P-7: One-day Course in Kyoto Prefecture

Bamboo Grove, Tea Ceremony and Japan’s Culture of Hospitality

Capacity: 20

Otokuni is located in the western part of Kyoto City, easily accessible from the center of Kyoto and Osaka. Historically, this area has prospered as a hub of transportation and culture, and was once the seat of the ancient capital Nagaoka-kyo.

We will first visit a factory of Kyoyaki pottery which originated in Higashiyama, Kyoto, and then head for Otokuni to visit a museum to learn about the history of the area, followed by a tea house and a residence where you will be introduced to Japan’s unique culture of hospitality.

Itinerary

9:00 Meet at chartered bus stop at Hachijo exit of JR Kyoto Station
9:30 - 11:00 Makuzu pottery factory: Tea ceremony, factory tour
11:30 - 12:20 Lunch (Nagaoka Ippuku-tei)
12:45 - 13:15 Oyamazaki Town Historical Museum
13:20 - 15:45 Taian tea house designed by Sen no Rikyu, Chochikukyo
16:00 - 17:00 Nagaoka-temmangu Shrine
17:30 Tour ends at JR Kyoto Station

Note: Participants are required to dress smart casual with socks. Please refrain from wearing sportswear, flip-flops, shorts, and jeans.

Makuzu pottery factory: This is a leading Kyoyaki pottery factory with a history spanning 330 years. The factory has long produced tea-ceremony utensils, and many of its products are held in foreign museums, including the British Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. We will be guided through the factory and join a tea ceremony using utensils made here.

Oyamazaki Town Historical Museum: The museum has seven sections which together help us trace the history of Oyamazaki town located in the Otokuni area.

Taian: Taian is a tea house designated as a national treasure, and is located in Myokian temple. This is the oldest tea arbor in Japan and the only one remaining that was designed by Sen no Rikyu, a tea master who established the wabi-cha style of tea ceremony.

Chochikukyo: Chochikukyo was designed by the late Koji Fujii, an architect of Takenaka Corporation, as his own residence, built in Oyamazaki-cho in Kyoto Prefecture in 1928. It is known as a masterpiece of modern housing architecture, which incorporates Western space design in a manner suited to the Japanese climate.