Ancient Traditions of the Inland Sea of Japan

Kyoto • Hiroshima • Miyajima
Matsue • Himeji • Osaka

A voyage aboard the
Exclusively Chartered Small Ship
Five-Star L’AUSTRAL

May 8 to 18, 2018
Dear Alumni & Friends:

Konnichiwa! Experience the timeless splendor of Japan and South Korea by sea and on land, the best way to see the richness of this beautiful region. During this custom-designed, nine-night itinerary, explore enthralling ports steeped in the traditions of ancient Buddhist shoguns and Samurai warriors and admire landscapes dotted with Shinto shrines, imperial castles and meticulous Japanese gardens.

Spend two nights in the enchanting city of Kyoto, its serene landscape adorned with fragrant cherry blossom trees. It was the imperial capital of Japan from A.D. 794 until the mid-19th century and has been the cultural capital of this island nation for more than 1000 years. See its historic UNESCO World Heritage-designated monuments, visit the imperial Nijō Castle and the opulent temples of Ryōan-ji and Kinkaku-ji, and stroll through the iconic red-orange torii gates of the Fushimi Inari Shrine.

On board the exclusively chartered, Five-Star small ship L’AUSTRAL, featuring only 110 ocean-view Suites and Staterooms and access to ports unavailable to larger vessels, cruise for seven nights from Himeji, Japan, along the coast of the tranquil Inland Sea and South Korea. Your captivating ports of call showcase four UNESCO World Heritage sites—see the impressive 14th-century Himeji Castle complex, the oldest surviving feudal structure of medieval Japan; walk through the poignant Peace Memorial Park and Museum in Hiroshima; tour the picturesque Itsukushima Shrine in Miyajima with its awe-inspiring Great Torii Gate; and in Gyeongju, South Korea, see the ancient Silla Kingdom Royal Burial Mounds and the glorious Buddhist Bulguksa Temple, which symbolizes the material expression of Buddhist utopia on Earth.

Admire the extraordinary collection of Japanese paintings and ceramic works at the acclaimed Adachi Museum of Art near Matsue, whose impeccable gardens are seen as “living Japanese paintings.” Just outside of Moji, walk through the beautiful and sacred 12th-century Akama Shrine, dedicated to the child emperor Antoku. Nearby, visit a Japanese fish market, known for its locally caught fugu (pufferfish), a delicacy of Japanese cuisine.

This unique itinerary is an excellent value featuring Five-Star accommodations and at least one included excursion each day, and it highlights the most beautiful and culturally fascinating ports along Japan’s Inland Sea. This program sells out quickly, so I encourage you to book now while space and Early Booking Savings are available.

Sincerely,

Stan Key
Director of Alumni Affairs and Executive Director of UK Alumni Association

Alumni Travel Protection Plan

Injury, illness, trip delays and lost baggage are a few of the things that can cost you more than just your vacation. They can also cost a lot of extra money you hadn’t planned on spending.

That's why the University of Kentucky Alumni Association recommends our Alumni Travel Protection Plan to all alumni and/or members who travel. This plan not only insures your vacation but, more importantly, it provides the peace of mind you deserve while traveling. You’re covered from the moment you leave home until the moment you return. If your vacation is cancelled for a covered reason, you’ll get your money back—money to reschedule your vacation!

The Alumni Travel Protection Plan is custom-designed exclusively for University of Kentucky alumni and/or University of Kentucky Alumni Association members.

If you have any questions about this plan, call 800-753-1000 and choose option 6 or visit https://alumni.tpaproducts.com/ukaa.
A mysterious island nation, one of unsurpassed natural beauty and a way of life found nowhere else in the world, Japan and its fascinating culture is laden with ancient spiritual rituals, symbolism, stately ceremony and rich, storied tradition—the beginnings of which originated thousands of years ago. 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 an immersion into Japanese culture will unveil. 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. Enjoy the opportunity to stroll the harmonious landscaping of the tranquil Koraku-en Gardens near Okayama. And, perhaps silent contemplation will reveal to you 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.

U.S.  
Tuesday, May 8  
Depart the U.S. and cross the International Date Line.

Osaka, Japan/Kyoto  
Wednesday, May 9  
Arrive in Osaka, then transfer to beautiful Kyoto, the impeccably preserved former imperial capital of Japan. Check into the ideally located deluxe KYOTO HOTEL OKURA. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Kyoto  
Thursday, May 10  
In timeless Kyoto, discover an ethereal setting of grand imperial castles, tranquil Zen gardens and graceful Shinto shrines that manifest Japanese culture in its purest form. Many of Kyoto’s ancient buildings and gardens are designated UNESCO World Heritage sites, including grandiose Nijo Castle, built by the shogun of the powerful Tokugawa dynasty (1603 to 1867); iconic Kinkaku-ji Temple, the famed 14th-century Temple of the Golden Pavilion, whose top two floors are adorned completely with gold leaf; and the Ryoan-ji Temple, originally an aristocrat’s villa during the Heian Period (794 to 1185), featuring a famous contemplative rock garden. Drawing inspiration from the Zen gardens of Kyoto, Apple™ co-founder Steve Jobs used Ryoan-ji Temple as a place of meditation, and its minimalistic simplicity was the guiding aesthetic principle of the company’s products. Join your traveling companions for a Welcome Reception this evening.

Kyoto/Himeji  
Friday, May 11  
This morning, visit the captivating Fushimi Inari Shrine, dedicated to the deity of sake and rice and one of the oldest Shinto shrines in Japan—the earliest structures were constructed in A.D. 711. Its thousands of carefully aligned iconic red-orange torii gates lead to the magnificent Inari Mountain.

Cover photo: Miyajima’s Great Torii Gate is thought to be the boundary between the spirit and the human worlds.
Photo this page: Kyoto’s UNESCO-designated Golden Pavilion functions as a shariden, housing relics of the Buddha.
Enjoy lunch and a scenic transfer en route to see the extraordinary Himeji Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site comprising 83 buildings and the largest and best-preserved feudal castle complex in Japan. From the hilltop castle grounds, admire the elegant structures, crafted entirely of wood and dating from 14th- to 17th centuries.

Later this afternoon, embark the Five-Star L’Austral.

**Hiroshima/Miyajima**

**Saturday, May 12**

Visit Hiroshima’s compelling Peace Memorial Park, a tranquil, urban green space where the remains of the Genbaku Dome, which survived the forces of the atomic bomb, are a designated UNESCO World Heritage site and a universal symbol of peace. See the solemn Children’s Peace Monument and explore the Peace Memorial Museum, which chronicles the history of Hiroshima.

Continue to the small island of Miyajima, or “Shrine Island,” and go ashore via Zodiac to tour the impressive sixth-century Itsukushima Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage site. See its stunning vermilion Great Torii Gate, which appears to float on water during high tide. Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception this evening.

**Hagi**

**Sunday, May 13**

Originally a small fishing port, the cultural town of Hagi was fortified by Mōri Terumoto in 1604. Walk through the old samurai quarter past its many former samurai dwellings along roads lined with original 19th-century earthen walls.

Visit the early 17th-century Kikuya House, the former residence of a merchant wealthy enough to live among the samurai and one of the best-preserved examples of merchant-style architecture from the Edo Period. Tour the 17th-century Toko-ji Temple, from the Obaku School of Japanese Zen Buddhism, and see its 500 moss-covered stone lanterns honoring the Mōri clan lords. Visit the Hagi Uragami Museum, which displays over 5000 traditional woodblock prints and porcelain pieces.

**Sakaiminato for Matsue**

**Monday, May 14**

Enjoy a scenic drive through Matsue to tour the acclaimed Adachi Museum of Art. This stunning combination of Japanese art and garden design features a collection of 20th-century paintings and modern art along with six perfectly landscaped gardens, including the Purification Hall, or Haraiden, of Itsukushima Shrine faces the Great Torii Gate and has been used for monthly festivals and for performing religious dances on rainy days. Walk through the elaborately decorated monuments of ancient Kyoto de.
seen through the museum’s vast windows as “living Japanese paintings” and widely considered to be the best in the country.

See distinctive Matsue Castle, a feudal structure whose five-story keep is the tallest in Japan, before returning to the ship for an afternoon of cruising with lectures by our onboard study leaders.

Ulsan, South Korea, for Gyeongju
Tuesday, May 15
Travel across South Korea’s verdant rural landscape from Ulsan to the cradle of the Silla Kingdom (57 B.C. to A.D. 935) in the historic city of Gyeongju. Visit the glorious Bulguksa Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site and part of a religious architectural complex that represents a material expression of Buddhist utopia on Earth. The complex is divided into three areas—the Vairocana Buddha Hall, the Hall of Great Enlightenment and the Hall of Supreme Bliss—and is home to several national treasures including stone bridges and two pagodas.

Visit Gyeongju National Museum, which houses priceless archaeological and historical artifacts. Enjoy a specially arranged Korean lunch and a traditional dance performance. Visit the Royal Burial Mounds at Tumuli Park where, in 1974, the 43-foot-high Cheonmachong (Heavenly Horse) Tomb, dating from the fifth century, was excavated, revealing over 10,000 royal treasures inside.

Moji, Japan
Wednesday, May 16
Visit the impressive Akama Shrine, built in 1191 and dedicated to the child emperor Antoku. Then, stroll through the Karato Ichiba Fish Market, specializing in the delicacy of locally sourced fugu (pufferfish). Market-goers gather here to enjoy sushi and sashimi bento, while professional chefs come to purchase the freshest seafood to prepare time-honored recipes in their restaurants.

Enjoy the Captain’s Farewell Reception on board this evening.

Uno
Thursday, May 17
From the port of Uno, participate in one of two included excursions. Enjoy a scenic drive to the lovely town of Kurashiki, which translates to “storehouse village,” one of the best-preserved mercantile towns in Japan—its distinctive black and white latticed buildings remain from the 17th-century Edo period. Visit the old merchant quarter and walk among the traditional kara (granary) buildings beside small, tranquil canals framed by languid weeping willows. Or, choose to visit the famous Koraku-en Garden, one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan, commissioned by Lord Ikedo in 1700, it is a classic strolling garden graced with bamboo groves; pine, plum and cherry trees; and tea bushes.

Osaka/U.S.
Friday, May 18
Disembark in Osaka and continue on the Kanazawa Post-Program Option, or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.
Five-Star Small Ship
MS L’AUSTRAL

Small Ship, State-of-the-Art Design
The exclusively chartered L’AUSTRAL represents the newest generation of Five-Star small ships, featuring only 110 Suites and Staterooms, distinctive French sophistication and complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.

Elegantly Appointed Suites and Staterooms, 95% with Private Balconies
Each air-conditioned, deluxe Stateroom and Suite (200 to 484 square feet) features a private bathroom with shower, luxurious Five-Star hotel amenities and minibar with complimentary beverages; most have two twin beds that convert into one queen bed. Enjoy accommodation amenities including individual climate control, satellite flat-screen television, safe, full-length closet, writing desk/dressing table, plush robes and slippers.

Chic and Casual Dining
International and regional cuisine is served in the stylish, spacious Le Coromandel dining room in single, unassigned seatings; alfresco in the casual Le Rodrigues Restaurant; or from 24-hour room service. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise. Continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and a four-course dinner are served daily. Wine is served with lunch and dinner.

Spacious Public Areas/
World-Class Service and Facilities
In keeping with the low passenger density, the public areas are spacious and inviting, and they can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy views from the Panoramic Lounge; nightly entertainment in the Main Lounge; and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. There is a library, Internet salon, Sun Deck with open-air bar, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room, full range of fitness equipment, two elevators and an infirmary staffed with a doctor and a nurse. The highly trained and personable, English-speaking, international crew provides attentive service.

Respect for the Environment
The state-of-the-art propulsion system and custom-built stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage. By design, the ship is energy efficient and environmentally protective of marine ecosystems and has been awarded the prestigious “Clean Ship” designation due to its advanced eco-friendly features, a rarity among ocean-cruising vessels. The ship has two tenders and 10 Zodiacs.
Included Features

In Kyoto, Japan
◆ Two nights in the deluxe KYOTO HOTEL OKURA.
◆ Full buffet breakfast each morning.
◆ Welcome Reception.
◆ Tour of the impressive UNESCO World Heritage-designated Nijo Castle, built by a powerful shogun of the Tokugawa dynasty.
◆ Visit to the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage-designated temples of Ryōan-ji and Kinkaku-ji.
◆ Tour of the iconic Fushimi Inari Shrine to see its thousands of beautiful vermilion torii gates.
Transfer from Kyoto to Himeji, including lunch.

On board the exclusively chartered Five-Star small ship L'Austral
◆ Seven-night cruise from Himeji, Japan, with port calls at Hiroshima, Miyajima, Hagi, Sakaiminato for Matsue, Moji, Uno for Kurashiki or Okayama, and Osaka, Japan; and Ulsan for Gyeongju, South Korea.
◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.
◆ Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise.
◆ All meals—early continental breakfast, buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner—throughout the cruise, featuring fine international and regional cuisine, served at single, unassigned seatings.
◆ Wine is served with lunch and dinner.
◆ Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
◆ Guided visit of the stunning grounds of Himeji Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the world's finest surviving example of 17th-century Japanese castle architecture.
◆ Visit to Hiroshima's compelling Peace Memorial Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site, with a tour of the Peace Memorial Museum.
◆ Excursion to Miyajima ("Shrine Island") to tour the UNESCO World Heritage site of sixth-century Itsukushima Shrine and see its iconic Great Torii Gate.
◆ Walking tour of Hagi's old samurai quarter featuring visits to the early 17th-century Kikuya House and Toko-ji Temple.
◆ Visit to the Hagi Uragami Museum to see the famous craftsmanship of traditional woodblock arts.
◆ Excursion to the acclaimed Adachi Museum of Art featuring Japanese modern art and perfectly landscaped gardens known as "living Japanese paintings."
◆ Excursion from Ulsan, South Korea, to historic Gyeongju, the cradle of the Silla Kingdom and a UNESCO World Heritage site, with visits to Bulguksa Temple, the Gyeongju National Museum and the Royal Burial Mounds at Tumuli Park; lunch is included.
◆ Tour of Moji, featuring visits to the Akama Shrine, dedicated to 12th-century child emperor Antoku, and the Karato Ichiba Fish Market, specializing in fugu.
◆ Tour of Kurashiki known for its willow-lined canals and distinctive 17th-century merchant buildings, or visit to the famous Koraku-en Garden, a classic Japanese strolling garden completed in 1700.

Enhanced Travel Services
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
◆ Complimentary bottled water in your accommodations and on excursions.
◆ Hospitality desk in the hotel and aboard ship.
◆ The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program.
◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
◆ Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Ex route to Kyoto aboard the Shinkansen bullet train, admire majestic Mt. Fuji, Japan’s highest mountain, in the distance.

**Iconic Tokyo**  
**Pre-Program Option**

Begin your journey in Japan’s vibrant and iconic capital city of Tokyo. Beneath the layers of thriving business districts, amid the contemporary architectural achievements and a wellspring of Japanese pop culture, you will find venerated wooden houses fronted by bonsai trees and shrines wreathed in incense smoke—the inherent cultural core of this historic city. Explore Tokyo’s most important Shinto shrine—the Meiji Shrine—and the magnificent East Garden and Plaza of the Imperial Palace. Enjoy a full-day excursion to Hakone to view the tallest peak in Japan—the iconic Mt. Fuji—a UNESCO World Heritage site. Experience a high-speed transfer aboard the legendary Shinkansen bullet train to charming Kyoto. Accommodations are for three nights in the prestigious Five-Star ANA INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL TOKYO.

**Kanazawa’s Cultural Landscape**  
**Post-Program Option**

Step back in time in the remarkably well-preserved city of Kanazawa, dating from the early 16th century. Visit Kenroku-en Garden, one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan, created in the kaiyu (many pleasures) style for the enjoyment of feudal lords who lived in its 16th-century castle; the Higashi Chaya district with historic teahouses where geisha once lived; and the Nagamachi samurai district. Experience the art of Washi papermaking, a centuries-old Japanese handcrafting tradition, noted on UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage list. Enjoy an excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage site of historic Shirakawa-go and the village of Ogimachi, famous for its traditional gassho-zukuri (praying hands) farmhouses—a reference to the shape of the roofs. Return to Tokyo by Shinkansen bullet train. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe ANA CROWNE PLAZA KANAZAWA and for one night in the Five-Star ANA INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL TOKYO. Pre- and Post-Program Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Ogimachi, the largest village of Shirakawa-go—a UNESCO World Heritage site—is home to dozens of well-preserved, centuries-old gassho-zukuri farmhouses.
PROOF

If you are not a current member of the UK Alumni Association please enclose a separate check payable to the UK Alumni Association for $45. One membership is required for every family. Alumni, friends of the University and parents are welcome. Annual memberships are $45.

Eligibility: Membership in the UK Alumni Association is a requirement for participation in this program. You must be a US resident to participate.

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.

Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
c/o Thomas P. Gohagan & Company
The University of Kentucky Alumni Association

MS L'AUSTRAL

LAND/Cruise Tariff excluding taxes* per person, based on double occupancy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deluxe Suite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean-view, private balcony, shower and sitting area with sofa, Deck 6, Mahé. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$10795</td>
<td>$11795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prestige Suite I</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and private balcony, shower, Deck 4, Chandernagor, forward. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$12795</td>
<td>$13795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner's Suite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean-view, expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door onto private balcony, shower, Deck 5, Bengale, midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$14795</td>
<td>$15795</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PLEASE MAKE PAYMENTS TO:

Gohagan & Company
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

ANCIENT TRADITIONS OF THE INLAND SEA OF JAPAN RESERVATION FORM

Send to: 2018 Inland Sea of Japan
The University of Kentucky Alumni Association
c/o Thomas P. Gohagan & Company
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.

Title
Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)
Class Year
Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)
Class Year
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)
City State Zip Code
Telephone: (Home) (Mobile)
Email Address (Business)
Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Tour No. 140-05/08/18-147

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Iconic Tokyo Pre-Program Option and/or $200 per person Kanazawa's Cultural Landscape Post-Program Option. By reserving and Depositing on this program, You agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $____ as deposit. Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $____ to:

Visa MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

ALL FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by February 2, 2018.

Eligibility: Membership in the UK Alumni Association is a requirement for participation in this program. One membership is required for every family. Alumni, friends of the University and parents are welcome. Annual memberships are $45. If you are not a current member of the UK Alumni Association please enclose a separate check payable to the UK Alumni Association for the appropriate amount and mail it with your deposit.

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

(________in divisions of city) to and from Osaka, Japan, at additional cost to be advised.‡

Economy Class UPGRADED Economy Business Class First Class

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

∗Taxes are an additional $455 per person and are subject to change.
‡L’Austral has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

©2018 Oceania Cruises
CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you by the University of Kentucky Alumni Association with your confirmation letter.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to destinations outside United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement. Photo Credit: Alamy, Estock Photo, Japan National Tourism Office; all images are rights managed and cannot be used without permission.