

**BATH SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN, FASHION, TEXTILES AND THREE
DIMENSIONAL DESIGN
TOUR OF JAPAN 2017 18TH – 27TH APRIL 2017**

Please offer your best quotes per person for the full itinerary including coach, flights and hotels for the following itinerary.

Date	Details			Notes
Tue 18 th April	Bath, Avon Street Coach Park	London Heathrow	Coach	
Tue 18 th April	London Heathrow	Haneda or Narita International	Flight	Direct Flights only departure time request between 5pm and 8pm
Wed 19 th April (check out Sun 23 rd April)	Arrival in Tokyo	SHINAGAWA PRINCE HOTEL 10 – 30 TAKANAWA 4 – CHOME MINATO-KU TOKYO JAPAN	Hotel	Specific Hotel request
Sun 23 rd April	Tokyo	Kyoto	Bullet Train	No quote needed. Travel organised by the Trip Leader on Bullet Train to Kyoto
Sun 23 rd April (check out Thu 27 ^h April)	Arrival in Kyoto	NEW MIYAKO HOTEL 17 NISHIKUJO – INMACHI MINAMI - KU KYOTO JAPAN	Hotel	Specific Hotel request
Thu 27 th April	Itami (internal Flight)	Haneda or Narita International	Flight	
Thu 27 th April	Haneda or Narita International	London Heathrow	Flight	
Thu 27 th April	London Heathrow	Bath, Avon Street Coach Park	Coach	

MORE INFORMATION

Numbers Travelling

20, 30 and 40 Students with additional free Academic staff 2, 3 and 4 accordingly.

Dates of Travel

Tuesday 18th April 2017 - Thursday 27th April 2017

(The dates that have been chosen to fit in with the academic calendar and are during the 2017 Easter Holidays however we are flexible by 1 to 3 days either side of the dates if flights are much cheaper.)

Travelling out Tuesday 18th April 2017 Staying 4 nights in Tokyo then they will travel to Kyoto on the Bullet Train (this will be booked locally before day of journey to allow for maximum flexibility and makes the most of seat availability.)

Staying 4 nights in Kyoto from the 23rd and returning to UK Thursday 27th April

Hotels

Please look for availability in these hotels, as they have been previously used by staff and have specifically been chosen for location, price, quality and safety.

Check in 19th and check out 23rd April at :

SHINAGAWA PRINCE HOTEL
10 – 30 TAKANAWA 4 – CHOME
MINATO-KU
TOKYO
JAPAN

Check in 23rd April Check out 27th April :

NEW MIYAKO HOTEL
17 NISHIKUJO – INMACHI
MINAMI - KU
KYOTO
JAPAN

Transport

Flights

OUTBOUND the ideal departure times are between 1700hrs and 2000hrs

LONDON HEATHROW – HANEDA/NARITA INTERNATIONAL

RETURN

ITAMI - HANEDA/NARITA INTERNATIONAL – LONDON HEATHROW

Airport transfers (coach) will be needed from Bath to Heathrow and from Haneda/Narita to the hotel and return.

Bullet Train from Tokyo to Kyoto on 23rd April 16

But no other transport is required to be included in this quote.

RATIONALE FOR JAPAN TRIP SPECIFICATIONS

The following specification outlines are based on both the models of four previous very successful study trips to Japan (in 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012), and extensive personal experience by the group leader of study/work/leisure travel in Japan over an 20 year period.

Group size

At this time, exact numbers cannot be confirmed, as these will not be known until deposits are secured from students at the beginning of the new term in October 2016.

However, the trip project and its unique experience for participating students is very important for the department, while also representing a fairly unique opportunity among UK universities. Therefore promotion is very high, and numbers of 30-40 paying students are expected, with the most favourable group/free staff places ratio possible a desirable factor.

Dates/period of travel requested

This trip is seen as a very important part of the students' broader education, and a very rich itinerary of activities will be scheduled. This draws on the specialist personal network of the group leader, and the period indicated maximises the number of opportunities available for the students.

The period also represents the least impact on departmental course teaching and assessment points in the academic year.

Although there may be room for some degree of flexibility, the schedule of travel requested represents the most productive itinerary for the following reasons:

- A UK Departure on Tuesday facilitates arrival in Japan on the Wednesday (due to time difference), thus allowing for Thursday and Friday in the capital. This maximises access to commercial studios, industrial mills, academic institutions etc. (which are closed on weekends).
- Similarly a 'free' Saturday provides access to almost all generic tourist attractions, museums, retail centres etc.
- Overland travel as a complete party on the Sunday (booked locally before day of journey to allow for maximum flexibility), makes the most of seat availability on the intercity bullet train, for arrival and settling in Kyoto, before local touring starts on Monday. Sunday night arrival also provides access to some very special cultural events, which finish on that weekend.
- Three full days in Kyoto facilitate access to the greatest range of opportunities, including industry/studios, when museums are closed on Mondays, and a full-day trip (organised locally with human network) on the Wednesday, which is easiest for bookings, availability etc.

Flights and airports

There are few flight options outside using London Heathrow as the departure airport. Travel from Bath to London Heathrow is also very simple with direct access along the M4 corridor. Similarly, due to itinerary starting in Tokyo, the arrival in Japan needs to be either Haneda (more central) or Narita International airport.

Return flights to the UK need to be from an airport in the region of Kyoto, as not only is this where the itinerary completes, but also return travel to Tokyo for Haneda or Narita Airport is both hugely timely and expensive.

A direct flight from Kansai international airport is the simplest option. However, there are very few Kansai-Heathrow flights, and the distance from Kyoto city centre to Kansai airport is somewhat considerable. As such, the return leg is best made via a domestic flight from the local airport at Itami (1hr from Kyoto city centre), and subsequent international transfer at Tokyo.

Due to the intensity of the 'tour' element of the trip, main outbound and return travel needs to be kept to an absolute minimum. It is essential therefore, that UK-Japan travel is completed by **direct** flights.

Carriers - While there is flexibility with the service carrier, the ideal departure times are between 1700hrs and 2000hrs, as this provides good comfortable outbound departure scheduling and very appropriate local arrival in Japan, with transfer and check-in at the local hotel in Tokyo at a reasonable hour, providing the best opportunity for recovery from inevitable jet-lag of the long-haul journey. This factor is extremely important, as the student cohort needs to be able to make the most of an intense schedule from first thing on the day after arrival.

Return flights to the UK also need to allow for maximum use of days on the ground and a morning departure on the last day is therefore the best option. This also gets the group back to the UK mid-afternoon, for transfer and arrival back early evening.

Accommodation

Hotels need to be as affordable, but comfortable as possible. Location is also important as key travel at outbound arrival, overland travel and return departure all need to be as streamlined as possible. Based on experience, the requested hotels, offer the very best convenience and appropriateness to itinerary, as well as excellent standards.

Rooms: It is important that a group of twin rooms (not double) can be booked for students, while separate rooms made available for each member of staff. It is also essential that a full compliment of non-smoking rooms is booked, as Japanese hotels have varying attitudes to smoking and accommodation, such that Non-smoking is the only guaranteed appropriate option.