



# CULTURAL TOUR OF JAPAN

with well-known artist Hiroko Shikashio and Master watercolorist Judi Betts

APRIL 1 - APRIL 15, 2010



## ITINERARY

**TOKYO:** The National Art Center in Roppongi, Tokyo. Hakone Open Air Sculpture Garden. **OPTIONAL TOUR:** English guided bus tour of the city including Imperial Palace-Asakusa / Nakamise shopping, Tokyo Bay Cruise.

**HOKKAIDO:** Fly to Hokkaido, the Northern Island, National Parks, Hakodate. **SHIZUOKA:** Mihoho no Matsubara, traditional Japanese Inn, Bath, Banquet Meals. **KYOTO:** Bullet Train, Philosopher's Walk, Heian Shrine, Kiyomizu Temple and many more.

**COST:** Estimated cost approximately \$4,375. (Includes airfare\*, rail pass\* and hotels, all breakfasts plus two fabulous Japanese banquets in Shimizu). The tour will be limited to 15-20 people.

To reserve a space send registration form with a check for \$450 by **November 15, 2009**. \*airfare and rail pass are purchased separately -instructions to follow at the time of purchase in 2010.

Our immersion in Japanese culture begins with 3 nights in Tokyo, where traditional values and modern technology meet with great contrast and surprising harmony. Our exploration of this extraordinary city includes The National Art Center in Roppongi and architect Kisho Kurokawa's modern glass incased building for modern art. There we will see Japan Watercolor Federation's exhibits and Watercolor USA Honor Society exchange exhibits, followed by a visit to area museums and galleries. We will also embark on a day trip to the internationally known Hakone Open Air Sculpture Garden. **Optional Tour:** English guided tour of Tokyo, which lets our group disembark for shopping and a Harbor boat tour to the Post-Modern man-made island of Odaiba. The following day we will fly to Hokkaido and visit the National Park near the historic city of Hakodate with the serene beauty of a non active volcano and lake.

We will visit the beautiful Miho no Matsubara, south of Tokyo, and experience a traditional Japanese inn (ryokan) for 2 nights with fabulous traditional meals after relaxing in traditional Japanese baths.

Favorable weather conditions will allow us to view Mt. Fuji from Shizuoka.

Then it is on to cherry blossom filled Kyoto and all it's wonderful sites (there will be free time for your own relaxed exploration).

Also you will be privileged to watch the master watercolorist, Judi Betts develop a painting and a sketchbook throughout the trip. Of course, the wonderful cuisine of Japan will be sampled at all the different venues.

*"I am pleased to recommend the tours organized and lead by Hiroko Shikashio. My wife and I recently returned from a trip to Japan during the blooming of the cherry blossoms. It was a trip to cherish. We found it to be a marvelous balance of sophisticated Japanese traditional life, modern culture, and attention to minimizing the dent in your pocketbook. Just make sure you have a good pair of walking shoes."*

Dr. Richard A. Green, Professor Emeritus, Rhode Island College

photo by Hiroko Shikashio



We will visit the beautiful Miho no Matsubara, south of Tokyo, and experience a traditional Japanese inn (ryokan) for 2 nights with fabulous traditional meals after relaxing in traditional Japanese baths.



*"Japan, Hiroko-style, is not to be missed! For those with a sense of adventure, this trip will fulfill your wildest dreams. Be ready to try new foods, to experience a culture vastly different from our own, and to have all your senses titillated by the beauty and uniqueness of this wonderful country. This truly is a once-in-a-lifetime trip."*

Dr. Kelly McGarry

**Contact for more information:**

**Hiroko Shikashio**  
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**E-mail: Hiroko1@aol.com**  
**www.hirokoart.com**



photo by Hiroko Shikashio

~ Please enroll me in the



**JAPAN CULTURAL TOUR April 1- April 15, 2010  
RESERVATION FORM (due November 15, 2009)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Media \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

~ I am bringing \_\_\_\_\_ companions / ~ I want a roommate \_\_\_Lady \_\_\_Gent

~ I prefer: \_\_\_\_\_Single \_\_\_\_\_Double Accommodations

\* This Registration Fee will be deducted from the total price of the trip. All monies will be refunded if the trip must be canceled due to unforeseen circumstances.

Please send \$450. for each person, by personal check, cashier check or money order, by **November 15, 2009**

Total Registration Fee(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Personal check # \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please enroll me on Optional English Guided Tour of Tokyo. Please add \$100

The balance is due on February 15, 2010.

\*airfare and rail pass are purchased separately but included in total estimate -instructions to follow at the time of purchase in 2010.

Submission of this REGISTRATION FORM constitutes your registration in the Japan Cultural Tour and your lodging reservation, and acceptance of all terms and conditions of the Tour, and agreement that neither Hiroko Shikashio, nor its instructors/affiliates, will be held liable for any delay, loss, injury or accident incurred in association with the tour, lodging or travel related to same. Cost and itinerary may be subject to change due to uncertainties in reservations a year in advance.

No refund will be given in case of failure to cancel in writing, "no show", or non-attendance at Tour activities. Reservations for this tour are made on a FIRST COME- FIRST SERVE BASIS

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please keep a copy for your records.**

Make check payable to: Hiroko

Mail to:

Hiroko Shikashio, 500 E. Greenwich Ave, #118, West Warwick, RI 02893

Contact us with any questions:

~ Hiroko Shikashio 401-741-0685 (cell), 401-827-0645 (home) Hiroko1@aol.com