



Concord, California

1974



Concord, California Kitakami, Japan - Sister Cities Since 1974



Kitakami, Iwate Japan

CONCORD KITAKAMI SISTER CITY TOUR

OCTOBER 18 ~ 30, 2019

Thousands of years ago, two mythological gods stood on a bridge to heaven – Amanohashidate – in a warm embrace. Here they created the islands of Japan designing a scenic wonderland of infinite coastlines, wooded and mountainous terrains, and deep, lush valleys. Here they patterned a natural beauty that moves sensitively by season, stretching the most primitive senses. From this blissful state evolved Japan, a land with a calm and gentle spirit. Come journey with us to a most intriguing and beautiful land!

Kyoto – (3 Nights) Hotel Okura

- Kinkakuji (Golden Pavilion), Ryoanji Temple
- Nijo Castle, Shin Kyogoku and Nishiki Market
- Kibune Shrine, Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine

Takayama – (1 Night) Hotel Associa Resort

- Yatai Kaikan & Sanmachi-suji Street
- Asaichi Morning Market

Shirakawago – Day Trip

- Ogimachi Gassho Village & Wada's House
- Gassho Zukkuri (Praying Hands) House

Kanazawa – (1 Night) Kanazawa Tokyu Hotel

- Shirakawago's Ogi-machi
- Kenrokuen Garden, Seison-kaku & Nagamachi

Kitakami – (1 Night) Kitakami City Plaza Hotel (3 Nights Homestays)

Tokyo – (2 Nights) Shibuya Excel Hotel Tokyo

- Meiji Shrine, Sky Tree, Odaiba Giant Ferris Wheel
- Asakusa Sensoji Temple & Nakamise Arcade

Guide: Tour Conducted in English

Onsen Bath: Takayama

Shinkansen – Bullet Train Rides

Meals: Breakfast Daily & 2 Lunch & 1 Banquet Dinner

Lunch in Kyoto is traditional Kaiseki (small dishes)

Lunch in Tokyo will be Italian

Total Land Package \$ 4,600.00

Per Person, Based on Double Occupancy
Tax Included

Single Supplement Cost \$ 800.00

Deposit Payment: \$300.00 Per Person

Contact Polaris Tours 1-800-858-2882
for information regarding airfares

Tour Itinerary

Oct. 18: Bay Area/Kyoto

Board your flight to Japan. Depart San Francisco on your flight to Osaka Kansai – the closest airport to Kyoto. We lose one day as we cross the Int'l Dateline.

Oct. 19: Arrive Osaka/Kyoto

Arrive in Osaka Kansai Airport and be met by your guide. A private Motorcoach will transport you to your hotel in Kyoto - journey time will be 2 hours. You will arrive to your hotel in the late evening.

Accommodation: (3 Nights) Hotel Okura

Oct. 20: Kyoto (B,L)

Full day tour of Kyoto by private Motorcoach to visit Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion), Ryoanji Temple famous for its Zen rock gardens, followed by a special lunch in the mountains of Kibune. After lunch visit Kibune Shrine and finally Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine with its many red tori gates.

Oct. 21: Kyoto (B)

Full day tour of Kyoto by private Motorcoach to visit the Heian Shrine, Nijo Castle with its famous "nightingale floors", the Shin Kyogoku covered shopping arcade, the Nishiki Market and the Gion Geisha District.



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Oct. 22: Kyoto/Takayama (B,D)

This morning we depart for Takayama, a calm and charming city nicknamed "little Kyoto" by private motorcoach. As with Kyoto, scenic mountains surround the city, and the streets are built in cross bar pattern. Takayama is famous for "Shunkei-nuri" (lacquer ware) and other woodcraft. A walk down the streets is a stroll down memory lane – reminiscent of 18th century Japan. Our Takayama sightseeing tour today includes a visit to Yatai Kaikan, the storehouse for the floats used in the annual festival parade; and Sanmachi-suji, a street of old homes and shops. Tonight, we enjoy at a Japanese style dinner.

Accommodation: (1 Night) Hotel Associa Resort

Oct. 23: Takayama/Shirakawago/Kanazawa (B)

Early this morning, visit the Morning Market, Asaichi, where farmers from the neighboring areas bring their fresh produce, tsukemono, local souvenirs, etc., to sell to local residents and tourists. Then we drive on to enjoy a special visit to the UNESCO Site, Shirakawago (Ogimachi Gassho Village, a lovely park with reconstructed farm houses in the Gassho Zukuri style). We continue our drive to Kanazawa, which was the home of the wealthy Maeda Family (Edo Period), who built their castle and gardens here, and ruled with a flair for grandeur. Kanazawa is a labyrinth of narrow, winding streets and blind alleys; rows of ancient samurai homes surrounded by earthen walls; and workshops that carry on traditional arts and crafts. Since ancient times, this city has been known for its Kaga-Yuzen (colorfully dyed silks), Kutani pottery and lacquer ware. It is also the headquarters for various schools of Noh, tea ceremony and flower arrangement.

For your stay in Kanazawa please use a small shoulder bag or backpack as we will send your main luggage by courier from Takayama to Kitakami this morning.

Accommodation: (1 Night) Kanazawa Tokyu Hotel

Oct. 24: Kanazawa/Kitakami (B)

Our morning tour of Kanazawa includes a visit to Kenrokuen Garden, designated one of the three most beautiful gardens in all Japan; Seison-kaku Villa; and the Nagamachi district of ancient samurai homes (buke-yashiki). We next head for your sister city home stay of Kitakami by Shinkansen Bullet Trains. By late this afternoon you will be meeting with your homestay families and saying sayonara to your guide.

Oct. 24: Kitakami

Accommodation: (1 Night) Kitakami City Plaza Hotel Official 45th Anniversary Sister City Celebration

Oct. 25, 26, 27: Kitakami (Meals Host Family)

(3 Nights) Homestays - Host Families
Enjoy your stay with your host families, various Sister City activities and tours of Kitakami.

Oct. 28: Kitakami/Tokyo (Meals Host Family)

Today a fond farewell to your host families and sister city of Kitakami and travel by Shinkansen Bullet Train to Tokyo. Your guide will meet you at Tokyo Station and transfer you to your hotel by private Motorcoach.

Please use a small shoulder bag or backpack as we will send your main luggage by courier from Kitakami to Tokyo this morning and your luggage will arrive the next day.

Accommodation: (2 Night) Shibuya Excel Hotel Tokyu

Oct. 29: Tokyo (B,L)

Today your full day sightseeing by private Motorcoach will include a visit to Meiji Jingu Shrine and then out to Odaiba area to ride the Giant famous ferries wheel for excellent views of Tokyo Bay and the Rainbow Bridge. Cross the Rainbow Bride to arrive at Biancane for a special farewell lunch. In the afternoon visit Asakusa Sensoji Temple and its Nakamise Shopping Arcade selling many traditional souvenirs and sweets. Then visit one of Tokyo's newest attractions Sky Tree and go up to its observation deck.

Oct. 30: Tokyo/Bay Area (B)

This morning you will have free time to explore Shibuya district one last time before boarding your private Motorcoach to the airport. We must say "Sayonara" to lovely Japan and our new friends, and fly back to USA.



GENERAL CONDITIONS & INFORMATION

The Tour Cost Include:

AIR TRANSPORTATION: PLEASE SEE FRONT PAGE TO CHECK IF THIS TOUR INCLUDES THE AIRFARE IF NOT WE WILL OFFER YOU AIR PRICE SEPARATELY. IF YOU CHOOSE TO ISSUE YOUR OWN TICKET AND IN THE CASE THE TOUR IS CANCELLED POLARIS TOURS IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PENALTY FEE INCURRED BY THE AIRLINES.

BAGGAGE: PORTERAGE OF 1 SUITCASE PER PERSON. THE TOUR OPERATOR IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSS OR DAMAGE TO YOUR BAGGAGE. AIRLINES LIABILITY IS LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT SET FORTH ON THE AIRLINE TICKET. BAGGAGE INSURANCE IS RECOMMENDED AND AVAILABLE THROUGH POLARIS TOURS. AIRLINES MAY IMPOSE BAGGAGE FEES, WHICH ARE TO BE PAID AT CHECK-IN.

HOTELS: ACCOMMODATIONS WITH PRIVATE BATH, BASED ON 2 PERSONS SHARING A ROOM, AT HOTELS SPECIFIED OR SIMILAR.

MEALS: AS SPECIFIED IN ITINERARY: B = BREAKFAST, L = LUNCH, D = DINNER.

SIGHTSEEING: SIGHTSEEING ACTIVITIES SPECIFIED IN THE ITINERARY, INCLUDES ADMISSION FEES.

GUIDES: SERVICES OF AN ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE AND THE ADDED SERVICES OF AN EXPERIENCED TOUR MANAGER.

TIPS & TAXES: HOTEL SERVICE CHARGES TAXES AND TIPS TO WAITERS AND BAGGAGE PORTERS FOR STANDARD SERVICES.

EXCLUSIONS: ANY PERSONAL EXPENSES, E.G. TELEPHONE CALLS, LAUNDRY, CLEANING, BEVERAGES, TIPS TO GUIDES, DRIVERS AND FOREIGN AIRPORT TAXES, ETC., ARE NOT INCLUDED.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

RESERVATION & DEPOSITS: A DEPOSIT OF \$300.00 PER PERSON IS REQUIRED WITH APPLICATION FORM. THIS DEPOSIT FORMS PART OF YOUR FINAL PAYMENT DUE ON 31 AUGUST 2019. CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO POLARIS TOURS.

CONDITION OF SALE: TOURS ARE OFFERED AS A COMPLETE PACKAGE AND MUST BE PURCHASED IN THEIR ENTIRETY. CREDIT IS NOT GIVEN FOR ANY MEALS, ACTIVITIES, ETC. NOT TAKEN.

RESPONSIBILITIES: POLARIS TOURS GIVES NOTICE THAT ALL TICKETS AND COUPONS ISSUED BY THEM AND ALL ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRANSPORT AT OR HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS ARE MADE BY THEM AS AGENTS UPON THE CONDITION THAT THEY ARE NOT LIABLE FOR ANY INJURY, DAMAGE, LOSS, ACCIDENT, DELAY OR IRREGULARITY WHICH MAY BE OCCASIONED BY REASON OR DEFECT IN ANY VEHICLE OR THROUGH THE ACT OF DEFAULT OF ANY COMPANY OR PERSON ENGAGED IN CONVEYING THE PASSENGER OR IN CARRYING OUT THE ARRANGEMENTS OF THE TOUR BY HOTEL PROPRIETOR OR SERVANT. POLARIS AND/OR ASSOCIATED COMPANIES ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES OR ADDITIONAL EXPENSES DUE TO DELAYS OR CHANGES IN FLIGHT, TRAIN OR OTHER SERVICES, SICKNESS, WEATHER, STRIKES, WAR, ACTS OF TERRORISM, QUARANTINE, AND OTHER CAUSES. ALL TOUR ITINERARIES AND FARES MAY BE AFFECTED BY ALTERATIONS IN AIR OR RAILROAD SERVICES, OR BY OTHER CAUSES. THE RIGHT IS RESERVED TO WITHDRAW THIS TOUR, SUBSTITUTE HOTELS, AND TO MAKE SUCH ALTERATIONS IN THE ITINERARIES AS MAY BE FOUND DESIRABLE FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE PARTIES AND THE PROPER CARRYING OUT OF THE TOUR. THE RIGHT IS ALSO RESERVED TO DECLINE TO ACCEPT OR TO RETAIN ANY PERSON AS A MEMBER OF THE TOUR AT ANY TIME. IN SUCH CASE, FULL REFUND OR ALL PAYMENTS WILL CONSTITUTE FULL SETTLEMENT WITH THE PASSENGER. ALL FARES SHOWN ARE BASED ON THE PRESENT VALUE OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES IN RELATION TO THE US DOLLAR AND IN CURRENT TARIFFS, AND ARE SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENT UNTIL DAY OF DEPARTURE. THE AIRLINES CONCERNED ARE NOT HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ACT, OMISSION DURING THE TIME PASSENGERS ARE NOT ON BOARD THEIR PLANES OR CONVEYANCE. THE PASSENGER CONTRACT IN USE BY THE AIRLINES CONCERNED, WHEN ISSUED, SHALL CONSTITUTE THE SOLE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE AIRLINE AND PURCHASER OF THIS TOUR. ANY AND/OR ALL TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES HEREIN MENTIONED SHALL HAVE OR INCUR NO RESPONSIBILITY OR LIABILITY TO ANY TRAVELER ASIDE FROM THEIR LIABILITY AS COMMON CARRIERS

CANCELLATIONS:

60 BUSINESS DAYS OR MORE PRIOR TO THE DEPARTURE DAY.....NO CHARGE
59 ~ 45 BUSINESS DAY PRIOR TO THE DEPARTURE DAY.....\$300.00
44 ~ 25 BUSINESS DAY PRIOR TO THE DEPARTURE DAY.....10% OF THE TOUR FARE
24 ~ 15 BUSINESS DAY PRIOR TO THE DEPARTURE DAY.....30% OF THE TOUR FARE
14 ~ 5 BUSINESS DAY PRIOR TO THE DEPARTURE DAY.....50% OF THE TOUR FARE
4 ~ 0 BUSINESS DAY PRIOR TO, OR ON THE DEPARTURE DAY/NO SHOW.....100% OF THE TOUR FARE
ADDITIONAL AIRLINE PENALTIES MAY BE ADDED. PENALTIES MAY BE WAIVED IF CANCELLATION IS RESULT TO ILLNESS.

CST: 2095262-40

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TOUR APPLICATION FORM

CONCORD KITAKAMI SISTER CITY TOUR 2019

Deposit Payment: \$300.00 Per Person (Final Payment Due: 31 August 2019)

Please make check payable to Polaris Tours. Credit cards are not accepted.

Please send application form, deposit, and a copy of your passport to:

Polaris Tours
34609 Arroyo Drive
Union City, CA 94587

Do you wish to upgrade to : Premium Economy or Business Class (if yes, please circle your choice)

Are you traveling as: SINGLE or TWIN or TRIPLE or 4+ PERSONS (Please Circle)

Please list any food allergy or vegetarian type etc: _____

Name: Mr/Mrs/Ms _____ (Print name as it appears on Passport)

Name: Mr/Mrs/Ms _____ (Print name as it appears on Passport)

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Mobile Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Airlines Mileage Numbers: _____

Airlines Mileage Numbers: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Travel Insurance forms will be sent to you with your receipt. If you wish to purchase please contact us.

Pre-Tour Extension: Depart Date: _____, Arrangements Needed: _____

Post-Tour Extension: Return Date: _____, Arrangements Needed: _____

Emergency Contact Information:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Telephone: _____

