



JAPAN SPRING TOUR 2010

SMALL-SCALE, PERSONALIZED TOUR: MAXIMUM 10 PARTICIPANTS

March 30 – April 11, 2010

ELEGANCE AND TRADITION

Day 1: Meet at Kansai airport/Kyoto station in the evening.

Days 2, 3 and 4: Based in a ryokan nestled in the Eastern Hills close to **Gion**, explore the gardens, palaces, temples, shrines, and back streets of **Kyoto and environs** during the gorgeous **cherry blossom** season.

CASTLE TOWN FESTIVAL AND HOT SPRINGS

Days 5 and 6: Stay at a fabulous hot spring hotel – Western accommodation in a very Japanese setting at the foot of **Inuyama** castle, and beside the Kiso River. Participate in the spring festival which includes huge, wheeled floats and a spectacular night lantern show. Take a long soak in natural hot spring water reputed to be “skin beautifying”.

PRISTINE WATERWAYS AND COBBLED STREETS

Days 7, 8 and 9: Travel on a scenic riverside railway. Stroll the cobbled streets of **Gujo Hachiman** in which the many canals, fountains and waterways are still used for washing rice, vegetables and laundry in the same way as they were in the 1600s. This friendly, traditional town is also the centre of production of the plastic food replicas seen outside most Japanese restaurants.

VILLAGE LIFE ON AN ANCIENT ROADWAY

Days 10 and 11: Walk from our traditional guest house in the village of **Tsumago** to the village of **Magome** on a section of the **Nakasendo**, the ancient route from Tokyo to Kyoto.

Day 12: Travel on the streamlined bullet train back through Osaka to Kansai airport for an evening departure.

Booking deadline: January 8, 2010

AU\$3,700 Land only - includes accommodation in ryokan and hotels, 4 dinners and 4 breakfasts, all local travel, and the constant care of the Japanese-speaking tour facilitator

Enquiries, full itinerary and bookings: Gillian Jones

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