Japan & The Tale of Genji

May 13–26, 2016

Ed Kamens
Sumitomo Professor of Japanese Studies

Mary Miller
Sterling Professor of the History of Art
Dear Yale Traveler,

The extraordinary Japanese classical masterpiece *The Tale of Genji* is a multigenerational saga about the royal court during the Heian period. Comparable to *The Canterbury Tales*, *Don Quixote*, or *War and Peace*, *The Tale of Genji* is the inspiration behind an in-depth exploration of Kyoto and surrounding sites that are associated with the people and events of this great 11th-century Japanese work of fiction. Visits to palaces, temples and shrines, and viewing of a variety of traditional festivals, will illustrate how traces of the Tale’s fictional world can still be observed in Japan today.

Interwoven into this exploration of ancient Kyoto and *The Tale of Genji* are visits to the surrounding lakeside and mountain towns of Ohara, Lake Biwa, Mt. Hiei, and Shiga, as well as day trips to the historic centers of Nara, Uji, and Osaka. Accompanied by Yale Professors Ed Kamens, a specialist in the poetry and prose of the Heian period, and Mary Miller, former Dean of Yale College, participants will enjoy the Mifune Festival, with colorful boats and traditional music and dance performances on the banks of the Oi River; the Kamogawa Odori Festival, including rare geisha performances in Kyoto’s Pontocho district; and the Takigi Noh Festival in Nara, with Noh actors wearing lacquer-coated wooden masks and period costumes. This exciting program, expressly designed for Yale alumni, ends with a two-night stay at a ryokan (traditional Japanese inn) at the hot springs resort of Arima.

This adventure is limited to 26 participants, so I encourage you to reserve your space today by visiting www.yaleedtravel.org/japan16. If you have any questions, feel free to email edtravel@yale.edu or call (203) 432-1952.

Happy travels,

Kathy Edersheim ’87
Senior Director, International Alumni Relations and Travel
Association of Yale Alumni
**ED KAMENS**

Ed Kamens BA ’74, MA ’79, MPhil ’80, PhD ’82 is Sumitomo Professor of East Asian Languages & Literatures at Yale University, where he has taught since 1986. He has published books and articles on Buddhism in Japanese literature, classical poetry, and literary interactions with the visual arts, and he is currently completing a book exploring the relationship between Japanese poetry and material culture. From 1998 to 2008 he was Associate Master of Saybrook College and served as Master in 2009 and 2011. Professor Kamens has been Chair of the Department of East Asian Languages & Literatures for several terms and also has served a term as Acting Director of the Whitney Humanities Center. His teaching covers Japanese literature from the earliest periods into the 19th century.

**MARY MILLER**

Mary Miller PhD ’81 is Sterling Professor of the History of Art, former Dean of Yale College, and former master of Saybrook College. A specialist in the art of the ancient New World, she curated The Courtly Art of the Ancient Maya at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco in 2004. For her work on ancient Mexico and the Maya, Professor Miller has won national recognition, including a Guggenheim Fellowship. Educated at Princeton and Yale, she joined the Yale faculty in 1981 and was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1994. She has served as chair of the Department of History of Art, chair of the Council on Latin American Studies, director of graduate studies in Archaeological Studies, and as a member of the Steering Committee of the Women Faculty Forum at Yale.

---

**Highlights**

**Enjoy** the Takigi Noh festival in Nara, when Noh actors wearing lacquer-coated wooden masks and gorgeous period costumes give an evening performance by torchlight at Kofuku-ji, a UNESCO World Heritage–listed temple.

**Marvel** at the variety of stalls selling textiles, antiques, ceramics, and handicrafts during a stroll through the To-ji temple’s flea market, and meet local artisans during a ceramics demonstration at a historic kiln.

**Learn** about the life and training of a geisha from a former geisha and current proprietress of a geisha house, and after learning about tea growing at a green tea plantation, participate in a classical tea ceremony.

---

**Upcoming Trips**

- **Japan by Sea**
  - aboard Caledonian Sky
  - Apr 20–May 3, 2016
  - Prof. Marian Chertow
  - [www.YaleEdTravel.org/japansea16](http://www.YaleEdTravel.org/japansea16)

- **Ancient Civilizations: Venice to Athens**
  - Apr 23–May 1, 2016
  - Prof. John Hale ’73
  - [www.YaleEdTravel.org/adriatic16](http://www.YaleEdTravel.org/adriatic16)

- **Spain and Portugal**
  - aboard Sea Cloud II
  - Prof. Paul Bracken
  - [www.YaleEdTravel.org/spain16](http://www.YaleEdTravel.org/spain16)

- **Turning Points of History: Malta to Istanbul**
  - June 1–13, 2016
  - Prof. Kirk Freudenburg
  - [www.YaleEdTravel.org/malta16](http://www.YaleEdTravel.org/malta16)
Itinerary

**WELCOME PHONE CALL**
**Thursday, April 28, 7:00 p.m. EDT**
Join the group for a pre-trip welcome call with Professor Ed Kamens to learn more about what to expect and to ask questions.

**HOME / OSAKA, JAPAN**
**Friday & Saturday, May 13 & 14**
Depart home on an overnight flight to Osaka Kansai International Airport in Japan and transfer to the hotel.

**KYOTO**
**Sunday, May 15**
Experience the colorful Aoi Matsuri (Hollyhock Festival) parade from reserved seats at the Imperial Palace. Later, attend the Mifune Festival, with colorfully decorated boats and traditional bugaku (ancient court music and dance) performances along the banks of the Oi River. This evening, enjoy a festive welcome dinner.

**KYOTO & OHARA**
**Monday, May 16**
Visit the Imperial Palace grounds and the Upper & Lower Kamo shrines (Shimogamo & Kamigamo). Continue to the mountain town of Ohara to view traditional temples and gardens. Tonight enjoy a private dinner in Kyoto’s Gion district, with a guest lecture about the life and training of a geisha and a short maiko (apprentice geisha) performance. The Gion district was originally built to accommodate the needs of travelers and visitors to the Yasaka Shrine, and gradually evolved into one of the most exclusive and well-known geisha districts in Japan. Gion geisha refer to themselves as geiko.

**KYOTO & NARA**
**Tuesday, May 17**
A full-day excursion to Nara, the capital of Japan for only 74 years (710–784), features visits to three UNESCO World Heritage sites: Todai-ji, a temple famous for its monolithic statue of the Great Buddha; Kasuga Shrine, noted for its many bronze and stone lanterns; and Horyu-ji, Japan’s oldest surviving Buddhist temple. Also discover the beautiful Heian-period sculptures at the Nara National Museum. This evening enjoy reserved seats at a rare performance of Takigi Noh by torchlight at Kofuku-ji temple before returning to Kyoto.

**KYOTO**
**Wednesday, May 18**
Explore the Arashiyama district, a Japanese Historic Site and Place of Scenic Beauty, including Tenryu-ji, a Rinzai Buddhist temple and UNESCO World Heritage site; the atmospheric Sagano Bamboo Grove; Okochi Sanso Villa, the former home and garden of Japanese period film actor Denjiro Okochi; and tiny Nonomiya Shrine. This afternoon enjoy a private calligraphy lesson in a historic machiya (traditional wooden townhouses that originally housed urban merchants and craftsmen).

www.yaleedtravel.org/japan16
**KYOTO**

**Thursday, May 19**
See beautiful temples and gardens, including a five-story pagoda that is considered the oldest building in Kyoto, at the Daigo-ji temple precinct. Also attend a ceramics demonstration and tour the Gion district in front of Yasaka Shrine which, along with the picturesque stone-paved roads in Sannenzaka and Ninnenzaka and the Kiyomizu-dera Buddhist temple, enjoys protected status to preserve its traditional buildings. *Kyoto Brighton Hotel (B,L)*

**KYOTO & UJI**

**Sunday, May 22**
Travel to the small town of Uji to explore the Tale of Genji Museum, which displays the world of the Japanese classic novel through projected images, models, and exhibitions including aristocratic clothing and furnishings. Also visit Byodo-in’s Phoenix Hall, a Japanese National Treasure, and learn about growing tea at a green tea plantation. Return to Kyoto for a traditional tea ceremony and a rare public geisha performance during the annual Kamogawa Odori festival. *Kyoto Brighton Hotel (B,L)*

**OSAKA & ARIMA ONSEN**

**Tuesday, May 24**
Travel to Osaka to see the Sumiyoshi Grand Shrine, one of three shrines built prior to the arrival of Buddhism in Japan and distinctive for its bright red paint and lovely arched bridge; and the 6th-century temple Shitenno-ji, of which the oldest surviving original element is a 13th-century stone torii (gate). Continue to Arima hot springs resort, one of Japan’s oldest, for a two-night stay at a traditional ryokan hotel. *Arima Grand Hotel B,L,D*

**KYOTO**

**Saturday, May 21**
Enjoy time to browse through the stalls at To-ji temple’s monthly flea market before traveling east of Kyoto to the Miho Museum, built into a mountain slope and considered one of the master achievements of architect I.M. Pei. The museum’s architecture, setting, and collections of Asian and Western antiques make this visit truly memorable. *Kyoto Brighton Hotel (B,L)*

**KYOTO**

**Monday, May 23**
Enjoy a full day at leisure for independent exploration in Kyoto, then gather for dinner at a local restaurant. *Kyoto Brighton Hotel (B,D)*

**ARIMA ONSEN**

**Wednesday, May 25**
Take the full day to experience the hot springs, stroll along the cobblestone lanes and enjoy the amenities of the
What is Included:
- Educational program of lectures and discussions with Yale Professor Ed Kamens
- All accommodations, meals, and excursions, including entrance fees, as specified in the itinerary
- Transfers by shared shuttle van for all participants on arrival in Osaka and group coach transfer to train station or airport on departure from Osaka
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, and drivers
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- Wine, beer, or soft drinks with welcome and farewell dinners
- Bottled water on motorcoaches
- Professional tour manager throughout the program

What is Not Included:
- U.S. domestic and international airfare
- Passport/visa expenses
- Medical expenses and immunizations
- Private airport transfers
- Travel insurance
- Deviations from the scheduled tour
- Excess baggage charges
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except at welcome and farewell dinners
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Telephone, email, and fax charges
- Room service
- Other items of a personal nature

A Note About Costs Tour costs are based upon current taxes, tariffs, currency values, 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.

Program Rates
(per person, including VAT and taxes)
Double occupancy: $8,995
Single occupancy: $10,795

What to Expect This is a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. During May, the weather in the areas we visit will generally be pleasantly warm during the day, with temperatures in the mid-70s °F and the average relative humidity around 65 percent. Although May is not officially part of the rainy season in the Kyoto region, rain showers are likely. All passengers should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers.

Group Size This exclusive Yale Educational Travel program is limited to 26 participants.

Air Arrangements U.S. domestic and international airfare between your home and Japan are not included in the program rates. Information about making flight arrangements will be sent to all participants.
To register, return this form (with your deposit of $1,000 per person) to YET. Final payment is due January 14, 2016.

Contact Information

1) NAME AS ON PASSPORT
PASSPORT COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
DATE OF BIRTH
YALE AFFILIATION

2) NAME AS ON PASSPORT
PASSPORT COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
DATE OF BIRTH
YALE AFFILIATION

ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP
PRIMARY PHONE
SECONDARY PHONE
E-MAIL

Payment Options

☐ Pay by check made out to “Criterion Travel.”

☐ Please charge the deposit of $1,000 per person to
   ☐ AMEX ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Card

CARD #
EXP. DATE
SEC. CODE

Signature
Date

Accommodations

Hotel Room Preferences (not guaranteed):

☐ One bed ☐ Two beds

☐ I wish to have a single accommodation (limited availability; please call).

☐ I will 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 January 14, 2016, I will pay the single rate.

I/We confirm that I/We have carefully read the Terms and Conditions and Responsibility section of this brochure and agree to their terms.

Signature
Date

Terms and Conditions

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail a deposit of $1,000 per person payable to “CRITERION TRAVEL,” along with the completed reservation form, to: Yale Educational Travel, Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010 or fax the completed form to (203) 432-0587. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due January 14, 2016.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations must be in writing to Yale Educational Travel. Refunds, less a cancellation fee of $300 per person payable to YET/CT, are made if we are notified in writing on or before January 14, 2016. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

ITINERARY CHANGES: The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Yale Educational Travel and Criterion Travel (the tour operator). Reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Yale Educational Travel and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant. Yale Educational Travel highly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. If participants purchase trip insurance, and we hope that they do, participants are free to purchase the insurance of their choice. Most travel insurance must be purchased within 7-10 days of paying a deposit in order to include certain provisions including pre-existing conditions.

INSURANCE: Travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services, and transportation are offered or provided and Yale Educational Travel and Criterion Travel (YET/CT) and their respective, employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability therefor. YET/CT and their owners and employees act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant, and other services and accommodations connected with this tour. YET/CT assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages, or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. YET/CT reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour participants. Participants are free to withdraw this tour without penalty. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current travel rates and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, airfare, or fuel increases will be passed onto participants. YET/CT accept no liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.

California Seller of Travel | Program CST #2088800-40

To book, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Criterion Travel” to Yale Educational Travel, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587. or Visit www.yaleedtravel.org/japan16 to book online.
Enjoy the 11th-century courtly history of modern Kyoto and discover the iconic sites from Japan’s classic 11th-century novel The Tale of Genji, which depicts the life of high courtiers in the Heian period (794–1185), and delight in seasonal festivals such as Aoi Matsuri in Kyoto and Takigi Noh in Nara.

Enjoy two nights at a traditional Japanese inn, or ryokan, at Arima Onsen, one of Japan’s oldest hot springs resorts, which offers both “gold springs” (colored by iron and salt) and “silver springs” (colorless).