

BCI Grand Bonsai Tour Japan 2011

17-27 November 2011





Ritsurin Garden (Takamatsu)

Join us for this one-off Grand Bonsai Tour timed to coincide with two fantastic bonsai events, namely the Asia Pacific Bonsai and Suiseki Convention and Exhibition and the Taikan-ten – western Japan's biggest bonsai show. Enjoy beautiful maple leaf time in glorious Kyoto. An optional tour to Tokoname is also offered.

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Attendance at the Asia Pacific Bonsai and Suiseki Convention and Exhibition in Takamatsu City
- Visit the wonderful Taikan-ten- western Japan's biggest bonsai show
- Visit to Kinashi Bonsai Village the largest bonsai village in Japan, with over 270 gardens
- Visit to Korakuen one of Japan's top 3 most celebrated gardens
- · Guided tour of Kyoto
- Travel on Japan's famous Bullet Train
- 10 nights hotel accommodation on a bed & breakfast daily
- Welcome Dinner and Farewell Dinner
- Airport transfers in Japan
- Services of a knowledgeable Japan Journeys guide throughout

Day 1: Arrive in Japan (17 November 2011)

This tour is centred in Western Japan so the most convenient arrival airport is Kansai International Airport (Osaka) so we'd recommend you arrange your flights to land here. On arrival, you will be met and directed to the Airport train to Osaka, where you will stay 1 night on a bed and breakfast basis.

Day 2: Osaka-Takamatsu

You will depart early by private coach today for the journey to Takamatsu (where ASPAC is being held). Attend the Opening Ceremony of the Asia Pacific Bonsai and Suiseki Convention and Exhibition followed by lunch and demonstrations. We have arranged as standard a 2 Day Registration for this 4 day event. Check in to your Takamatsu hotel for 4 nights on a bed & breakfast basis. Attend the ASPAC Welcome reception this evening.

Day 3: Takamatsu

Enjoy the day attending bonsai demonstrations and lectures. In the afternoon you can also attend a lecture on Suiseki. Visit exhibitions at Ritsurin Garden and Tamamo Park. When the sun goes down see Ritsurin Garden beautifully illuminated.

Day 4: Takamatsu

Take part in either or both of the morning and afternoon optional bonsai workshops. In the evening you may wish to attend an optional bonsai auction.

(For 4 Day ASPAC Registration holders, we'd suggest you join the excursion to Kinashi Bonsai Village today).

Day 5: Takamatsu/Kinashi

Take a trip to the wonderful Kinashi Bonsai Village – the largest Bonsai village in Japan. (For 4 Day ASPAC Registration holders, visit Takasago-an Bonsai Garden in Niihama and the attend the Farewell Party in the evening).

Day 6: Korakuen to Kyoto or Nagoya

You'll depart Takamatsu and take a beautiful train ride over the Inland Sea to Okayama. Visit Korakuen, a traditional stroll garden in Okayama and one of Japan's three most beautiful gardens. In the afternoon, board the bullet train to Kyoto and check into your hotel for 5 nights on a bed and breakfast.

Optional Tour to Tokoname (including 1 night in Nagoya)

For those of you who choose this optional trip, you will visit Korakuen as above. Then instead of going on to Kyoto, you will head east on the Bullet train to Nagoya from where you'll visit nearby Tokoname tomorrow. Check in to your business hotel for 1 night on a bed and breakfast basis.

Day 7: Kyoto at Leisure or Optional Tour to Tokoname

For those of you staying in Kyoto, spend the day at leisure. A rich history of religion, art and craft have combined to make this glorious city a spiritual home for the Japanese.

Optional Tour to Tokoname

Today you'll visit this renowned ceramic town of Tokoname, one of the so-called "Six Old Kilns of Japan". It has a history and tradition of that extends over 900 years and is the largest producer of bonsai pots in Japan. In the afternoon, board the Bullet train to Kyoto.

Check in to your Kyoto hotel for 4 nights on a bed and breakfast basis.

Day 8: Kyoto

Kyoto full day sightseeing by coach. Today you'll visit temples noted for their lovely autumn colours including Ginkaku-ji, Kiyomizu, Rengeji and Koto-In. Lunch at the Kyoto handicraft Centre is included today.

Day 9: Taikan-ten

Visit the Taikan-ten, the most prestigious bonsai show in Western Japan.

Day 10: At leisure

Today you may wish to return to the Taikan-ten or alternatively have a day at leisure in Kyoto. *Farewell dinner*

Day 11: Depart

Transfer to Osaka for your return flight.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- 10 nights hotel accommodation at centrally located hotels with breakfast daily
- 2 Day ASPAC Registration (Day 2 & Day 3 of your itinerary) for the Asia Pacific Bonsai and Suiseki Convention and Exhibition
- Tickets for entry to the Taikan-ten Bonsai show on Day 9
- Welcome and Farewell Dinners and lunch on Day 2, 3, and 8
- Meet & Greet Service on arrival at Kansai Airport on 17 November 2011 and airport train transfer ticket for 17 November 2011 from Kansai Airport to Osaka (by Nankai Airport Express train)
- Private air-conditioned coach tour of Kyoto on Day 8
- Sightseeing and entrance fees to all named attractions on tour
- Services of a knowledgeable Japan Journeys Guide throughout
- Separate baggage transfer for one piece of luggage per person from Takamatsu to Kyoto

NOT INCLUDED:

- Travel insurance
- Lunches and dinners (other than those mentioned above)
- Bonsai workshops, optional and Night Auction on Day 4

Package Prices in (£) British Pounds (with approximate US\$ prices)*

	Early Booking Price (Before 23 March 2011)	Price after 23 March 2011
BCI Grand Bonsai Tour (including 2 Day Registration to ASPAC)	£1,535.00 (per person on a shared room basis) (US\$2,495.00)	£1,565.00 (per person on a shared room basis) (US\$2,535.00)
Upgrade from 2 Day to 4 Day Registration for ASPAC	Add £95.00 (US\$ 155.00)	Add £125.00 (US\$ 205.00)
Optional Tokoname Trip (Day 6-7)	Add £100.00 (US\$ 165.00)	Add £100.00 (US\$ 165.00)
Single room supplement for	Add £225.00 (US\$ 375.00)	Add £225.00 (US\$ 375.00)

^{*}N.B. Japan Journeys will debit your credit card in British Pounds and customers will be charged by their credit card company for the exchange rate at the time their transaction is made (thus the US\$ prices listed above are only approximate).

What the ASPAC Pass includes:

Pass Type	Pass includes
2 Day ASPAC Pass	Lunch (2 times)
(Nov 18-19 2011)	Welcome Reception on Nov 18
	Free Shuttle bus service for Nov 18-19
	Entrance fee for Tamamo Park & Ritsurin Garden for Nov 18-19
	Excursion to visit Bonsai producing area on Nov
4 Day ASPAC Pass	All the above plus:
(Nov 18-21 2011)	Excursion to visit Takasagoan on Nov 21
	Farewell Party on Nov 21
	2 extra lunches
	Free Shuttle bus service for Nov 20-21
	Entrance fee for Tamamo Park & Ritsurin Garden for Nov 20-21
	Excursion to visit Bonsai producing area on Nov 19 & 20

What is the benefit of a 4 Day Registration?

The main benefit of the 4 day pass is the excursion on November 21 to visit Daizo Iwasaki's Takasagoan Bonsai Garden. Additional benefits are attendance of the Farewell Party (21st) and bonsai demonstrations on November 20, as well as an extra 2 days access to Ritsurin Garden and Tamamo Park. You can also join the ASPAC organised excursion to Kinashi on November 19 or 20. However, BCI will run its own excursion to Kinashi for the 2 day pass holders on November 21.

PAYMENT PLAN

Deposit At time of booking £250 per person 2nd Payment 17 March 2011 £500 per person Final Payment 17 August 2011 Balance due

INSURANCE

Details of Japan Journeys travel insurance policy are on our website. **Only available to UK residents.**All passengers should visit the links page on our website to obtain a quote. We recommend you select the best coverage possible i.e. **Platinum protection**

TO BOOK NOW FILL OUT THE ATTACHED RESERVATION FORM OR CALL +44 207 766 5267 OR EMAIL info@japanjourneys.co.uk



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BCI GRAND BONSAI TOUR RESERVATION FORM 2011

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Send Completed Booking Form to: