Michigan State University presents

INSIDER’S JAPAN

September 24-October 6, 2016

13 days for $5,391 total price from Detroit
($4,995 air & land inclusive plus $396 airline taxes and fees)

This tour is provided by Odysseys Unlimited, six-time honoree Travel & Leisure’s World’s Best Tour Operators award.

A Special Small Group Tour for Alumni and Friends of MSU
Dear MSU Alumni and Friends,

The MSU Alumni Association invites you to travel with us on a special 13-day journey to Japan that promises to dazzle your senses and delight your sensibilities. Superb art, remarkable history, exquisite cuisine, stunning landscapes, and unparalleled innovation await your discovery.

Starting in Tokyo, we’ll have two full days to discover Japan’s capital. From here, visit Mt. Fuji-Hakone Isu National Park to experience its namesake volcano, then continue to Hakone for an overnight stay in a ryokan, a traditional Japanese inn. We’ll explore historic Takayama and culturally-rich Kanazawa, with overnight stays in both locales. Our journey concludes with four nights in Kyoto where we’ll visit the Temple of the Golden Pavilion and Nijo Castle, and explore the grounds of the Imperial Palace and the Gion district.

We are pleased to share this tour with alumni and friends of the University of Arizona. With space limited to just 24 guests in total, we invite you to reserve now for a trip that will fill quickly!

Go Green!

Regina Cross
Director of Alumni Travel
MSU Alumni Association

THE MSU RESERVATION FORM — INSIDER’S JAPAN

Enclosed is my/our deposit for $______ ($500 per person) for ____ person/people on Insider’s Japan departing September 24, 2016. I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make deposit check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and mail deposit check (along with completed reservation form) to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., Attn: Special Interest Groups, One Newton Place, 275 Washington Street, Suite 300, Newton, MA 02458. Or, call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765. You may also call the MSU Alumni Association toll-free at 888-697-2863.

Full Passport Name __________________________________________ Date of Birth _____________ Gender _____
Full Passport Name __________________________________________ Date of Birth _____________ Gender _____
Address ___________________________________________________________________________________________
City ______________________________________________________ State __________ ZIP _____________________
Home Ph. (______)_________________________________ Alternate Ph. (______)_____________________________
E-mail ____________________________________________ Badge Name(s) __________________________________
Post-Tour “Hiroshima – City of Peace” Extension: Please sign me/us up ☐

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for Insider’s Japan, September 24-October 6, 2016, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) ________________________________________________________________ Date__________________

Final invoicing will be sent by the tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure, and is payable by check or credit card.
Day 1: Depart U.S. for Tokyo, Japan

Day 2: Arrive in Tokyo

After arriving in Japan’s financial, commercial, and political capital this evening, we transfer to our hotel where we learn about the journey ahead at a briefing with our tour director.

Day 3: Tokyo

We spend the morning touring this amazing city that comprises 23 wards and covers a staggering 840 miles. We focus on a smaller area as we visit some of Tokyo’s top sights, including Shinto Meiji Shrine, a peaceful enclave of temples and gardens; and historic Imperial Palace, surrounded by moats and ramparts, and home of the Imperial Family. Next we visit Tokyo’s oldest temple, Buddhist Asakusa Kannon, followed by the Nakamise Shopping arcade. This afternoon is at leisure; tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 4: Tokyo

Today’s touring includes a visit to the gallery of preeminent calligrapher Koshun Masunaga, where we learn about this ancient art of artistic writing and browse the collection. Then we embark on a motorcoach tour of Ginza, Tokyo’s famed shopping, dining, and entertainment district boasting the most expensive real estate in all Japan. Our tour ends in Ginza, with the remainder of the day free to explore Ginza’s department stores, boutiques, and galleries as we wish; or to set off in a new direction, perhaps to a kabuki performance or judo demonstration. Our tour director will advise the best way to return to the hotel.

Day 5: Tokyo/Mt. Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park/Hakone

Japan’s pastoral side is on tap as we leave Tokyo for Mt. Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park. Here sits imposing Mt. Fuji, a dormant volcano (it last erupted in 1707) with a perfectly symmetrical cone that rises to 12,388 feet. The mountain’s majesty is breathtaking, as artists and writers have attested for centuries. We take a coach ride where, weather permitting, we’ll enjoy breathtaking panoramic views; then we descend for a...
Day 6: Hakone/Takayama  Today we travel first by bullet train then by Wide View Hida express train to lovely Takayama in the Japanese Alps, considered one of the country’s most attractive towns with its 16th-century castle and old-style buildings. Our explorations center on three narrow streets in the San-machi-suji district where, in feudal times, merchants lived amidst the authentically preserved small inns, teahouses, and sake breweries that we see here. We enjoy a sake tasting and then have free time to visit local shops that sell the region’s unique lacquerware and yew carvings.  \textit{B,D}

Day 7: Takayama/Shirakawago/Kanazawa  We pay an early visit to the riverside Miyagawa Morning Market selling flowers, fruit, and vegetables, a blaze of dazzling colors and exotic foodstuffs. Then we leave Takayama for the UNESCO World Heritage site of Shirakawago Gassho-zukuri Village. Comprising buildings relocated from authentic villages nearby that were razed for a dam, the village is also a vibrant community whose residents work together to preserve the unique architectural heritage here known as Gassho style. Next we visit that dam – Miboro – the largest dam constructed using “rock-fill technology” of stones and clay. Late afternoon we reach the castle town of Kanazawa, an alluring coastal city that survived the ravages of World War II.  \textit{B,L}

Day 8: Kanazawa  Today’s tour of this culturally-rich city features renowned Kenrokuen Garden, a national landmark whose origins date to 1676. We also see Ishikawa Gate, the only remaining section of the town’s original castle; Hakukokan, a museum celebrating the art and craft of gold leaf technology; and the Higashi Chayagai teahouse and geisha area. Our last stop is the Nagamachi Samurai district, where the ruling family’s samurai warriors lived.  \textit{B,D}

Day 9: Kanazawa/Kyoto  We leave this morning by train for Kyoto, formerly Japan’s Imperial Capital and now the country’s cultural and artistic center. With more than 1,600 temples, hundreds of shrines, artful gardens, and historic architecture, Kyoto embodies Japan’s rich culture and complex history. Upon arrival we visit Kyoto National Museum, a premier institution featuring pre-modern...
Day 10: Kyoto  Today’s tour reveals the high
lights of Kyoto, which was spared destruction
during World War II. Highlights include 16th-
century Ryoan-ji Temple, where we see the dry
garden of sand and rocks (kare-sansui), a marvel of
classic Japanese design; and Kinkaku-ji, the lake-
side Temple of the Golden Pavilion set
on pillars suspended
over the water. We also visit ostenta-
tious Nijo Castle
(c. 1603), where
the shogun asserted
control over the city
and its people. And we attend a tradi-
tional Japanese tea
ceremony, a historic,
ritized ceremony
of form, grace, and
spirituality. B

Day 11: Nara  Today, we enjoy an excursion
to Nara, Japan’s ancient capital. Here, we take a
walking tour to see the Kasuga Taisha Shrine and
Todaiji Temple, both World Heritage sites, and
the Nara National Museum. We return to Kyoto
late afternoon. B

Day 12: Kyoto  We see the sights today from a
slightly different perspective as we embark on a
cycling tour through Kyoto Imperial Park, visiting
the important Heian Jingu Shinto shrine;
Nishiki Market, “Kyoto’s Kitchen” selling food-
stuffs of all kinds; and the Gion district, the most

Tour Departs: September 24, 2016

Prices include international airfare and all taxes,
surcharges, and fees.

Los Angeles, San Francisco  $4,991
Portland (OR), Seattle $5,191
Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas,
Denver, Detroit, Houston, Minneapolis,
New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix $5,391
Atlanta, Baltimore,
Charlotte, Cincinnati,
Miami, Orlando, Tampa,
Washington, DC $5,491
Land Only $3,995

Please call for other cities. Prices are per person
based on double occupancy and include airline taxes,
surcharges, and fees of $396, which are subject to
change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add $995.

All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges,
and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Pacific
flight: $4,195 per person from San Francisco (upgrade
is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).
Upgrade prices are in addition to the costs above.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at
888-370-6765
Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-7:00 PM, Eastern Time
Or call The MSU Alumni Association toll-
free at
888-697-2863
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a $500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not included in tour price
Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; optional sightseeing; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities $10-$15 per day, per traveler); travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

Cancellations, refunds and changes
If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:
- Cancel 95 days or more before departure: $200 charge;
- Cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price;
- Cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price;
- Cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price;
- Cancel 29-0 days before departure: No refund.

If a guest makes any changes to their reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a $100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement.

Responsible travel
The liability of the MSU Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. The MSU Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers.

Health and Medical Issues
Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the MSU Alumni Association request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a substantial amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the MSU Alumni Association assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information
Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may bear a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will incur no liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Travel Insurance
We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Association.