

# Explore the World

---

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM 2017

## **ANCIENT TRADITIONS OF THE INLAND SEA OF JAPAN\***

THOMAS P. GOHAGAN & COMPANY

### **Featuring Kyoto**

**Exclusively Chartered Five-Star Small Ship M.S. L'AUSTRAL**

*April 30 to May 10, 2017*

*From approximately \$6040 USD plus air*

Experience the timeless splendor of Japan and South Korea on this unique, custom-designed itinerary, featuring two nights in Kyoto and a seven-night cruise across the full length of the serene Inland Sea of Japan from Himeji to historic ports of Japan and Ulsan, South Korea. On board the exclusively chartered, Five-Star small ship M.S. L'AUSTRAL, featuring only 110 ocean-view Suites and Staterooms, enjoy this 280-mile stretch of scenic, tranquil ocean with port calls at captivating points of interest, including five UNESCO World Heritage sites. In the enchanting city of Kyoto, visit opulent temples and the Nijō Castle, an imperial gem. Walk through the imposing Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima, tour the Itsukushima Shrine in Miyajima with its awe-inspiring Torii Gate and visit the impressive Himeji Castle, the oldest surviving feudal structure from medieval Japan. In Gyeongju, South Korea, see the glorious Buddhist Bulguksa Temple and the ancient Silla Kingdom royal burial mounds. the Five-Star KYOTO HOTEL OKURA. Tokyo/Kyoto Pre-Program and Kanazawa Post-Program Options are available.

### **ITINERARY\***

#### **Kyoto, Himeji, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Matsue, Osaka**

*Day Destination*

- 1 Depart the U.S. or Canada/Cross the International Date Line
- 2 Osaka, Japan/Kyoto
- 3 Kyoto
- 4 Kyoto/Himeji/Embark M.S. L'AUSTRAL
- 5 Hiroshima/Miyajima
- 6 Hagi
- 7 Matsue
- 8 Ulsan, South Korea, for Gyeongju
- 9 Moji, Japan
- 10 Uno for Kurashiki or Koraku-en Gardens
- 11 Osaka/Disembark ship/Depart for the U.S. or Canada/Cross the International Date Line/Arrive in the U.S. or Canada

*\*Cruise itinerary subject to change.*

*\*The Travel Program outlined here is subject to the features, final pricing and terms and conditions set forth in the published Travel Program brochure.*

## **Activity Level**

Moderately Active

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Uniquely designed itinerary cruising aboard the exclusively chartered, Five-Star small ship M.S. L'AUSTRAL with access to ports unavailable to larger vessels.
- Combination of two nights in Kyoto and a seven-night cruise including Japan's Inland Sea and South Korea.
- Immerse yourself in the timeless splendor of Japan in the spring, the best time of the year to visit.
- An excursion included in every port.
- Visit picturesque formal Japanese gardens and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.
- See the magnificent coastal landscapes of Ulsan, South Korea, and the UNESCO World Heritage site of Gyeongju, an ancient Buddhist capital.
- Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are served throughout the cruise; all meals are included aboard ship.
- Audio headset is provided for each participant to enjoy clear narration from guides on all excursions.
- Tokyo/Kyoto Pre- and Kanazawa Post-Program Options.

## **EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED, FIVE-STAR SMALL SHIP M.S. L'AUSTRAL**

### **State-of-the-Art Design**

The highly acclaimed M.S. L'AUSTRAL represents the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms with distinctive French sophistication.

### **Elegantly appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies**

Each air-conditioned deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 484 square feet), features a private bathroom with shower, luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities and minibar with complimentary beverages. Most accommodations have two twin beds that convert to one queen bed, individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, wireless Internet access, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

### **Chic and Casual Dining**

International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious Le Coromandel in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual Le Rodrigues Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Continental and buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are served throughout the cruise.

### **Spacious Public Areas/ World-Class Service and Facilities**

In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting and can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge, nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge and lectures, cultural performances and film screenings in the

*\*The Travel Program outlined here is subject to the features, final pricing and terms and conditions set forth in the published Travel Program brochure.*

state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment and two elevators. The infirmary is staffed with a doctor and nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

### **Respect for the Environment**

The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage. By design, each ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious “Clean Ship” rating, an extreme rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. Each ship has two tenders.

## **INCLUDED FEATURES**

### **IN KYOTO**

- Two nights in the Five-Star **KYOTO HOTEL OKURA**.
- Full American buffet breakfast each morning.
- Welcome Reception.
- Tour impressive **Nijō Castle**, built by a powerful shogun of the Tokugawa dynasty (1603-1867) and a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Visit the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage-designated temples of **Ryōan-ji** and **Kinkaku-ji**.
- See the beautiful vermilion gates of the **Fushimi Inari Shrine** leading up to Inari Mountain.

### **Transfer from Kyoto to Himeji, including lunch.**

### **ON BOARD THE EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED FIVE-STAR SMALL SHIP M.S. L’AUSTRAL**

- Seven-night cruise from Himeji, Japan, with port calls at Hiroshima, Miyajima, Hagi, Matsue, Moji, Uno for Kurashiki, and Osaka, Japan; and Ulsan for Gyeongju, South Korea.
- Elegantly appointed, **Five-Star** Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.
- All meals—continental breakfast, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner—throughout the cruise, featuring fine international and regional cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.
- Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages served throughout the cruise.
- Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Guided visit to the stunning **Himeji Castle**, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the finest surviving example of 17<sup>th</sup>-century Japanese castle architecture.
- Visit to Hiroshima’s compelling **Peace Memorial Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, with a visit to the Peace Memorial Museum.
- Visit to **Miyajima** (“Shrine Island”) to tour the UNESCO World Heritage site of the sixth-century **Itsukushima Shrine** and see its stunning **Great Torii Gate**.
- Walking tour of **Hagi**’s old samurai quarter featuring visits to the early 17<sup>th</sup>-century **Kikuya House** and the 17<sup>th</sup>-century **Toko-ji Temple**.
- Visit to a **Hagi-yaki pottery kiln** and the Hagi Urugami Museum to see the famous craftsmanship of traditional clay and woodblock arts.

*\*The Travel Program outlined here is subject to the features, final pricing and terms and conditions set forth in the published Travel Program brochure.*

- Excursion to the acclaimed **Adachi Museum of Art**, featuring a collection of Japanese modern art and perfectly landscaped *kare-sansui* (dry landscape) gardens.
- Excursion from Ulsan, South Korea, to historic **Gyeongju**, the cradle of the Silla Kingdom and a UNESCO World Heritage site, with visits to **Bulguksa Temple**, the Gyeongju National Museum and the Royal Burial Mounds at Tumuli Park, including a typical Korean barbecue lunch.
- Panoramic tour of **Moji**, featuring the Mekari Shrine, built by 14<sup>th</sup>-century Empress Jingu; the Akama Shrine, dedicated to the 12<sup>th</sup>-century Emperor Antoku, and a visit to the lively Karato Fish Market.
- Choice of a tour of **Kurashiki**, known for its willow-lined canals and distinctive 17<sup>th</sup>-century merchant buildings, or an excursion to famous **Koraku-en Gardens**, a classic Japanese strolling garden completed in 1700.

### **ENHANCED TRAVEL SERVICES**

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Hospitality desk in the hotel and aboard ship.
- The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program.
- Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
- Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

### **TOKYO/KYOTO PRE-PROGRAM OPTION**

Experience Japan's capital city and the world's most populous metropolis during your Pre-Program stay in vibrant Tokyo and Kyoto. Beneath the layers of thriving business districts, amidst the contemporary architectural achievements and a wellspring of Japanese pop culture, you will find venerable wooden houses fronted by bonsai trees and shrines wreathed in incense smoke—the inherent cultural core of this historic city. Explore notable landmarks such as Tokyo's most important Shinto shrine—the Meiji Shrine—the magnificent gardens of the Imperial Palace and a full-day excursion to Hakone to view the tallest peak in Japan—the iconic Mt. Fuji—a UNESCO World Heritage site. Enjoy a high-speed transfer aboard the legendary Bullet Train to charming Kyoto, where you will visit Kiyomizu and Sanjusangendo Temples and experience a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. Accommodations are for three nights in the prestigious Five-Star ANA INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL TOKYO and one night in the Five-Star KYOTO HOTEL OKURA.

*\*The Travel Program outlined here is subject to the features, final pricing and terms and conditions set forth in the published Travel Program brochure.*

## **KANAZAWA POST-PROGRAM OPTION**

Visit remarkable Kanazawa, one of the best-preserved cities in Japan, dating back to the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Enjoy an excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage site of historic Shirakawa-go and the village of Ogimachi, famous for its traditional *gassho-zukuri* (praying hands) farmhouses—a reference to the shape of the roofs. Experience the art of Washi papermaking, a centuries-old Japanese handcrafting tradition and part of UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list. See the Nagamachi samurai district and visit Kenroku-en Garden, one of the three Great Gardens of Japan, created for the enjoyment of feudal lords who lived in its 16<sup>th</sup>-century castle, and the Higashi Chaya district with historic teahouses where geisha once lived. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe ANA CROWNE PLAZA KANAZAWA and for one night in the Five-Star ANA INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL TOKYO.

*The Pre-Program and Post-Program Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

*\*The Travel Program outlined here is subject to the features, final pricing and terms and conditions set forth in the published Travel Program brochure.*