



# NAJC's Japan Tour for Japanese Canadians

# Land Acknowledgment

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*“With respect and gratitude for Indigenous peoples who are the traditional stewards of the lands and waters where we work and live.”*

We acknowledge that the National Association of Japanese Canadians’ office (in Calgary) is situated on the traditional Treaty 7 territory of the Stoney Nakoda – comprised of the Bearspaw, Chiniki, and Goodstoney – as well as the Tsuut’ina First Nation and the Blackfoot Confederacy comprised of the Siksika, Piikani, Kainai. I acknowledge that this land is also home to the Rocky View Métis District within the Battle River Territory.

# Introduction

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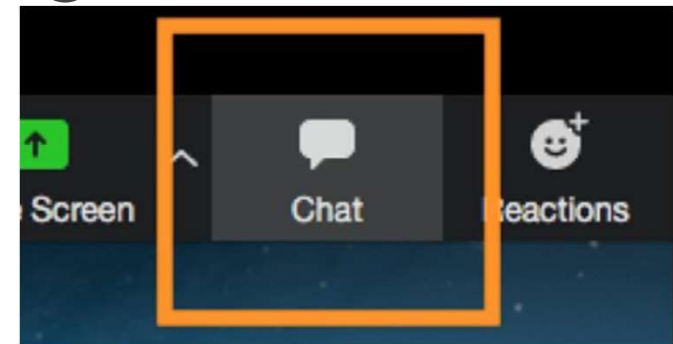
In 2005 the Calgary Japanese Community Association organized 2 trips to Japan for Japanese Canadians to introduce Japanese Canadians to Japan and to visit Expo 2005

Now, 20 years later, we would like to re-introduce this trip, this time to a Canada-wide audience!



# Why are you here today?

Please open up the chat in Zoom and type in why you are interested in today's session and in going to Japan?



# Who are we targeting with this trip?

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- Those of Japanese ancestry that have:
  - Never been to Japan
  - Unfamiliar with culture and customs
  - Unable to speak Japanese
  - Want to explore their Japanese roots and identity
  - Have always wanted to visit but never had the chance or were intimidated
  - Of course – all are welcome!



# The Trip we are Planning

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Core trip planned around a 10-day itinerary starting in Tokyo and ending in Osaka with visits to:

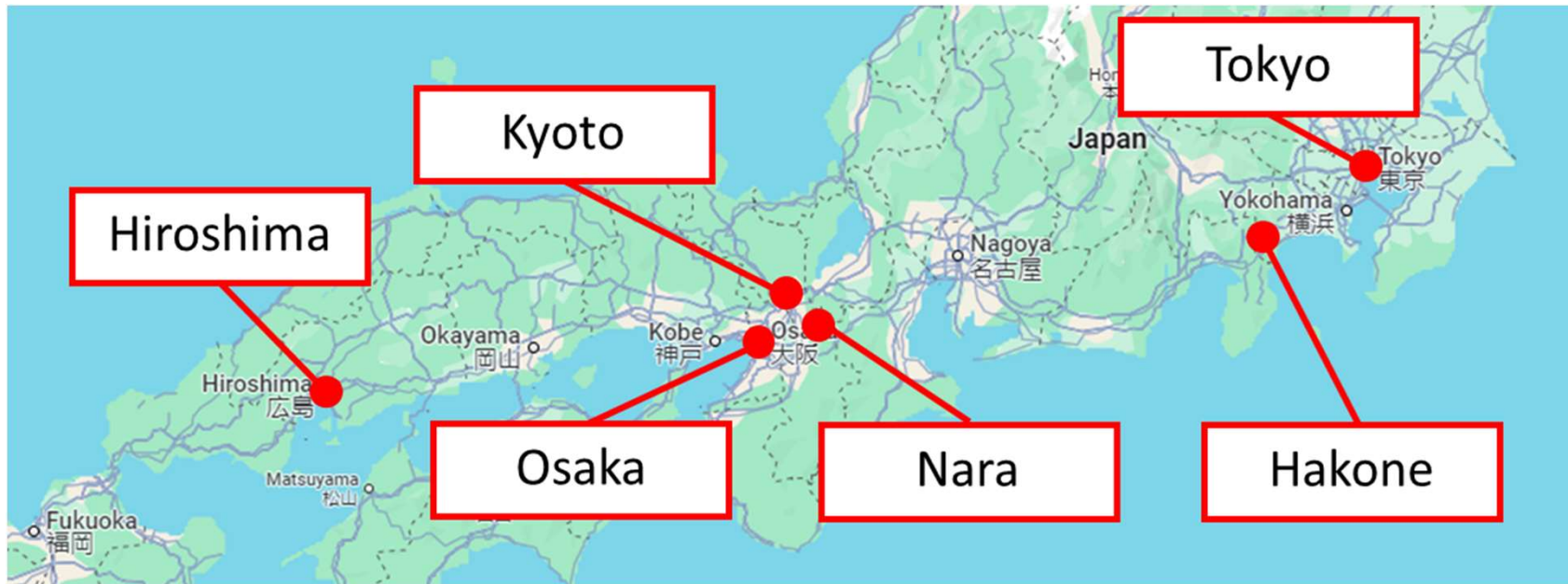
- Hakone/Mt. Fuji
- Kyoto/Nara
- Hiroshima

Participants responsible for travel from Canada to Japan and returning from Japan to Canada



# Destinations

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# The Trip we are Planning

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Flexibility (at own cost) to:

- Arrive earlier in Japan
- Stay extra days in Japan after tour
- Attend 2025 Expo in Osaka
- Attend the 65th Convention of Nikkei and Japanese Abroad if going in October (space permitting)





# Important Details

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- All locations have built in free time except Mt. Fuji and Hakone
- All locations have either an English-speaking escort or an English-speaking guide
- Kevin Okabe, NAJC Executive Director and his spouse, Naoko Maebashi – immigrant from Japan will be joining May and October trips as participants
- Details about planned tour stops follow



# Tokyo – Day 1-4

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- Meiji Jingu Shrine
- Imperial Palace
- Asakusa
- Sensoji Temple
- Nakamise



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# Mt. Fuji & Hakone – Day 3

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- Mt. Fuji 5th Station
- Owakudani Valley
- Hakone Ropeway
- Boat cruise on Lake Ashi



# Hiroshima – Day 4-6

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- Miyajima Ferry
- Itsukushima Shrine
- Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Park



# Kyoto – Day 6-8

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- Kiyomizu temple
- Sanjusangendo temple
- Fushimi Inari Shrine
- Kinkakuji Temple (Gold Pavilion)
- Tenryuji Temple
- Arashiyama bamboo walk



# Nara – Day 6

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- Todaiji Temple
- Nara Deer Park
- Kofuku-ji



# Osaka-Day 8-9

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- Free time
- Recommended - World Expo in Osaka



# Unique Tour Add-ons to Consider

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For those interested in extending their stay, there are some unique add-ons (at additional cost) that can be considered

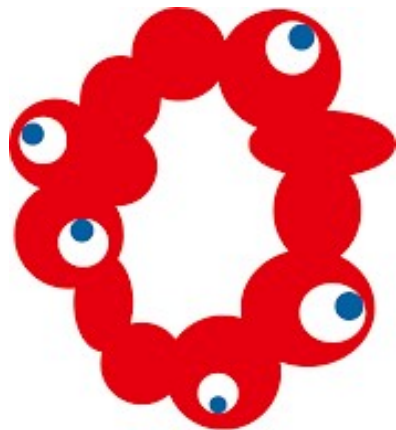


# World Expo 2025 - Osaka

- Theme: Designing Future Society for Our Lives
- From April 13 to October 13, 2025



# World Expo 2025 - Osaka



OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN

**EXPO**  
**2025**

## Goals of Expo 2025 Osaka Kansai

- To contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Achievement of Japan's national strategy Society 5.0
- In 2025, the world will be a mere five years away from 2030, the year the United Nations has set as the target for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), making it a crucial one for ramping up efforts to achieve these goals. Therefore, Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai will become a key platform for reaching the SDGs by 2030.



# Travel

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- Pick up from Narita or Haneda Airport – chartered coach
- Tokyo, Mt. Fuji, & Hakone– chartered coach
- Tokyo to Hiroshima – bullet train (have an overnight bag or carry-on and one luggage will be shipped to Kyoto hotel)
- Hiroshima to Kyoto – bullet train
- Kyoto to Nara – chartered coach
- Kyoto to Osaka – chartered coach
- Osaka Airport – chartered coach



# Accommodations

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- Day 1-Day 4: Grand Prince Hotel Shin Takanawa
- Day 4-Day 6: Hotel Granvia Hiroshima
- Day 6-Day 8: Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo
- Day 8-Day 9: Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka

Accommodations will be at these hotels or similar hotels in price and quality.

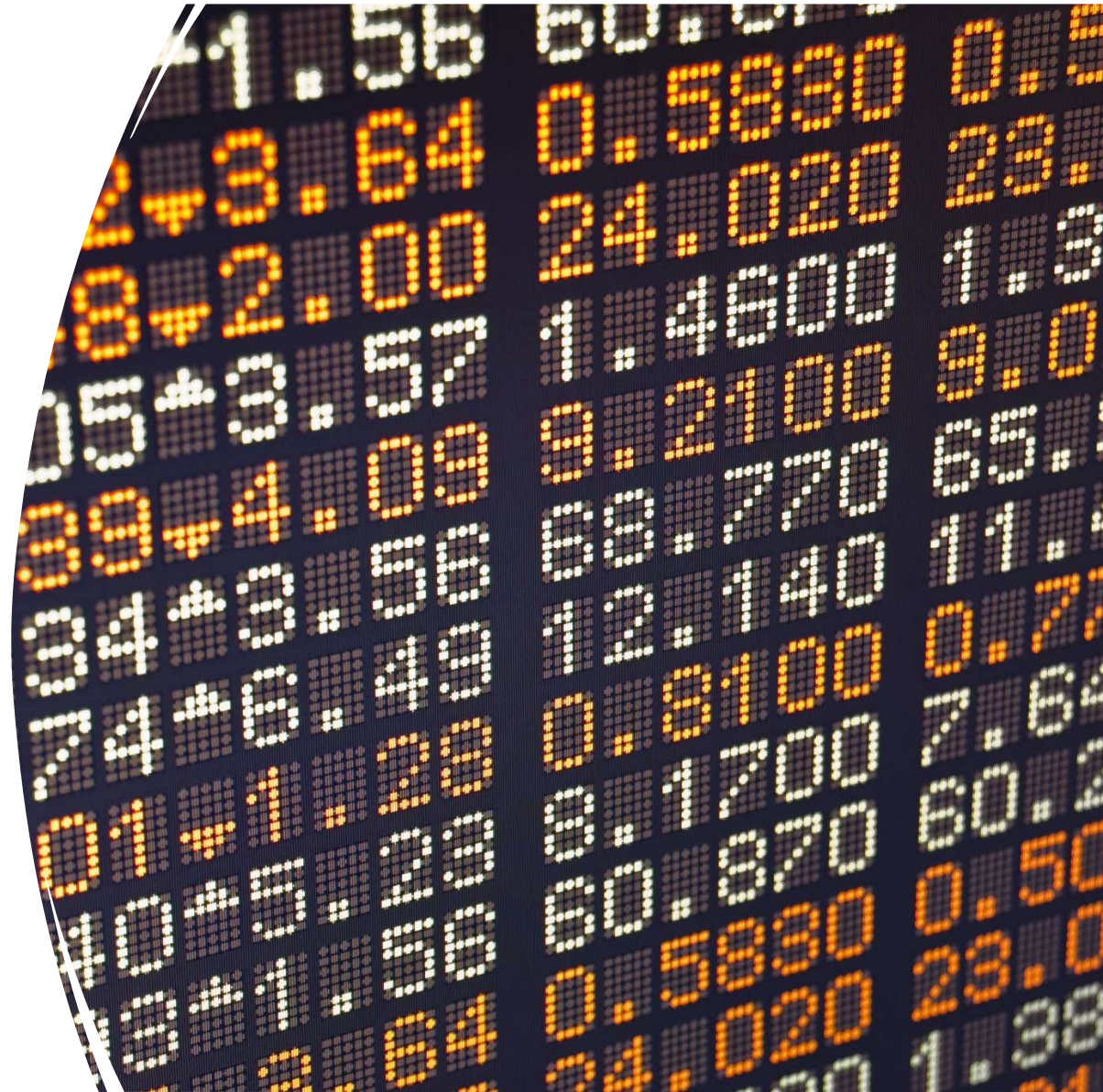


# Cost of Tour Package

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- \$3500-4000 CAD for 15+ participants\*
- \$4500 CAD for 10-14 participants\*
  
- Rates are based on double occupancy and may be subject to change due to fluctuations in currency

We are not trying to offer the cheapest tour, but a tour that is as worry-free and experiential as possible!



# Exchange Factor – Much Volatility but better than past years

- \$1 CAD = 110 JYE
- 10 year low: \$1 CAD = 75 JYE
- 10 year high: \$1 CAD = 119 JYE  
\*set Jul 2024
- 1 year low: \$1 CAD = 104 JYE  
\*set Sep 2024

5 year appreciation 34%

10 year appreciation 10%

CAD to JPY Chart +10.26% (10Y)

1 CAD = 110.223 JPY Oct 30, 2024, 23:42 UTC

Canadian Dollar to Japanese Yen



# What is Included

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- Tour price includes 8 breakfasts and 2 lunches.
- One piece luggage transfer between Tokyo and Kyoto hotel
- Admissions



# What is NOT Included

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- Airfare
- Insurance
- Drinks on meals
- Meals not mentioned in the included section





# What is NOT Included

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- All participants would have to book their own flights
- Have the option to arrive earlier and/or stay longer in Japan.
- NAJC could assist them with flight bookings and provide some support for those wishing to come earlier or depart later
- May 7<sup>th</sup> from Vancouver using WestJet with stop in Calgary averaging \$1,100



# Terms & Conditions

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- Payment is to be made by 60 days prior to group arrival date to Japan.
- Once you agree our term and condition for your trip to Japan, we will ask you for the deposit payment at \$300 per person at the time of booking.
- 35 days prior to group arrival date would be the deadline for the booking of additional person.

# Proposed Tour Start Dates

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- May 7<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>
- October 1<sup>st</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>
- Additional tours on those dates or tours during June/July/August/September may be offered if sufficient interest exists



# October Trip

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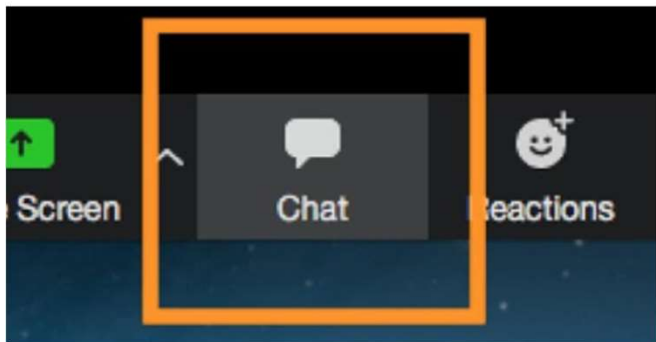
- 65<sup>th</sup> Convention of Nikkei and Japanese Abroad
- Information about that has not been released yet
- <https://jadesas.or.jp/en/the-convention-knk/>



# Questions for You

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What do you want to see and do in Japan?



# What makes the NAJC Tour Offering so Unique

- Pursue your interest in Japan with others of similar background and interest
- Professional tour companies with experienced guides and solid experience putting together the logistics of the tour
- For the May and October tours, two of the tour participants will be on hand to provide 24x7 support if necessary, in the Japanese and English language
- Multiple Zoom sessions will be organized to go over Japanese customs and traditions, mannerisms and etiquette, tips and tricks, and develop plans for “free time” if interest exists

# Additional Sessions for Those Going on Trip

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- NAJC will provide additional information for tour participants prior to going to Japan
  - Useful tips and tricks
  - Japanese customs and culture
  - Useful apps
  - Perhaps even a bit of an introduction to Japanese language (or useful phrases, etc.)



Questions?

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# What's Next

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- We will create and distribute a tour sign up form
- Ideally we are looking for 25-30 people to join a tour
- If you are looking for a custom tour together with family/friends, this can be arranged if there are at least 10 in the party
- Current offerings are for May and October but other tours can be arranged if there is sufficient interest
- Focus will be to finalize May tour participation by mid-February
- Questions can be directed to Julia at [projects@najc.ca](mailto:projects@najc.ca)