

Explore TRADITION

Workshops of Japanese Culture and Tradition
Join Heart-Moving Experience.





Meet the People Behind Japan's Living Traditions

Japan's culture is not preserved in museums alone. It lives through the hands of artisans, performers, gardeners, monks, and countless others who continue to practice traditions passed down through generations.

At Tradi, we create opportunities to meet these cultural experts, learn from their knowledge, and experience traditions where they truly belong.

More than observers, our guests are invited to become part of the story — helping preserve and shape culture for future generations, and in some cases collaborating directly with cultural practitioners to create something meaningful together.

We hope these encounters leave a lasting impression long after your journey ends.

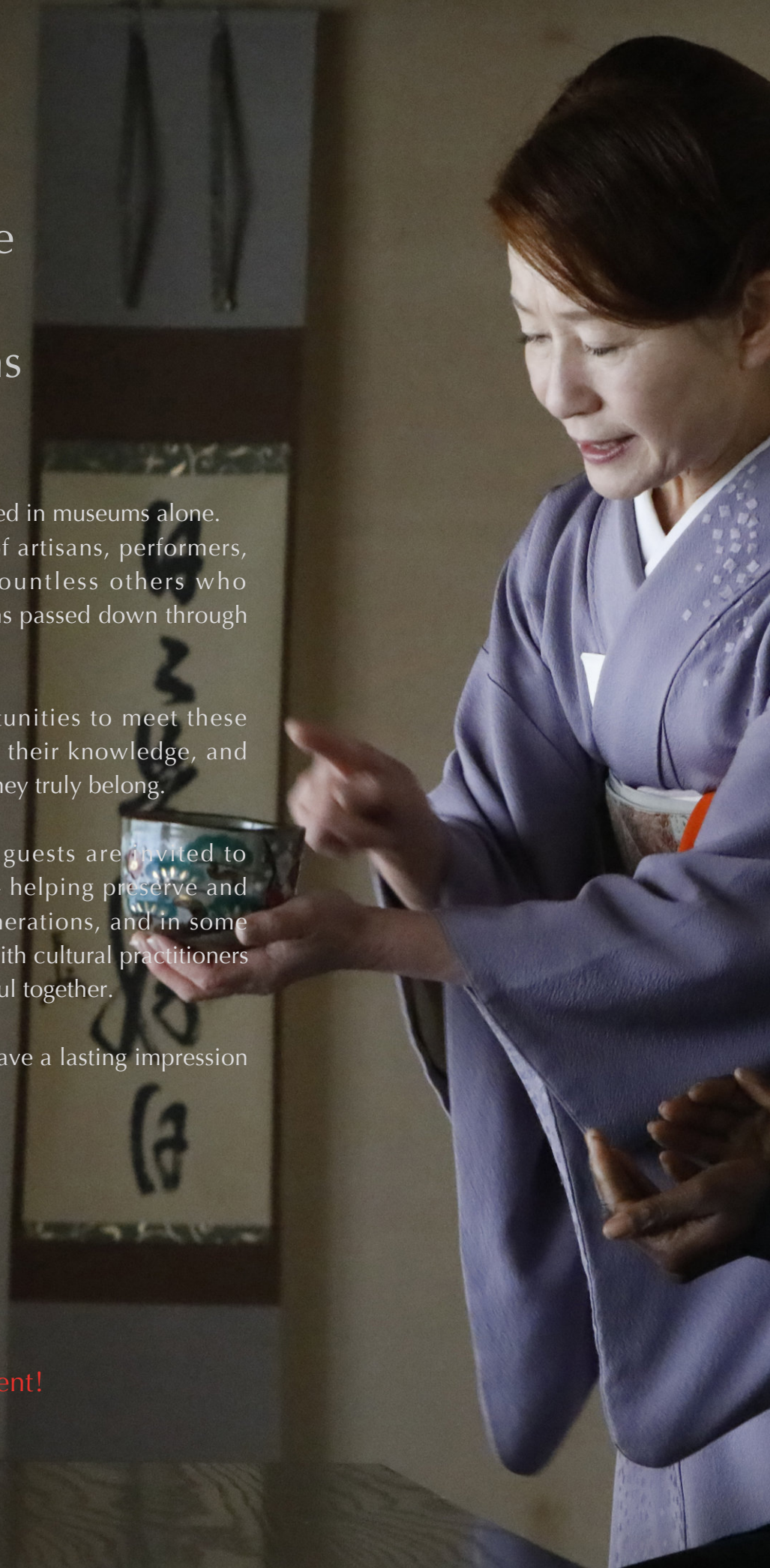
Contact us for arrangement!



guestsupport@tradi-jp.com

Tradi LLC

(Travel Agency Authorized by Kyoto Pref. #3-700)



Learn from Authentic Cultural Experts

Meet the people who continue to practice Japan's living traditions and learn directly from their knowledge, stories, and skills.

Help Preserve and Shape Culture

Support cultural preservation projects, contribute to ongoing traditions, or help create new cultural expressions for the future.

Examples :

No. 15 (Traditional Bamboo Fence Building Project)

Co-create with an Expert

Collaborate with artisans and cultural specialists. Develop a personalized work, commission a unique piece, or collaborate directly with cultural specialists.

Examples :

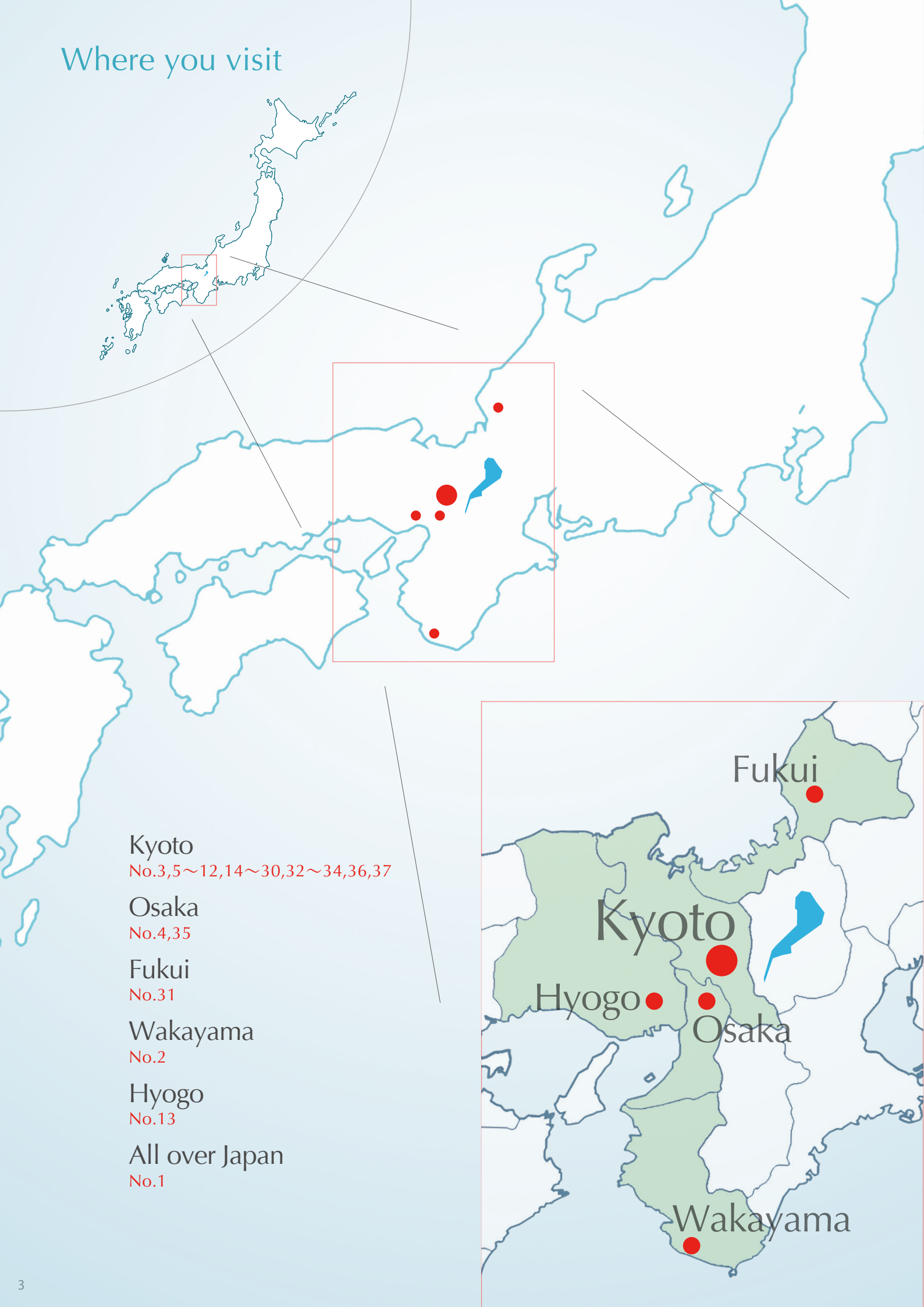
No. 1 (Private Temple Kyogen Experience),

No. 16 (Yakishime Table Set Experience)

No. 28 (Thread Dyeing & Nishijin Art)

Interpretation (per group)	
~ 2 hours	¥15,000
~ 3 hours	¥20,000
~ 4 hours	¥25,000
~ 5 hours	¥30,000
~ 6 hours	¥35,000
~ 7 hours	¥40,000

Where you visit



Kyoto

No.3,5~12,14~30,32~34,36,37

Osaka

No.4,35

Fukui

No.31

Wakayama

No.2

Hyogo

No.13

All over Japan

No.1



Who you meet

No.1  37





No. 1

Human Nature, Performed Private Temple Kyogen Experience



Experience

Kyogen is one of Japan's oldest performing arts, traditionally performed alongside Noh theatre for centuries. While Noh often explores the world of gods and warriors, Kyogen turns its attention to ordinary people — their misunderstandings, ambitions, weaknesses, and humor. Through laughter, it reveals enduring truths about human nature.

Held in the atmospheric setting of a Kyoto temple, this experience provides a rare opportunity to encounter Kyogen not as a museum piece, but as a living art form. Although traditionally associated with temples and historic settings, Kyogen can also be performed in other regions and distinctive locations, creating new dialogues between performance, place, and local culture.

Guests may simply enjoy a private performance or, for a deeper engagement, work directly with the performer to transform their own stories and experiences into an original Kyogen-inspired piece. Whether watching or participating, visitors discover how an art form developed centuries ago continues to speak to people today.

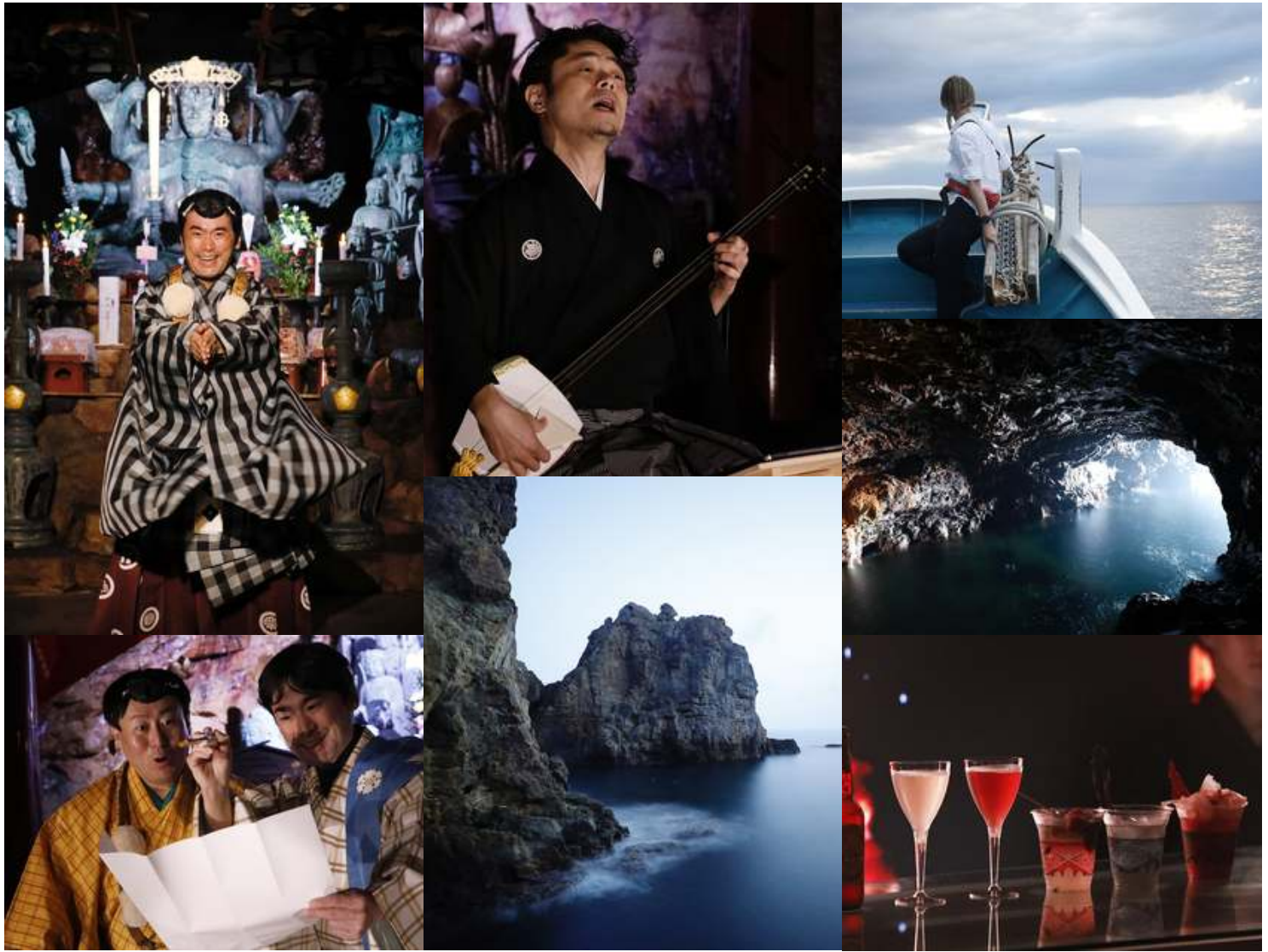
Information

Duration	2 hours
Group Size	2-20 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A : Your Story in Kyogen 380,000 JPY / group
B : Private Temple Kyogen Night 39,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [All over Japan](#)



No.2

Where Legends Meet the Sea

Sea Caves, Performance & Coastal Storytelling



Experience

Along the rugged coastline of Shirahama, dramatic cliffs, sea caves, and open waters have shaped local life for centuries. Here, stories remain alive through landscapes, performances, and the people who continue to share them. Traveling by private boat, guests journey along Shirahama's dramatic coastline and places long associated with local legends and beliefs. Within a privately reserved sea cave, traditional performance and storytelling bring these narratives to life in an extraordinary setting shaped by centuries of wind and waves. Combining exploration, performance, and hospitality, the journey offers a rare opportunity to experience Shirahama not only as a destination of natural beauty, but as a place where stories continue to live within the land and sea.

Information

Duration	A: 3.5 hours B: 2 hours
Group Size	2-12 guests
Age Requirement	7+ years old

Plans *interpretation included*

A : Legends of the Sea Experience
1,320,000 JPY / group

B : Sea Caves & Performance Experience
660,000 JPY / group

Place ▶ [Wakayama Area](#)

Shirahama

This experience forms part of a broader cultural journey currently being developed in and around Shirahama. Further experiences will include overnight stays at Japanese modern accommodations, as well as encounters with regional crafts, food culture, and local traditions. Please visit our website for the latest updates.



No.3

Where Stone Becomes Practice Quiet Practices at the Temple of Stones



Experience

Shoboji Temple, known as the “Temple of Stones,” is home to a distinctive garden composed of stones gathered from across Japan. Carefully arranged with symbolic meanings, the landscape invites contemplation and quiet observation.

In this experience, a monk guides guests through the temple grounds, introducing the stories behind the stones, statues, and Buddhist imagery found throughout the garden.

Guests may then deepen their encounter with the temple through Buddhist practices such as chanting the Heart Sutra, copying a sutra, or participating in a fire ritual. Alternatively, they may enter the stone garden to create traditional sand patterns (samon), tracing the imagined flow of water through stone and gravel.

Whether through practice or the quiet act of shaping the garden itself, the experience offers time to slow down and engage with a living temple tradition.

Information

Duration	2 hours
Group Size	2-8 guests
Age Requirement	6+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A : Quiet Buddhist Practices at the Temple of Stones	11,500 JPY / person
B : Drawing Water in Stone — The Art of Samon	11,500 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Between Kyoto and Osaka
6 mins.train & 15 mins.taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.4

Flowing Water and Courtly Play Kemari and Sacred Water Tea at Minase Shrine



Experience

Minase Shrine, founded more than 700 years ago, is closely linked to important episodes in Japanese history and is renowned for its exceptionally pure sacred water. Valued for centuries, this water continues to be used today in the production of Suntory whisky and beer.

Using this same water, guests enjoy a tea experience and take part in a unique form of omikuji in which the fortune is revealed only when touched with water.

Visitors then experience kemari, a traditional ball game once practiced by aristocrats and members of the imperial court. Unlike modern competitive sports, kemari is played cooperatively rather than competitively, with participants working together to keep a leather ball in the air. Dressed in kariginu, traditional court attire, guests experience a form of elegant play that has been passed down for centuries.

Together, these experiences offer a gentle encounter with both the sacred and the playful dimensions of court culture, expressed through water, movement, and ritual within the living grounds of the shrine.

Information

Duration	2.5 hours
Group Size	2-13 guests
Age Requirement	13+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Sacred Water Tea and Kemari Experience
28,500 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Osaka Area](#)

Between Kyoto and Osaka
20 mins. train & 5 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.5

Into the Sacred Flame

Private Goma Fire Ritual at Tanukidanisan Fudo-in



Experience

Tanukidanisan Fudo-in is a mountain temple deeply connected to the traditions of Shugendo and devoted to Fudo Myoo, whose sacred image is enshrined within a natural cave on the mountainside.

In this experience, practitioners welcome you at the foot of the mountain and guide you along the forest path, sharing the meaning of the statues, deities, and mountain symbolism encountered along the way. The ascent itself becomes part of the experience, inviting you to slow your pace and enter the atmosphere of the mountain.

After ascending to the temple grounds, you are led into the inner sanctum surrounding the goma altar — an area normally closed to the public — where a private fire ritual is performed before Fudo Myoo.

During the ceremony, prayers are offered for happiness, protection, and well-being through the dedication of a sacred flame. At the climax of the ritual, you are invited to place a wooden gomagi prayer stick into the fire yourself.

The experience concludes with the presentation of a consecrated goma-fuda talisman, allowing you to carry a connection to the ritual home with you.

Information

Duration	2 hours
Group Size	4-8 guests
Age Requirement	6+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Private Goma Fire Ritual

Adults: 55,000 JPY / person

Children: (6–12 years old): 27,500 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Rakuhoku

30 mins.taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 6

Forging Resolve Commission Your Own Fudo Sword



Experience

Tanukidanisan Fudo-in has long been a place where people come to pray at decisive moments in life—before performances, examinations, competitions, business ventures, and other important challenges.

Inspired by Fudo Myoo, the deity who cuts through obstacles with his sword, this unique project allows you to commission an original Fudo Sword created specifically for you.

Working with traditional tamahagane steel, skilled swordsmiths forge the blade using methods passed down through generations. Guests participate in tanren, the most dynamic stage of the forging process, experiencing firsthand the rhythm, sound, and energy of shaping steel.

Before and after the forging, priests perform special blessings so that the completed sword may serve as a symbol of protection and determination.

The finished blade is later delivered with a custom display stand, allowing it to be enshrined at home as a lasting reminder of resolve, purpose, and strength.

Information

Duration	9 hours
Group Size	1-20 guests
Age Requirement	6+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Commission Your Own Fudo Sword
1,815,000 JPY / blade

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Rakuhoku
30 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 7

The Art of Appreciation Refined Encounters at Manshuin Monzeki



Experience

Manshuin Monzeki is one of Kyoto's most refined temples, historically associated with imperial and aristocratic culture. For centuries, it has preserved an atmosphere shaped by courtly aesthetics, tea culture, garden design, and the quiet pursuit of beauty.

Rather than inviting action, the temple draws attention to space, light, proportion, and atmosphere — elements central to Japanese aesthetic sensibility. Its gardens, architecture, and cultural treasures reward careful observation, revealing details that become more meaningful the longer one lingers.

Through a special guided visit, guests enter areas normally closed to the public and experience the temple beyond ordinary sightseeing. Here, appreciation itself becomes the experience.

Whether through the quiet atmosphere of a historic tea room or the solemn presence of a private goma ritual, these encounters invite guests to engage with beauty, history, and spirituality at an unhurried pace.

Information

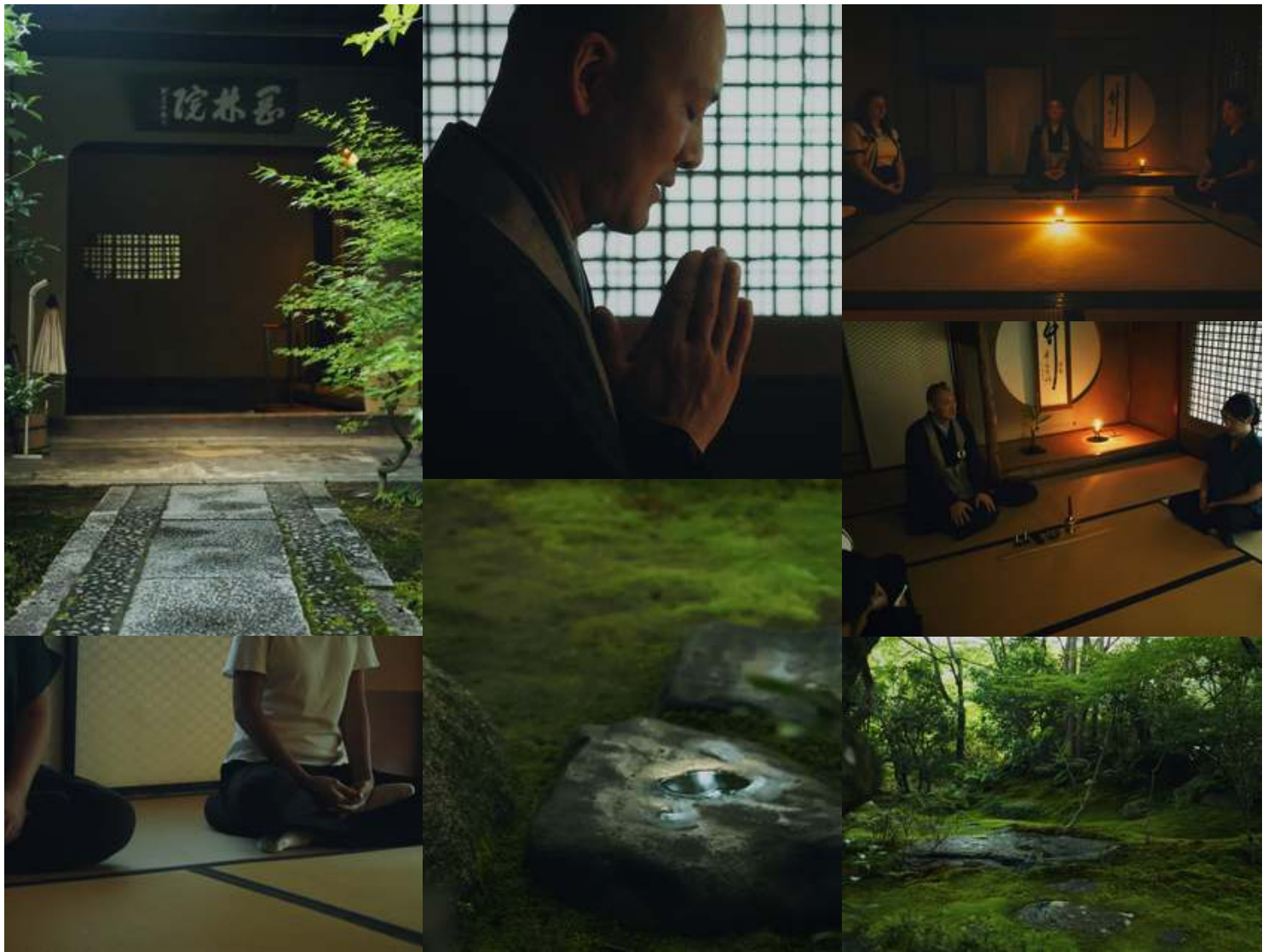
Duration	2 hours
Group Size	2-20 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

- A: Fire Ritual Experience
48,000 JPY / person
- B: Hassoken Visit & Tea
68,000 JPY / person
- C: Fire Ritual, Hassoken Visit & Tea
98,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Rakuhoku
30 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 8

Where Time Slows into Zen Zazen in a Hidden Temple



Experience

Korin-in is a rarely opened sub-temple tucked quietly within Kyoto's Higashiyama district. Crossing its gate, visitors often find the atmosphere shift immediately. Sounds soften, movement slows, and the intimate scale of the temple creates a feeling of distance from the city just beyond its walls.

Sessions are held at various hours, following the rhythm of the temple. Each time of day brings its own quality of light — the hush of early morning, soft daylight filtering through the halls, or the glow of candlelight as evening falls. Whatever the hour, the shifting light and shadow encourage attention to settle inward, while the surrounding moss garden frames the experience with quiet beauty.

Guided by the resident priest, whose manner is gentle yet clear, the session welcomes both first-time visitors and experienced practitioners. Rather than trying to “do” Zen, guests are invited to let the rhythm of the place guide them — to linger, to observe, and to experience the richness of a moment shaped by quiet and soft light. Offered only on limited occasions and in small groups, each gathering feels personal and unrepeatable. It is an opportunity to step briefly into another world within Kyoto and experience a moment defined by stillness, beauty, and time.

Information

Duration	1.5 hours
Group Size	2-8 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation included*

A: Private Zazen Experience
16,000 JPY / person

B: Private Tea Experience
35,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Higashiyama
15 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.9

Quiet Connections Zazen and Samon at Koseiji



Experience

Koseiji is a temple rarely opened to the public, known for its stone garden shaped as the character for “heart” (kokoro). Designed by Mirei Shigemori, whose gardens continue to influence landscape architects around the world, the garden invites quiet reflection through its bold composition and symbolic form. Guests begin in a tatami room overlooking the garden before engaging in two simple practices: zazen (seated meditation) and the drawing of traditional sand patterns (samon) within the garden itself.

As attention settles through these gentle activities, many discover a quiet sense of connection — to the space, to their own breath, and to the people sharing the experience. The deputy priest is present throughout, offering guidance and creating a welcoming atmosphere for both first-time visitors and experienced practitioners.

Rather than focusing on technique or achievement, the experience invites guests to slow down and spend time within a rarely accessible temple setting, where calmness and connection emerge naturally through shared practice.

Information

Duration	A: 2 hours B: 1 hour
Group Size	2-20 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A: Zen Reflection and Samon Practice
30,000 JPY / person

B: Zen Reflection
22,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Nishijin
20 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 10

The Luxury of Time Zen at Shoden Eigen-in



Experience

Shoden Eigen-in is a sub-temple of Kennin-ji, the oldest Zen temple in Kyoto. While located in the heart of the historic Gion district, the temple offers a distinctly different rhythm from the city that surrounds it.

Its beauty lies not only in its architecture and gardens, but in the presence of a living Zen community. The temple continues to be cared for, inhabited, and practiced within each day, creating a sense of continuity that cannot be recreated in purpose-built venues or tourist-oriented settings.

Guests may choose to experience Zen culture through zazen (seated meditation), a traditional tea experience with seasonal sweets, or a program that combines both. Gentle guidance is provided throughout, making each experience approachable even for first-time visitors.

Rather than emphasizing technique or formality, the program invites guests to spend unhurried time within the rhythm of the temple. As light, sound, and atmosphere shift throughout the day, visitors are encouraged to experience Kyoto not through activity, but through presence.

Information

Duration	A: 1.5 hours B: 1 hour
Group Size	A: 3-6 guests B: 5-10 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A: Zen and Tea Experience
48,000 JPY / person

B: Zazen Experience
28,500 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Gion
15 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station

No. 11

Living the Rhythm Overnight Stay at a Forest Temple



Information

Duration	A: 17 hours B: 12 hours
Group Size	2-5 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A: Overnight Stay at a Forest Temple	33,000 JPY / person
B: Overnight Stay at a Forest Temple (Short)	18,700 JPY / person

Experience

Hidden among the forested hills of Nantan, this Soto Zen temple offers an opportunity to step away from the pace of daily life and enter a different rhythm for a night.

Guests take part in the natural flow of temple life, including morning rituals, seated meditation, quiet work, and time spent simply within the surroundings of the temple. Meditation is guided by the resident monk, who introduces a sitting posture designed for comfort and stability.

Surrounded by trees and shaped by the changing sounds of the forest, this overnight stay invites guests to experience the atmosphere of a living temple community and spend a day moving at a slower, more intentional pace.

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Nantan City
30 mins. train & 10 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station

No. 12

Learning Everyday Buddhist Practice A Gentle Temple Experience in Fushimi



Information

Duration	2.5 hours
Group Size	1-6 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Everyday Buddhist Practice Experience	44,000 JPY / person
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Experience

Visit a temple in Fushimi, Kyoto, with a history of nearly 800 years and discover how Buddhist practice is woven into everyday life. Guided by the resident priest, the experience offers an accessible introduction to Buddhism, even for those with no prior background.

Guests take part in simple practices such as traditional bowing, prayer, and striking the wooden fish (mokugyo) used in daily temple routines. Prayer beads are provided, and participants may choose a set to take home as a keepsake.

The experience concludes with tea and conversation with the priest, creating space for questions, reflection, and a deeper understanding of Buddhism as a living tradition.

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Fushimi
15 mins. train and 10 mins. walk from Kyoto Station



No. 13

The Way of the Sword Iaijutsu and Kenjutsu at Tada Shrine



Experience

Surrounded by towering cedar trees and centuries of history, Tada Shrine offers a setting unlike any modern training hall. Known as the birthplace of the Seiwa Genji clan, one of Japan's most influential warrior lineages, the shrine retains an atmosphere that naturally evokes the world of the samurai.

Within this remarkable setting, guests are introduced to the principles of iaijutsu and kenjutsu through direct instruction from renowned swordsman Isao Machii.

More than techniques of the sword, these traditions cultivate awareness, timing, posture, and presence. Through practice and conversation, participants gain insight into the mindset that shaped the warrior culture of Japan and continues to influence martial traditions today.

Set among the quiet forests and historic grounds of Tada Shrine, this experience offers a rare opportunity to encounter the sword not as a performance, but as a living discipline.

Information

Duration	A: 7 hours B: 3 hours
Group Size	2-20 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A: Spend a Day Inside the World of Iai
458,000 JPY / person

B: Experience the World of Iai
195,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Hyogo Area](#)

Kawanishi
20 mins. train & 15 mins. taxi ride from Osaka Station



No. 14

Forging Your Own Blade Japanese Swordsmithing Experience



Experience

Japanese swords are more than weapons. Long after firearms had replaced them on the battlefield, they continued to be treasured as objects of beauty, identity, and spiritual significance. In the world of Japanese swords, the ability to cut is taken for granted; what distinguishes an exceptional blade is its beauty.

Long before modern metallurgy, swordsmiths learned to control temperature and hardness through observation and experience — reading the color of heated steel and judging subtle changes by sight and touch. These sensitivities continue to be passed from master to apprentice and remain at the heart of sword making today.

In this experience, guests work directly with a practicing swordsmith and take part in the creation of their own blade. Through forging, shaping, clay coating, and quenching, participants gain insight into both the technical and artistic aspects of the tradition.

Guests may choose to forge a traditional Japanese-style utility knife or a small blade made from tamahagane steel. Full-sized sword projects are available upon consultation.

Information

Duration	4 hours
Group Size	1-4 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

- A : Japanese-Style Utility Knife Forging
61,000 JPY / blade
- B : Tamahagane Small Knife Forging
39,000 JPY / blade
- C : Full-Sized Sword Project
Price Upon Request

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Kameoka
25 mins. train & 25 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 15

Where Your Work Becomes the Landscape Traditional Bamboo Fence Building Project



Experience

Bamboo fencing is one of the defining elements of Kyoto's gardens and temple grounds. Though often overlooked, it plays an essential role in shaping views and creating harmony between architecture and nature.

In this project, guests work alongside master bamboo artisans to construct a section of traditional bamboo fencing at a temple beyond Kyoto's usual tourist routes. Participants experience the techniques used to maintain the city's cultural landscape while contributing directly to its preservation.

Under the artisans' guidance, the completed fence is installed on-site and becomes a lasting part of the temple grounds, often remaining in place for ten to twenty years.

Rather than simply observing cultural heritage, participants become part of its continuation. The work created today will shape the experience of future visitors for years to come.

Information

Duration	3 hours
Group Size	2-30 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

- A : Individual Participation
50,000 JPY / person
- B : Corporate / MICE Project
From 400,000 JPY / group

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

To Be Coordinated with You



No. 16

Where Fire Leaves Its Trace Yakishime Table Set Experience



Experience

Yakishime is a traditional wood-fired ceramic technique in which no glaze is used; instead, natural ash from the kiln settles on the clay, creating subtle textures and patterns.

You will be guided around the kiln and learn how yakishime firing is achieved — how hundreds of pieces are placed, how ash movement is controlled, and how firing takes place over several days. After choosing your clay color — white, black, or sakura — you will create a 20 cm dinner plate and a bowl together with the artist in a pottery studio beside the kiln.

Once your pieces are shaped, the artist will produce matching works of the same form, allowing you to bring home a complete table set combining your work with the artist's work.

Your tableware will be loaded into the kiln during the next firing and shipped once completed (3-6 months).

Designed for everyday use at home or for welcoming guests, this table set allows you to enjoy both the function and the story of the pieces.

Information

Duration	2 hours
Group Size	1-6 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A : Yakishime Table Set Experience
48,000 JPY / person

B : Yakishime Pottery Experience
7,000 ~ 13,500 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Kameoka
30 mins. train & 25 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 17

Legacy in Stone Stone Village Walk and Lantern Workshop



Experience

Just beyond Kyoto lies a historic stone-working village where generations of artisans have shaped both the landscape and the culture of the region. Scattered throughout the area are ancient tombs, shrines, torii gates, stone Buddhas, and monuments that reveal the enduring role of stone in Japanese life and belief.

Led by a fifth- and sixth-generation stone mason family, guests begin with a guided walk through the village. Along the way, you will discover how local stone has been used for centuries and gain insight into the traditions, techniques, and stories that continue to shape the community today.

After exploring the landscape, the experience continues in the artisan's workshop. Using traditional tools and methods, participants create a hand-sized stone table lantern under the direct guidance of the artisans. Through carving, shaping, and finishing the stone, guests experience the patience and precision required to work with one of Japan's oldest building materials.

The finished lantern becomes more than a souvenir. It is a piece shaped by your own hands and connected to a place where stone, history, and daily life have remained closely intertwined for generations.

Information

Duration	3 hours
Group Size	1-4 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation included*

Stone Village Walk and Lantern Workshop
57,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Kameoka
25 mins. train & 25 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 18

The Alchemy of Color & Pattern

Yuzen Color Paper Studio



Experience

Originally developed for kimono, Yuzen is celebrated for its intricate patterns and vibrant colors. In this studio, the same techniques are reimagined through handcrafted decorative paper, transforming a textile tradition into a new form of artistic expression.

After touring the working studio, guests select six colors from more than twenty options and learn how Yuzen's color-separation techniques are used to build layers of pattern and depth. While the carved molds remain the same, each participant creates a unique composition through their own color choices.

The freedom to combine colors often leads to unexpected results. Some of the most memorable works emerge from combinations the artisans themselves would never have imagined, occasionally revealing new possibilities within a centuries-old tradition.

Completed works may be enjoyed as decorative paper or transformed into functional objects such as folding fans and hand fans.

Information

Duration	2 hours
Group Size	2-4 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Yuzen Color Paper Experience
33,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Nantan City
 30 mins. train & 10 mins. walk from Kyoto Station



No. 19

Experience

This historic Kyoto studio produces traditional chochin, including the iconic lantern displayed at the entrance of Minami-za Theater. Alongside temple and theater commissions, the studio also collaborates with prominent international fashion houses, Japanese brands, and creates custom lighting for hotels and private residences in Japan and abroad. Through these contemporary projects, chochin has evolved from traditional signage into refined interior lighting that fits modern spaces.

In this experience, you will take part in the paper-pasting stage of creating a 30 cm lantern. While the process may appear simple, achieving a beautifully even surface requires careful control of tension and placement. Guided closely by the studio's artisans, you will learn the delicate technique of applying washi to the bamboo frame and complete your own lantern by hand. Your finished piece becomes a functional interior piece — a refined souvenir that brings a subtle Japanese presence into your everyday living space.

Crafting Light in Paper Kyoto Chochin Studio



Information

Duration	3 hours
Group Size	2-10 guests
Age Requirement	9+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Shakumaru Chochin
78,500 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Higashiyama
10 mins. train ride from Kyoto Station



No.20

Weaving the Impossible Tsuzure-ori Textile Studio



Experience

Tsuzure-ori is one of Japan's most demanding textile traditions, historically used for high-grade kimono and obi. Images are created by switching individual weft threads by hand, one color and one strand at a time — a process requiring immense patience, precision, and skill.

In this experience, guests visit a rarely opened Tsuzure-ori studio in western Kyoto and observe the weaving process up close. The slow rhythm of the loom and the meticulous work of the artisans offer a glimpse into a world far removed from modern production.

The studio is also engaged in an ambitious project to recreate Katsushika Hokusai's Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji in woven form, translating iconic woodblock prints into textiles.

Alongside the studio visit, guests create their own naturally dyed scarf using plant-based dyes. More than making an object, the experience offers rare access to a living tradition sustained by time, dedication, and artistic vision.

Information

Duration	2 hours	
Group Size	A: 2-4 guests	B: 1-3 guests
Age Requirement	10+ years old	

Plans *interpretation required*

A : Hiraori Coaster and Natural Dyeing
14,800 JPY / person

B : Tsuzureori Cardcase and Natural Dyeing
19,800 JPY / 1 person
28,800 JPY / 2 people
31,350 JPY / 3 people

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Between Kyoto and Osaka
10 mins. train & 15 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.21

Carving Quietly Within Stone Omamori Studio Experience



Experience

Set within a peaceful natural environment, this experience takes place at the studio of a stone artist who views carving not simply as a craft, but as a quiet form of reflection.

After a brief introduction to the studio, guests create a small stone sculpture known as an omamori. Working slowly by hand, participants respond to the texture of the stone, the rhythm of carving, and the thoughts that naturally emerge through the process.

Rather than focusing on technique or perfection, the experience encourages attention, patience, and self-reflection. Many guests find that the steady act of carving becomes a quiet conversation with themselves, expressed through the material in their hands.

The finished omamori serves as a personal companion and a reminder of the time spent listening — to the stone, to the artist, and to oneself.

Information

Duration	3 hours
Group Size	1-6 guests
Requirement	Strong enough to carve for 3 hours.

Plans *interpretation required*

Stone Omamori Experience with Studio Tour
55,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Between Kyoto and Osaka
6 mins. train & 15 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.22

Where Colors Come Alive Yusai-tei in Arashiyama



Experience

Nestled along the Katsura River in Arashiyama, Yusai-tei is a place where landscape, architecture, and color come together in unexpected ways. Once a riverside inn, the building is known for its seasonal reflections, playful visual compositions, and ever-changing views of the surrounding scenery.

The artist Yusai Okuda devoted himself to exploring color through traditional dyeing techniques, creating works that invited people to look more closely at the world around them. Yet his vision extended beyond the craft itself. He believed that beauty, curiosity, and delight could become gateways to deeper encounters with Japanese culture.

Throughout Yusai-tei, visitors discover moments designed to inspire wonder — shifting reflections, carefully framed landscapes, and artistic interventions that transform the act of looking into an experience of discovery. Through these encounters, guests are invited to take a first step into the wider world of Japanese aesthetics and cultural traditions. Today, Yusai-tei continues to share that spirit, welcoming visitors into a place where nature, art, and tradition quietly meet. The colors may continue to change, but the invitation remains the same: to look closely, to wonder, and to discover.

Plans

Currently being renewed for its next chapter. New programs will be announced once ready.

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Arashiyama



No.23

Where Patterns Defy Expectation Suribitta Dyeing Workshop



Experience

Suribitta is a unique Kyoto dyeing technique developed during the Edo period. When luxurious shibori textiles became restricted, artisans devised a new method that recreated the appearance of intricate tie-dye patterns through stencil printing and brushwork. The result was a remarkable act of creativity—using dyeing techniques to imitate what had previously been achieved through labor-intensive textile manipulation.

This experience takes place in a traditional Kyoto townhouse preserved by the family that has inherited and practiced the technique for generations. Guided by a descendant of the lineage, guests learn how patterns are created by brushing color through finely carved stencils, building designs layer by layer.

Participants choose from a selection of traditional motifs and create their own piece, which is later finished as either a goshuincho (temple stamp book) or a fukusa cloth. Along the way, the artisan introduces the stories, symbolism, and cultural meanings embedded within the designs.

More than a printing workshop, the experience offers a rare encounter with a technique born from ingenuity—one that continues to reveal new possibilities within a centuries-old tradition.

Information

Duration	2.5 hours
Group Size	2-8 guests
Age Requirement	10+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A : Fukusa Cloth
25,500 JPY / person

B : Goshuincho Cover
21,500 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Nijo-jo Area
15 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.24

Pottery Across Generations Handcrafting with Two Regional Traditions



Experience

This family-run studio brings together two ceramic traditions from different regions of Japan: Kiyomizu-yaki from Kyoto and Koishiwara-yaki from Fukuoka. Their work reflects a unique meeting of regional influences, creating vessels that balance tradition with a refined contemporary sensibility.

Today, a new chapter is unfolding as their son joins the studio, continuing a practice in which techniques, ideas, and values are shared across generations.

During the experience, guests handcraft their own piece under the guidance of the artists. Once shaped, the work is completed with the studio's signature tobikanna pattern, applied by the artists themselves before firing. The result combines your own creation with one of the defining traditions of the studio.

More than a pottery lesson, the experience offers an opportunity to encounter both the regional diversity of Japanese ceramics and the family relationships through which these traditions continue to evolve.

Information

Duration	2 hours
Group Size	2-6 guests
Age Requirement	6+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

- A : Pottery Experience with Studio Piece
42,000 JPY / person
- B : Pottery Experience
34,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Higashiyama
10 mins. train ride from Kyoto Station



No.25

Woven Light for Your Home Contemporary Sudare Workshop



Experience

For centuries, sudare has shaped the way Japanese homes filter light, air, and space. In this Kyoto studio, that tradition is reimagined through contemporary interior design, transforming bamboo and thread into pieces that feel equally at home in modern living spaces.

Guests create either a handcrafted lampshade or a decorative screen using techniques inspired by traditional sudare making. While traditional sudare are often left in natural tones, this studio has developed methods for dyeing bamboo in a wide range of colors, opening new possibilities for expression through an established craft.

Before the experience, participants select their preferred color palette and create a piece that reflects both Japanese tradition and their own design sensibility. The freedom to combine colors often leads to unexpected results, occasionally revealing combinations that surprise even the artisans themselves.

More than a souvenir, the finished work becomes part of your living space — a lasting reminder of your time in Kyoto that can be enjoyed for years to come.

Information

Duration	4 hours
Group Size	1-6 guests
Age Requirement	9+ years old

Plans *interpretation recommended*

A : Hanging Lampshade
63,000 JPY / person

B : Gradation Screen
50,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Kameoka
30 mins.train ride & 10 mins. walk from Kyoto Station



No.26

Where Grass Becomes Architecture The Story of Tatami



Experience

Few materials have shaped Japanese daily life as profoundly as tatami. Made almost entirely from natural grasses, tatami has been used for more than a thousand years and remains one of the defining elements of Japanese interiors.

What many people do not realize is that tatami was not originally used as permanent flooring. Early tatami were thinner, portable mats that could be folded, moved, and arranged as needed. Over time, they evolved alongside Japanese architecture, eventually becoming the foundation of the spaces we recognize today.

Through the stories and demonstrations of a dedicated tatami maker, guests are introduced to the history, materials, and techniques behind one of Japan's oldest living traditions. As he explains how tatami adapted to changing lifestyles and architecture over the centuries, visitors gain a deeper appreciation for a material that quietly shaped the Japanese way of living.

After observing the production process and handling the natural materials themselves, participants create a small tatami coaster to take home. More than a souvenir, it serves as a reminder that one of Japan's oldest cultural traditions began with something as simple as grass.

Information

Duration	1.5 hours
Group Size	1-8 guests
Age Requirement	9+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Tatami Studio Experience
21,500 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Nishijin
20 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.27

Casting Resonance Orin Bells Forged in Fire



Experience

This experience takes place at one of the few remaining studios in Japan that continues the traditional casting of orin bells and Buddhist ritual instruments. For more than 190 years, the studio has been crafting bells known for their clear and distinctive resonance.

On casting days, guests witness the rare moment when molten alloy is poured into molds and a new orin is born in fire. The process offers a powerful glimpse into how sound is shaped through heat, material, and skilled craftspersonship.

Even when casting is not taking place, visitors gain insight into the techniques and knowledge required to create instruments whose tones have accompanied Buddhist practice and meditation for generations.

Each participant receives a LinNe Chibi, a small meditation bell made from the same alloy and through the same process as the studio's larger instruments, allowing the experience to continue long after the visit.

Information

Duration	4 hours
Group Size	1-10 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation included*

Orin Foundry Experience with LinNe Chibi
64,000 JPY / group

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Uji
20 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.28

Where Colors Begin Dyeing Threads for Nishijin Weaving



Experience

In Nishijin, Kyoto's weaving district, color is not applied to cloth. It enters the thread first, and the cloth is built from it — so every pattern is woven, never printed.

For centuries, Nishijin was a network of specialist studios, each responsible for one stage: design, dyeing, weaving, finishing, and more. No single house made a textile alone. Though these divisions have softened, this knowledge has been passed down.

Your host is a textile master with decades of experience. The day begins in a weaving house closed to visitors — looms in motion, threads under tension, and the sound of artisanship.

Then you dye. Using production silk, you develop your own colors under the master's guidance. Your dyed thread is woven into your piece, then sent to you about two months later.

Groups can go further: everyone's dyed threads are woven into one length of silk, with each person's colors appearing in sequence. It is then cut into panels to take home. Four people, four panels — literally from the same cloth.

Choose a scarf, a framed Nishijin panel, or commission your own kimono, haori, or obi.

Information

Duration	A/C: 3 hours B: 1 hour
Group Size	1-4 guests
Age Requirement	15+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

- A : Thread Dyeing & Nishijin Art Panel
88,000 JPY / person
(includes a 1m panel; longer panels available at 33,000 JPY / m)
- B : Scarf Dyeing Experience
29,700 JPY / person
- C : Commission Your Own Kimono, Haori, or Obi
Price upon request

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Nishijin
20 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station

No.29

Turning Sound from Wood Birdcall Studio Experience



Information

Duration	1 hour
Group Size	2-4 guests
Age Requirement	6+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Birdcall Studio Experience
9,800 JPY / person

Experience

Set near Izumo Daijingu Shrine, this experience takes place in the workshop of an artisan who gives new life to wood left over from musical instrument production.

Under the artisan's guidance, guests create a handcrafted birdcall from reclaimed wood. As the piece takes shape, visitors discover how form, material, and sound are closely connected, transforming a small piece of wood into a simple instrument with its own distinctive voice. Along the way, the artisan shares his approach to materials and making, revealing how even the smallest fragments of wood can become something meaningful through imagination and care.

The completed birdcall becomes both a playful musical object and a lasting reminder of time spent shaping sound by hand.

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Kameoka
25 mins. train & 15 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station

No.30

Made by Hand Wooden Stool Craft Workshop



Information

Duration	3 hours
Group Size	2-4 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Wooden Stool Craft Workshop
23,500 JPY / person

Experience

In this hands-on woodworking experience, guests visit a local workshop and create a wooden stool under the guidance of an experienced craftsman.

From assembly to finishing, each step offers insight into the care, precision, and satisfaction behind handmade furniture. Working with natural wood and traditional techniques, participants gain a deeper appreciation for the skills that support everyday craftsmanship in Japan.

The completed stool can be taken home as both a practical piece of furniture and a lasting reminder of the experience.

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Kameoka
30 mins. train & 10 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 31

Tracing the Making of Lacquerware Kawada's Living Craft Network



Experience

Kawada, in Fukui Prefecture, is one of Japan's most important lacquerware-producing regions. Here, lacquerware is not made by a single artisan, but through a network of specialists, each responsible for a different stage of production.

In this experience, guests visit three makers in a single day, taking part in selected processes and creating their own bowls or lunch boxes under the guidance of the artisans. Through these encounters, participants gain insight into how individual skills are layered together to create a finished piece.

The specialists you meet are part of a community that continues to sustain and pass on these techniques today. Their work offers a rare glimpse into a living tradition shaped by collaboration, expertise, and generations of accumulated knowledge.

Once completed by the artisans, the finished pieces are shipped to participants, allowing the story of their creation to continue through everyday use.

Information

Duration	7 hours
Group Size	1-5 guests
Age Requirement	10+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A : Lacquerware Journey Experience (Bowl)
350,000 JPY / group

B : Lacquerware Journey Experience (Bento Box)
400,000 JPY / group

Place ▶ [Fukui Area](#)

Kawada
20 mins. taxi ride from Echizen Takefu Station



No. 32

The Architecture of Hospitality Kyoto Cuisine & Historic Architecture at Kinsuitei



Experience

Standing beside the waters of Hachijyo-ga-ike Pond at Nagaoka Tenmangu Shrine, Kinsuitei has long served as a setting for celebrations, gatherings, and seasonal occasions. Framed by water, gardens, and changing scenery, the restaurant offers an atmosphere shaped by centuries of hospitality.

The experience begins with a traditional Kyoto meal prepared from carefully selected seasonal ingredients. Following the meal, guests explore the architecture of Kinsuitei with local architects involved in the preservation and restoration of traditional buildings. Composed of structures from different periods, the complex reveals how Japanese architecture has evolved while continuing to support the rituals of dining, gathering, and welcoming guests.

Entering spaces not normally open to the public, visitors gain insight into the relationship between architecture, landscape, and hospitality. More than a restaurant or architectural tour, the experience offers a rare opportunity to understand how Kyoto cuisine and the spaces created to serve it have developed together over time.

Information

Duration	3 hours
Group Size	2-10 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Kyoto Cuisine & Architecture Experience
89,000 JPY / 2 guests + 30,000 JPY / guest

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Between Kyoto and Osaka
10 mins. train & 5 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 33

An Invitation to Tea Private Tea Ceremony in Arashiyama



Experience

In a quiet corner of Arashiyama, guests are welcomed into a genuine tearoom for a private introduction to the world of Japanese tea. Guided by an experienced instructor of the Omotesenke tradition, the experience offers an opportunity to encounter tea not as a performance, but as a living cultural practice.

Before the ceremony begins, guests are introduced to the tearoom, garden, utensils, and customs that shape the tea gathering. Through these explanations, the principles of tea — attention, hospitality, and appreciation — gradually come into focus.

On occasion, rare tea utensils, hanging scrolls, or Raku tea bowls are also presented and discussed. These objects are not displayed as museum pieces, but as tools that continue to be used and appreciated within the tradition, offering insight into the aesthetic values that have shaped Japanese culture for centuries.

Seasonal sweets are served before the tea, and guests may choose either a traditional tatami setting or a contemporary seating style. Beginners are warmly welcomed.

More than a tea ceremony, this experience is an invitation to step into the world of tea and discover the beauty, thoughtfulness, and atmosphere that continue to sustain it today.

Information

Duration	A: 1.5 hours B: 2.5 hours
Group Size	2-11 guests
Age Requirement	6+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A : Private Tea Ceremony in Arashiyama
47,000 JPY / person

B : Private Tea Ceremony in Arashiyama with Meal and sake
57,400 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Arashiyama
20 mins. train & 5 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No.34

Where Wishes Take Shape Mochi as Seasonal Ritual Food



Experience

For centuries, mochi has held a special place in Japanese life. More than a simple food, it has long been associated with prayers for good harvests, prosperity, and well-being, and was traditionally offered to the gods as part of seasonal observances and celebrations.

In earlier times, families and communities gathered to pound mochi themselves. As cities grew and lifestyles changed, this role was gradually taken on by specialist shops. In Kyoto, Narumi Mochi Honten has continued this tradition for generations and remains a beloved part of local life.

During the experience, guests tour the workshop, learn about the history and production of mochi, and take part in a traditional mochi-pounding session. The shop is also home to Kyoto's oldest surviving mochi-pounding machine, reflecting how traditions evolve while remaining rooted in community life.

Freshly made mochi is then enjoyed in a seasonal style selected by the shop, offering a taste of the flavors, customs, and enduring hopes that have long accompanied this cherished food.

Information

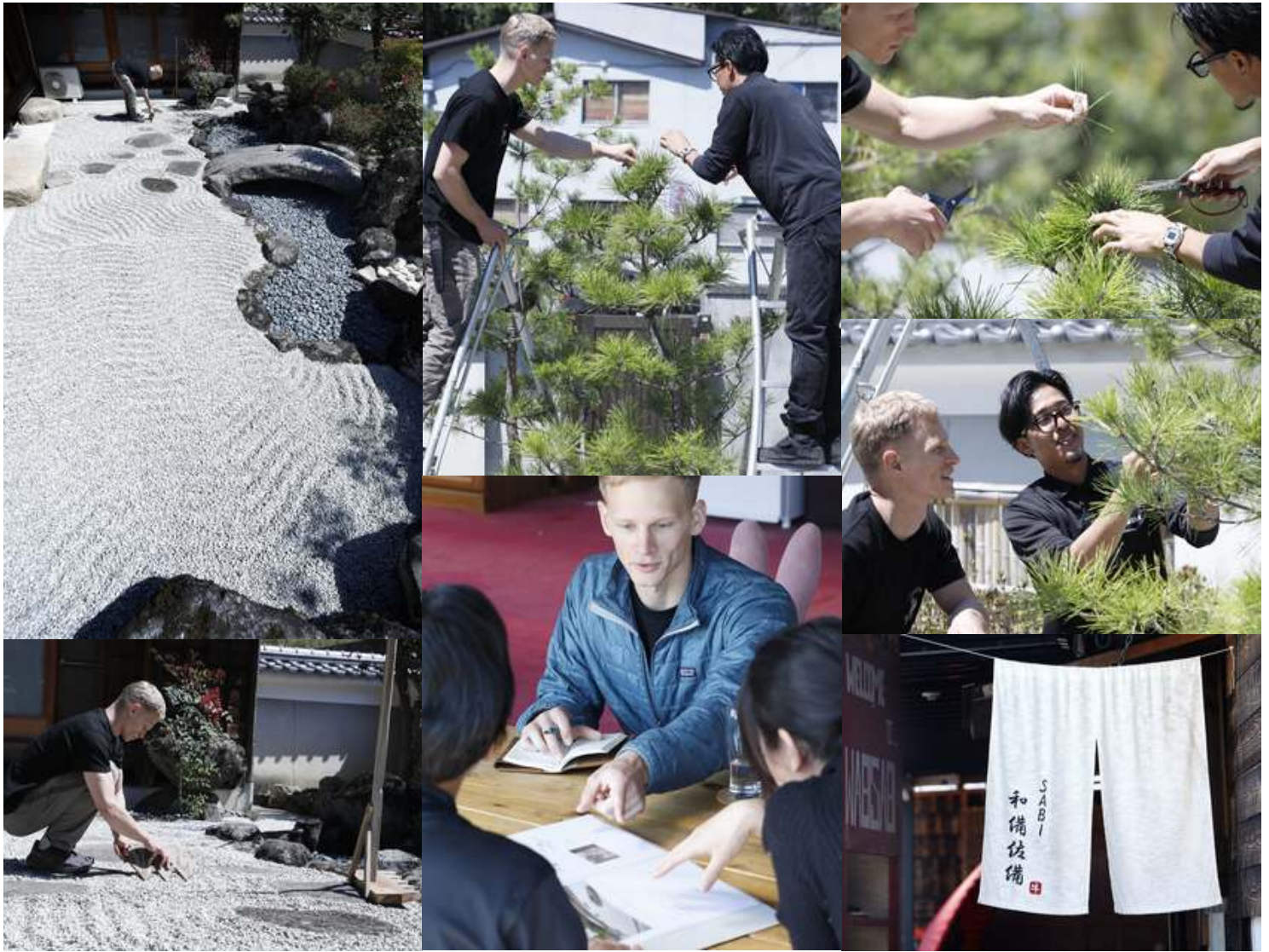
Duration	1.5 hours
Group Size	3-20 guests
Age Requirement	All ages

Plans *interpretation required*

Mochi as Seasonal Ritual Food
20,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Nishijin
15 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



No. 35

Living Japanese Gardens Garden Care & Garden Making Experience



Experience

Set in southern Osaka, close to Kansai International Airport, this experience introduces the living traditions of Japanese gardens through the perspective of a professional gardener. While sharing roots with the famous gardens of Kyoto, the region has developed its own techniques and approaches, offering visitors a broader understanding of Japanese garden culture.

Guests work alongside the gardener and experience the careful practices that shape Japanese landscapes throughout the seasons. Depending on the program, participants learn tree pruning, create traditional sand patterns in a Zen garden, and experience techniques that have been passed down through generations of garden makers. A delicious local lunch featuring ingredients from the region, including its renowned wagyu, can also be enjoyed as part of the experience. Rather than simply learning practical skills, the experience reveals how Japanese gardens are continually cared for, renewed, and created through patience, observation, and respect for nature.

Information

Duration	A: 3 hours B: 6 hours
Group Size	2-10 guests
Age Requirement	12+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A: Garden Care Experience
38,000 JPY / person

B: Garden Making Experience
66,000 JPY / person

Optional Add-on: Shimenawa Making Workshop
15,000 JPY / person

Place ▶ [Osaka Area](#)

Tondabayashi
30 mins. train & 15 mins. taxi ride from Namba Station

No.36

Shaping the Seasons in Wagashi

Private Temple Wagashi Experience



Information

Duration	2 hours
Group Size	4-10 guests
Age Requirement	6+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

Private Temple Wagashi Experience
23,500 JPY / person

Experience

Wagashi are more than sweets. Their colors, shapes, and ingredients reflect the changing seasons, transforming moments in nature into something that can be enjoyed through taste and design. In this experience, guests learn directly from a local wagashi artisan while creating seasonal sweets by hand. Along the way, they gain insight into the techniques, aesthetics, and seasonal sensibilities that have shaped Japanese confectionery for generations.

The experience takes place in a privately reserved temple setting, creating a quiet atmosphere in which to appreciate both the making and the meaning of wagashi. Afterward, guests enjoy their creations with matcha while overlooking the temple garden.

More than a cooking activity, the experience offers an introduction to a uniquely Japanese way of observing and celebrating the seasons.

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Between Kyoto and Osaka
6 mins. train & 15 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station

No.37

Worn for a Lifetime

Kimono & Portrait Experience



Information

Duration	3 hours
Group Size	A: 2-6 guests B: 1-2 guests
Age Requirement	A: 3+ years old B: 18+ years old

Plans *interpretation required*

A : Seasonal Kimono Portrait
44,000 JPY / person

B : Wedding Kimono Portrait
190,000 JPY / group

Experience

This experience is offered by kimono specialists and photographers whose work has long centered on traditional Japanese wedding attire. Drawing on this expertise, they help guests discover the beauty, meaning, and presence of kimono.

Guests select their preferred kimono before being dressed by experienced specialists. A professional photo session then takes place in the scenic surroundings of Nagaokakyo, capturing both the garment and the atmosphere of the season. For a more formal experience, wedding kimono such as uchikake and montsuki hakama are also available.

More than a costume experience, this is an opportunity to step into a tradition of dress that continues to mark life's most meaningful occasions.

Place ▶ [Kyoto Area](#)

Between Kyoto and Osaka
10 mins. train & 5 mins. taxi ride from Kyoto Station



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Headquarters
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