

Tokyo, Mt. Fuji & Kyoto Cycle Tour
September 15-27, 2007
Reservation Form

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

TEL Home: _____ Work _____

Fax _____ Email: _____

Citizenship _____ Gender: F__ M__ Single Room? Yes__ No__

Date of Birth _____ Passport No. _____

Special food needs _____

Medical conditions _____

Emergency contact name/phone: _____

Have you been to Japan before? _____

What do you want to see/experience in Japan? _____

Have you toured by bicycle? Describe _____

What bicycle will you ride on the tour? _____

How far do you like to ride in a day? _____

How would you describe your riding level? _____

Tour Cost

Per person Double Occupancy \$2895 (Tour starts in Tokyo, ends in Kyoto)

Single Supplement \$400

***Payment Due with Application \$500 (deposit)**

*Balance due July 15, 2007 \$2395 (plus single supplement, if applicable)

I have read and accepted the **TERMS AND CONDITIONS** outlined in the application form.

Date _____ Signature _____

To hold your spot, please make a copy of this application and mail w/ \$500 check made out to:

Ruthy Kanagy, Japan Cycle Tour

Bike Friday, 3364 W. 11th Ave., Eugene, OR 97402 USA

800-777-0258 (I'm there Tues. to Fri. 9-5) or call my cell +1 541-912-9695

ruthyk@bikefriday.com

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ELIGIBILITY

The tour is limited to participants 18 years of age or older. Each participant must be in good physical and mental health. The minimum number of participants is 5, maximum 20.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS & SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS

A deposit of \$500 per person is required to make a reservation (See reservation form). This deposit will be applied to the tour cost. Cancellation fees will apply (See cancellation policy). The balance of payment for the tour is due no later than July 15, 2007: \$2395 (plus \$400 single supplement, if applicable).

WHAT THE TOUR COST INCLUDES

The tour cost includes the bilingual guide services of Ruthy Kanagy (Bike Friday staff) from Sept. 15 to 27; 12 nights lodging in Japanese or western style hotels; all breakfasts and 6 dinners; train tickets from Tokyo to Mt. Fuji, and from Shin-Fuji to Kyoto (bullet train); baggage transfer between hotels (see below); and group admission fees during group excursions. It does *not* include ***international air ticket to/from Japan***, return transportation from Kyoto to Tokyo after the tour (if you are returning), personal shopping, and personal travel in Japan.

RECOMMENDED READING

Living Abroad in Japan by Ruthy Kanagy (Avalon Travel Publishing, 2004). Read especially chapters on Japan culture, language, history, communication, transportation and sections on Tokyo and Kyoto. Available from amazon.com or your local bookstore.

HELMET AND BICYCLE BAG

Use of a helmet is required when you are riding your bicycle during the entire tour. Because of its ease of folding and pack-ability, a high-performance, custom-fitted **Bike Friday** is recommended for the tour, but not mandatory. Bring some type of bag to cover your bike when we travel on trains or buses (soft bike bag, or even garbage bag).

HANDLING BAGGAGE

There is no sag wagon, so each person is responsible for carrying personal effects required for the day. Some may use panniers and others, a TravelCase/Trailer. I like the Detours Expandable Hightail Bag that clicks on and off the seatpost, as it doesn't require a rear rack. (See Bike Friday on-line store at www.bikefriday.com).

What about the rest of your gear that you don't need during the day? Efficient baggage delivery service (*takkyu-bin*) is available throughout Japan and is quite handy (e.g., from the airport to your hotel). When transferring between hotels, we can ship excess luggage ahead. The cost of transferring ONE suitcase or large bag per person, TWICE (from Tokyo to Mt. Fuji, and from Mt. Fuji to Kyoto) is included in tour.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Written cancellation received by mail or fax *by* the following dates incur the stated fees:

June 15 \$100 cancellation fee

July 15 \$500 (deposit) cancellation fee

Aug 15 50% of total cost as cancellation fee

After Aug 16 *No cash refund* (25% of total cost credited toward future Japan Cycle Tours.)

*Note: A ***minimum of 5 participants*** is required for this tour to take place. Tour may be canceled no later than 45 days prior to Sept. 15, should the minimum number not be met, with a full refund.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Bike Friday and tour organizer, Ruthy Kanagy, will not assume responsibility or liability for any loss or damage of personal effects or for any injury or loss during the duration of the tour. Therefore, baggage and health/accident insurance are highly recommended. Organizer reserves the right to cancel the tour for a participant at any time during the course of the tour.

AIRLINE RESERVATIONS

Participants are responsible for their own air reservations from departure city to/from Japan. Since the Tour begins in Tokyo and ends in Kyoto, you may want to arrange an *open-jaw ticket*, i.e., fly in to Narita Airport (Tokyo) and depart from Kansai International Airport (Osaka, near Kyoto). You can discuss your options with your travel agent or airlines. Remember that if you're coming from North America, you will lose a day when crossing the international dateline, so you should depart by September 14 in order to arrive in Tokyo by September 15, 2007.

Where to get plane tickets? I personally use and recommend IACE Travel, a reliable Japanese travel agency with offices in the U.S. that offers discount airfares to Japan. Ask for Ms. Sakamoto at the IACE Seattle office (Phone: 800-646-4223, email: ysakamoto@iace-usa.com) and mention that you are going on the Japan Cycle Tour with Ruthy Kanagy.

JAPAN RAILPASS

If you want to travel around Japan by train before or after the tour, you can purchase a *Japan Rail Pass Voucher* (good for 7-, 14- or 21-days) from IACE Travel or your local travel agent. Note that you must purchase the voucher *outside* Japan before you go. After arriving in Japan you exchange the voucher for the actual Pass. Right now the exchange rate is quite favorable to the dollar (about 118 yen to \$1) and the Rail Pass is quite reasonable. I can suggest resources for planning independent travel before/after the tour.

VISA INFORMATION

A visa is not required for U.S. Citizens entering Japan as temporary visitors for up to 90 days. (Citizens of other countries, please check with your Japanese Embassy or Consulate). Make sure your passport is valid for *at least 90 days* beyond the date you plan to arrive in Japan, or you will be denied entry.

ABOUT YOUR GUIDE

I've been working at Bike Friday for almost four years. Since I know Japanese, I take care of bike orders from Japan and Korea, as well as U.S. customers. I started out as a Bike Friday customer in 2000, when I bought a SatRDay recumbent to take to Japan and toured extensively (See pictures at <http://livingabroadinjapan.com/cycling.htm>). After returning to Oregon, I got a Pocket Crusoe, and then a Pocket Rocket Pro. Bike Friday truly opened new horizons for me, as I was a non-cyclist until 6 years ago. Before working at Bike Friday, I taught Japanese language, culture and linguistics at universities in the U.S. and Japan for 22 years. During that time I led five educational tours to Japan for students and teachers.

In 2004 I wrote a book based on my intimate knowledge of Japan called, ***Living Abroad in Japan*** (See <http://livingabroadinjapan.com>). I was born in Tokyo and spent my childhood in Hokkaido, the northern island, which is at the same latitude and similar to the Pacific Northwest--no wonder I felt like I had arrived home when I moved to Oregon twelve years ago! Besides speaking Japanese and English, I'm trying to become fluent in French so I can take my *velo* to France and ride around the countryside. Last summer (2006), I led a cycle tour to Hokkaido for 10 Bike Friday cyclists and had a wonderful time. I truly enjoy introducing the Japanese culture and people to others!

Contact me:

Ruthy Kanagy

email: ruthyk@bikefriday.com

Tel: 800-777-0258 (Tues. to Fri., 9-5 at Bike Friday, Pacific Time), Cell 541-912-9685

Address: Bike Friday, 3364 W. 11th Ave., Eugene, OR 97402 USA