

IN SEARCH OF THE *SNOW MONKEYS*



Japan Tour in Winter 10 – 24 February 2020

Come with us on this fabulous tour in Japan's mesmerising winter

Ever-welcoming and always fascinating, Japan is a land of ancient cultures, austere traditions and ground-breaking technology. Old or new we discover the beauty of design in art, architecture, streamline transport to beautiful bento box meals. It is a tour of visual delights and experiences.

We will encounter the very best that this diverse country has to offer from the excitement of lively cities to tranquil winter scenes. Watch the snow monkeys enjoy an onsen, feast on culinary delights at local markets, view magical winter wonders and fascinating feudal history on this wonderful adventure.

- * The Land of Rising Sun is especially spectacular in winter. We are taking you to some of the best winter destinations in Japan on this trip plus a myriad of other highlights
- * Enjoy the winter experiences in Sapporo and Yokote at the Snow Festivals - admiring huge ice sculptures of Sapporo, to the unique 'snow candle lit igloos' and Boden festival of Yokote
- * View the majestic Red Crowned Cranes up close and personal
- * Watch the snow monkeys enjoy their hot onsen in the snow then stroll through the quaint village of Obuse, home of Katsushika Hokusai the famous wood block artist
- * Visit a kumiko wood factory leaving with a self-made keepsake treasure
- * Relax in onsens in your hotel after action packed days
- * Enjoy the treasures of Tokyo with surprises installed
- * Visit the country in a relatively quiet time to enjoy each destination without the crowds.



Red Crowned Cranes



Kumiko wood factory



Sandy Marker Tour Guide

Sandy's passion for Japan stems from her love of Japanese art forms such as ukiyo-e (wood block prints), garden designs, architecture, ceramics to Sogetsu Ikebana.

Sandy was the recipient of the Norman and Mary Sparnon Scholarship in 2016 involving a 3 months study trip to Japan in 2016.

In early 2007 Sandy held her first solo exhibition 'Shadows' - all the works were inspired by the shadows created around living plants and flowers and the elements of Sogetsu.

In January 2008, she was awarded first place in an International Exhibition held in Adelaide and titled 'Graduate Metal XI - Emerging Ideas in Jewellery and Objects'. Her winning work was a set of hand forged and shaped sterling silver spoons. The work was originally inspired by an Ikebana concept of Japanese Water Iris leaves blowing in the wind. Painting and fibre art are also part of her repertoire when time allows and Sandy particularly also enjoys Sumi-e painting (Japanese brush stroke art).

Sandy served as the NSW Director of The Australian Sogetsu Teachers' Association NSW Inc. for over two years during which she encouraged the Association to move into the era of new technology using the internet as a means of drawing awareness to Sogetsu Ikebana.

Tour inclusions:

- * 2 nights at Cross Hotel Sapporo
- * 2 nights at ANA Crown Plaza Kushiro
- * 1 night at Cross Hotel Sapporo
- * 2 nights at Yokote Plaza Hotel
- * 2 nights at Toyama Excel Hotel Tokyu
- * 2 nights at Nagano Tokyu REI Hotel
- * 3 nights at Hotel Monterey Akasaka
- * Luggage forwarding service (1 piece per person) from Sapporo to Toyama and from Toyama to Tokyo
- * Service of a certified English speaking guide on 10 - 13, 15, 18 - 21 Feb 20
- * Daily breakfasts, 1 lunch and 1 dinner
- * Entrance fees and transfers as per itinerary
- * Japan Rail Pass 14 days Ordinary Class

Tour cost:

LAND ONLY TOUR COST: \$7875 p/p twin share

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$895



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