



PennAlumni
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Travel

Discovering Japan

ART & CULTURE

OCTOBER 29–NOVEMBER 11, 2024

FEATURING PENN PROFESSOR
JULIE NELSON DAVIS





Tokyo

DEAR PENN ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

Join faculty host Julie Nelson Davis on a carefully crafted autumn journey to Japan, taking advantage of the chance to venture beyond the typical tourist sites to discover the fascinating worlds of this island nation—ancient and contemporary, urban and rural, sacred and cutting-edge.

Begin in the Imperial capital of Kyoto, now a bustling modern city dotted with lovely ancient temples and gardens behind walls, and filled with some of the country's top artisans. Depart the urban bustle for a memorable visit to the remote mountains and valleys of Shikoku Island, staying at a traditional inn (*ryokan*) with indoor and outdoor hot spring baths (*onsen*). Continue to the contemporary artist retreat of Naoshima Island and conclude with a bullet train journey to Tokyo to discover the highlights of Japan's capital city. Throughout, savor the flavors of Japan, from simple vegetarian fare traditionally served in Buddhist temples, to the exquisite *kaiseki* multi-course meals served at our *ryokan*.

Plenty of free time is built in to enjoy the lovely parks, tranquil gardens, buzzing urban neighborhoods, and myriad shopping areas along the way. This custom-designed itinerary is limited to just 32 participants, so we encourage you to reserve your space today by contacting our partner tour operator, Criterion Travel at res@critteriontravel.com or **888.328.2089**.

With warm regards from Penn,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Emilie C. K. LaRosa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Emilie C. K. LaRosa

Associate Director

Penn Alumni Lifelong Learning

Participation in tour packages by The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania ("UPenn"), through its Penn Alumni Travel program, is limited solely to educational sponsorship of the tour. UPenn is not affiliated with the third party tour operator Criterion ("Tour Operator") that operates and manages the tour advertised here. UPenn disclaims any responsibility or liability for any acts or omissions of the Tour Operator.



Himeji Castle

FACULTY HOST



Julie Nelson Davis specializes in the arts and material cultures of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Japan, with a focus on prints, paintings, and illustrated books. One of the leaders in the field of *ukiyo-e* (images of the floating world), Davis takes an interdisciplinary approach to understanding these works in context, exploring issues related to artistic practice, authorship, gender, and censorship, among others. Selected as a Guggenheim

Fellow for 2021, Davis is working on a new project about imitation, homage, and fabrication in *ukiyo-e* painting as well as second project on artist Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849) and illustrated books.

At Penn, Davis teaches a wide range of courses on East Asian art, with a focus on the period 1600 to the present. Her research interests are often explored in collaboration with students as well as through curatorial projects, object-based courses on the history of the book in East Asia, Japanese prints and illustrated books, as well as site seminars on modern and contemporary art. Davis and her students recently organized an exhibition of the Arthur Tress Collection of Japanese Illustrated books, that opened at the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts in August 2022. She has served as primary advisor for dissertations on a wide array of subjects, such as the nineteenth-century exchange between Tokyo and Paris, the Shirakaba group of early twentieth-century modernists, the color revolution in *ukiyo-e*, the representation of imagined worlds in eighteenth-century Japan, and nineteenth-century Yokohama photography, as well as been secondary advisor for many others. She has also been a visiting professor at the Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies (2014), the Ishibashi Visiting Professor at Heidelberg University (2019), and is on the faculty of the Rare Book School (2019 to present). Davis received the 25th Anniversary Award for Excellence in Advising from the Trustees' Council of Penn Women in 2012.



Bullet Train

HIGHLIGHTS

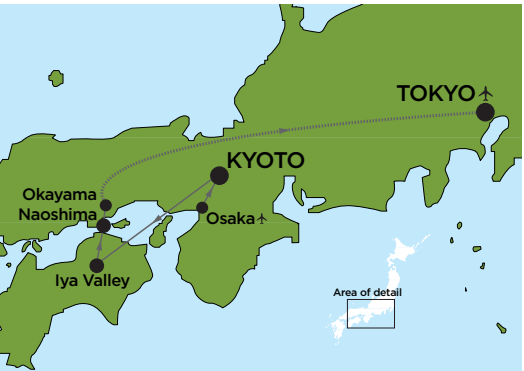
MARVEL at Kyoto's iconic Golden Pavilion (Kinkaku-ji) and Sagano Bamboo Grove, and discover hidden gems including Arashiyama and historic Gion

STAY at a traditional *ryokan* (Japanese inn) with on-site indoor and outdoor hot spring baths

VENTURE into the landscapes of Shikoku Island's rural Iya Valley, featuring mountainous terrain and waterfalls, evocative vine bridges, and tiny villages

VISIT the island of Naoshima with its cutting-edge art and contemporary architecture, including world-class museums, interactive art installations and outdoor sculptures

TRAVEL to Tokyo aboard the bullet train for a grand finale exploring the capital's contrasts of historic and ultra-modern sites



Iya Valley



Bamboo Groves of Arashiyama

ITINERARY

TUESDAY–WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29–30

DEPART U.S. / OSAKA / KYOTO, JAPAN

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Kansai International Airport (KIX) in Osaka, arriving on October 30. Transfer to Kyoto and check into our comfortable, centrally located hotel. HOTEL OKURA KYOTO (MEALS IN FLIGHT)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

KYOTO

Begin the day at Sanjūsangen-dō, a Buddhist temple famous for its thousand statues of Kannon, the goddess of compassion, then visit the Kyoto National Museum, one of Japan's oldest and most important art museums. After a free afternoon to rest or explore individual pursuits, take a guided walk through the lantern-lit streets of historic Gion, filled with traditional wooden houses and teashops, followed by a welcome dinner.

HOTEL OKURA KYOTO (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

KYOTO

This morning step into Ryoan-ji's elegant Zen rock garden (early, before the crowds arrive) and explore the lush strolling garden outside the temple walls. Marvel at the Temple of the Golden Pavilion (Kinkaku-ji), whose shimmering central structure is covered in bright gold leaf. Then visit the historic temples, charming streets, and stunning bamboo groves of Arashiyama, a district designated a National Historic Site. Enjoy Tenryu-ji, one of the greatest Zen temples of Kyoto, stroll through the famous Sagano Bamboo Grove, view the Hokyoin Temple garden's stunning fall foliage, and see the picturesque villa of Okochi Sanso. Dinner is at leisure. HOTEL OKURA KYOTO (B,L)

Kyoto



Woman playing shamisen





Byōdō-in Temple

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

KYOTO

Arrive early to stroll the Philosopher's Path, a picturesque walkway along a serene canal lined with cherry trees, and Ginkaku-ji (Silver Pavilion), a tranquil experience away from the bustle of the city. Continue to Kawai Kanjirō House, the home of the late Japanese artist, with pottery, woodwork, and a huge kiln on display. Also see the nearby Kiyomizudera Buddhist temple and walk down the hilly Ninnenzaka and Sannenzaka traditional shopping streets. HOTEL OKURA KYOTO (B,L)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

KYOTO

Venture south of Kyoto to the city of Uji to visit Byōdō-in Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site originally built as a country retreat. After lunch, see the arcade of bright torii-style gates at the Fushimi Inari Shrine and stop to learn about the history of sake making at Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum, part of the immersive Fushimi Sake district. HOTEL OKURA KYOTO (B,L,D)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4

KYOTO / IYA VALLEY

Travel by motorcoach to Shikoku, the smallest of Japan's main islands. Visit the temple of Ryozen-ji, the first temple along the popular 88 temple Shikoku Pilgrimage. Enjoy a lively and colorful Awa Odori dance performance, then continue by coach to the remote Iya Valley. Indulge for the next two nights at a *ryokan* (traditional inn), where inviting, on-site indoor and outdoor *onsen* (hot spring baths) offer a chance to relax and refresh.

HOTEL HIKYONOUYU (B,L,D)

Ginkaku-ji (Silver Pavilion)



Ukiyo-e Woodblock Art





Pumpkin by Yayoi Kusama on Naoshima

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

IYA VALLEY

Visit the Chiiori Trust, a unique project that seeks to preserve age-old rural traditions in the valley. Immerse yourself in scenes of village life in Ochiai, and witness timeless traditional dwellings, some of which date from the Edo period (circa 1600-1870). Savor tea with local villagers, then cross the Oku-iyu Niju Kazurabashi, legendary twin suspension bridges constructed of intertwined vines. HOTEL HIKYONOUYU (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

IYA VALLEY / TAKAMATSU / NAOSHIMA

Transfer to the port city of Takamatsu, visiting Zentsu-ji Temple en route. Try your hand at making udon (Japanese noodles) and enjoy a delicious local lunch. Stop to stroll the peaceful gardens of 17th-century Ritsurin Park, then depart on a ferry to the island of Naoshima and learn about its many outdoor sculptures. Your home for two nights is the cutting-edge Benesse House, designed by acclaimed architect Tadao Ando.

BENESSE HOUSE (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

NAOSHIMA

Benesse House Museum is where art, nature and architecture come together. Explore the innovative subterranean Chichu Art Museum, housing works by Claude Monet, James Turrell, and Walter De Maria, in a building designed to funnel natural light and enhance each exhibit. The afternoon is at leisure to visit additional art installations or relax on the hotel patio overlooking the Inland Sea. BENESSE HOUSE (B,L,D)

Benesse House Museum



Japanese Udon Noodles





Ginza District, Tokyo

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8

NAOSHIMA / OKAYAMA / TOKYO

Travel by ferry and coach to Okayama, and take the high-speed train from Okayama to Tokyo, with a stop to see the magnificent Himeji Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the country's largest and most visited castle, regarded as the finest surviving example of prototypical Japanese castle architecture. Check into our modern, centrally located hotel in the vibrant Ginza district, featuring bold artwork focused on the themes of media, fashion, landscape, and entertainment. Get to know the neighborhood with an evening at leisure.

HYATT CENTRIC GINZA TOKYO (B,L)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

TOKYO

Spend the morning on the grounds of the Meiji Shrine, located in a 170-acre forest of cedar and camphor trees. The Shinto shrine complex commemorates the role of the emperor during the Meiji Restoration, when Japan emerged as a modernized nation. After lunch in the stylish Shibuya District, visit the small but impressive Nezu Museum, filled with "pre-modern" Japanese art and handicrafts. Learn about the traditional Japanese art of ukiyo-e woodblock printing at the Adachi Institute of Woodcut Prints. The evening and dinner are at leisure. HYATT CENTRIC GINZA TOKYO (B,L)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

TOKYO

Spend the morning at the Tokyo National Museum, home to the most comprehensive record of Japan's art and history boasting more than 100,000 items. Then explore Asakusa, one of the city's oldest neighborhoods and home to the oldest Buddhist temple, Senso-ji. Among the appeals of Senso-ji are the bustling crowds and the traditional food and souvenir stalls of the adjacent Nakamise pedestrian arcade. For a change of pace, travel down Sumida River by boat to Hama Rikyū Gardens, a tranquil oasis in the middle of the city. After a free evening, gather for a festive farewell dinner. HYATT CENTRIC GINZA TOKYO (B,L,D)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

DEPART TOKYO / U.S.

Transfer to Tokyo Narita or Haneda Airport for independent flights home. (B)

PROGRAM RATES

Per Person sharing	\$9,990
Single Supplement	\$1,990

For more information or to reserve by phone, please call (888) 328-2089 or (650) 328-2089; or by email: res@criteriontravel.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

All accommodations, meals, transportation, and excursions as specified in the itinerary • Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations • Arrival and departure transfers by local shuttle service on group arrival and departure dates • All gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides and drivers for all group activities • Entrance fees • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with welcome and farewell dinners • Bottled water on motorcoaches • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout the program

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this program to be moderately active. Much of the touring is done by motorcoach, but some excursions may require standing for long periods of time and/or walks that range from one to three miles, often on uneven terrain where stairs may be unavailable or not have handrails. Daytime temperatures usually range from mid 60s to mid 70s F with cooler evenings, and rain is always a possibility. Participants should be fit and in active good health. Participants and tour staff will be required to follow safety/ sanitization protocols set forth by the tour operator, local staff, and host country laws. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that s/he does not have any physical or other limitation that would create a hazard for her/himself or other travelers.

GROUP SIZE

This exclusive program is limited to a maximum of 32 participants.

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses, immunizations, and Covid-19 testing if required at time of travel • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options • Airline baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

A NOTE ABOUT RATES

Tour rates are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed rates, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Complete Terms and Conditions including a Statement of Responsibility will be made available at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. If you have questions, or to register using a credit card, please call (888) 328-2089 or email res@criteriontravel.com. You may also complete the reservation form included in this brochure and mail it with your check or credit card information to Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005. Final payment deadline is July 31, 2024. Final payment must be made by check or wire transfer. For those who register after July 31, 2024, full payment is due upon registration.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of the \$1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by Penn Alumni Travel and Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After the July 31, 2024 final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. NOTE: Neither Penn Alumni Travel nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Penn Alumni Travel and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Penn Alumni Travel and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

California Seller of Travel Program
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