Japan by Sea

LAND OF THE RISING SUN
ABOARD THE CALEDONIAN SKY

April 13 to 26, 2017

a program of the stanford alumni association
With its dramatic coastlines, dotted with sacred temples, celebrated gardens and cutting-edge architecture, the island nation of Japan is wonderfully suited for exploration by small ship. On one of our most popular voyages, we return to Japan aboard the intimate Caledonian Sky and venture beyond the major cities to call upon a fascinating variety of historic towns, art centers and remote islands. Take the opportunity to customize your trip by choosing from a menu of excursion options available throughout the program. Stanford faculty leader Ambassador Kathleen Stephens provides insights into U.S. foreign policy in the region and our relationship with Japan. We hope you can join us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

**GIVE** taiko drumming a try at the remote Sado Island home of the world-famous Kodo drumming troupe.

**VIEW** beautiful Japanese landscapes at their spring-time peak, including a magical bamboo forest.

**ENJOY** a performance of the classical dance-drama known as kabuki.

**DISCOVER** Gion, Kyoto’s exclusive geisha district, and learn about the life and training of a geisha.
AMBASSADOR KATHLEEN STEPHENS is the William J. Perry Distinguished Fellow at Stanford University’s Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center at Stanford University. A career U.S. Foreign Service officer, she is a former ambassador to South Korea and was the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia with responsibility for Japan and Korea from 2005 to 2007. She also served as Chargé d’Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in India (2014) and Acting Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs (2012). During her three-plus decades involved in American diplomacy, Ambassador Stephens helped shape U.S. relations with Asia on assignments in Washington and regions abroad. She will draw on her diplomatic experience and ongoing work at Stanford to discuss U.S. foreign policy in Northeast Asia, the U.S-Japan relationship, and Japan’s historical and current relations with its neighbors, including Korea and China.

— U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, 2008–2011
— Trustee, The Asia Foundation, The Pacific Century Institute and The Korea Society
— Author, Reflections of an American Ambassador to Korea, 2010
— Recipient, Presidential Meritorious Service Award, 2009
— BA, East Asian studies, Prescott College; MPA, Kennedy School, Harvard University

Study Leaders

MIKAEL ADOLPHSON, representing the Archaeological Institute of America, is Keidanren Professor and chair of Japanese studies at the University of Cambridge and an expert in pre-1600 Japan. His current interests and projects relate to cultural icons, historical narratives and the impact of societal changes, as well as the rise of the Heike family during the 12th century.

MARK VAN BAALEN is a lecturer and associate of the department of earth and planetary sciences at Harvard. His research has focused on ancient ocean basins and their associated mountain belts. He has also studied the relationship between the volcanoes and earthquakes of Japan, as well as nuclear power, and the interactions between human activities and the inexorable process of climate change.
SUNDAY, APRIL 16

KYOTO
Choose between two excursion options today. On the first option, travel east of Kyoto to the Miho Museum, considered one of the master achievements of architect I.M. Pei, then return to Kyoto for a guided walk through the picturesque Pontocho and Gion geisha districts. Alternatively, choose to visit a traditional textile studio in the Nishijin district, then venture north of Kyoto to the quiet mountain town of Ohara for a visit to the serene Sanzen-in temple, which features two gardens renowned for their beautiful moss. If we’re lucky, the cherry and alpine rose blossoms will be in bloom. The evening is at leisure.

KYOTO HOTEL OKURA (B,L,D)

MONDAY, APRIL 17

KYOTO / KOBE / EMBARK CALEDONIAN SKY
Once again, there are two excursion options from which to choose. Option 1: Depart Kyoto this morning and drive to nearby Nara, home to some of the country’s most magnificent Buddhist temples. Visit two UNESCO World Heritage sites: Todai-ji, famous for its monolithic statue of the Great Buddha, and Horyu-ji, Japan’s oldest-surviving Buddhist temple and the world’s oldest wooden structure. Option 2: Participate in a traditional tea ceremony in Kyoto, then travel to nearby Uji to visit the Byodo-in temple, featuring the recently restored Phoenix Hall. Learn about the production of green tea during a private plantation visit. In the late afternoon, embark the Caledonian Sky in the port of Kobe.

CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

INLAND SEA / HIROSHIMA
Relax onboard this morning and admire the scenery as we cruise through Japan’s Inland Sea. Call at Hiroshima this afternoon and select one of the following visits. Opt to see the Peace Memorial Park and Museum, which documents the atomic explosion that ravaged the city. Or choose to go to the Mazda Museum at the car manufacturer’s Hiroshima facility; the museum offers an overview of Mazda’s history, the technology of its automobiles and prospects for future developments, as well as a tour through an actual vehicle assembly line.

CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

MIYAJIMA
Anchor off Miyajima Island this morning and board Zodiacs to go ashore. Visit the 6th-century Itsukushima Shinto Shrine with its iconic vermilion torii, a grand wooden gateway that appears to float on the sea at high tide. Enjoy ample free time for hikes, visits to tiny temples and strolls along the picturesque streets of the town.

CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

HAGI
Explore Japan’s medieval heritage at Hagi, which boasts one of the best-preserved samurai and merchant quarters in Japan as well as a ceramics tradition nearly 400 years old. Stop at the kiln of a master potter to learn how the highly acclaimed Hagi-yaki pottery is made. Walk the grounds of Toko-ji, where hundreds of moss-covered stone lanterns
guard the graves of five Mori lords. Cruise overnight across the Korea Strait. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, APRIL 21
ULSAN, SOUTH KOREA
From the South Korean port city of Ulsan, drive inland to the UNESCO World Heritage city of Gyeongju, ancient capital of the Shilla kingdom that ruled for 1,000 years. Enjoy a guided tour of the National Museum’s highlights. After a Korean-style lunch and folkloric performance, explore Bulguksa, one of the most beautiful Buddhist temples in South Korea, with intricate paintings inside and out and two original 6th-century pagodas. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, APRIL 22
MATSUE, JAPAN
Back in Japan, drive through lush countryside to the Adachi Museum of Art to explore its collection of modern Japanese works, set in exquisite gardens. Continue to charming Matsue and visit one of the few surviving castles in Japan, built in 1611. Enjoy free time to stroll through Matsue’s historic samurai quarter. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, APRIL 23
KANAZAWA
Call at the art center of Kanazawa for a visit to Kenroku-en, considered by many to be the finest landscape garden in Japan. Enjoy a tea ceremony at a classic teahouse and time to explore Kanazawa’s historic neighborhoods. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

MONDAY, APRIL 24
SADO ISLAND
Arrive at remote Sado Island, once a place of exile for intellectuals and political dissidents and now the home base for the taiko drumming group, Kodo (“heartbeat”). Enjoy a hands-on drumming workshop and then a short performance by several of the resident drummers, as well as a guest lecture on this ancient art form. Explore the fishing village of Shukunegi, where traditional Edo-period houses line the streets. Ride aboard one of the unusual local boats called tarai-bune, circular wooden tubs rowed with a single oar. Conclude with a tour and tasting at a local sake brewery. This evening enjoy a farewell reception onboard our ship. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 25
NIIGATA / TOKYO
Disembark the Caledonian Sky in the port city of Niigata and board a high-speed “bullet train” for Tokyo. This afternoon in Tokyo, choose between two excursion options. Option 1: Stroll through the beautiful grounds of the Meiji Shrine, which commemorates the role of Emperor Meiji during the Meiji Restoration, when Japan emerged as a modernized nation. Option 2: Visit the Nezu Museum’s impressive collections of Japanese, Chinese and Korean calligraphy; painting; sculpture; and ceramics; and its lovely traditional gardens dotted with waterfalls, ponds and teahouses. Gather this evening for a special farewell dinner with a private kabuki demonstration. IMPERIAL HOTEL (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26
TOKYO / U.S.
Transfer to Narita or Haneda airport for flights home, arriving back in the U.S. the same day. (B)

OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP EXTENSION
KURASHIKI AND NAOSHIMA
APRIL 9 TO 14
(5 ADDITIONAL DAYS)
After an initial night in Kyoto, visit the lovely center of Kurashiki followed by a three-night stay on scenic Naoshima, a mecca for cutting-edge art and contemporary architecture.

OPTIONAL POST-TRIP EXTENSION
KAMAKURA AND HAKONE
APRIL 26 TO 29
(4 ADDITIONAL DAYS)
Visit the historic city of Kamakura en route to the hot springs resort of Hakone. Enjoy a two-night stay at a traditional ryokan before returning to Tokyo for a final overnight.

Additional details and pricing for both optional extensions will be sent to confirmed participants.
Caledonian Sky

The Caledonian Sky is a 114-passenger premier expedition ship that was newly refurbished in 2012. All cabins have an ocean view, en suite bathroom with walk-in shower and/or bathtub, spacious wardrobe or walk-in closet, safe, mini-bar, individually controlled air conditioner, flat-screen television and sitting area with sofa. The ship’s public amenities include a dining room, two lounges with bar service, small library and gym, sun deck with comfortable lounge chairs, hairdresser, laundry service and gift shop. An elevator services all passenger cabin decks. The Caledonian Sky’s chefs prepare quality international meals, predominantly Western-style, served at a single open seating. A friendly crew provides exceptional personalized service, with more than a 1:2 crew-to-passenger ratio. The ship features advanced satellite navigation and communication equipment, roll stabilizers and a fleet of Zodiac landing craft.

Program Cost*

Rates are per person, based on double or single occupancy.

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<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DOUBLE RATE</th>
<th>SINGLE RATE**</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. STANDARD SUITE (FORWARD)</td>
<td>$9,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>Castle Deck, 244 sq. ft. with 2 portholes, shower</td>
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<td>B. STANDARD SUITE</td>
<td>$10,990</td>
<td>$16,490**</td>
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<td>C. SUPERIOR SUITE</td>
<td>$11,990</td>
<td>$17,990**</td>
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<td>D. PREMIUM SUITE</td>
<td>$12,990</td>
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<td>E. DELUXE BALCONY SUITE</td>
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<td>Bridge Deck, 215 sq. ft. plus 45-sq.-ft. private balcony, sliding glass doors, walk-in wardrobe, bathtub, shower</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. PREMIUM BALCONY SUITE</td>
<td>$13,990</td>
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<td>Promenade Deck, 217 sq. ft. plus 60-sq.-ft. private balcony, sliding glass doors, walk-in wardrobe, shower</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. OWNER’S CORNER BALCONY SUITE</td>
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<td>Promenade Deck, 243 sq. ft. plus 60-sq.-ft. private balcony, sliding glass doors, portholes, walk-in wardrobe, shower</td>
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*Association nonmembers add $300 per person.
**Single accommodations may be limited to as few as 2 cabins.

DATES
April 13 to 26, 2017 (14 days)

SIZE
This program can accommodate a total of 96 participants, including travelers from Stanford, Harvard, the Archaeological Institute of America and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

INCLUDED
4 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations ▪ 8-night cruise aboard the Caledonian Sky ▪ 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches and 10 dinners ▪ Welcome and farewell receptions ▪ Gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, wait staff and ship crew for all group activities ▪ All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary ▪ Arrival and departure transfers by airport limousine bus or shared shuttle van and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days ▪ Port fees and embarkation taxes ▪ Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance ▪ Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information ▪ Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare ▪ Passport and visa fees ▪ Immunization costs ▪ Meals and beverages other than those specified as included ▪ Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour ▪ Independent and private airport transfers ▪ Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance ▪ Excess-baggage charges ▪ Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on United Airlines from San Francisco to Osaka, Japan, and return from Tokyo is approximately $1,800 as of June 2016 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this to be a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. Daily excursions involve up to one mile of walking at a time, often on uneven terrain. In many instances such as in historic temples, elevators are unavailable, stairs may not have handrails and paths may be rocky or uneven. Participants will be required to remove shoes while visiting temples, shrines and a number of other sites. Participants should feel comfortable walking on a rocking ship and able to climb into and out of Zodiacs for one excursion ashore (there will be staff and crew members on hand to assist). We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space on this program. A additional $200-per-person deposit is required to hold space for each optional extension. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?japan-sea2017 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written communication of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a guest paid for by a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in June 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50

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"We had a super overview of a great country with magnificent geographical features, superbly planned and maintained cities, and extraordinary museums, as well as a wonderful, courteous and charming people."

DEANNE WILSON, ’66, UNSEEN JAPAN, 2015