

KIMONO MEETS SHIBORI WORKSHOP-TOUR

14 June-27 June

This two week workshop / tour in Japan will primarily be in Arimatsu, Yusuhara, and Kyoto. The trip will focus on shibori dyeing & traditional kimono sewing. The goal of the trip is for each participant to dye their own indigo shibori tanmono (roll of cloth) and learn how to make a hanten (jacket), or kimono, from their dyed cloth. The trip will focus on learning traditional crafts and making things. This trip will not be fancy or focused on sightseeing. We will spend a lot of time working. We will also explore various cultural activities every chance we get. The trip will be limited to eight participants.

Workshop

The workshop will start in Arimatsu spending one week learning arashi shibori with Kaei Hayakawa. We will spend the first two days learning about different shibori techniques, visiting shibori workshops, and learning the fundamentals of dyeing. We will test dye a few pieces of cloth demonstrating the process from beginning to end. The next few days groups will dye their own tanmono with Hayakawa while others will learn various shibori techniques. Once each person has completed dyeing their tanmono instruction will be given by kimono maker Tsuyo Onodera on how to make a kimono or hanten with their cloth. Sewing instruction will begin in Arimatsu and continue to our next location, the eco town of Yusuhara on Shikoku island. We will travel by air to Kochi city then drive to Yusuhara where we will stay at a mountain paper-making inn called Kamikoya. Here sewing instructions will continue as well as other cultural activities such as a cooking class, paper-making, hot spring time and a tour of the eco town and Kabuki theater. Once we have completed the sewing projects we will go by train to Naoshima Benesse Art Island to enjoy modern art and architecture. After spending one night on Naoshima we will go to Kyoto by train. In Kyoto we will have a cooking class from seventh generation kaiseki chef Ukai Haruji and have time to walk around Kyoto. Our last night we will have a traditional kaiseki dinner at the two hundred year old restaurant Kinmata. We will wear the cloths that we have made for our final night.

Locations

Arimatsu is a historic center of shibori (tie-dyeing) dating back to 1608. Arimatsu is located along a famous road in Japan, called the Tokaido, East Sea Road, between Tokyo and Osaka. When Arimatsu was founded, the feudal lords of Japan were required to travel to Tokyo (Edo) each year via the Tokaido to swear their allegiance to the Shogun. Along the route there were 53 government-sanctioned stops where travelers could rest. Arimatsu was established as the forty-second station. Arimatsu, over time, became famous for high quality *shibori* textiles that were bought as gifts.

Kochi Prefecture / Yusuhara are on the island of Shikoku. Shikoku is known for its natural beauty and eighty-eight temple pilgrimage. The town of Yusuhara is a small mountain town in the paper making region of Shikoku. The forward thinking town is home to eco buildings by Kuma Kengo. Its policy of environment, health and education has made this town a model of sustainability and preserving tradition.

Benesse Art Site Naoshima

Benesse Art Site Naoshima provides artists and architects with opportunities to create and exhibit original works at various locations throughout the islands, enabling visitors to experience the very finest modern art. Its aim is to create special places by situating modern art and architecture within nature and the unique culture of the Seto Inland Sea, a landscape with a powerful cultural and historical resonance.

Kyoto

Formerly the imperial capital of Japan for more than one thousand years. Kyoto's streets are full of great shops and traditions. Kyoto still holds on to many of the old ways of Japanese lifestyle.

Teachers

Kaei Hayakawa was born into a shibori family in Arimatsu. He has been head of the Shibori Community for more than thirty years sharing the art of shibori around the world. He specializes in arashi shibori. He makes shibori for various companies such as 45 rpm.

Tsuyo Onodera has been a kimono artist and teacher for more than fifty years. She headed a kimono school in Sendai for thirty years. She recently has taught kimono making workshops in the United States.

Rogier Uitenboogaart has been making hand made paper in Japan for more than three decades. His workshop Kamikoya is in the mountains of Kochi. There, he grows his own plants, and makes washi by using them and spring water taken from the river. He is a true old school papermaker and artist.

Ukai Haruji is the seventh generation head chef and owner of Kinmata kaiseki restaurant in Kyoto. He is an avid cooking teacher and often on Japanese cooking programs. His book on Obanzai, Kyoto home style cooking, will be published this year.

Basic Itinerary June 14-28

13 June-depart for Japan

14 June-arrive in Nagoya, welcome dinner

15-20 June-Arimatsu shibori & sewing workshop days

17 & 19 June-group will travel to Tsubaki shrine to stay overnight and do the waterfall ritual

21 June-fly to Kochi City and drive to Yusuhara town, visit organic tea farm on the way

22-23 June-continue sewing & various cultural workshops and tours in Yusuhara area

25 June-take train and ferry to Naoshima, spend night at Benesse art center & tour galleries

26-27 June-take ferry and train to Kyoto, cooking class, walk around Kyoto, final dinner

28 June-return from Japan (arrive back in your country on same day 7/28)

Other Activities

Tea ceremony in traditional tea house in Arimatsu

Misogi at Tsubaki Shrine. Tea and waterfall ritual

Visit organic tea farm in Kochi

Tour of Yusuhara town & kabuki theater Yusuhara-za

Paper making class at Kamikoya

Onsen (hotspring) in Yusuhara

Country food cooking class in Yusuhara

Visit art sites in Benesse Art Site

Kaiseki cooking class in Kyoto

Kaiseki dinner at two hundred year old Kyoto ryokan Kinmata

Reading List

A reading list will be provided that covers subjects of the trip and other interesting things about Japan.

Cost

The price is \$5,000 per person. This includes transportation (Nagoya-Kyoto), meals, art materials, instruction & lodging. *In some cases we will be sharing rooms. (in some places accommodation upgrades will be available for an extra fee. Please ask if you are interested.)*

The price does not include transportation from your country to Nagoya, Japan, returning home from Kyoto, Japan to your country, or alcoholic drinks. *(We can help book your airplane tickets to Japan & trips to and from Nagoya & Kyoto).* We will keep a tab for everyone who wants to drink and give you a bill at the end of the trip. A \$500 deposit will be required when you sign up. This deposit is non-refundable unless we can fill your spot. The remaining balance will be due no later than May 25th.

Scholarships: We will provide discounted prices for those who can not afford the price of the trip. People interested in assistance will be asked to provide an essay about why they are scholarship material and samples of their work.

*We can help arrange extended trips for participants who want to extend their time in Japan.

Organizer

Maki Aizawa grew up in Sendai Japan at her mother's kimono school. She learned flower arranging, Koto, tea ceremony, calligraphy and many other traditional arts growing up. She worked as a tour leader for Journey's East for many years showing people Japan. She is an artist giving workshops and shows focusing on Japanese culture.

Please contact Maki Aizawa for further information or to make a reservation.

maki@makiiazawa.com

707-338-2003 mobile