

AUSKF Kendo Exchange Tour 2008 in Kumamoto, Japan

January 21st 2008

Greeting & Objective:

It is valuable for a middle and high school student to experience international and intercultural understanding. AUSKF offers the opportunity for American teenage kendoists (15-18yrs) to be exposed in Japanese culture directly, and share one week with Japanese teenagers through Kendo activities instructed by MR. Kojiro Migita (Champion of All Japan Kendo Championship 1976, Kendo Kyoshi 8 dan). Also, traditional Japanese cultural activities such as Zen meditation, calligraphy, tea ceremony, flower arrangements and pottery will be part of the program. A visitation to "Reigando" cave (where Musashi Miyamoto wrote "Book of Five Rings"), Miyamoto Musashi Museum, and Kumamoto Castle (considered one of the three magnificent castles of Japan) will be part of the program as well.

This event is to develop Japanese-American friendly relationship of teenagers and prosperity for American Kendo. Participants are expected to represent American Kendo in the next generation.

Date:

August 2nd (Saturday) ~ 11th (Monday), 2008

August 2nd Assemble at Los Angeles (Briefing)

August 3rd Depart from Los Angeles to Fukuoka, Japan

August 11th Arrive at Los Angeles

Itinerary:

Note attachment

Activities:

Welcome Party

Performance of traditional Japanese drums and local folk dance

Kendo instruction & practice

Kojiro Migita Sensei (Champion of All Japan Kendo Championships 1976, Head teacher of Nanryo High School, Kyoshi 8th Dan)

Experience Japanese Culture

Zen meditation & lecture in the morning of Aug. 5th -7th at Yoshoji Temple

Calligraphy, Tea Ceremony, Flower Arrangement

Visits

"Oku Kuma" Pottery, Brewery & Folk Craft Museum

Visit the Mayor of Kumamoto City

Kumamoto Castle, "Suizenji" Park

"Reigando" (cave)

Farewell party

Campfire and games with local middle and high school students

Location:

Taraki, Kumamoto, Japan

Chaperone:

Yoshiteru Tagawa (Kendo Kyoshi 8th Dan), Shinobu Maeda (Kendo Kyoshi 7th Dan)

Fees:

Approximately \$1,000.00 (Flight fare Los Angeles-Fukuoka, Japan)

\$300.00 (Accommodation, Meal, Transportation)

Additional expenses (travel insurance, calling card, spending money, etc.)

Note:

In case of the parent(s) participation, please inform on the application form.

Deadline:

Please mail your application form by 03/25/2008

To: Yoshiteru Tagawa // Vice President, Education

41444 Fawn Trail,

Novi, MI 48375-4813 Email: duke@twmi.rr.com

(AUSKF will select participants and confirm your participation by 04/20/2008)

Kendo Exchange Tour 2008 in Kumamoto, Japan

Day	Date	Time // Transfer	Itinerary	Lodging	Meal
1	08/02 (Sat)	TBA	Meeting at Los Angeles Airport / Hotel Guidance for the trip	T.B.A	
2	08/03 (Sun)	Time TBA Flight # TBA	Depart Los Angeles Airport		
3	08/04 (Mon)	Bus	Arrive at Fukuoka Airport Transfer to Taraki, Kumamoto by bus Guidance	Dorm: Taraki High School	
4	08/05 (Tue)	6:00 am~7:00 am Walk 9:00am~11:00 am 6:00 pm~8:00 pm	Zen meditation (Eishouji Temple) Breakfast Kendo practice Lunch Afternoon: Exchange program Self-introduction in English & Japanese Theme: "Why I started Kendo" Welcome Party	Dorm: Taraki High School	Breakfast Lunch Dinner
5	08/06 (Wed)	6:00 am~7:00 am Walk 9:00 am~11:00 am	Zen meditation (Eishouji Temple) Breakfast Kendo practice Lunch Japanese calligraphy, Tea ceremony, Flower arrangement Dinner Ofuro (Japanese style bath, Hot Spring)	Dorm: Taraki High School	Breakfast Lunch Dinner
6	08/07 (Thu)	6:00 am~7:00 am Walk 9:00 am~11:00 am Bus	Zen meditation (Eishouji Temple) Breakfast Kendo practice Lunch Experience Japanese Culture "Oku Kuma Pottery" Sake brewery & folk craft museum visit Dinner Ofuro (Japanese style bath, Hot Spring)	Dorm: Taraki High School	Breakfast Lunch Dinner
7	08/08 (Fri)	Bus or Car	Transfer to the camping area (Yurari) Buddy, games, and campfire Farewell Party (BBQ)	Cottage at Camping site	Breakfast Lunch Dinner
8	08/09 (Sat)	Bus	Transfer to Kumamoto City Respective Visit the Mayer of Kumamoto City Kumamoto Castle visit Reigando (cave) visit Kendo practice at Ryujo-kan or Budou-kan	Matsuya Inn	Breakfast Dinner
9	08/10 (Sun)	Public Transportation	Free time (all day) Suizenji Park Shopping at the downtown Kumamoto	Matsuya Inn	Breakfast Dinner
10	08/11 (Mon)	Shuttle Bus Time// TBA Flight # TBA	Transfer to Fukuoka Airport Leave Fukuoka Airport Arrive Los Angeles Airport		Breakfast