



## EXAMPLE

## PRIVATE EXPERIENCE

## INTELLIGENT TOURS BY KYOTO INTELLECTUALS

All plans include a staff member who can communicate in Japanese and English or Japanese and Chinese. For other languages, please contact us.



## traditional Yuzen Dying experience

Discover the traditional art of Kyoto Yuzen dyeing in the heart of the Nishijin district. Visit a traditional machiya townhouse and learn about the history of the area from your guide. Meet your guide at the Nishijin district and head to the workshop of a local Kyoto Yuzen artist. Learn about the history of the area and the art of Kyoto Yuzen dyeing. Admire the intricate designs of the Kyoto Yuzen technique, which uses silk fabric and vibrant colors to create beautiful patterns. Try your hand at the art of Kyoto Yuzen dyeing and create your own piece of art to take home.



### Kyo-Yuzen Artisan

He studied under Tokyo Yuzen artist Tanaka Tanezui before creating his own studio in Nishijin, Kyoto in 1998. He worked with world-famous brand Hermes and shared his knowledge of Japanese patterns. He had a solo exhibition in Paris, France and many exhibits around Japan. He has had numerous media appearances on NHK and other commercial TV and radio stations.





## Experience Traditional Crafts: Enjoy the Gold-Leaf Art of Kyo-Yuzen

Kyo-Yuzen gold decoration is a special decorative technique that forms part of Kyoto's traditional textile art, Kyo-Yuzen. It involves using gold leaf, gold powder, and other materials to lavishly embellish kimono, adding elegance and brilliance. In this workshop, participants can try their hand at tsutsugaki, one of the gold decoration techniques, to create their own unique original piece.

In the gold decoration technique, tsutsugaki is a traditional resist-dyeing method in which a cone-shaped applicator filled with paste is used to draw patterns freely, without an underlying sketch. In Kyo-Yuzen gold decoration, this tsutsugaki is combined with the application of gold leaf, gold powder, or metallic foil to add sparkle and depth. The patterns, blending the precision of hand-drawn lines with the brilliance of gold, embody both the artisan's high level of skill and a timeless beauty that continues to be cherished.



A workshop in Kyoto that has been producing hand-painted Kyo-Yuzen with gold embellishments for over 100 years. The techniques have been passed down through four generations, with the second generation's Iseo Tanaka receiving the Order of the Sacred Treasure. Both the second and third generations have been recognized as traditional craftsmen in the hand-painted Kyo-Yuzen category by the Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry, and have been selected as "Masters of Kyoto," distinguished artisans of Kyoto Prefecture's traditional industries.



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## Pottery painting experience

Japanese pottery painting is a traditional craft that has cherished the harmony of practicality and beauty, and has been loved by people for centuries. In a one to one and a half hour experience, you can immerse yourself in the world of Kyoto ceramics and learn the techniques passed down by skilled craftsmen. You will have the opportunity to experience the techniques that have adorned Japanese pottery, such as the rhythm of brush strokes and the use of vibrant mineral pigments.

Participants can choose their favorite item from a wide selection of pottery, such as matcha bowls, plates, or decorative pieces, and decorate it with a design inspired by seasonal motifs or their own personal image. Creating in a space surrounded by shelves filled with finely crafted pieces is, in itself, a special memory. After painting, the work will be glazed and fired, and by the following day, participants can take it home as a functional piece that brings back memories of their time in Kyoto. The warm and inviting shop interior is lined with shelves full of vessels that combine functional beauty and artistic expression, embodying the essence of Kyoto's ceramic culture.





# Touring Kyoto with an Expert: Getting to Know Kyoto with an Artisan

## Traditional Candle Painting Workshop

Learn to paint your own Kyoto-style candle with natural pigments at a traditional workshop. Discover the history and cultural significance of Kyo-rousoku candles.

Discover Kyoto's rich candle-making heritage at Nakamura Rousoku, one of the last remaining makers of Kyo-rousoku (Wa-rousoku)—traditional Japanese candles made from natural plant wax and washi paper. In this hands-on workshop, you'll paint your own candle using vibrant pigments and fine brushes, guided by artisans who preserve generations of craftsmanship. These candles, known for their tall, steady flame and sustainable materials, are deeply tied to Japanese rituals and seasonal traditions.

Begin with a short introduction to the history and cultural meaning of Wa-rousoku, then enjoy a peaceful painting session where your creativity takes shape. No experience is necessary, and all materials are included. Set in a quiet, historical Kyoto neighborhood, this workshop offers a calming and meaningful way to connect with Japan's traditional arts—and create a beautiful keepsake to take home.



## Explore & Create Your Own traditional KYOMARU UCHIWA

The "Kyomaru Uchiwa" that makes a name for itself

The personalized "Kyomaru Uchiwa," gifted by the maiko and geiko of Kyoto's five hanamachi during summer, is a representative work of Komaruya Sumii. With a crest on one side and a name dyed in red on the other, it has received high acclaim overseas, including at Japan House in the UK. We will inquire about your name in advance to create a personalized uchiwa and present it to you on the day. We will explain the history of Komaruya, offer a workshop tour (requires arrangement), and guide you to the Traditional Industry Museum.



Komaruya Sumii –  
A Master Craftsman of Kyoto Uchiwa  
Weaving a Thousand-Year History  
Founded in the first year of Kan'ei (1624),  
currently the 10th generation, Keiko Sumii,  
has taken over the shop and consistently  
crafts traditional items such as "Fukakusa  
Uchiwa" and "Kyomaru Uchiwa" in Okazaki,  
Kyoto.

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## Nighttime Zen Meditation and Matcha Tea Experience

Experience a special night visit at Keishunin, a sub-temple of Myoshinji Temple in Kyoto. Take this opportunity to take a look at the four gardens, which are designated as nationally designated historical sites and scenic spots, and are illuminated by fantastic lights. Enjoy a tour of the hidden tea room "Sehakuan" and Kano Sansetsu's fusuma paintings.

Meet your guide at the temple and take a look at the four gardens, which are designated as nationally designated historical sites and scenic spots, and are illuminated by fantastic lights. Take a tour of the hidden tea room "Sehakuan" and Kano Sansetsu's fusuma paintings, where you can experience the history and culture of Keishunin.

Enjoy a zazen meditation and try matcha tea and Japanese sweets by Keishunin's Deputy Chief Priest Yasumasa Arashima. Spend a special night where you can refresh your mind and body.



## Architectural and garden tour with an expert

### Modern and old Japanese style Architecture and Famous Garden Tour in Kyoto with an Accompanying Architectural Expert

The ancient capital of Kyoto, renowned worldwide for its historic architecture and gardens, also breathes with numerous masterpieces of modern architecture. On this tour, an architectural expert will guide you, allowing you to deeply appreciate the architectural beauty where history and modernity intersect.

As an example of the tour, start at Heian Shrine, which conveys the elegance of the Meiji era to the present. Visit the Rohm Theatre Kyoto, where modern design shines, and enjoy the seasonal landscapes at the renowned Murin-an Garden. The tour concludes at the Kyoto City Kyocera Museum of Art, where art and architecture merge.

By learning about the architectural history and the intricacies of design, you can experience Kyoto's streets in a completely new light, beyond what typical sightseeing offers.

Experts such as first-class architects, curators, and architectural historians are available upon request.



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## PREMIUM EXPERIENCE

Experience the tea ceremony at the non-public temple, Daio-in Temple, the pagoda of Myoshin-ji Temple.

Daio-in Temple, a pagoda of Myoshin-ji Temple, the head temple of the Rinzai sect of Buddhism, was built in 1603 by Mitsutada Ishikawa, a retainer of the Owari Tokugawa family, to commemorate the memory of his father Mitsumoto.

The temple gate, Kori and Hojo are designated as cultural properties by Kyoto Prefecture, and the 72 sliding doors in the Hojo were made by Shibata Zeshin, a famous lacquer craftsman and artist of the Edo period.

Private tea ceremony and omae experience at a non-public temple.

Sweets are made and served that morning.



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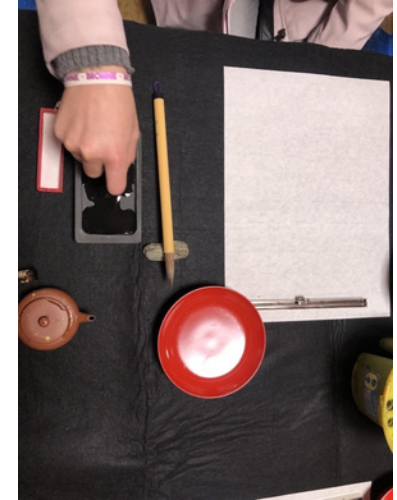
## Experience the Art of Japanese Calligraphy at Myoshinji

guided by the vice head priest. Upon entering the serene grounds of Myoshinji Temple, you'll feel an immediate sense of calm. The workshop begins with an introduction to the history and philosophy of Japanese calligraphy. Embark on a tranquil journey into the world of Japanese calligraphy at Yotokuin Sub-Temple, guided by the vice head priest. As you enter the serene grounds of Myoshinji Temple, you'll immediately feel a sense of calm and reverence. The workshop begins with a brief introduction to the history and philosophy of Japanese calligraphy, setting the stage for a deeper appreciation of this traditional art form. You'll be introduced to the tools of the trade: brushes, ink, and special paper. The vice head priest will demonstrate the basic brush strokes and kanji characters, explaining their meanings and significance. With hands-on guidance, you'll practice these techniques, gradually building your confidence and skill. Throughout the 90-minute session, you'll receive personalized instruction and feedback, ensuring that you can create a beautiful and authentic piece of calligraphy. The meditative process of brush writing allows you to connect with the present moment, making it a calming and enriching experience. By the end of the workshop, you'll have created your own unique piece of calligraphy to take home, a lasting reminder of your time spent in the peaceful surroundings of Yotokuin Sub-Temple. Whether you're a beginner or have prior experience, this workshop offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in Japanese culture and art.

Majored in journalism in the Department of Community Management, Faculty of Sociology at Ryukoku University. After graduation, he underwent two years and three months of training at the specialized dojo of the head temple Kenninji, and subsequently became Vice Abbot of Yotokuin. He is engaged in initiatives to share Zen through shojin ryori (Buddhist vegetarian cuisine) and various events. He also serves as a part-time instructor in the Department of Religious Studies at Hanazono Junior and Senior High School. Through his daily activities, he hopes to create a society where young people can nurture their hearts and express their own thoughts.



Vice Abbot of Myoshinji  
Yotokuin, Mr. Ittoku Yokoe



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## Zen Morning Porridge and Meditation Experience

**Enjoy a morning porridge and talk about Zen with the vice-abbot of Yotokuin, the pagoda of Myochuji Temple. Experience Zen meditation and calm your mind.**

Have a meal of morning porridge with the Deputy Chief Priest of Yotokuin, Myoshin-ji Temple, and enjoy the experience of Zen (zazen). Listen to a Dharma talk and get tips on how to apply Zen thinking to your daily life. Meet the vice-abbot of Yotokuin, the pagoda of Myoshinji Temple, and enjoy morning porridge. Experience Zen meditation and calm your mind. Listen to a Dharma talk and get tips on how to apply Zen thinking to your daily life. Exchange opinions with fellow participants. Enjoy a morning gruel to introduce and sublimate Zen ideas into your daily lives and enrich your days. Afterwards, be guided in zazen and encouraged to use your naves. Dharma talks provide an opportunity to think deeply about the Zen way of thinking and living. The aim of this program is to develop the ability to look at things from a bird's eye view and to discard stereotypes by practicing Zen. Participants will be able to digest the teachings in their own way in order to find meaning in their own lives.

Early morning: Start at 7:00 AM.

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## Yamashina Farm Tour with Breakfast

**Experience the countryside of Yamashina, Kyoto with a farm tour and breakfast. Explore a preserved farmhouse, enjoy a hands-on farming activity, and savor a farm-fresh breakfast.**

- Immerse yourself in the serene countryside of Yamashina, Kyoto
- Explore a beautifully preserved farmhouse with a guided tour
- Enjoy a hands-on farming activity in the family-owned fields
- Savor a farm-fresh breakfast prepared with freshly harvested vegetables
- Take home a small bundle of what you've harvested as a souvenir



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## 2-Hour Shopping Tour Plan / private

**This concierge tour offers people who don't know where to go and what to buy, such as traditional Kyoto crafts,. We will listen to your needs and suggest the best shopping options.**

**Coordination through the unique connections of Kyoto people. Special offers because the company specialises in exclusive plans.**

**Creating opportunities for people to appreciate traditional crafts with stories**

**This service is available on request, for example, if you wish to visit a workshop and make a purchase. (e.g. you want to buy a knife, a vessel, etc.)**

### **1. around Shijo Kawaramachi**

**Characteristics:** Central area of Kyoto with a diverse range of shops. A wide range of goods are available, from traditional Japanese goods to the latest fashions.

**Places to visit:** typical Kyoto souvenir shops, luxury brand shops and popular cafés.

### **2. Hanamikoji, Gion**

**Characteristics:** An area full of emotion, lined with traditional machiya townhouses. A wealth of traditional Kyoto cultural items, including kimonos, Kyoto sweets, crafts and an antique gallery open by appointment only.

**Places to visit:** handmade crafts, traditional Kyoto sweets shops and a shop where you can try renting kimono.

### **3. Okazaki**

**Museum of Traditional Crafts Museum and other museums where you can find all the traditional crafts of Kyoto, with detailed explanations to show you the goodness of the crafts.**



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