

Press Release: 27th July 2009

Japan Journeys adds Nippon Animation Studios to specialist Manga Tours

Specialist tour operator Japan Journeys has added an afternoon at Nippon Animation Studios in Tokyo to its Manga Tour. Japan Journeys is the number one tour operator specialising in manga itineraries. This new seven-day Manga tour will depart in March 2010 and from then on will have two departures a year in March and August.

Founded in 1975, Nippon Animation Studios is one of the largest and best-known independent animation studios in Japan, which still operates successfully today. It is famous for producing anime series based on works of literature, such as *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Anne of Green Gables*. Well-known Japanese titles include *Hunter x Hunter*, as well as *Chibi Maruko Chan*, which is one of the highest rating anime series ever. The visit to Nippon Animation Studios would be impossible to arrange independently because this has to be arranged in advance through a trusted third party and because of the obvious language barrier.

Throughout Japan Journeys' Manga Tour, guests will have the chance to experience the real Japan – the subways, the nightlife, the neon and pop culture that makes Tokyo the world's busiest, wildest, craziest non-stop megalopolis.

Highlights include a visit to the Ghibli Museum, which was designed by Hayao Miyazaki, the Academy Award winner for *Spirited Away*; a private tour of Nippon Animation Studios; and guided tours of Tokyo including visits to Akihabara and Nakano Broadway– famous for dozens of anime and manga stores. At Harajuku, participants will also be able to see the Cosplay dolls, who are fans dressed as their favourite manga characters. At the Maid Café, guests will be served tea and cakes by manga-style maids.

Guests on the Manga Tour will also experience the traditional culture and sites of Tokyo. Those travelling with Japan Journeys also have the opportunity to take a fully-guided tour to Mt Fuji and the nearby resort of Haeke travelling on the country's famous bullet trains.

Guests also have the opportunity to extend their stay in Japan by a week. Japan Journeys will provide these guests with all the information they need to travel around the country independently. The itinerary and price includes a seven-day Japan Rail Pass to visit Kyoto, Nara, Miyajima, Hiroshima and Osaka.

Tour date & prices:

Japan Journeys' next Manga Tour takes place between 18th and 25th March 2010. The seven-day tour starts from £1,325 per person based on two sharing a room. The price includes return flights in economy class; six nights' accommodation in a 3* hotel on a bed and breakfast basis; all transfers; entry to all attractions; and the benefit of a bilingual guide throughout the holiday. Participants have the option to join the group in Japan.

An unescorted extra seven-days from £749 per person based on two sharing a room.

About Japan Journeys:

Japan Journeys was established in 2004. It is a dedicated Japan specialist and the number one provider of manga and bonsai tours to Japan. It also offers gap year programmes for those aged under 30 who are thinking of working abroad, as well as a Quilters' Tour of Japan and a luxury Hidden Islands of Japan cruise. In May 2010, Japan Journeys will launch its first Gourmet Tour of Japan.

For more information, please go to: www.japanjourneys.co.uk or telephone 020 7766 5267.

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