

**MARUKAI NIHON NO AJI TOUR
 NIIGATA - SADO ISLAND - HOKURIKU TOUR
 Thursday, Sept 20, - Sunday, Sept 30, 2012**




DATE	PLACE	ACTIVITY	MEAL:	B	L	D
20-Sep Thurs	Honolulu	Check in Flight is			*	
21-Sep Fri	Narita	Arrive at Narita Drive into Tokyo Welcome dinner tonight.				x
22-Sep Sat	Tokyo Niigata	Breakfast at hotel Enjoy unique experience to make your own name plate. It is challenging, but it is your chance to carve your last name (in kanji) into ceramic plates for the entrance of your home. Lunch at local restaurant Continue drive to Niigata, hopefully we have enough time to sample and enjoy sake at a sakagura. Check in and have dinner on your own as you shop/browse at Niigata city. Pack overnight bag to take with you to Sado Island		x	x	
23-Sep Sun	Niigata Sado Ga Shima	Breakfast at hotel. We drive to the port of Niigata and catch the jet foil to Sado Island, 5th largest island, associated with exiled historical persons and prisoners who worked in the Sado Gold Mines. Lunch is ayu no ishi yaki experience. If the weather is good it will be at riverside; otherwise, indoors. Enjoy tarai bune riding, island sight seeing, and a stop at Sado's sakagura. Check in. Dinner is Sado Kaiseki and if we can schedule it, a chance to learn Sado Okesa dance.		x	x	x
24-Sep Mon	Sado Ga Shima Nagaoka City	Breakfast at hotel Visit to Sado Museum Lunch at local restaurant Drive to Ryotsu Port and take jet foil back to Niigata. We are arranging a visit to the sakagura that produces Kubota Sake , one of Japan's top selling, exclusive sakes. Check in at Nagaoka and have dinner on your own tonight.		x	x	



25-Sep Tues	Nagaoka City Kanazawa	Breakfast at hotel Enjoy this traditional autumn experience of harvesting rice, which will become an unforgettable experience. Lunch is outdoor grill and barbecue (with good weather) with local families for another unforgettable cultural interchange. Of course you can practice your Japanese by 'talking story'. Travel on Hokuriku highway to Kanazawa Dinner is at local restaurant.	x	x	x
26-Sep Wed	Kanazawa Kanazawa	Breakfast at hotel Enjoy budo gari, which is grape picking. Learn how soba is made; then challenge your teachers with your own soba-making skill and have your soba for lunch together with your team (together with shiba sushi). Kanazawa is known for its gold flakes, so we have chance to create our own designs using gold flakes on a tray or another item. Return to our hotel. Free time to enjoy exploring Kanazawa. Have dinner on own.	x	x	
27-Sep Thurs	Kanazawa Alpine Route Kamisuwa Onsen	Breakfast at hotel Another high-light to enjoy--spending the day sight seeing at spectacular Tateyama-Kurobe Alpine Route, seeing beautiful scenery and powerful Kurobe Dam. Lunch at local restaurant. Drive to our hotel and check in Dinner is at hotel	x	x	x
28-Sep Fri	Kamisuwa Onsen Nagoya	Breakfast at hotel Enjoy picking and eating apples. We'll then sightsee at two routes to Edo deep in the country. First, we'll visit Tsumago and spend time enjoying the village as well as the Edo-style homes, and shop too. Lunch at local restaurant. Then we'll visit adjoining Magome and then drive to Nagoya. Dinner on own as you browse/shop.	x	x	





<p>29-Sep Sat</p>	<p>Nagoya</p> <p>Tokyo</p> 	<p>Breakfast at hotel Drive to the old Edo post town and experience shibori tie dyeing technique. Drive to Nagoya Station where we leave the bus and take the shinkansen to Tokyo! Lunch is eki bento on shinkansen. At Tokyo Station, we will take taxi to our hotel and check in. For those who want to explore more, we can take subway to Ginza. For those who want to walk around the Nihonbashi area, you can enjoy the traditional fruit stands and other small shops. Dinner is our sayonara dinner.</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>x</p>
<p>30-Sep Sun</p>	<p>Tokyo</p>	<p>Breakfast at hotel After checking out, we plan to visit connecting Tokyo towns like Asakusa or others. Lunch on own. Drive to Narita Airport Check in for our flight home Flight time</p> <hr/> <p>Arrival time at Honolulu is</p>	<p>x</p>		<p>*</p>

