JAPAN BY SEA

LAND OF THE RISING SUN

Featuring DR. MIKAEL ADOLPHSON,
Keidanren Professor of Japanese Studies,
University of Cambridge

APRIL 14-28, 2020

Aboard the 57-cabin Caledonian Sky

Limited Time Offer!
SAVE $1,000 per person
Dear Traveler,

You are invited to join Archaeological Institute of America lecturer and host Mikael (Mickey) Adolphson aboard the 57-cabin, all-suite Caledonian Sky for a delightful springtime exploration of Japan by sea. This small nation of nearly 7,000 islands is wonderfully suited for exploration by small ship, and the Caledonian Sky conveys us comfortably to a fascinating variety of tranquil historic towns, artistic centers, and remote islands.

Begin with a deluxe, three-night hotel stay in Kyoto, including visits to Nara, Todai-ji, and Kinkaku-ji. Then embark our small ship and unpack once for a 10-night cruise through the Inland Sea and into the Sea of Japan, including a day in South Korea. Along the way, you will experience dramatic coastlines, sacred temples, celebrated gardens, and the cutting-edge art and architecture of the Miho Museum and Naoshima’s Benesse House Museum.

Meet and interact with a Zen Buddhist monk and the owner of a traditional geisha house, and participate in a hands-on taiko drum workshop with the world-famous Kodo drummers at their home base on remote Sado Island. Take part in a traditional tea ceremony, visit a pearl farm in Uwajima, and marvel at the stunning iconic beauty of Miyajima’s torii gate.

You will learn about the culture, art, architecture, and history of Japan on daily shore excursions and during an enriching onboard educational program with AIA lecturer and host Mikael Adolphson, a Professor of Japanese Studies and an expert in pre-1600 Japan. Professor Adolphson’s current interests and projects center on cultural icons, historical narratives, and agency in societal changes. He is presently working on trade and the rise of the Heike family in the 12th century, and well as their poorly-known capital of Fukuhara (present-day Kobe). In addition to several essays in edited volumes and journals, Professor Adolphson has published The Gates of Power: Monks, Courtiers and Warriors in Premodern Japan (2000) and The Teeth and Claws of the Buddha: Monastic Warriors and Sohei in Japanese History (2007). He lectured for the AIA on the Japan by Sea program in 2017 and 2018.

Sincerely,
R. Todd Nielsen
Director, AIA Tours
Archaeological Institute of America
Visit two of Japan’s most iconic sights: the dramatic red gate, or torii, of Itsukushima shrine (COVER), which appears to float on the water at high tide; and the Temple of the Golden Pavilion (THIS PAGE), which embodies the classical correlation of building and setting characteristic of the Muromachi period of Japanese garden design.
While geishas, pottery, and exquisite gardens are traditionally associated with Japanese culture, cutting-edge architecture and technology are a testament to the forward-looking spirit of the Japanese people.

**Tuesday & Wednesday, April 14 & 15**

**U.S. / Kyoto, Japan**
Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Osaka, arriving on April 15. Transfer to Kyoto and check in to the Kyoto Hotel Okura. An optional afternoon tour is available at additional cost of $70 per person, with visits to Sanjusangendo temple, featuring 1,001 gilded wooden statues of Kannon, the goddess of mercy, and Fushimi Inari, a Shinto shrine with tunnel-like paths formed by a seemingly unending line of vibrant orange *torii* gates. An early evening walk is also offered through the historic Pontocho and Gion districts.

**Kyoto Hotel Okura**

**Thursday, April 16**

**Kyoto**
Explore the lovely gardens and learn about Zen Buddhism at Tenryu temple, then stroll through the adjacent Sagano Bamboo Grove, with its atmospherically dense stands of tall green bamboo offering wonderful photographic opportunities. This evening, enjoy a private presentation by a former geisha and *maiko* (apprentice geisha) and a festive welcome reception and dinner.

**Kyoto Hotel Okura (B,L,R,D)**

**Friday, April 17**

**Kyoto / Shiga**
Venture this morning to the Miho Museum, built into a mountain slope in Shiga prefecture and considered one of the master achievements of architect I.M. Pei, with innovative skylights and windows creating a shifting pattern of light and shadow. Return to Kyoto for an afternoon visit to the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Kinkaku-ji (Temple of the Golden Pavilion), whose shimmering central pavilion is covered in bright gold leaf. The evening is at leisure, with organized dinner options available at additional cost.

**Kyoto Hotel Okura (B,L)**

**Saturday, April 18**

**Kyoto / Nara / Kobe (Embark)**
Historic and beautiful Nara was the capital of Japan for only 74 years (710-784), but during that time Buddhism became firmly established within Japan and some of the country’s most magnificent temples and works of art were created. Visit UNESCO World Heritage-designated Todai-ji, famous for its Daibutsu—a monolithic seated bronze statue of the Great Buddha. Also explore the priceless collection of Buddhist sculptures at the Nara National Museum before continuing to Kobe to embark the *Caledonian Sky*.

**Caledonian Sky (B,L,D)**

**Sunday, April 19**

**Naoshima**
Disembark in Uno Ko and take a ferry to Naoshima, an island that has become a mecca for bringing contemporary art and architecture in harmony with the pristine nature of the Seto Inland Sea, a landscape with a rich cultural and historical fabric. Explore the world-class Chichu Art Museum and Benesse House Museum, both designed by Tadao Ando.

**Caledonian Sky (B,L,D)**

**Monday, April 20**

**Miyajima**
Anchor offshore of Miyajima Island this morning and board Zodiacs to access the island. Visit the 6th-century Itsukushima Shinto Shrine, with its iconic vermilion *torii*, a grand, wooden gateway that appears to float on the sea at high tide. Enjoy ample free time for hikes, visits to tiny temples, and strolling the picturesque streets of the town.

**Caledonian Sky (B,L,D)**
KOREA

SOUTH

Gyeongju

Ulsan

KYUSHU

Miyajima

Hagi

Islands

Oki

Naoshima

SHIKOKU

Uwajima

Matsue

Kobe

Osaka

Shiga

Kyoto

Nara

JAPAN

Kanazawa

Sado

HONSHU

LAND

AIR

Ocean

Tokyo

Niigata

in South Korea, with intricate most beautiful Buddhist temples years. Visit Bulguksa, one of the kingdom, which ruled for 1,000 ancient capital of the Silla World Heritage city of Gyeongju, Ulsan, drive inland to the UNESCO From the South Korean port of Ulsan, South Korea THURSDAY, APRIL 23 CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

Hagi

Explore Japan’s medieval heritage at Hagi, which boasts one of the best-preserved samurai and merchant quarters in Japan as well as a ceramics tradition nearly 400 years old. Stop at the kiln of a master artisan to learn how the highly acclaimed Hagi-yaki pottery is made. Walk the grounds of Toko-ji temple, where hundreds of moss-covered stone lanterns guard the graves of five Mori lords. Cruise overnight across the Korea Strait. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Ulsan, South Korea

From the South Korean port of Ulsan, drive inland to the UNESCO World Heritage city of Gyeongju, ancient capital of the Silla kingdom, which ruled for 1,000 years. Visit Bulguksa, one of the most beautiful Buddhist temples in South Korea, with intricate paintings inside and out and two original 6th-century pagodas. After a lunch of Korean specialties and a performance of Korean folkloric music, explore the royal tombs in Tumuli Park and the Gyeongju National Museum, largely devoted to Silla artifacts. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Matsue, Japan

After a morning of cruising, call at Sakai port for lunch and an exploration of charming Matsue, with the option to visit one of the few surviving castles in Japan, built in 1611, or stroll through Matsue’s historic samurai quarter, with a visit to the Lafcadio Hearn Museum to learn about this beloved 19th-century author who lived in the city and assumed the Japanese name of Yakumo Kaizumi after his naturalization. Drive through lush countryside to visit the Adachi Museum of Art, with a collection of contemporary Japanese works set in exquisite, highly manicured traditional gardens. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

Oki Islands

This morning anchor offshore of the remote and tranquil Oki Islands, and take Zoalr cruises ashore for views of the coastal scenery with its majestic cliffs, sea caves, and rock formations, followed by hikes of varying levels to take in the ancient Japanese cedars, grasslands, and mountain views of the Daisen-Oki National Park, a UNESCO site. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

Uwajima / Rural Shikoku

Call at Uwajima on Shikoku Island for a chance to experience some of Japan’s rural countryside, with fishing hamlets and farm villages nestled along rugged coastlines. Visit Uchiko, a beautifully preserved merchant town that evokes Japan’s traditional past, and step inside the Uchiko-za, a full-scale kabuki theater with unique rigging and under-stage technology. After a local lunch, visit a pearl farm to learn about the methods of culturing, harvesting, and distributing natural Uwajima pearls, among the highest graded in the world. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Matsoe, Japan

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SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Kanazawa

Call at the refined artistic center of Kanazawa for a visit to Kenroku-en, considered by many to be the finest landscape garden in Japan. Enjoy a tea ceremony at a classic teahouse, and time at leisure to explore Kanazawa’s historic neighborhoods as well as artisan shops and museums dedicated to the city’s renowned cultural pursuits, including silk dyeing, ceramics, and the production of gold leaf and lacquerware. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

MONDAY, APRIL 27

Sado Island

Call this morning at remote Sado Island, home base for the taiko drumming group Kodo (“heartbeat”). Attend a hands-on drumming workshop, a short performance by several of the resident drummers, and a guest lecture on this ancient art form. Also take a guided walking tour through the picturesque fishing village of Shukunegi, where more than one hundred traditional Edo-period houses line the narrow streets. Return to the ship and gather for a farewell reception and dinner on board. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,R,D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

Niigata / Disembark / Return to U.S.

Arrive this morning in Niigata. Disembark and transfer to the Niigata Airport for flights home (arriving the same day), or join the optional post-tour extension to Tokyo. (B)

PRE-TRIP EXTENSION

Shikoku Island’s Iya Valley

APRIL 11-15, 2020

After an initial night near Osaka’s Kansai Airport, travel to Shikoku, the smallest of Japan’s main islands. Enjoy a two-night stay in a traditional Japanese inn, or ryokan, in the remote Iya Valley, where vine suspension bridges, thatched-roof farmhouses, and village traditions date back to the Edo period and hot spring baths offer a welcome chance to recharge.

POST-TRIP EXTENSION

Tokyo

APRIL 28-MAY 1, 2020

Three-night post-trip extension to Tokyo. After disembarkation in Niigata, travel by bullet train to Tokyo and experience the city’s contrasts as you discover celebrated museums, temples and historic neighborhoods. Sample the local cuisine and marvel at one of the world’s largest fish markets.

Additional details and pricing for the optional extensions will be sent to confirmed participants.
The Caledonian Sky is a 114-passenger premier expedition ship refurbished in 2018. All cabins have an ocean view, en suite bathroom with walk-in shower and/or bathtub, spacious wardrobe or walk-in closet, safe, minibar, individually controlled heat/air-conditioning, flat-screen television, and sitting area with sofa. Twenty-three of the suites feature private balconies. The ship's amenities include a dining room, two lounges with bar service, small library and gym, sun deck with comfortable lounge chairs, hairdresser, laundry service, and gift shop. An elevator services all passenger cabin decks. The Caledonian Sky's chefs prepare quality international meals, predominantly Western-style, served in a single open seating. A friendly crew provides exceptional, personalized service, with more than a 1:2 crew-to-passenger ratio.

The ship features advanced satellite navigation and communication equipment, roll stabilizers, and a fleet of Zodiac landing craft.

**PROGRAM RATES**

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**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**

Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

**PLEASE NOTE:** U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare from New York to Osaka, Japan, with return from Niigata, is approximately $2,160 per person as of May 2019 and is subject to change without notice.

**A NOTE ABOUT COSTS**

Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

We consider this a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Daily excursions involve up to one mile of walking at a time, often on uneven terrain. In some instances, elevators are unavailable and stairs may not have handrails. You will be required to remove your shoes while visiting temples, shrines, and a number of other sites. You will need to climb into and out of Zodiacs for two excursions ashore (there will be staff and crew members on hand to assist). Participants must be physically fit, active, and in good health.
LAND OF THE RISING SUN aboard the Caledonian Sky April 14-28, 2020

RESERVATION FORM

Please send your deposit check, payable to Criterion Travel, and this form to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938; Fax: 603-756-2922. For questions, or to hold your space while you send in your Reservation Form, please contact us at 800-748-6262, or by email: aia@studytours.org. Website: www.aiatours.org.

PAYMENT

☐ Enclosed is my check for $ __________ ($1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel), for _____ place(s) on Japan by Sea, or

☐ Please charge my deposit to my:  □ VISA  □ MC  □ AmEx  □ Discover

CARD #  EXP. DATE

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE  SECURITY CODE

☐ I/We understand that final payment is due December 16, 2019, 120 days prior to departure. Registrations after December 16, 2019: full payment is due.

NAME #1 (as on passport)  DATE OF BIRTH

NAME #2 (as on passport)  DATE OF BIRTH

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

HOME PHONE  CELL PHONE

E-MAIL 1  E-MAIL 2

SINGLE TRAVELERS If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

☐ I prefer to have single accommodations. (limited availability)

☐ I plan to share accommodations with

☐ I’d like to know about roommates. I am a ☐ smoker / ☐ non-smoker.

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of December 16, 2019, I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference: 1st  2nd

Bed preference at hotels (not guaranteed):  ☐ Two beds  ☐ One bed

☐ I/We have read the tour information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated therein.

SIGNATURE

DATE

SIGNATURE

DATE
April 14-28, 2020 aboard the 57-cabin Caledonian Sky

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA TOURS

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite 1 Walpole, NH 03608-0938

HIGHLIGHTS

CRUISE Japan’s Inland Sea and beyond for 10 nights, including a day ashore in South Korea, aboard the Caledonian Sky, the smallest deluxe expedition ship available in the region.

DISCOVER hidden gems that many visitors miss, including the contemporary art center of Naoshima, the pearl cultivation center of Uwajima on Shikoku Island, and the picturesque Oki Islands.

ENGAGE with local people during several interactive experiences including a special presentation about the life and training of a geisha, a tea ceremony in Kanazawa, and a taiko drum workshop with the Kodo Drummers at their home base on Sado Island.

LEARN about some of the products and processes for which Japan is renowned, from traditional ceramics and landscape design to the cultivation of exquisite pearls.

Limited Time Offer! SAVE $1,000 per person