

2017 JASSC Visit to Tohoku

Promoting Friendship and Goodwill among the People of Tohoku and California
April 14-16, 2017

Optional: America-Japan Society (Tokyo) Centennial Ceremony and Reception on April 13, 2017. \$220 JASSC Members, \$250 Non-Members & Guests
(Please contact JASSC office for more information at 310-965-9050, ext. 104)

Tour includes –

1. 2-night accommodations in Sendai
2. Breakfast daily, Dinner on April 15 and Lunch on April 16
3. Meetings and discussions with tsunami survivors
4. Visit to Community Center supported by 2011 Japan Relief Fund on the Oshika Peninsula, Miyagi prefecture
5. Visit Hamaguri-hama, once a tiny fishing village now thriving on environmental tourism
6. Expert, bilingual guides from JASSC partnering disaster recovery organizations (ArchiAid and the Taylor Anderson Memorial Fund)
7. Motor coach for day-long visit in Miyagi-prefecture
8. Tour of NIKKA Whisky's historic Miyagikyo Distillery
9. All travel on East Japan Railway Company (JR East) on shinkansen (“bullet train”) and local trains
10. Social networking reception hosted by National Association of America-Japan Societies in Tokyo (April 14)

Additional Offers

United Airlines Offer — Those who purchase economy class airfare to attend the AJS Centennial Celebration and/or the JASSC Tour to Tohoku will be assigned to Premium Economy. Airfare must be purchased through Kintetsu International.

Imperial Hotel Tokyo Offer — The Imperial Hotel has a limited number of rooms available for JASSC Members to enjoy a special rate of ¥27,000/night per room on the nights of April 11 – April 13 and one additional night on April 16 (The normal rate is ¥42,000). 10% service charge, 8.8% tax and hotel tax of 200 yen per person per night will be added to this price. JASSC will confirm your reservation with the Imperial and you will pay for your room at check out.

Support for the JASSC Trip to Tohoku generously provided by



Itinerary

Thursday, April 13 – AJS Centennial Ceremony & Reception (Optional)



The America-Japan Society, Inc. will celebrate its 100th Anniversary at the Imperial Hotel Tokyo. More than 500 VIPs are expected for this historic occasion.

5:00 p.m. Registration, 6:15 p.m. Ceremony, 7:00 p.m. Reception

\$220 JASSC Members, \$250 Non-Members & Guests

Payment for the AJS Centennial Ceremony & Reception is due by **March 14, 2017**.

Please contact JASSC office for more information at 310-965-9050, ext. 104

Friday, April 14 – NAAJS / NAJAS Networking Reception + Tokyo to Sendai

Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki, President of the America-Japan Society (Tokyo) and the National Association of America-Japan Societies will host a Social & Networking Reception at the America-Japan Society office at 5:00 p.m. Attending will be representative members of the thirty America-Japan Societies in Japan of the thirty-six Japan America Societies in the U.S.



After the Networking Reception, we will meet in the lobby of the Imperial Hotel Tokyo and depart for Sendai. We will take East Japan Railway Company (JR East) *shinkansen* “bullet train”, arriving at a hotel in Sendai at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 15 – Oshika Peninsula and Ishinomaki

After breakfast, we will take a JR East local train to Ishinomaki Station. There we will board our motor coach and head to the Oshika Peninsula, where several new community centers were supported by the JASSC 2011 Japan Relief Fund through donations to ArchiAid / *Relief and Recovery by Architects for Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami*.

Ms. Momoyo Kaijima, a founding member of ArchiAid, will join us as our expert guide. ArchiAid is an international network of architects and universities that is working to help with the recovery of Tohoku. Ms. Kaijima was instrumental in the development of the “**Core House**,” a permanent, sound, and comfortable living



structure for those who lost their homes in the tsunami. The award-winning Core House was supported by a \$50,000 donation from the JASSC 2011 Japan Relief Fund.

Oshika Peninsula (continued)



With Ms. Kaijima as our guide, we will then visit Hamaguri-hama fishing village, once home to nine families of which only two remain. We will meet with Takakazu

Kameyama, a young man who lost his wife and child to the tsunami but decided to move back to his home village. Mr. Kameyama was unwilling to abandon the village that had been his familial home for generations. In order to sustain the village in the aftermath of the tsunami, he modified his grandparents' old house into a café, later opening a Japanese-style inn and a campground. His vision and plans are both an inspiration and a template for other struggling, small fishing villages.



After coffee at Hamaguri-hama, we will board the motor coach to visit recovery projects supported by the Taylor Anderson Memorial Fund in Ishinomaki city.

Ishinomaki



We will visit a Taylor Reading Corner or Taylor Bunko, at Ishinomaki Senshu University. JASSC made \$100,000 in donations to support the Taylor Anderson Memorial Fund. Taylor Anderson was an English Teacher in Ishinomaki. She was the first confirmed American casualty of the tsunami. The main purposes of the Taylor Fund are to help students, schools and families in the Ishinomaki area recover from the earthquake and tsunami as

Taylor's family expects Taylor would have wanted, and to pursue Taylor's dream of being a bridge between the U.S. and Japan.

Taylor loved reading, so one of the projects of the Taylor Fund is to provide Taylor Reading Corners with English and Japanese books in every school in Ishinomaki.

The custom shelving for the books are built by master wood craftsman, Shinichi Endo, who tragically lost his three children to the tsunami. Two of his children were students of Taylor Anderson. Shinichi believes his children would be proud of the Taylor Reading Corners, and building the shelving has given him a reason to continue living.



open up and deal with feelings in a smoother way.

We will be joined by Shinichi Endo and his wife, Ryoko. In addition to making the shelving for the

Taylor Reading Corners, Shinichi has built two "Rainbow Bridges" which are large play structures for children. The structures serve both as a place for children to play and also as a memorial to Ryoko and Shinichi's three children.



We will have an early, traditional Japanese dinner at Kappo Takikawa restaurant with friends from the Taylor Fund.



Sunday, April 16 – Sendai and Fukushima



NIKKA WHISKY

After breakfast at the hotel, we will take a local train to visit Nikka Whisky’s historic Miyagikyo Distillery. In 1918, Mr. Masataka Taketsuru embarked alone on a long voyage to Scotland, where he became the first Japanese to attend Glasgow University and later learned the secrets of whisky-making. He returned to Japan and founded Nikka Whisky. Today Mr. Taketsuru is revered as the “Founder of Japanese Whisky.”

We will enjoy a guided tour of the Miyagikyo Distillery, which is surrounded by mountains and two rivers. We are sure you will enjoy this opportunity to see how Nikka Whisky is created in this beautiful, natural setting.



Fukushima Aikuen

After the Miyagikyo Distillery tour, we will return to Sendai Station and board a bullet train bound for Fukushima City, and visit Fukushima Aikuen (FA) children’s home (orphanage).

FA has been supported by the 2011 Japan Relief Fund for the past seven years. Additionally, through funding from the TOMODACHI Initiative and generous donations from individuals, each summer since 2013, six to eight children from FA visit Los Angeles for a life-changing home-stay experience known as the JASSC’s “Fukushima Youth Cultural Exchange Program.” These children are “pioneers” as the first residents of the home to travel overseas in FA’s 122-year history.



We will enjoy meeting the home’s children and staff, and tour the home’s “campus” to see the children’s living areas and gain an understanding of their challenges.

After visiting Fukushima Aikuen, we will return to Tokyo by bullet train, arriving at Tokyo Station at approximately 6:30 p.m.

TOHOKU LAND ONLY COST (minimum of 10 people)

\$675.00 per person, based on double room occupancy (two people sharing twin-bedded room). Single room supplement \$100.00.

Payment for the JASSC Trip to Tohoku is due **March 31, 2017**.

Optional AJS Centennial Celebration & Reception

5:00 p.m., Thursday, April 13, 2017 at the Imperial Hotel Tokyo.

\$220 JASSC Members, \$250 Non-Members & Guests.

Payment for the optional AJS Centennial Ceremony & Reception is due **March 14, 2017**.

For reservations or more information, please visit www.jas-socal.org or contact call Kay Amano at (310) 965-9050 x104 or amano@jas-socal.org.

AIRFARE

Airfare will be provided separately based on the lowest economy class fare at the time of booking. **KIE / Kintetsu International** will be pleased to assist you with your flight reservations. **Those purchasing United Airlines economy class tickets will be assigned to Premium Economy.**

KIE / KINTETSU INTERNATIONAL

Contact: Ms. Megumi Onishi

879 West 190th Street, Suite 720

Gardena, CA 90248

main: 310-525-1800 direct: 310-879-6817 fax: 310-525-1801

email: Megumi.Onishi@kintetsu.com

Imperial Hotel Tokyo Offer — The Imperial Hotel has a limited number of rooms available for JASSC Members to enjoy a special rate of **¥27,000/night per room on the nights of April 11 – April 13, and one additional night on April 16 (The normal rate is ¥42,000)**. 10% service charge, 8.8% tax and hotel tax of 200 yen per person per night will be added to this price. Rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please contact Kay Amano at JASSC [amano@jas-socal.org or (310) 965-9050, x104] to request your stay at the Imperial Hotel Tokyo. Kay will confirm your reservation with the Imperial Hotel's New York Sales Office and you will receive a confirmation sent by email. Payment for your stay at the Imperial Hotel Tokyo is due when you check out of the hotel.

PLEASE NOTE

Itinerary is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

2017 JASSC Trip to Tohoku

Promoting Friendship and Goodwill among the People of Tohoku and California

April 14 – 16, 2017

Reservation Form

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. _____

Preferred Mailing Address

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Mobile _____ Email _____

Please advise if there are any special dietary, medical or physical problems of which we should be aware.

Contact information in case of emergency:

Name _____

Relationship _____ Phone (_____) _____

Name _____

Relationship _____ Phone (_____) _____

PLEASE SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION AND TOUR FEE OF \$675.00 PER PERSON

JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Attention: JASSC Trip to Tohoku

1411 West 190th Street, Suite 380

Gardena, CA 90248-4361

Phone (310) 965-9050, ext. 104

Email amano@jas-socal.org

Final payment is due on March 31, 2017

2017 JASSC Trip to Tohoku

Promoting Friendship and Goodwill among the People of Tohoku and California
April 14 – 16, 2017

Terms and Conditions

AIR FARE

United Airlines Offer — Those who purchase economy class airfare to attend the AJS Centennial Celebration and/or the JASSC Tour to Tohoku will be assigned to Premium Economy. Airfare must be purchased through KIE / Kintetsu International.

HOTELS

Imperial Hotel Tokyo Offer — The Imperial Hotel has a limited number of rooms available for JASSC Members to enjoy a special rate of ¥27,000/night per room on the nights of April 11 – April 13, and one additional night on April 16 (The normal rate is ¥42,000). 10% service charge, 8.8% tax and hotel tax of 200 yen per person per night will be added to this price. JASSC will confirm your reservation with the Imperial and you will pay for your room at check out.

Non-smoking rooms are always requested, but cannot be guaranteed. The hotel was carefully selected for quality, comfort and location. Advise your tour escort or guide immediately should you have any problems with your room.

MEALS DURING JASSC TOUR TO TOHOKU

Breakfast daily at the hotel in Sendai and dinner on April 15 in Ishinomaki, and lunch on April 16 at Fukushima Aikuen children's home. All other meals are on a pay-as-you-go basis.

SIGHTSEEING & TRANSFERS

By chartered coach micro-bus, van or taxi with handling of baggage not exceeding one normal sized suitcase per person.

BAGGAGE

You are requested to limit yourself to one check-in suitcase (not to exceed 62 linear inches in dimension) per person during the tour. In addition, one carry-on bag (not exceeding 45 linear inches) of a size to fit under the airplane seat may be taken. Airline baggage information will be provided separately.

GUIDE Bilingual, expert guides from JASSC partnering disaster recovery organizations will join us at each major stop (Sendai, Oshika Peninsula, Ishinomaki and Fukushima).

Terms and Conditions (continued)

TAXES

Taxes for hotel accommodations in Sendai, breakfasts, as well as dinner on April 15 and lunch on April 16 are included. Charges for planning and operation are also included. All rates are based upon tariffs and exchange rates in effect as of January 2017, and are subject to change without notice.

CANCELLATION

After confirmation, the following cancellation penalties will apply: Until March 31, 2017, 25% of the tour cost will be collected; after March 31, 2017, no refund will be made. Travel protection is highly recommended. Please call KIE / Kintetsu International for a travel insurance brochure.

TOUR FARE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Transportation of heavy baggage and baggage in excess of the above limit; conveyances used for individual purposes; room service charges; airport taxes and or/passenger facilities fees at airports; wine, mineral water, tea and coffee outside table d'hote menu; laundry; service obtaining passports, visas or other documents required for entry; other items of a purely personal nature.

TERMS OF LIABILITY

Japan America Society of Southern California and KIE / Kintetsu International and/or travel agents act only as agents for the owners or contractors providing means of transportation or other services. All terms and conditions under which such means of transportation or other services are offered or provided and the issuance and acceptance of such tickets and coupons shall be deemed consent to further conditions that we shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way in connection with such means of transportation or other person or property howsoever caused or arising. We also reserve the right to change the routings or hotels of the tour outlined should conditions warrant. Should we deem it advisable for any reason to withdraw or cancel the tour, we shall be absolved of all liability upon return to tour members of all monies paid. Right is reserved to decline or accept or retain any persons as a member at any time. The airlines or other carriers concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event when passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The passage contract in use by the airlines or other carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the passenger. Rate and/or schedules are subject to change without notice.