An essential visit for conservation professionals, at Kyoto National Museum’s Conservation Center for Cultural Properties you will meet experts working on the conservation of paintings, calligraphic works and sculptures – that are both owned by the museum and belong to other collections. This behind-the-scenes tour will take you inside the studio where you will gain first hand insight into the principles and policies for conserving National Treasures and Officially Designated Cultural Properties, and observe the work being done first-hand.

Conservation of paintings and calligraphic works: We will see how conservators use traditional techniques for works of art mounted on paper and silk, that stem from ancient times and were refined during the early modern period, and how they incorporate the latest scientific and survey techniques in their work.

Conservation of sculptures: We will see the work being done on sculptures such as Buddhist statuary and large-sized craftworks. The technique being used on wooden sculptures developed by the Art Institute became the first “conservation technique” selected under the Act on the Protection of Cultural Properties.