

12 June 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Arts and History trip to Japan 2020

Thank you for your initial interest in our proposed tour of Japan in 2020. Attached you will find information to assist you deciding if your child would benefit from this trip.

This cultural tour is a natural extension to studies in a range of school subjects. While this is a venture undertaken by the Arts and Humanities departments, the trip is an opportunity open to **all** students in Year 10 to 12 in 2020. All students interested in the tour shall be considered. At present we are offering fifteen places for students with three staff supervising. There is the possibility of increasing our numbers depending on demand. Initially, priority will be given to students who are able to supply their initial deposit as soon as they can.

A great deal of planning has gone into this trip. It has been important that this journey be exciting, fun and educational. It is just as important to us that we visit Hiroshima's peace museum as it is the Ghibli animation studios in Tokyo. The core concept behind this tour is to better understand the culture of a near Asian neighbour. Their culture and history are highly entwined with our own.

Please read the accompanying information at your leisure. If you do not find answers to your immediate questions please contact us at artsoffice@mueller.qld.edu.au.

Medical information for your child will be based on the existing data that you provided at the beginning of each year. If your child requires medication during these activities, please fill in the Student Medication request form that is found on the College website or collect from the front office.

If you wish your student to attend this trip, please accept this invite via the Parent Lounge only. The deposits and following instalments will be payable via the Parent Lounge.

Kind regards,



Simon Ratcliffe
Head of The Arts



Ben Stiller
Head of Secondary

Japan Trip Information

Dates: Wednesday 24 June to Friday 3 July 2020
Costs: \$3500 Plus additional personal expenses – see below.
Who Can Do: Year 10 to 12 students in 2020.
(Plus current year 12 in 2019 – will be considered)

Please note that prices are based on the exchange rate of AUD 1 = ¥79. Should the number of participants change from the above a re-cost will be necessary. Prices are subject to currency fluctuation, airfare increases, and seasonality changes for 2020.

Tour cost includes:

- Return economy class airfares including pre-paid taxes, levies & charges with Singapore Airlines (Brisbane – Singapore-Narita//Kansai – Singapore – Brisbane)
- 2 nights stay in Tokyo at Tokyo Central Youth Hostel with breakfast
- 3 nights stay in Kyoto at Utano Youth Hostel with breakfast
- 1 night stay in Hiroshima at Hiroshima International Youth House with breakfast.
- 2 nights stay in Shin Osaka at Shin Osaka Youth Hostel with breakfast
- 7 day ordinary Japan rail pass & 2 day Kansai area pass

It also includes visits to:

- **Tokyo:** Ghibi animation studios, Shibuya crossing, Meji Shrine, Tokyo slay deck, Akihabara Electric Town
- **Kyoto:** tea ceremony, performing art of Japan show at Gyon corner, Fushimi Shrine, Nijo castle, golden pavilion, Kyoto Imperial palace, Nora with the Kafukuyi and Todaiji temples, Bamboo forest and Monloey mountain
- **Hiroshima:** the site of the first atomic bomb dropped and its museum, nearby Miyajima island
- **Osaka:** entry to Universal studios theme park, Osaka castle

During the Trip:

- **Culture:** be sensitive to Japanese customs and be sure to behave and dress in a manner that displays respect to their culture.
- **Devotions:** the team will have devotions together each day before we start.
- **The Code of Student Behaviour is as follows:**
 - Treat other people and their possessions with respect
 - Follow any staff directions without argument
 - Work as an active team member who contributes to achieving the purposes of the trip.
 - Allow others to have adequate sleep. Comply with all safety requirements
 - Do not possess or use drugs, alcohol or tobacco products.
 - Wear modest clothing appropriate to the climate and culture.
 - Refrain from using profanity or other inappropriate forms of speech.
 - Always be supervised by a team leader

Costs Due:

All school fees will need to be up to date to be considered eligible for the trip.

Payment Type	Amount	Payment required by:
Deposit	\$300.00	26 July 2019 (<i>non refundable</i>)
2 nd Installment	\$800.00	18 September 2019
3 rd Installment	\$800.00	22 November 2019
4 th Installment	\$800.00	31 January 2020
Balance	\$800.00	18 March 2020

The above amounts can be paid earlier than the due date and the total balance can be paid at any time.

You will appreciate that these payments are non-refundable as flights, shows and activities are pre-booked.

Additional Expenses

- Passport (possible visa if not travelling on an Australian passport)
- Personal Expenses (this would need to cover potentially one meal a day at a maximum cost of \$20 a day (\$140) plus money for souvenirs & snacks.

Students may either carry cash or utilise a card such as the cash passport to store their money. The benefit of these cards is that one card is kept at home where the parents can monitor spending and top up money as needed, whilst the student uses the other card as a normal Visa Debit card.

Passport

A colour photocopy of your passport is required no later than 31 January 2020. This can be given or emailed to Mrs Kregenbrink at artsoffice@mueller.qld.edu.au.

If you do not have a passport already, you will need to apply for one. Passport application forms can be filled in and printed from www.passports.gov.au application forms are also available from Australia Post.

Insurance Cover

A travel insurance policy will be taken out for each child to cover the period of the Trip. This policy will cover the following hazards:

- medical evacuation
- cancellation of air fares
- missed connections
- accidental death
- personal injury

Travel Medicine

Parents must seek advice from a travel practitioner as to the medical issues that may confront their child on this trip and the necessary medical requirements for their child in preparation to attend this trip and confirm that all required inoculations and medical administrations have been administered in sufficient time for the adequate protection of their child. They should also check that their standard vaccinations such as the Triple Antigen and Hepatitis injections are up to date.

We also require a letter from your doctor setting out the names of each prescription drug carried by your child with any relevant instructions.

Contact:

For further information, or to express interest in this tour please call the Arts Department on 3897 2859 or email artsoffice@mueller.qld.edu.au