



Ancient Traditions of Japan's Inland Sea

featuring guest speaker
Emmy-winning news correspondent
Jim Laurie

aboard the exclusively chartered, small ship

Five-Star LE SOLÉAL

April 18 to 29, 2023

Miyajima

Destinations including:

Kyoto

Hiroshima

Hagi

Matsue

Gyeongju

Okayama

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Jim Laurie

A distinguished international broadcaster, writer, and media consultant who has witnessed defining moments in Asia's history for more than 50 years, Jim Laurie first visited Japan as a young writer/reporter in 1970 before embarking as a war correspondent in Indochina. He served as ABC News bureau chief in Tokyo in the late 1980s. Laurie's Emmy Award winning documentary film, *Myths Behind the Miracle*, examined Japan's economic success in the late 20th century and some of the social reasons that it could not be sustained.

12 DAY ITINERARY

- 1 Depart home city
- 2 Osaka, Japan/Kyoto
- 3-4 Kyoto
- 5 Kyoto/Himeji/Embark LE SOLÉAL
- 6 Hiroshima/Miyajima
- 7 Hagi
- 8 Sakaiminato for Matsue
- 9 Ulsan, South Korea, for Gyeongju
- 10 Moji, Japan
- 11 Uno for Kurashiki/Okayama (Koraku-en Garden)
- 12 Osaka/Disembark ship/Return to home city

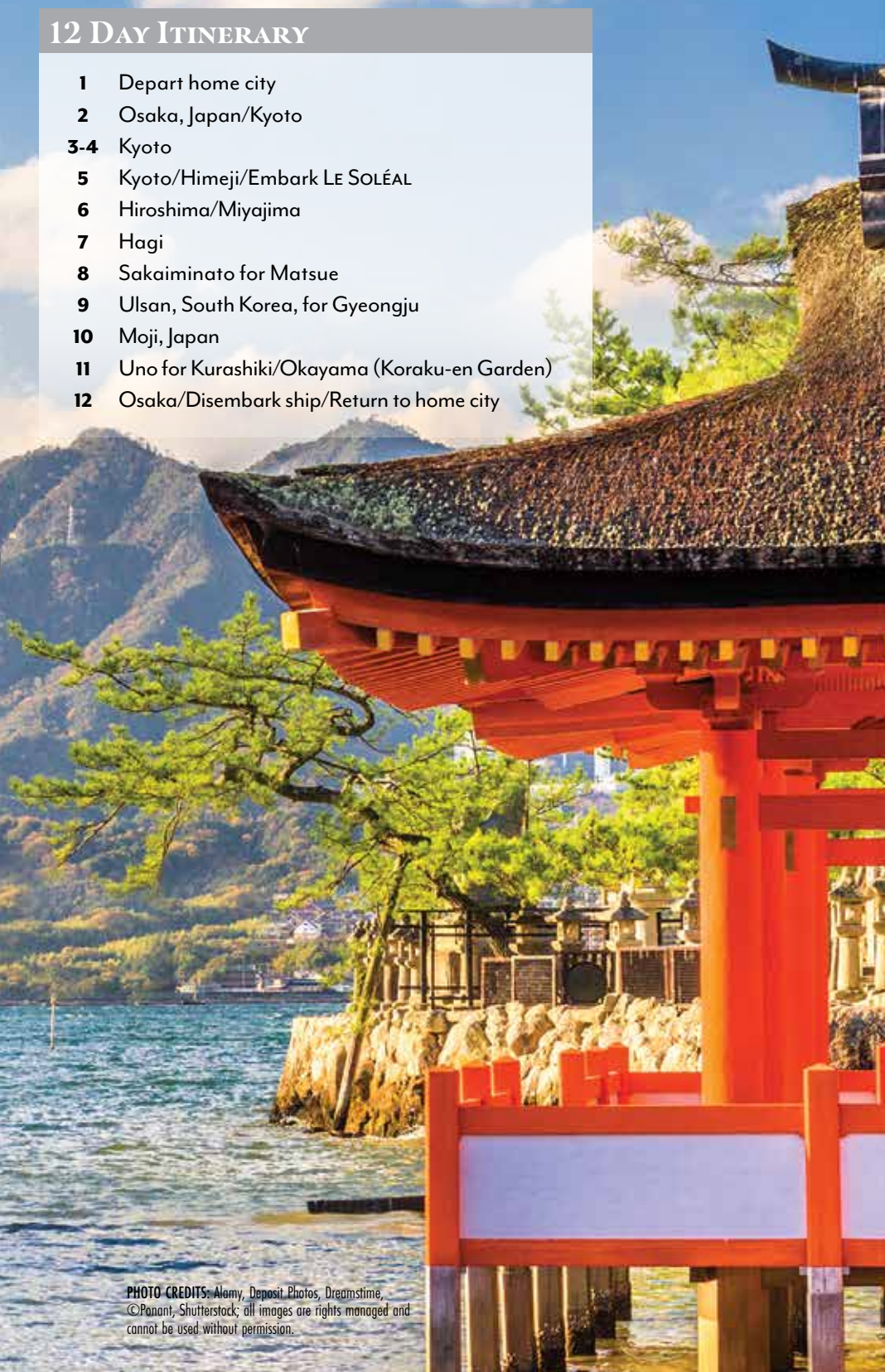
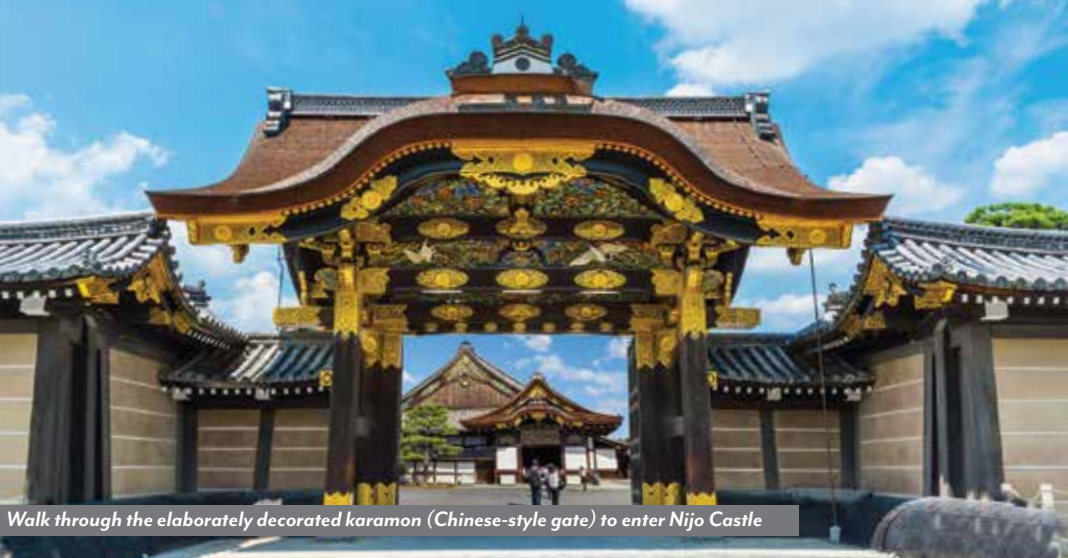


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Walk through the elaborately decorated karamon (Chinese-style gate) to enter Nijo Castle



Dear University of Michigan Alumni Travelers,

Travel is an enriching part of our lives, connecting us to new worlds, new friends, and each other. Today, planning a trip requires a plan. At the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan, we've spent 52-plus years planning, perfecting, and executing extraordinary, exclusive trips for Michigan travelers—trips you'd expect from, and for, the Leaders and Best. These adventures will take you beyond an ordinary visit and dive into the culture, history, cuisine, and lives of the locals at your destination.

Here are a few of the highlights you can expect from us ...

Convenience: Our experience pays off. Every detail is planned and taken care of for you; all you have to do is pack your bag. The hard part is selecting where to go next.

Educational Enrichment: All trips include educational content, with some featuring expert U-M faculty and staff traveling with your group.

Exclusive Michigan Explorations: Our tours are limited to 12-24 Michigan travelers, allowing for spontaneous encounters and a great deal of independence wherever your journey takes you.

Safety: Michigan Alumni Travel has been working with tour operators to make sure all of our trips are specifically curated to focus on your safety without detracting from your travel experience.

We invite you to explore the range of our collection at alumni.umich.edu/travel/. Our travel team is also happy to assist you at 855.764.0064 or alumnitravel@umich.edu.

NOTE: Travel is a member benefit of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan. Travelers, whether alumni or not, must be members. This includes all family members and friends.

The travel program is totally self-supporting and none of your membership dues or any other Association income is used to subsidize the cost of travel announcements or staff time devoted to alumni travel.

Passengers requiring extraordinary assistance must be accompanied by someone who can, and will, be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

The safety and well-being of our travelers remains our highest priority. Cruise lines and some other providers of services (as well as, potentially, some countries) require all passengers traveling on our programs to present confirmation of a full COVID-19 vaccination, and, as well, passengers may have to produce evidence of a recent negative COVID test. All our staff are committed to adhering to all health and safety protocols from the start of your trip to the end as directed by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, overseas health officials as well as those protocols mandated by your cruise company (if applicable) and other suppliers of services. Detailed protocol information tailored to your travel program will be mailed to you along with additional pre-departure information.

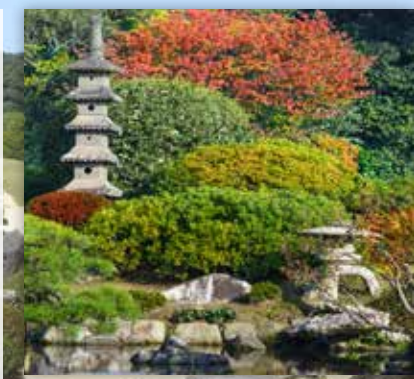
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Tradition, Ceremony, and Ritual



A mysterious island nation, one of unsurpassed natural beauty and way of life, Japan and its fascinating culture are laden with ancient spiritual rituals, symbolism, and rich, storied tradition. Tea ceremonies, *Noh* drama, *ikebana* (flower arrangement, also known as *kado* or “the way of the flowers”), *matsuri* (the many seasonal festivals of worship), and classical landscape gardens are just some of the long-held traditions. Look for these different types of gardens: the paradise garden, *kare-sansui* (dry landscape) garden, strolling garden, and tea garden—each with a different symbolic interpretation. Silent contemplation will reveal the lessons of the *kare-sansui* rock garden at Ryoan-ji, Kyoto’s Temple of the Peaceful Dragon, founded in 1450. This garden, one of the most famous in the world, represents the ultimate expression of Zen Buddhism. Legend says that only 14 of the 15 rocks in the garden can be seen at once, and only when one attains spiritual enlightenment does the final stone reveal itself.





DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

Home City/ Osaka, Japan/Kyoto

Day 1 and Day 2

Depart the home city and cross the International Date Line. Arrive in Osaka, then transfer to impeccably preserved Kyoto. Check into the KYOTO HOTEL OKURA and enjoy an evening at leisure.

Kyoto

Day 3

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kinkaku-ji Temple, the vaunted “Golden Pavilion.” Continue on to Ryōan-ji Temple, constructed as an aristocrat’s villa during the Heian Period (794 to 1185).

Enjoy the afternoon at leisure and a welcome reception this evening.

Kyoto

Day 4

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated monument of *Kiyomizu-dera* (“Pure Water Temple”), where the main hall and veranda were built without a single nail. Experience the serenity of the temple’s monumental *hondo* (main hall) and visit Otowa Falls, where a sip of the “pure water” is reputed to bestow health, success or beauty.

This afternoon, learn more about shogun history at the UNESCO-designated Nijo Castle, built for shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu.

Kyoto/Himeji

Day 5

Enjoy a guided visit of the grounds surrounding UNESCO World Heritage-designated Himeji Castle, Japan’s most stunning and best-preserved feudal fortress. Embark the ship this afternoon.



Himeji Castle

Hiroshima/Miyajima

Day 6

Drive to the solemn Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park in central Hiroshima—marking the spot where on August 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb used in war left only structural remnants of Hiroshima’s Genbaku Dome—and visit the Peace Memorial Museum.

Call at the island of *Miyajima* (“Shrine Island”) to tour the sixth-century Itsukushima Shrine. The shrine’s impressive Great Torii Gate—appears to float on water during high tide. Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception on board the ship.

Hagi

Day 7

Tour Hagi’s 17th-century Toko-ji Temple on Kikuyake and walk past dwellings that once housed samurai in the city’s old castle town. Visit the Kikuyake House—one of the best-preserved examples of merchant-style architecture

from the Edo period (1603 to 1868)—and explore the Hagi Uragami Museum.

Sakaiminato for Matsue

Day 8

Tour the Adachi Museum of Art, where 20th-century and modern Japanese art coalesce with six landscaped gardens as “living paintings,” and see 17th-century Matsue Castle. Enjoy onboard lectures this afternoon while cruising the Sea of Japan.

Ulsan, South Korea, for Gyeongju

Day 9

Travel from Ulsan in rural South Korea to the cradle



of the Silla Kingdom (57 B.C. to A.D. 935) in historical Gyeongju. Visit the stunning eighth-century Bulguksa Temple and learn about Silla history in the Gyeongju National Museum, which houses more than 30,000 artifacts, before touring the Royal Burial Mounds at Tumuli Park.

Moji, Japan Day 10

Visit the striking 12th-century Akama Shrine, dedicated to the

child emperor Antoku. Enjoy the Captain's Farewell Reception on board the ship this evening.

Uno for Kurashiki/ Okayama (Koraku-en Garden) Day 11

Travel to the Kurashiki Bikan District to visit the old merchant quarter and see the traditional black-tiled houses—painted white and situated along a canal framed with weeping willows. This afternoon, walk through

the beautiful Koraku-en in Okayama. This strolling garden is unique for its large, grassy areas and distinctive wooden Ryuten, a pavilion with a stream running through it.

Osaka/Home City Day 12

After breakfast, disembark and continue on the Osaka and Nara Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight home.



Kinkaku-ji Temple

ALWAYS INCLUDED WITH GOHAGAN & COMPANY

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/ departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
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- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
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- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

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Join us aboard the exclusively chartered, five-star LE SOLÉAL, where distinctive French sophistication meets innovative nautical design. The ship's efficient electrical propulsion system and custom stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet, and comfortable voyage. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages and internet access are available throughout the cruise. All meals aboard ship are included.

Elegant Suites and Staterooms—95% Include Private Balconies

Each of the 110 five-star staterooms and suites (up to 484 square feet) features an ocean view and most have a private balcony. All accommodations feature individual climate control, two twin beds or one queen bed, a private bathroom with shower, and luxury hotel-style hotel amenities, including a flat-screen television, a safe, a full-length closet, plush robes, and slippers.



Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <small>excluding taxes</small>	Early Booking Savings through Sept. 21, 2022	Rate after Sept. 21, 2022
5	Superior stateroom, large window and bathroom with shower. <i>Deck 3, forward.</i> (limited availability)	\$6,595	\$7,585
4	Deluxe stateroom, single door to partial-wall balcony. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i>	\$7,695	\$8,845
3	Prestige stateroom, expansive sliding glass door, private or partial-wall balcony. <i>Deck 4, forward and midship.</i>	\$8,995	\$10,345
2	Prestige stateroom, sliding glass door, some have partial-wall balconies, private balcony, shower or tub/shower. <i>Deck 5, forward.</i>	\$9,995	\$11,495
1	Prestige stateroom, sliding glass door, private balcony, shower or tub/shower. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$10,995	\$12,645
Deluxe Suite	Expansive sliding glass door, large private partial-wall balcony, tub/shower, sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$12,395	\$14,255
Prestige Suite II	Two rooms, expansive sliding glass door, large private balcony, two bathrooms: tub/shower and shower, large sitting area with sofa, two closets. <i>Deck 5, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$12,995	\$14,945
Prestige Suite I	Two rooms, expansive sliding glass door, large private balcony, two bathrooms: tub/shower and shower, large sitting area with sofa, two closets. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$13,995	\$16,095
Owner's Suite	One bedroom, sitting room with sofa, table and four chairs, expansive sliding glass doors, larger private balcony, one and a half bathrooms, separate tub and shower. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$15,995	\$18,395

Single supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.

Taxes are an additional \$450 per person.

LE SOLÉAL has been specially contracted for this program and the deck plan is available online or upon request from Gohagan & Company.



PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

Iconic Tokyo

April 15 to 19, 2023

Explore Tokyo on a comprehensive three-night itinerary that includes a full-day excursion to Hakone, home to majestic Mount Fuji, and a journey aboard the high-speed *Shinkansen*, or bullet train, to Kyoto. Pass through the Kaminari Gate to visit the Senso-ji Temple, originally built in the seventh century. Accommodations are at the five-star ANA INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL TOKYO.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,695

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$2,295



POST-PROGRAM OPTION

Osaka and Nara

April 29 to May 1, 2023

Extend your time in Osaka on a two-night itinerary that includes a visit to the Osaka History Museum, showcasing Osaka's interesting culture of a merchant city. Enjoy an excursion to the tranquil city of Nara, Japan's oldest capital. Visit the iconic Horyu-ji Temple, where a seventh-century, five-story pagoda stands as a testament to Japan's history, and Todaiji, the "Great Eastern Temple," one of Japan's most famous and historically significant temples. Accommodations are for two nights in the five-star INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL OSAKA.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,145

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,545

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

RESERVATION FORM

Send to:

104-04/18/23-062

2023 Japan's Inland Sea

Alumni Association of the University of Michigan

c/o Gohagan & Company

209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500

Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

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Please make my/our reservation(s):

Category: **1st Choice** _____ **2nd Choice** _____

☐ Double (two twin beds).

☐ Double (one queen bed).

☐ Single accommodations.

☐ Single but prefer to share and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Iconic Tokyo Pre-Program Option

April 15 to 19, 2023

☐ Double \$1,695 per person.

☐ Single \$2,295 per person.

☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

Osaka and Nara Post-Program Option

April 29 to May 1, 2023

☐ Double \$1,145 per person.

☐ Single \$1,545 per person.

☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

☐ I/We want you to book my/our air from:

(fill in departure city)

☐ I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

Title	Full Name	Date of Birth
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Program reservations require a deposit of \$800 per person.

☐ Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$_____.

Make check(s) payable to **2023 Japan's Inland Sea**.

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☐ I/We request that you contact me/us via telephone or email for payment by ACH.

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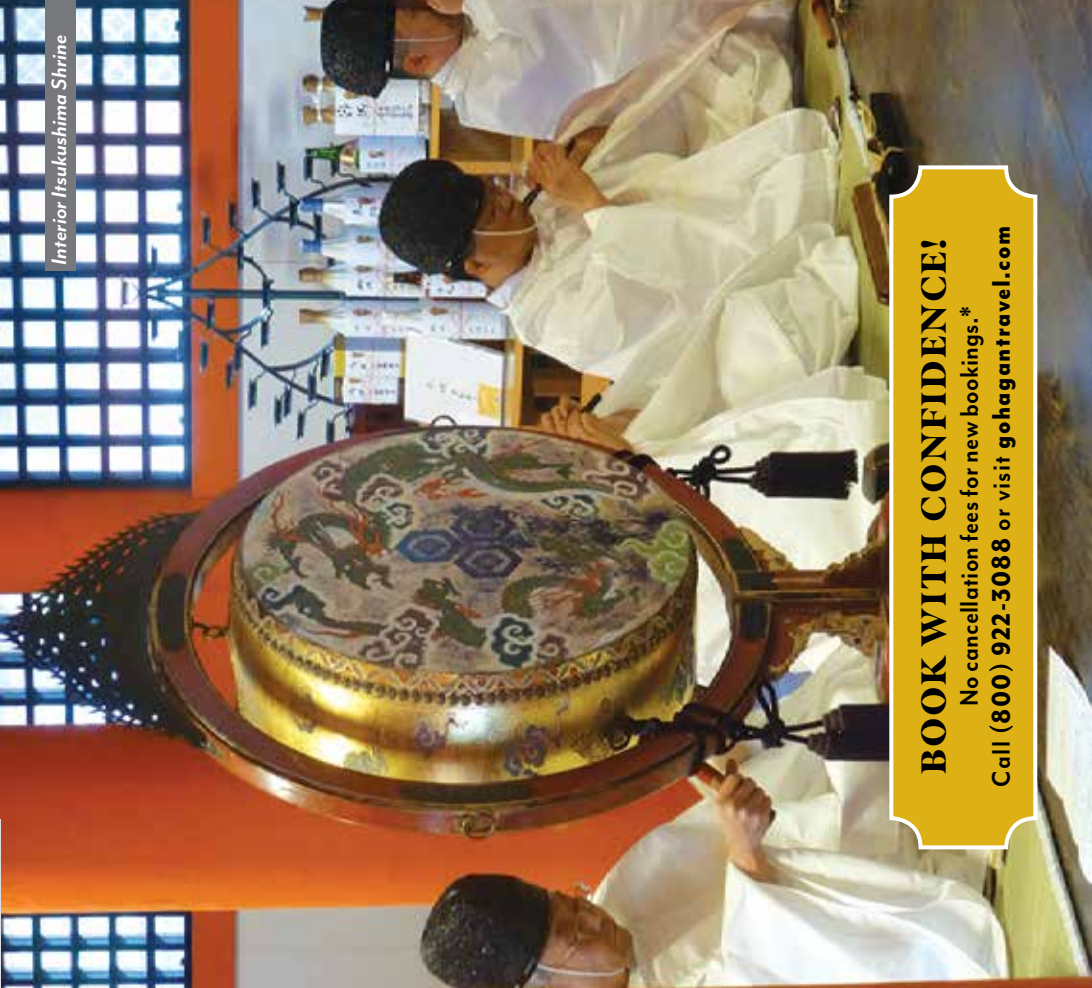
First participant's signature Date

Second participant's signature Date

FINAL PAYMENT due January 13, 2023; make by check, ACH or credit card. Reservations made after January 13, 2023, require payment in full at time of booking. No cancellation fees until 95 days prior to April 18, 2023!

To participate in a University of Michigan trip, all participants must be members of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan. Membership application will be mailed out with confirmation from the Alumni Association.

Interior Isukushima Shrine



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