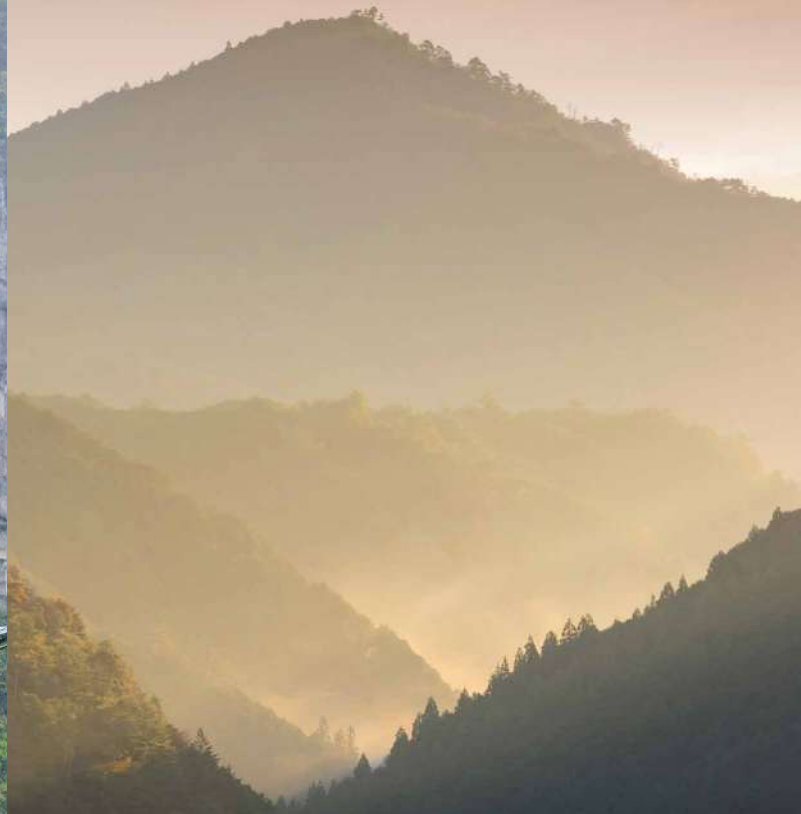


The 31<sup>st</sup> Japan-America  
Grassroots Summit  
in **WAKAYAMA**



July 9<sup>\*</sup>-15,  
2024

\* Departure from the U.S. on July 8



# WAKAYAMA, JAPAN

## An intercultural event to make new friends

### Message from

#### Governor of Wakayama Prefecture



It is a great honor for me that the 31st Japan-America Grassroots Summit will be held in Wakayama Prefecture.

The first contact between Japan and the United States dates back to 1791, 62 years before the officially recorded arrival of Commodore Perry in Japan. The U.S. merchant ship, the Lady Washington, stopped at Oshima Island in the town of Kushimoto, Wakayama Prefecture, to restock supplies such as water and firewood. Therefore, it was here in Wakayama Prefecture that the first ever "grassroots exchange" between Japan and the United States took place. To commemorate this event, the "Japan-U.S. Relations Museum" is located in Kushimoto Town and a monument to the Lady Washington stands in front of the JR Kushimoto Station.

Wakayama Prefecture is renowned not only for its breathtaking natural landscape, but also for its World Heritage sites such as the mountain-top sacred area of "Koyasan" and the pilgrimage routes called "Kumano Kodo", both

of which have long welcomed people equally, regardless of status or religion. You can find that the "spirit of generosity" that accepts all people is deeply rooted in Wakayama Prefecture.

While Japanese restaurants can now be found all over the world due to growing awareness for healthy eating, we are very proud that the world-famous "soy sauce" originated in Wakayama Prefecture. Furthermore, thanks to its mild climate, Wakayama Prefecture is known as the "Fruit Kingdom" in which a wide variety of fruits such as mandarin oranges, peaches, persimmons, and ume plums are produced.

Please visit this attractive prefecture, experience the traditional cultures and delicious local delicacies, and enjoy interacting with the local people. I hope that your six days in Wakayama will be an unforgettable experience and that you will have new encounters and forge new friendships.

I sincerely look forward to welcoming you all to Wakayama.

**Kishimoto Shuhei**  
Governor of Wakayama Prefecture

The Japan-America Grassroots Summit is a gathering of Americans and Japanese who share their homes and the unique features of their communities, alternating for about a week each year. The Summit honors a remarkable friendship that began in 1841, when a young, marooned fisherman named Manjiro was rescued and brought to the US by an American captain, William Whitfield. Manjiro's experience became pivotal to the US-Japan relationship that developed in later years. The friendship between the two families continues to this day and is celebrated by their descendants at the Grassroots Summit each year.

**Our Grassroots Summits have been held for over 30 years!**  
**Each year an average of 100 - 200 people travel across the Pacific to take part.**  
**The Summits include participants, hosts, volunteers and event attendees and more.**

Participants now total over

**53,300!**



### Friendship



John Manjiro  
Nakahama



W.H. Whitfield



Every year, the Grassroots Summit welcomes people of all ages, backgrounds, and language levels to come together, share their lives, and make new friends.

In 2024, we'll gather in beautiful Wakayama. Meet local residents and experience Japanese culture through family homestays. Visit Wakayama's historical sites and learn about its rich past.

## Message from

### Chairman of the Wakayama Summit Executive Committee



As the Chairman of the Japan-America Society of Wakayama and the Wakayama International Association, I am delighted to host the 31st Japan-America Grassroots Summit 2024 in Wakayama, fostering global understanding and friendships in this historic US-Japan exchange hub.

We eagerly anticipate facilitating memorable encounters for the guests from the U.S. in Wakayama in which the rich nature, the old history, and the traditional culture are alive. We can't wait to welcome you!

**Kashihata Naohisa**

Chairman, Japan-America Society of Wakayama  
President, Namboku Co., LTD



# What is the Japan-America Grassroots Summit?

## The Three Exchange Events at the Grassroots Summit

People of all ages and backgrounds participate in the Summit, and they all have one thing in common: a desire to create stronger ties and greater understanding between the people of Japan and America.

### Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception

The Grassroots Summit starts with an Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception featuring welcome speeches and local cuisine. This convivial party is the first opportunity for participants to meet the people of their host region, including volunteers and local dignitaries.



### Local Sessions (Homestay)

During this program, participants experience the unique culture of the local area through a three-night, four-day homestay. Local town leaders and host families work together to share the best features of their communities. This person-to-person exchange is the essence of the Japan-America Grassroots Summit.



### Closing Ceremony and Farewell Party

The Closing Ceremony and Farewell Reception are the final events, where visitors, host families, volunteers, and other participants join to reflect on and celebrate their experiences. True grassroots exchange builds on this departure point.





# SCHEDULE

\* The program schedule may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

**Climate of Wakayama City in July**

- Average temperature: 81°F (27.2°C)
- Average highest temperature: 88°F (31.1°C)
- Average lowest temperature: 75.7°F (24.3°C)
- Average rainfall: 175.8mm

## JULY 9 TUE.

Arrive in Wakayama City [Stay at one of two hotels in Wakayama City]

## JULY 10 WED.

Local Optional Tour  
Opening Ceremony  
Welcome Reception [Stay at one of two hotels in Wakayama City]

## JULY 11 THU.

To Local Session Area  
Local Session [Stay with host family]

## JULY 12 FRI.

Local Session [Stay with host family]

## JULY 13 SAT.

Local Session or spend a whole day with host family [Stay with host family]

## JULY 14 SUN.

Closing Ceremony & Farewell Party  
[Stay at one of two hotels in Wakayama City]

## JULY 15 MON. Depart



## Voices of the participants in Hyogo-Himeji Summit 2019

### Marilyn Wanner



Junko and Masatoshi of my host family in Kobe were gracious hosts. Masatoshi made excellent coffee. He was very enthusiastic about his love of nature and hiking. Junko's English is excellent and we easily talked about the many things that interested us - reading, traveling, movies, etc., while we are culturally different, our sense of esthetics, values and priorities in life are similar. I thoroughly enjoyed our evenings together and especially our day together in Tamba, and to one of Junko's favorite places - the Yodoko Guest House in Ashiya. A curry dinner was a perfect ending to a special day. I am grateful to both Junko and Masatoshi for their warm hospitality. I learned much about day-to-day life in Kobe and found our lengthy conversations informative, connecting and rewarding.

From the morning through early afternoon of Wednesday, July 10th, the three “Local Tours” will be offered for sightseeing. Please select your 1st and 2nd preferences. The organizer will offer one of them to you, avoiding duplication with your Local Session which will start on the next day, July 11th. (These are optional tours with the extra tour fee. You do not need to join one of these tours, but could instead spend time on your own.)

**The tour fee includes transportation, lunch, and admissions.**

\*Local tour participant minimum: 15. A tour may be canceled if the 15-person minimum is not reached.

## A Esoteric Buddhism

Koyasan and Shojin Ryori (vegetarian meals)

**\$ 130**

Maximum: 30 participants

Koyasan is a sacred Japanese Buddhist site, where the teachings and traditions of Shingon Esoteric Buddhism, founded by Kukai, have been handed down for 1200 years. Visitors will stroll through the extensive sacred area and temple grounds, known as a place of healing energy, for a taste of Buddhist approaches to enlightenment. For lunch: a vegetarian meal called shojin ryori, at one of the shukubo lodging houses where Buddhist monks stay.



Koyasan

## B Tokugawa & Manyo

Waka-no-ura, Kimiidera Temple, Yosui-en Garden, Wakayama Castle

**\$ 107**

Maximum: 40 participants

1300 years ago, the Manyo poets were so moved by spectacular Waka-no-ura that they wrote of wanting to bring the views home with them. Medieval shoguns and feudal lords were fascinated by it, too, as are visitors today. This tour will introduce the history and arts of the Waka-no-ura area, which was long ruled by one of the leading Tokugawa families.



Waka-no-ura

## C Archaeology & Ethnography

Itakiso Shrine (god of forests and forestry), “Tama the cat” stationmaster at Kishi Station, historic houses at Kii Fudoki-no-Oka

**\$ 99**

Maximum: 40 participants

This tour introduces the folk traditions of Wakayama Prefecture, particularly the beliefs about nature and the gods that developed in the deep mountainous terrain known as the “Land of Trees.” Discover the wisdom of living at one with the climate and natural world. This is a chance to enter extraordinary folk houses of the kind introduced in CIE’s “The Magic of Minka” webinar in 2021.



Minka

### Isabella Wiesen



The Grassroots Summit trip was so much fun. In total, it was a week long, and we visited so many different places and two different towns. This was my first time in Japan, and it is definitely going to be one of the most memorable and unique trips that I will ever make. I learned and experienced so much of the culture and food, and it has really made me more open-minded and more intrigued by Japan. Hopefully I will be able to participate next time as well. The home stay with the family was awesome. They were so nice, and it was really cool to experience and do things that you don't usually do as a tourist in a foreign country. I really hope that this program will continue to bring more people to Japan, and more Japanese people to America, and that the friendship between these two countries will continue.



# OPENING CEREMONY & WELCOME RECEPTION

**JULY 10** [Wed]

## Wakayama Prefecture Cultural Hall

Located south of the Wakayama Prefectural Government Office, near Wakayama Castle, this hall is famous in Wakayama Prefecture and hosts many live concerts and other events.



## Daiwa Roynet Hotel Wakayama Reception Hall

Located in the heart of Wakayama City, in front of the lush greenery of Wakayama Castle, this hotel provides banquet rooms perfect for gatherings with hearty hospitality.



## Hotel information — Stay on July 9(tue),10(web),and 14(sun)



## Hotel GRANVIA Wakayama

The Hotel Granvia Wakayama, next to Japan Railway's Wakayama Station offers community space full of international sense and fashion. Whatever the occasion Hotel Granvia Wakayama's warm hospitality is guaranteed to make your stay a memorable experience.



Address: 5-18 Tomoda-cho, Wakayama 640-8342  
Tel: +81-(073)425-3333  
<https://www.granvia-wakayama.co.jp/english/>



## Daiwa Roynet Hotel Wakayama

Located in the center of Wakayama City, this 20-story high-rise hotel overlooks the lush greenery of Wakayama Castle and Wakayama City.

There are many guest facilities from the 1st to 3rd floors, including a 24-hour convenience store, and a variety of banquet halls are available.

Address: 7-26-1 Nanabancho, Wakayama-shi, Wakayama 640-8156  
Tel: +81-073-435-0055  
URL: <https://www.daiwaroynet.jp/wakayama/>



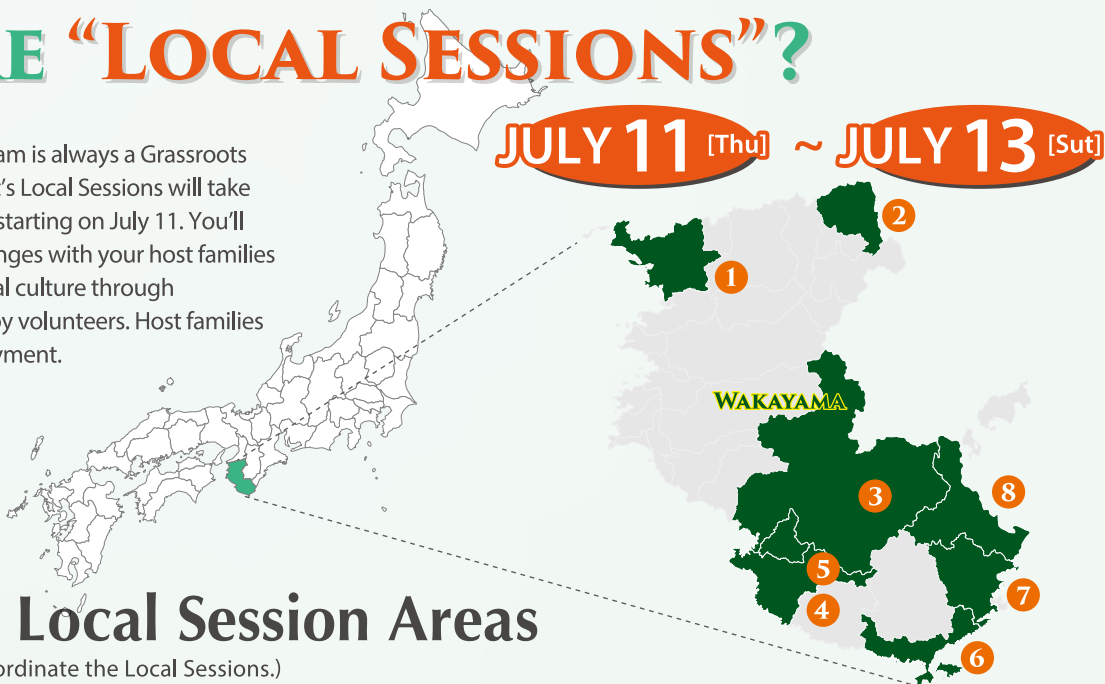


# WHAT ARE "LOCAL SESSIONS"?

The Local Session - Homestay program is always a Grassroots Summit highlight. The 2024 Summit's Local Sessions will take place in 8 Wakayama communities, starting on July 11. You'll experience person-to-person exchanges with your host families as they share their area's unique local culture through personalized programs developed by volunteers. Host families are all volunteers and receive no payment.

WAKAYAMA,  
JAPAN

JULY 11 [Thu] ~ JULY 13 [Sat]



## Key Persons & Local Session Areas

(Key Persons are volunteers who coordinate the Local Sessions.)

### 1 WAKAYAMA CITY



Wakayama City is located in the north of Wakayama Prefecture and is its capital. The city is rich in nature, with the magnificent Kinokawa River and mountains overflowing with greenery. The city also boasts a variety of coastal scenery, including Waka-no-ura, famous for its scenic beauty since the 8th century and registered as a "Japanese Heritage" site, the streets of Saikazaki, known as the "Amalfi of Japan", and the historic fishing town of Kada. Wakayama Castle, towering in the centre of the city, attracts a great many visitors and is symbolic of the city's history and culture.

### Iwahashi Nobutada



I am delighted that this Summit will be held in Wakayama. Historically, many people from Wakayama emigrated to the US, and the people of Wakayama highly value their relationship with the USA. 60 years ago, Wakayama City and Bakersfield, CA, became sister cities and we are happy and proud to see the friendships formed every year through exchanges, especially among young people. I sincerely hope that this summit will enable people from both countries to enjoy the charms of Wakayama and to allow grassroots exchanges to flourish into the future.

### 2 HASHIMOTO CITY



Hashimoto is a friendly and pretty town of about 60,000 in northern Wakayama. It is the gateway to the pilgrimage trail that leads to the magnificent Buddhist temples of Mt. Koya, so travelers have always passed through here. We look forward to welcoming you, too! Known for its textile industry and persimmon production, our town has beautiful mountain-and-valley views and a traditional atmosphere, with many craft shops as well as an extraordinary old brewery.

### Takasaki Masaki



Born locally, I served in the Ground Self-Defense Force in Yokosuka, Kanagawa for four years. Afterward, I dedicated my career to education and international exchange and goodwill at Hashimoto City Hall. Post-retirement, I became a Kyodo News correspondent, engaging with the Hashimoto UNESCO Association and local groups.

### Sakurai Harumi



Greetings! Hashimoto City, nestled at the base of Koyasan, is known for grapes, persimmons, and traditional crafts. Eagerly anticipating meeting you and sharing the charm of our city through the Japan-America Grassroots Summit!



### 3 TANABE CITY



Tanabe City is a beautiful town that features World Heritage Sites and hot springs. Here you can access the Kumano Kodo UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Kii Mountain Range, relax at the Ryujin Onsen, considered one of the three most beautiful hot springs in Japan, or at the Yunomine Onsen, said to be the oldest hot spring resort in Japan. The sustainable Japanese Plum agriculture here has been recognized as a World Agricultural Heritage site.

#### Yoshida Koji

I am the chairman of the Tanabe International Exchange Society (TIES). Through events such as high school student exchange programmes, culinary exchange events, lectures and symposiums on international understanding, homestays, and cultural performances to introduce music and dance from other countries, we create opportunities for the people of the Kinan region to broaden horizons and promote international understanding.



#### Hamano Koji

I am the president of the Kinan UNESCO Association. The association works to promote international understanding and world peace through international cooperation in the region through various events in accordance with the UNESCO Charter. Tanabe is a region rich in nature, history and culture, with the World Heritage Sites Kumano Kodo and Kumano Hongu Taisha Shrine, and the National Trust for the Future of Japan Tenjinzaki. We look forward to welcoming you.



### 4 SHIRAHAMA TOWN



As one of Japan's leading resorts, Shirahama Town has many one-of-a-kind attractions only to be experienced here, such as Shirahama Beach, Engetsu Island and the amazing rock formations of Senjojiki. There is Shirahama Onsen, one of the three oldest hot springs in Japan. Shirahama Town also is home to the largest number of giant pandas in Japan, with a family of five pandas currently living here at "Adventure World" wildlife park. We hope you will enjoy the various attractions of Shirahama Town and our peaceful tropical climate.

#### Mizukami Kumiko

I am vice-president of the Shirahama International Exchange Association, a volunteer organization that arranges homestay exchange programs for junior and senior high school students to the USA and other countries. Shirahama is a small town, but this picturesque area is visited by 3 million people annually. There are numerous scenic spots, and one of the oldest hot springs in Japan. I am also currently a member of the Shirahama Town Council. We are happy to welcome you on your visit to Shirahama Town.



### 5 KAMITONDA TOWN



Kamitonda town is in the south-west of Wakayama Prefecture, adjacent to Tanabe City and Shirahama Town. The clear Tonda River flows through the town. It is a mild region, with an average annual temperature of 18°C (64.5°F). The town is well known for its oranges and plums. The town is also known as "the mouth of Kumano" because it is the entrance to the Nakaheji route of the Kumano Kodo, a World Heritage Site. There are three remaining "Oji" (Shinto altar) sites in town, connected with the Kumano Gods. Here you can experience nature and history.



#### Fujimoto Tomoko

Greetings on behalf of Kamitonda Town International Association. Kamitonda is a charming town, rich in nature and where a warm countryside welcome awaits you. We are very much looking forward to introducing all that is good about Kamitonda Town to you through our program during your stay and helping you to create some wonderful memories.



## 6 KUSHIMOTO TOWN



Kushimoto is the southernmost town of Honshu, Japan's main island. The headland of Shionomisaki reaches into the Pacific Ocean and the Kii Mountains, extend behind. The coastline runs east to west, and is comprised of many inlets, characteristic of the region. It lies within the "Yoshino-Kumano National Park", renowned for the magnificent beauty of the unusual rock formations. Here, Kii Oshima, the largest island in Wakayama Prefecture, was the site of the first officially recorded contact between Japan and the US in 1791, 62 years before the arrival of Commodore Perry's black ships.



### Nishihata Eiji

Mr. Nishihata is the chairman of the Nanki International Association. Kushimoto Town has a sister-city relationship with Hemet, California, in the USA. Our region, open as it is, to the sea, has a long history of exchanges with other countries. We aim to build on the assets left to us by our ancestors and create opportunities for international exchange for the people of our region. We very much look forward to welcoming you.

## 7 NACHI KATSUURA TOWN



Nachi-Katsuura is located south-east of Wakayama Prefecture, looking out upon the Kuroshio ocean current which flows through the Pacific Ocean off the coast. Katsuura Fishing Port, which has the largest catch of tuna by longline fishing in Japan is here. We also have a hot spring resort boasting 177 hot springs, the largest number in Wakayama Prefecture. Mount Nachi, with its famed Nachi Waterfalls, is one of the Kumano Sanzan (three mountains) and a well known sacred site in Japan celebrates its 20th anniversary since its registration as a World Heritage Site in 2004.

### Tosa Kyohei



I am in charge of international sister city relations at the Tourism Planning Section of the Nachikatsuura Town Hall. Nachi-Katsuura Town has a sister city affiliation with the City of Monterey Park. Through the experience of exchanges with Monterey Park, the spirit of respect for diverse cultures and values has taken root in the local people. We look forward to welcoming you to Nachikatsuura, the home of World Heritage Sites, hot springs and fresh tuna!

## 8 SHINGU CITY



Located at the south-eastern tip of Wakayama Prefecture, bordering Mie Prefecture across the Kumano River. Shingu contains World Heritage Sites and a first-class river. It is a city rich in nature, surrounded by the sea, mountains and rivers. It is compact and can easily be navigated by bicycle. We particularly recommend a tour around these three World Heritage Sites: Hayatama-taisha Shrine, Kamikura Shrine and Asuka Shrine. You can enjoy other historic, cultural and natural sites: the ruins of Shingu Castle, the Ukishima Forest, Jyofuku Park and the Kumano River boat cruise, another World Heritage Site!



### Takitani Nanase



### Mehari-san



### Tsukoshi Norihiro

The Commerce, Industry and Tourism Division of City Hall is in charge of the Grassroots Exchange Summit here. We have a sister city affiliation with Santa Cruz City, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2024. Shingu city and Santa Cruz City hold alternate homestay exchanges every year, so we have an affinity with the people of the USA. We hope you enjoy the history, culture and nature of Shingu.



# CLOSING CEREMONY & FAREWELL RECEPTION

**JULY 14** [Sun]

## Hotel Avalorm Kino-Kuni

This hotel is situated in the cultural area of Wakayama City. With unique restaurants, weddings that prioritize encounters and relationships, and the pride of being the epicenter of Wakayama's food culture, the establishment is constantly evolving and pursuing "specialty" in every scene. Collaboration events are also conducted with the Prefectural Cultural Center, the Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, and the nearby Prefectural Museum. Aiming to be a "one-of-a-kind hotel" full of originality, they always strive to provide new impressions and fresh surprises to their guests.

# POST SUMMIT OPTIONAL PROGRAM **JULY 15** [Mon]

After the Grassroots Summit in Wakayama, you can extend your stay in Japan to discover more and make friends in other regions!

\* The Post Summit Optional Programs are open to Grassroots Summit participants. Optional program fees are indicated below, and are in addition to the Summit participation fee

\* Transportation from the hotel on the final day is not included.

\* The program schedule may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

## PROGRAM WITH HOMESTAY \* Host families are all un-paid volunteers.

**OP 1**

### Kyoto Home Stay

**Number of participants: from 6 to 10 people**  
(2 night homestay in Kyoto and 1 night hotel stay in Tokyo)

**\$428**

Participation fee includes all transportation from Wakayama to Kyoto and Tokyo, admission to Gion Corner and selected Kyoto monuments, and hotel room and breakfast in Tokyo. Host family serves you meals when you are at their home. The Tokyo portion does not include a guide or personal transportation. Fees based on double occupancy of the hotel room in Tokyo. If you prefer a single room, add \$95.



Kinkaku-ji



Maikos



Kyoto is one of the world's most popular tourist destinations. Come see the city with your host families and volunteers. In Tokyo, enjoy exploring on your own.

**Key person Yoshie Nakayama**

July 15 Depart Wakayama city for Kyoto by train  
(Mon.) Meet volunteers at Kyoto station  
Kyoto Gion Corner experience [ [Homestay in Kyoto](#) ]

July 16 Sightseeing and potluck party at night  
(Tue.) [ [Homestay in Kyoto](#) ]

July 17 Depart Kyoto for Tokyo  
(Wed.) Freetime in Tokyo  
[ [Stay at Shinagawa Prince Hotel](#) ]

July 18 Departure on your own  
(Thu.)

**OP 2**

### Kanazawa • Noto Home Stay

**Number of participants: from 6 to 10 people**  
(2 night homestay in Kanazawa, 2 night homestay in Noto, and 1 night hotel stay in Tokyo)

**\$625**

Participation fee includes all transportation from Wakayama to Kyoto and Tokyo, admission to Gion Corner and selected Kyoto monuments, and hotel room and breakfast in Tokyo. Host family serves you meals when you are at their home. The Tokyo portion does not include a guide or personal transportation. Fees based on double occupancy of the hotel room in Tokyo. If you prefer a single room, add \$95.



Kanazawa Kenrokuen Garden



Shiroyone Rice Fields in Noto



Kanazawa is located in the center of Honshu facing the Sea of Japan, and is the center of the government, economy, and culture of the Ishikawa prefecture. Noto Peninsula is known for its beautiful coastal scenery and was the host location of the 2007 Grassroots Summit.

**Key person Shinobu Uogishi**

July 15 Depart Wakayama city for Kanazawa by train  
(Mon.) Arrive in Kanazawa and meet host family  
[ [Homestay in Kanazawa](#) ]

July 16 Sightseeing in Kanazawa  
(Tue.) [ [Homestay in Kanazawa](#) ]

July 17 Move to Noto by train  
(Wed.) [ [Homestay in Noto](#) ]

July 18 Sightseeing in Noto [ [Homestay in Noto](#) ]  
(Thu.)

July 19 Fly to Haneda (Tokyo) airport from Noto airport  
(Fri.) Freetime in Tokyo  
[ [Stay at Shinagawa Prince Hotel](#) ]

July 20 Departure on your own  
(Sat.)

**CANCELED**



OP 3

## Yamato-Asuka in Nara prefecture Homestay, and Tokyo

\$ 628

(2-night homestay in Asuka Village, 1-night hotel stay in Tokyo) Hosted by Yamato Asuka New Tourism

Number of participants: from 6 to 20 people

Located only a mere hour from Osaka and Kyoto, Yamato-Asuka is a true testament of Japan's traditional way of living in harmony with nature. There's much more in store for those who want to experience a pleasantly different side of the Japan they know and love, right here in Asuka, Yamato. Let's spend extra days with a new host family and feel the Japan's rich history through Asuka's breathtaking scenery.

Participation fee includes all transportation, the program of Yamato-Asuka, and accommodation with breakfast in Tokyo. Host family serves you meals when you are at their home. The Tokyo portion does not include a guide or personal transportation. Fees based on double occupancy of the hotel room in Tokyo. If you prefer a single room, add \$95.



Key persons



Yuto



Aki



Shiho

July 15 (Mon.) Depart Wakayama City for Asuka  
Meet volunteers at Asuka Experience Yamato-Asuka Program  
[ Homestay in Yamato-Asuka area ]

July 16 (Tue.) Experience Yamato-Asuka Program  
[ Homestay in Yamato-Asuka area ]

July 17 (Wed.) Depart for Tokyo by trains  
[ Stay at Shinagawa Prince Hotel ]

July 18 (Thu.) Departure on your own

## FREE PROGRAM \* The Free Programs do not include a guide. This is your time to explore on your own.

OP 4

## Kyoto Free (3 night hotel stay in Kyoto)

\$ 335

Fees based on double occupancy of the hotel room in Kyoto. If you prefer a single room, add \$177 for 3 nights.



Kiyomizudeera-dera



Fushimi Inari Shrine

July 15 (Mon.) Depart Wakayama City for Kyoto  
[ Stay at Ibis style Kyoto station Hotel ]

July 16 (Tue.) Free in Kyoto  
[ Stay at Ibis style Kyoto station Hotel ]

July 17 (Wed.) Free in Kyoto  
[ Stay at Ibis style Kyoto station Hotel ]

July 18 (Thu.) Departure on your own

OP 5

## Tokyo Free (3 night hotel stay in Tokyo)

\$ 574

Fees based on double occupancy of the hotel room in Tokyo. If you prefer a single room, add \$285 for 3 nights.



Shibuya Scramble Crossing



Ginza Town

July 15 (Mon.) Depart Wakayama City for Tokyo  
[ Stay at Shinagawa Prince Hotel ]

July 16 (Tue.) Free in Tokyo  
[ Stay at Shinagawa Prince Hotel ]

July 17 (Wed.) Free in Tokyo  
[ Stay at Shinagawa Prince Hotel ]

July 18 (Thu.) Departure on your own

OP 6

NEW

## Kyoto & Tokyo Free (2 night hotel stay in Kyoto and 1 night hotel stay in Tokyo)

\$ 550

Fees based on double occupancy of the hotel room in Tokyo. If you prefer a single room, add \$213 for 3 nights.



Arashiyama, Kyoto



Tokyo Tower

July 15 (Mon.) Depart Wakayama City for Kyoto  
[ Stay at Ibis style Kyoto station Hotel ]

July 16 (Tue.) Free in Kyoto  
[ Stay at Ibis style Kyoto station Hotel ]

July 17 (Wed.) Depart for Tokyo by trains  
[ Stay at Shinagawa Prince Hotel ]

July 18 (Thu.) Departure on your own

\* Please arrange your own transportation from the hotel to your destination on the final day. If you need help with the arrangements, please consult NTA.



# PARTICIPATION FEE

|                  |                                     |                |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Land Only</b> | <b>Early Bird</b> (by February 29)  | <b>\$1,098</b> |
|                  | <b>Regular Price</b> (from March 1) | <b>\$1,298</b> |

**We recommend arranging your own transportation to Wakayama City during Summit registration hours.**

A special Summit bus will be available to those arriving at Kansai International Airport (KIX) on the flights specified below.

| <b>Outbound (to Japan) on July 8</b>                      |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| UA035 (from SFO to KIX)                                   | Arrive at 14:50, July 9 |
| JL069 (from LAX to KIX)                                   | Arrive at 18:55, July 9 |
| <b>Domestic (from Haneda to Kansai Airport) on July 9</b> |                         |
| JL225   | HND 12:40 to KIX 14:05  |
| NH991   | HND 13:50 to KIX 15:15  |
| NH095   | HND 18:05 to KIX 19:30  |

| <b>Return on July 15</b> |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| NH096                    | KIX 08:30 to HND 09:45 |
| UA034                    | KIX 16:50 to SFO 10:55 |
| JL060                    | KIX 17:45 to LAX 12:30 |

\*Schedule subject to change.

## The fee includes

- Bus transportation
- Hotel accommodation in Wakayama based on the double occupancy
- Bento box dinner on July 9
- All breakfast at hotel stays in Wakayama
- Most of the meals during Local Session
- All transportation in Japan during the Summit period
- All participation, administration, and handling costs for the Summit
- \*Opening and Closing Ceremonies & Receptions are invitation of Wakayama Prefectural Government

## The fee does **NOT** include

- Round-trip transportation between the U.S. and Wakayama
- Hotel single supplement surcharge
- Local Optional Tour participation fee on July 10

## PACKAGE PARTICIPATION FEE \*1) \*2)

| From              | Early Bird     | Regular Price |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Dulles, VA [IAD]  | <b>\$4,016</b> | \$4,216       |
| Los Angeles [LAX] | <b>\$3,133</b> | \$3,333       |

\*1) Seats are limited

\*2) Departures/returns only from the specified airports on the specified dates: July 8 (outbound) and July 15 (return)

## The fee includes

- The Participation Fee and the Round-trip transportation between the listed cities (left) and Wakayama, including international & Japanese domestic airfare (if applicable)

## The fee does **NOT** include

- Airline taxes and fuel surcharges (FY: as of Nov. 2023, fuel surcharge & taxes are \$475 the round trip between IAD and KIX, Kansai Airport, and \$545 between LAX and KIX)
- Surcharge for single room
- Local Optional Tour participation fee on July 10

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## 1. Youth Discount

- Students, 25 years old under
- \$100 discount**

\*Must submit proof of school enrollment

## 2. Hotel Rooms

- Listed prices are based on double occupancy. Unless otherwise requested, another participant may share a room with you.
- Please indicate in the application form if single occupancy is required.

Surcharge for single room: \$41.50 for 3 nights

## 3. Any changes to your schedule made after the deadline will incur a substantial penalty

# CONTACT

<Regarding Travel>

## Nippon Travel Agency America, Inc.(NTA)

Greater Los Angeles Branch

**Contact : Mr.Yoshihiro Kobayashi / Ms. Yoko Adachi**

1411 W. 190<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 650, Gardena CA 90248

Tel : 310-630-0898 Email : [grassroots@ntaamerica.com](mailto:grassroots@ntaamerica.com)

# ORGANIZERS



- Wakayama Prefectural Government
- John Manjiro – Whitfield Commemorative Center for International Exchange (CIE)
- CIE-US

<http://www.manjiro.or.jp/e>

## 4. Application Deadline: May 15, 2024

## 5. How to Register

The online application is available starting mid-December 2023. Visit the following website and click on the Wakayama Grassroots Summit page.

<http://www.manjiro.or.jp/e>

Or, send the application form and photocopy of your passport to the NTA office (below). Upon receipt of your application, NTA will send you an acknowledgement letter with cancellation policy and other guidance.

## 6. Travel Insurance

All participants must have travel and medical insurance and be responsible for payment and/or reimbursement of medical/surgical expenses incurred.

<Regarding the Summit Program>

## CIE-US

C/O National Association of Japan America Societies

1819 L St. NW, Suite 200, Washington D.C. 20036

TEL : 202-429-5545

E-mail : [manjiro@manjiro.or.jp](mailto:manjiro@manjiro.or.jp) / [manjiro@us-japan.org](mailto:manjiro@us-japan.org)

# SUPPORTERS

- U.S. Consulate General Osaka-Kobe
- National Association of Japan-America Societies (NAJAS)
- Japan America Society of Wakayama