento box** for lunch. In the afternoon **join the ferry service crossing the Ariake Sea from Kumamoto to Shimabara**. On arrival to Shimabara Peninsula, we join the **Shimabara private railway** that clings to the coast as it travels to connect with the main JR line at Isahaya - from here we change to the JR service into Nagasaki, our base for the next three nights. Overnight in Nagasaki.



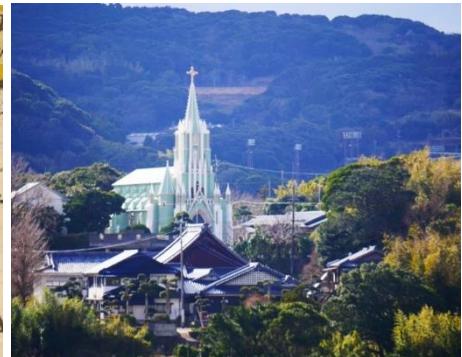
## Monday 10 October 2022 (B/L) – Goto Islands and the hidden Christian sites

Historically, **Nagasaki** played an important role in Japan's international relations. A vast amount of culture and knowledge from Asia and Europe flowed to and from Japan via Nagasaki and contributed greatly to the modernisation of Japan. Christianity was no exception. Christianity first arrived in Japan in the mid-1500s, where it briefly spread around Japan, especially Nagasaki and the Amakusa region. However, when Christians began to intervene in local politics, the Japanese government banned Christianity and locked the country - for 260 years! During this time many Japanese Christians were forced to apostatise or be persecuted, and some escaped to the coastal area or islands to keep their faith. The **Goto Islands** are one of those sites for Hidden Christians and are now registered as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site showing this hidden Christian history**. Today we explore one of these islands - enjoy the pristine water, beautiful and dramatic coastal scenery and small villages as well as learning its history. If the weather is not suitable for the ferry journey, we will swap the programme with the day around Matsuura Peninsula. **Nagasaki** is an attractively situated port city, and as one of Japan's closest port cities to the Asian mainland, has played a prominent role in foreign trade relations for many centuries. It was the **most important of only a very few ports open to restricted numbers of foreign traders during Japan's period of isolation**, and as such the presence of historic western influence remains.



### Tuesday 11 October 2022 (B/LR) – Explore Matsuura Peninsula by Matsuura Railway

**Matsuura private railway** covers the 93.8km of the Nishi-Kyushu rail line around the western most extent of Saga and towards Sasebo. The railway offers great sightseeing and you will see locals in their daily life. We alight and stretch our legs at Hirado, which is the westernmost railway station using traditional rail tracks in Japan. Hirado has been a port of call for ships between the East Asian mainland and Japan since the Nara period. After the 15<sup>th</sup> Century to early the Edo period, Hirado's role as a centre of foreign trade increased, especially with China and the Dutch East India Company, until Nagasaki took over its role (known as Firando). The city is unique and outstanding as it still has elements of western and Japanese style colocated. Enjoy the scenic train journey – peaceful Ariake sea, Matsuura Peninsula and Omura Bay. Dinner is at leisure and overnight Nagasaki.



### Wednesday 12 October 2022 (B/D) – to Yufuin, a lovely onsen resort

We depart this morning by train and head to **Yufuin** - located on a flat river basin surrounded by mountains, Yufuin's skyline is the twin peaked Mount Yufu, which hovers over the town and serves as the backdrop for many scenic views. The small town is basically rural and shortly after leaving the main walking route you'll come across the rice paddies and farm houses that make up a considerable part of the town. A popular hot spring resort, Yufuin has a wealth of art museums, cafes and boutiques, and we will have time this afternoon for a relaxing luncheon and stroll about the town. The lovely Kinrinko Lake provides a backdrop to the galleries and café's and is an ideal place to enjoy luncheon. We check into our ryokan for the next two nights, and enjoy a lovely dinner and overnight Yufuin.



### Thursday 13 October 2022 (B/D) – the *Yufuin-no-mori* Ltd Express and Onta Pottery Village

After our lovely ryokan breakfast this morning, we have time to explore the village further, before a late morning meeting to purchase luncheon to enjoy aboard the ***Yufuin no mori* Limited Express** as we head west into the lush mountains of central Kyushu to Hita. From here a short taxi ride takes us to the mountain **village of Onta**, established by visiting potters in the eighteenth century, and **famous for its ontayaki pottery**, characterised by geometric patterns. This village benefited from the Mingei Movement in the early 20th century, led by British studio potter Bernard Leach, Commander of the British Empire (CBE), and Japanese craftsman Yanagi Muneyoshi, that emphasised the beauty of ordinary objects, particularly Japanese everyday items, which has made ontayaki pottery increasingly valuable and popular. A small river flows through the village and the rustic Japanese "satoyama" landscape is noticeable today as you see potters working their millstones by the river and firing pottery in the kilns to make plates and bowls suitable for everyday use.

We return to Hita, and rejoin the ***Yufuin no mori Limited Express*** back to Yufuin, for an onsen, lovely traditional Japanese dinner and overnight in our ryokan. Overnight Yufuin.



#### Friday 14 October 2022 (B) – to Miyazaki, the south east of Kyushu

After our lovely ryokan breakfast this morning, we have time to explore the village further and purchase luncheon to enjoy aboard the **Limited Express Yufu** to Oita, where we change to the **Limited Express Nichirin** for the journey south to Miyazaki. On arrival at **Miyazaki** we leave our luggage at the hotel, and then make the **short 30 minute journey to Aoshima - a small island** just off the coast of Miyazaki City. Aoshima is connected to the mainland by a bridge and is ringed by white beaches surrounding a subtropical jungle at the island's centre. Home to **Aoshima Jinga**, a colourful shrine, and a **geological phenomenon** known as Oni no Sentakuita, or devil's washboard. We return to Miyazaki for overnight and dinner together.

#### Saturday 15 October 2022 (B) – south from Miyazaki to Nango/Shibushi by slow train *Umisachi Yamasachi*

After breakfast we join a local rail service for the journey south to **Shibushi** - enjoy the beauty of Miyazaki's coast and mountains, **as coastal views quickly change into views of deep-green mountains**. At Aburatsu we change trains to continue along the Nichinan Line that heads through the mountains of this southern part of Miyazaki Prefecture, and then along the coast of Shibushi Bay before terminating in the city of the same name. We have **luncheon in Shibushi**, and then return by train to Nango. An afternoon tea break in this small city, before boarding the **Limited Express Umisachi-Yamasachi** for our journey back to Miyazaki. One of Kyushu's 'resort trains' the train's design is a feature of the journey, and **local obisugi (cedar) wood is used for both the interior and exterior of the train**, creating the ambience of a resort. We enjoy an evening meal at leisure and overnight Miyazaki.



#### Sunday 16 October 2022 (B/D) – scenic rail journey to Ibusuki, Museum of Ceramics, ryokan and sand bath

We leave Miyazaki on the **Limited Express Kirishima** and traverse the southern boundaries of the **Kirishima National Park**. Kirishima is an active volcanic mountain range that lies on the border between Miyazaki and Kagoshima prefectures. It comprises mountains, highlands, volcanic lakes and hot springs and is popular for hiking through beautiful mountainous surroundings. As we come to the end of this train journey, grand views of Sakurajima Island and Kinko Bay appear. At Kagoshima-chuo, we change trains to Ibusuki, famous as an onsen town known for its hot sand baths, where bathers are buried in naturally heated sand. Visit the splendid Satsuma Denshokan Museum - a spectacularly designed site that introduces the history of Satsuma (modern day Kagoshima) around the beginning of the Meiji Period (1868-1912) with a focus on local ceramics. A simple but excellent Italian luncheon is enjoyed in the Museum's restaurant. Our accommodation is in an excellent ryokan, with traditional rooms and fine food. Ibusuki is surrounded by sunshine, sea and land, and is a treasure trove of rich sea and mountain food. Our meal tonight is a seasonal taste of the surrounding local foods – after a refreshing sand bath (O) in our hotel's private beach area. Overnight Ibusuki.

## **Monday 17 October 2022 (B/D) – to Hakata, the largest city in Kyushu**

Enjoy a relaxing morning in the ryokan - a last onsen experience or stroll the garden or visit the museum again. Today travel back to Kagoshima and join the Shinkansen to Hakata - the terminal of the shinkansen line until 2011, when the Kyushu Shinkansen connected south to Kagoshima Chuo. Fukuoka (of which Hakata is a central district) is Kyushu's largest and one of Japan's ten most populated cities. Due to its closeness to the Asian mainland (closer to Seoul than to Tokyo), Fukuoka has been an important harbour city for many centuries and was chosen by the Mongol invasion forces as their landing point in the 13th century. Today's Fukuoka is the product of the fusion of two cities in the year 1889, when the port city of Hakata and the former castle town of Fukuoka were united into one city. Our accommodation is adjacent to Hakata Station, and there are myriad dining opportunities for a leisurely evening meal.

## **Tuesday 18 October 2022 (B) – to Tokyo, Australia**

After breakfast, join a Shinkansen towards Tokyo – an 1174km journey running at speed up to 300km/h. A mid afternoon arrival into Tokyo's Shinagawa Station, where we change to Haneda Airport for overnight flights to Australia.

## **Wednesday 19 October 2022 (B) – arrive Australia**

Arrive Australia.

## **GENERAL COMMENTS AND BOOKING CONDITIONS**

### **ACCOMMODATION, MEALS AND RAIL TRAVEL**

Accommodation is generally in 4 star standard hotels. In some locations the best available may not be 4 star, and in some locations we have selected superior hotels or ryokans as part of the experience of the location. Some nights we have included traditional ryokan accommodation with tatami mat floors and comfortable futon beds prepared on the tatami matting. Shoes need to be removed whilst in the ryokan, in rooms and at meals. Ryokan meals are generally included, and whilst we will aim to accommodate dietary requests, some meal experiences are a traditional Japanese set meal. Meals are included as shown - breakfast is included most mornings, however as a general rule we have not included lunch or dinner when there is a range of options, and you can choose the style and time of dining that you prefer. Meals included are indicated as (B) Breakfast, (L) Luncheon and (D) Dinner. Travel is generally in first class (Green Car) seats, though some services only offer standard accommodation and on some trains Green Car accommodation can be limited – we'll arrange the best seating possible. There is a wide range of options for eating in Japan - from very simple meals to elegant dining experiences, and from traditional Japanese food, through to the very best of international western cuisine. The choice is yours. For lunch we'll identify a number of eating options. Every town in which we stay where dinner is not included has a range of restaurants where it is relatively easy and inexpensive to eat well and enjoyably. Major department stores have food halls with freshly prepared food. Most shops and at all railway stations you can purchase a 'bento' - local take away meal boxes with a fresh range of meats, seafood, vegetables and rice. Bakeries offering tempting fresh items abound, especially at railway stations. Eating and enjoying the foods of Japan is part of the tour experience. You can eat as simply or as lavishly as you wish. Japan is exceptionally clean, fresh food a priority, and preparation and hygiene surpass Australia.

## **PERSONAL SERVICE AND MEETING INDIVIDUAL NEEDS**

SJR prides itself on its personal service and attention to detail. The tour is escorted by the two organisers of the itinerary who have both travelled to Japan many times, or lived in Japan for many years. You are assured of the utmost service and our commitment to your satisfaction. We recognise each guest has different interests, and we will provide the opportunity to allow you to rest from the group, explore by yourself, return to particular places, or visit friends or special sites you've read about – if you wish. If your interests are gardens or castles or scenery, you can tailor your activities to focus on these specific interests. Detailed advice and assistance will be given to help you, and most travel requirements can be made for you.

## **CAPACITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOUR**

Fitness and mobility are necessary for participation in the tour. Tour passengers must be able to manage their own luggage, and to carry/wheel it on and off trains, from stations to hotels, and if necessary, up or down a flight of stairs. Whilst most stations have escalators / elevators, the older and regional stations may not. Visiting temples and shrines involves walking up and down flights of steps, and in some cases removing shoes. The tour involves travel on the public transport networks of the many Japanese cities. By payment of your deposit and tour fare you confirm that you are of a suitable level of mobility and fitness to participate in the tour, and are aware of the nature of the tour. Whilst it is often possible to use taxis to reduce the distances walked, this option is at your own expense.

## FARES AND BOOKING PROCEDURES

The tour is limited in size to 14 guests, and bookings will be confirmed in order of receipt of a deposit of \$2,000 per person. **The tour fare is \$9,980 per person (twin share) plus airfares from Australia, with a \$2,195 single supplement for hotels.** The tour fare includes first class rail travel in Japan (some rail services may not have first class accommodation available, or in some instances, not sufficient for the whole group, and in these cases, standard rail accommodation is provided); all bus, tram, metro and light rail transfers when part of the group; all accommodation on a twin share basis (single accommodation is available on payment of the single supplement); sightseeing and entrance fees as indicated, and meals as shown in the itinerary for each day. The fare does not include meals not identified, drinks, excess baggage charges, gratuities, telephone calls, laundry, any items of a personal nature, travel outside the organised group, or taxi usage when not part of the planned transport means. Due to the variety of interests of individuals, and the large range of temples, gardens, shrines, museums etc. available for inspection on some days, we have included key features in the tour cost. Inspection and entry fees when not part of the planned group activity are not included in the tour cost. Additional or optional activities such as some cable car journeys, boat cruises or entrance fees are not included in the cost. Bookings should be made on the attached form.

The deposit of \$2,000 per person should be forwarded by cheque, payable to St James Rail, along with the booking form, to SJR, PO Box N400, GROSVENOR PLACE, 1220.

You can also pay by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):

Account Name:	Scenic Journeys by Rail
BSB:	033 364
Account Number:	612826
Reference:	Your name and 'Japan'

If paying by EFT, please include the Reference above, and email to [sjr@digitor.com.au](mailto:sjr@digitor.com.au) to advise that you have done so – or if you have used a different reference. Please forward the booking form to the postal address above, or scan and email it to us. Credit card payment is possible, with merchant fees of 1% for Visa/MasterCard. Please call us to make payment by credit card.

## AIR TRAVEL TO/FROM JAPAN

A range of flight options exist, including overnight services in both directions with Qantas, direct daylight travel to Japan and night travel back from Japan with Japan Air Lines, or or daylight and overnight flights with All Nippon Airlines. On receipt of booking we'll contact you to discuss your flight preferences and with our travel agent Jones and Turner Travel Associates, Paddington, we will identify the best airfare to meet your travel needs. Business Class seating is also available.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Call us on 0418 585 838 or email at [sjr@digitor.com.au](mailto:sjr@digitor.com.au) for further details or information.

## BOOKING, CANCELLATION AND TRAVEL CONDITIONS

**Bookings** will be accepted on the attached form. **Changes to the itinerary** - as the tour operates to some remote parts of Japan, where accommodation and travel options are limited, the tour organiser reserves the right to change and amend the itinerary at his sole discretion based on necessary changes to travel plans due to air, sea and land schedule changes and hotel availability. **Currency fluctuations** – the tour organiser reserves the right to adjust the tour price based on significant foreign exchange movement between the Australian Dollar and the Japanese Yen. **Cancellation** fees apply as follows: the initial deposit is non-refundable. After payment of further deposits towards the final tour cost, costs for tickets, accommodation, sightseeing etc made on your behalf will incur cancellation charges equal to the cancellation charges incurred to us, imposed by suppliers/operators, plus a fee to cover administrative costs – more than three months prior to departure, \$1000 per person; within three months, \$2000 per person. No refund will be made for cancellations after 1 June 2022. All cancellation or administration charges imposed by the suppliers/operators of components of this tour must be borne by you, the passenger. **Responsibility** - St James' Rail acts only as the organiser of the tour. On acceptance of tickets and travel documents for this tour, which may be evidenced in writing by a ticket, voucher, letter, or other document, you accept that neither St James' Rail nor representatives from any other firm supplying services in conjunction with this tour programme, shall be liable in contract or in tort (actionable wrong) for any injury, loss, damage, accident, sickness, delay or additional expense to you or your possessions arising directly or indirectly by force majeure or other events which are beyond our control, or which are not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part, including, but not limited to, civil disturbance, fire, floods, acts of God, acts of Governments or other authorities, changes in itinerary, weather, strikes, war, transportation disruption, failure of machinery or equipment, industrial action, pandemic,

quarantine or any other cause. Where travel is by scheduled carrier, or charter service, that carrier's responsibility is limited in accordance with their conditions of carriage. Similarly all luggage is your responsibility, and we cannot be held liable for any loss or delay however caused. The care of your travel documents are your own responsibility. All expenses incurred by loss must be borne by you. Airline regulations and conditions are written on the airline tickets and are issued to passengers subject to their acceptance of these conditions. Changes in exchange rates, taxes and any land arrangements costs may alter the price of the tour, and St James' Rail reserves the right to change, amend or cancel this tour and/or itinerary if necessary. We reserve the right to amend the itinerary en route to account for unforeseen changes or conditions, or to improve the tour experience for the majority, as determined by the tour leader. **Passports, visas, vaccinations, health requirements** – a valid passport with six months validity from the end of the tour is required. Obtaining all visas, vaccinations or other health requirements to meet the expectation of airlines or foreign governments is your responsibility. St James' Rail cannot accept responsibility for any losses or expenses incurred as a result of a passenger not holding valid and necessary passport, visa, vaccination or health documents. **Special conditions relating to COVID-19** – if the tour is unable to proceed due to Government restrictions, SJR may at our election: postpone your travel arrangements to a future date, in which case we will issue you with a credit note equal to amounts paid at the time of postponement; or cancel your travel arrangements, in which case our contract with you will terminate. If we cancel your travel arrangements and our contract terminates, neither of us will have any claim for damages against the other. However, we will refund payments made by you less unrecoverable third-party costs and less fair compensation for work undertaken by us up until the time of termination and in connection with the processing of any refund. SJR will refund payments it is able to recover or not incur from the various suppliers of services to this tour. Refunds will be made when the funds have been received by SJR from third party suppliers. **Full details of terms and conditions:** if you would like a copy of the full terms and conditions applicable to all SJR tours please contact us and we will forward a copy to you.

## INSURANCE

A condition of travel on this tour is that you have a comprehensive travel insurance policy to protect yourself against cancellation fees, health and other travel risks. An insurance policy can be sent to you from our travel agent, Jones and Turner Travel Associates, Paddington, for your consideration. Obtaining insurance cover for the tour is your responsibility. It is highly recommended that insurance is secured at the same time or shortly after deposit payments are made.

# JAPAN'S KYUSHU

## – BY RAIL –

**Thursday 6 - Wednesday 19 October 2022**  
**Booking Form**

### YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Name: .....

Address: ..... Suburb: ..... Postcode: .....

Home tel: ..... Work tel: ..... Mobile: .....

Email: .....

### BOOKING DETAILS (Full passenger names EXACTLY as shown in your passport:)

Passenger 1 Name: .....

Date of Birth: ..... Passport No: ..... Expiry Date: .....

One World Frequent Flyer No: ..... Airline ..... No: .....

Passenger 2 Name: .....

Date of Birth: ..... Passport No: ..... Expiry Date: .....

One World Frequent Flyer No: ..... Airline ..... No: .....

### PAYMENT

.... I have enclosed \$ ..... as deposit (\$2,000 per person) for the above booking. Please make cheques payable to St James Rail.

.... I have paid by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) as described previously. Please email SJR to advise and send this form.

Account Name: Scenic Journeys by Rail  
BSB: 033 364  
Account Number: 612826  
Reference: Your name and 'Japan'

A letter will be sent acknowledging receipt of your deposit and providing further details.

### AIR TRAVEL TO/FROM JAPAN

.... Please book me/us to travel to and from Japan and advise me of the best airfare.

..... Thu 6 October 2022 daylight with Japan Airlines ..... Wed 5 October 2022 overnight with Qantas

..... Economy class air travel ..... Business class air travel

.... Please call me to discuss air travel options.

### HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Single rooms: ..... Double rooms: ..... Twin (two bedded) rooms: .....

A single supplement is payable for sole use of rooms in hotels/ryokans.

## **RYOKAN – TRADITIONAL JAPANESE ACCOMMODATION**

The tour includes three night's accommodation in quality Japanese ryokans. These involve sleeping on tatami mat floors, with futons (thin mattresses) and require you to remove shoes in the ryokan, the rooms, and sometimes at dinner and breakfast.

**Please advise below if you are not able (or do not wish) to sleep on tatami mats with futons in Japanese ryokan hotels, or do not wish to remove your shoes. We will then book you a western style hotel room or at a western style hotel.**

..... I prefer western style beds, but am happy to remove shoes in the ryokan

..... I prefer western style beds, and do not wish to remove shoes for meals (we will accommodate you in a nearby hotel.)

## **DIETARY REQUESTS (we will do our best to accommodate and advise accordingly)**

Please indicate any dietary request : .....

.....  
.....

## **INSURANCE**

..... Please send an insurance policy from Jones and Turner Travel Associates, Paddington.

## **YOUR SIGNATURE**

I have read the reservation conditions outlined above and accept them on behalf of myself and my party by whom I am authorised to make this agreement.

Signature of person making reservation: ..... Date: .....

Cancellation charges will apply as advised in this itinerary. An insurance policy can be forwarded from our travel agent at Jones and Turner Travel Associates, Paddington, NSW 2021.

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May 2022