

Japan's Magical Gardens, Culture and More

NOVEMBER 7-19, 2024

**Co-Sponsored by the Maryland Horticulture Society
and Federated Garden Clubs of MD**

Day 1, Thursday, Nov 7

Welcome to Tokyo, one of the world's largest and most dynamic cities. The two Tokyo airports are Haneda HND (at the southern edge of the city) and Narita NRT (about 30 miles east of Tokyo). We have chosen tonight's hotel because taking a train from either airport is simple and efficient. The train from Haneda Airport takes 11 minutes and the train from Narita Airport takes 1 hour. Both trains are direct and have no transfers; you simply get off the train at Shinagawa Station, walk across the street to Shinagawa Prince Hotel. A shuttle will take you and your luggage from this hotel to the hotel we are staying at, Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa. If you prefer to walk, it is a 6-minute walk to our hotel.

There are five restaurants inside the hotel and dozens of restaurants nearby. There is also a garden adjacent to the hotel for strolling and relaxing. Since most flights arrive in the late afternoon, our welcome dinner will be tomorrow. Tonight will be an independent dinner and time for relaxing.

Sleep: Tokyo, [Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa](#)

Included meals: None

Day 2, Friday, Nov 8

A local guide will arrive at the hotel in the morning help us to the platform for the bullet train. Driving would take us more than 5-1/2 hours, but the amazing Shinkansen train takes precisely 2 hours and 8 minutes. Another guide will be waiting for us at the Kyoto station.

After checking into our hotel and an independent lunch, we will break into small groups and have a walking tour to familiarize you with the area. We will visit a [konbini](#) to experience a Japanese convenience store, [Kyoto Station's amenities](#), some of the unique [restaurant areas](#) and [Kyoto Tower](#) observation deck so you can get a bird's eye view of the city. Cash is still required for many stores and restaurants, so the walking tours will also visit a Post Office or ATM incase you need to get Yen.

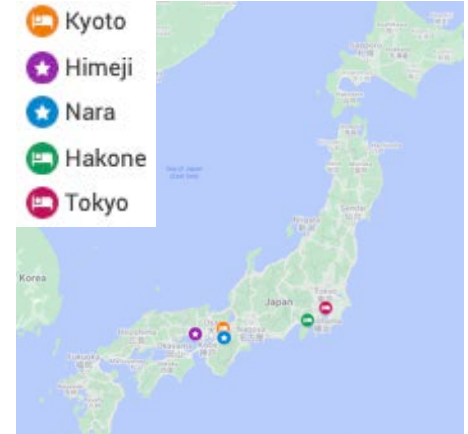
We then experience the efficient public transit system and take a short ride to [Tofuku-ji](#) Temple and its [Hojo Garden](#). It is difficult to know exactly when the maple leaves will turn, but Tofuku-ji is especially known for its [autumn colors](#) and maple leaf foliage.

We will enjoy a Welcome dinner tonight at a special restaurant.

Our hotel includes an onsen (Japanese bath-spa) plus laundry facilities, coffee and tea, evening noodles, frozen treats and an extensive breakfast buffet each morning. As with most Japanese hotels, you will be provided with lounging clothes. Most guests putter around the hotel in what we would consider pajamas which makes for a relaxing and joyful experience. Everyone takes their shoes off before entering the hotel lobby. Onyado Nono Kyoto Shichijo hotel is a charming blend of Japanese culture with a modern twist.

Sleep: Kyoto, [Onyado Nono Kyoto Shichijo Hotel](#)

Included meals: Breakfast and Dinner



Day 3, Saturday, Nov 9

This morning, we will break into two groups. Each group will have its own local, English-speaking Japanese guide. You'll be with the same group of people throughout the tour, so you will get to know your cohorts. We will visit a number of sites and learn some fundamentals that you will be able to apply throughout our tour, including:

We will visit a Shrine, the [Shokoku-ji, Kinkaku-ji and Ginkaku-ji](#), including the Silver Pavilion and its surrounding garden. As part of our visit, we will learn some of the fundamentals of the Shinto religion and learn some of the basic principals of Japanese dry gardens which utilize sand, gravel and stone.

Next will be a Temple, [Ikenobo](#) (birthplace of Ikebana) and we will learn some of the fundamentals of the Buddhist religion and its symbols and customs. The knowledge we learn today will help us understand places we see throughout the tour.

Next is Takashimaya Department Store for the [Autumn Tanabata Ikebana displays](#) and an independent lunch in the [food halls of the department store](#).

[Kyoto Botanical Garden](#) was established in 1924 and is a Western-style botanical garden, arboretum and conservatory. It is home to approximately 12,000 species of plants, making it the most comprehensive public botanical garden in Japan. We will use taxis to take guests back to the hotel, so you can depart as you are ready.

Sleep: Kyoto, [Onyado Nono Kyoto Shichijo Hotel](#)

Included meals: Breakfast



Day 4, Sunday, Nov 10

We begin by exploring [Nijo-jo Castle](#), its [garden](#) and the magnificently decorated interiors of [Ninomaru Palace](#). Be sure to notice the “nightingale floors” in the hallways which make a chirping sound, possibly a security device to alert people that others were in the halls.

After lunch, we will visit [Kagizen](#), a traditional Japanese confectionary where we learn about and sample Japanese sweets and treats.

This afternoon, we expect to attend a special theater / dance performance, [Gion-odori](#) which happens only in the autumn.

We will be back at our hotel with time for independent dinner, relaxing in the onsen or more exploring. Some may want to visit the night-lit temples. Japan is a very safe country and walking at night is common. Many of the temples and gardens have special autumn night-viewing events that include light installations, food vendors and more. Our local guides will be able to help us explore some of the options for those who want to experience Kyoto at night.

Sleep: Kyoto, [Onyado Nono Kyoto Shichijo Hotel](#)

Included meal: Breakfast and Lunch



Day 5, Monday, Nov 11

We take the train this morning to Himeji, approximately 45 minutes west of Kyoto. Our first visit will be [Himeji Castle](#), also known as Shirasagijo or White Heron Castle. Today's castle is completely different than yesterday's castle, so it will be interesting to compare and contrast the two. We strive to arrive at opening time when it is less crowded. Some may decide to climb the steep steps to the top of the castle while others reflect on the beauty and history of the castle's interiors.

We then visit [Koko-en Garden](#), located across the castle moat and with views of Himeji Castle. The garden has nine distinct areas, each with its own theme and style. Inside Koko-en Garden is a [cafe](#) and a tea house, so some may want to enjoy lunch at the garden while others may prefer to have lunch at the Himeji train station.

After a short train ride from Himeji to Kobe, we take a ropeway (what we would call a cable car or aerial tram) uphill to [Nunobiki Gardens](#) which are flower and herb gardens cascading down the side of a hill. There are numerous themed areas, a large glasshouse, restaurants and shops plus demo areas where you can learn about plant fragrance, orchids, tropical plants or vegetable growing.

Our final train ride is from Kobe to Kyoto and we are back at our hotel with time to enjoy an independent dinner or soak in the hotel's onsen or explore some of the [night lit temples](#).

Sleep: Kyoto, [Onyado Nono Kyoto Shichijo Hotel](#)

Included meals: Breakfast

Day 6, Tuesday, Nov 12

We have another day trip today, exploring [Nara](#) which was the capital of Japan for a brief time, from 710 to 794. With dozens of temples, shrines, museums and gardens, it is a challenge to decide what to see! Our two local guides will show us the highlights of this fascinating area.

The two groups will come back together and we will enjoy an independent lunch at a [Michi-no-Eki \(roadside station\)](#). Japan has purposely built a network of roadside stations that offer restaurants, gasoline and bathrooms plus some include child daycare, emergency shelters, community gathering halls, senior centers, or stores offering regional specialties. Today's roadside station, [Minamiyamashiro](#), is about 30 minutes northeast of Nara, in an area known for its rolling hillside tea plantations.

Our coach will next take us through the village of [Wazuka](#), part of the non-profit Association of The Most Beautiful Villages in Japan which works to highlight and preserve rural heritage. Wazuka-area families have grown [Uji tea](#) for over 800 years. We will visit a tea plantation to learn about growing camellia, harvesting the leaves and turning them into what we may know as matcha, green tea, and black tea.

Our final stop today will be UNESCO Heritage [Byodo-in Temple](#) and its gardens. Initially built in 998 as a countryside retreat, it is now a Buddhist temple complex with one of its magnificent buildings, Phoenix Hall, featured on the 10 Yen coin.

We will be back at our hotel with time for independent dinner, relaxing or more exploring.

Sleep: Kyoto, [Onyado Nono Kyoto Shichijo Hotel](#)

Included meal: Breakfast



Day 7, Wednesday, Nov 13

We will take the train to the western edge of Kyoto to the Arashiyama area. Our first experience will be walking through the [Bamboo Grove](#), reflecting on the towering stalks while on our way to [Okochi Sanso Garden](#). We will be able to look across the Katsura River to the hillsides which should be ablaze with colorful maple trees.

Each group moves at its own pace exploring some of the sites of Kameyama Park, the riverfront and the monuments, making their way to the well-known [Tenryu-ji Temple and gardens](#), then to the lesser-known [Hogon-in Temple](#) and its magnificent [garden](#).

After lunch some may choose to return to central Kyoto and others may want to explore more in Arashiyama. Having multiple guides with us makes that possible. Some of the optional things you might want to see in Arashiyama include [Togetsukyo Bridge](#) and a [boat ride](#) on the Katsura River, taking a [rickshaw tour](#) of the area, shopping or whatever you choose.

Tomorrow morning we depart Kyoto. We will be shipping our regular luggage using [Japan's luggage transfer service](#) so that we don't have to wrangle our suitcases on the train. We won't have our luggage with us tomorrow night, so pack an overnight bag with your toothbrush and any other essentials you will need for our one-night stay and the following day in Hakone.

Sleep: Kyoto, [Onyado Nono Kyoto Shichijo Hotel](#)

Included meal: Breakfast



Day 8, Thursday, Nov 14

We leave our regular luggage in the lobby this morning, ready for the transfer service to take to Tokyo so that we don't have to wrestle with luggage on the train. With our overnight bags in hand, we walk 8 minutes to the Kyoto Station. We will purchase our lunch at the train station where there are specialty [ekiben \(bento boxes\)](#) for the shinkansen (bullet train). We will watch the countryside whiz by during the 2 hour trip from Kyoto to Odawara Station where a charter coach and two guides will be waiting.



The coach will take us uphill along the skirt of Mount Hakone and you will have your choice of visiting [Hakone Botanical Garden of Wetlands](#), [Hakone Lalique Museum](#) or [Hakone Venetian Glass Museum](#). After collecting everyone at the three options, the coach will drop you off at the unique and wonderful sculpture garden, [Hakone Open-Air Museum](#). The guides will stay on the bus and take your overnight bags to the nearby hotel while you enjoy the gardens, sculpture park, stained glass tower and one of the world's largest collection of works by Pablo Picasso.

Our hotel is an 8 minute walk from the sculpture garden. Guides will be waiting to escort you to the hotel as you are ready to depart the Open-Air Museum so you can check-in at the hotel at your leisure. A [semi-buffet dinner with drinks](#) is included in your stay and you can enjoy dinner as you are ready. You may also enjoy walking in the village, the public foot-baths or the trails around [Gora](#). The hotel includes a [spa](#) for optional pre-booked treatments. The hotel also has numerous [relaxation areas](#) and places to socialize.

Sleep: Hakone, [Hakone Yutowa Hotel](#)

Included meal: Breakfast and Dinner



Day 9, Friday, Nov 15

For the first half of the day, you have numerous options to choose from, all are walking distance or a short bus ride from our hotel. Our guides will help you decide and will help get you to the places you choose.

We highly recommend you take the mini-train and ropeway (cable car) first thing in the morning to avoid the crowds. It is a 4-minute walk from the hotel to the Gora station where you take the tram to [Sounzan](#) and then the ropeway over volcanic steam vents to [Owakudani](#). Eating one of the [black eggs](#) at the top is supposed to add years to your life.

After taking the tram and ropeway, you can choose from many places to see, including:

[Gora Park and Garden](#)

[Koen Nettai Botanical Garden](#)

[Pola Art Museum](#)

[Hakone Museum of Art and its extensive garden](#)

[Museum of Photography](#)

[Crafts House](#)

[Pirate Ships on Lake Ashi](#)

[Hakone-Jinji Shrine](#)

[Sekisho Checkpoint Station and Museum](#)

[Hike to Amazake Chaya Teahouse](#)

We will re-group at the hotel in the early afternoon, collect our overnight bags, depart the hotel and walk 4 minutes to the Gora station to take the [Tozan switchback train](#) downhill and transfer to the larger train which will take us to Tokyo. Our luggage will be waiting for us at our Tokyo hotel and we will arrive with plenty of time to enjoy an independent dinner.

Sleep: Tokyo, [The Blossom Hibiya Hotel](#), or similar

Included meal: Breakfast

Day 10, Saturday, Nov 16

This morning, we take a chartered coach about 45 minutes west to the [Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum](#).

The park has historic buildings that have been moved to the location, including homes and shops of middle class people, humble and ancient countryside farmhouses, homes of historic people and mansions of wealthy families. You can go inside most of the buildings (shoes come off before entering) and imagine what life was like in days gone by.

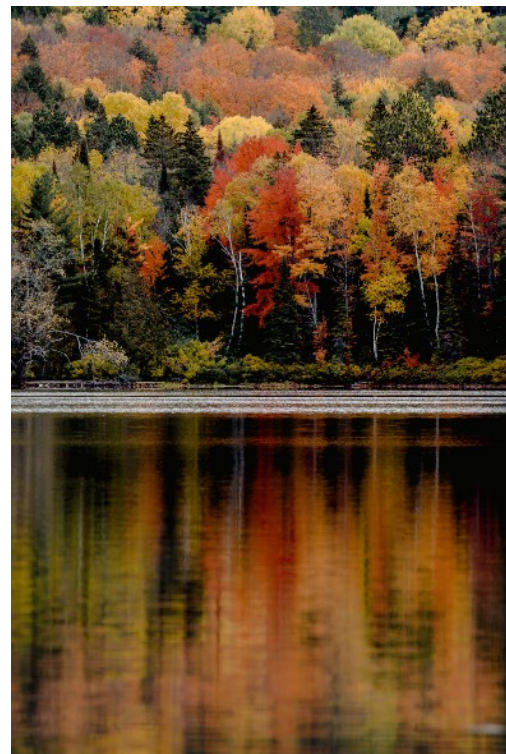
After lunch, we will visit [Rikugien Gardens](#), considered by some as Tokyo's most beautiful garden. Built around 1700, Rikugien means "six poems garden."

Our final destination is Ueno Park which is packed with museums, historical monuments and sights. You may decide to visit one of the [many museums in Ueno Park](#) or see [Ueno Zoo](#) or stroll around [Shinobazuno Pond](#) or explore the [Shrines](#) that overlook the pond.

Returning to our hotel on the subway is an 8-minute ride (from Ueno Station to Shimbashi Station) and you can explore independently or head back to the hotel whenever you are ready. Our guides will help you navigate the park and make you feel comfortable returning to the hotel when you're ready. If you prefer, you could also take an optional taxi for the 20-minute ride back to the hotel or to the destination of your choice.

Sleep: Tokyo, [The Blossom Hibiya Hotel](#), or similar

Included meal: Breakfast and Lunch



Day 11, Sunday, Nov 17

We begin this morning at the [East Gardens of the Imperial Palace](#), entering from the Ote-mon Gate.

Next, we visit [Metropolitan Teien Museum](#) and Garden, highlighting Art Deco design.

We then visit [Meiji Jingu](#) and its lovely garden. Weddings are often happening on Sundays, so we may catch part of a solemn Shinto wedding ceremony. There are food options here, so you will have choices for your independent lunch.

Next is the world-famous [Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden](#). We will start by visiting the often-overlooked museum near the Okido Gate, then visit the glasshouse before letting you explore the gardens independently. The garden is 144 acres, so you may decide to explore a sampling or all of the grounds. There are special autumn [Chrysanthemum displays](#) you will want to see, too. We will use taxis to return to our hotel so that people can depart the garden at their leisure.

Sleep: Tokyo, [The Blossom Hibiya Hotel](#), or similar

Included meal: Breakfast



Day 12, Monday, Nov 18

Our first visit is oldest temple in Tokyo, [Senso-ji](#). The surrounding neighborhood of Asakusa is pedestrianized in some sections so it is an easy area to explore.

We will visit nearby [Kappabashi Street](#), the shopping district with several dozen stores selling cookware, kitchen knives, utensils and kitchen supplies. There are many options for independent lunch in this area.

We will then visit [Hamarikyu Garden](#) which is very close to our hotel. People can linger in the garden as long as they like and can either walk back to the hotel or explore more of Tokyo. The transportation system is vast, clean, safe, inexpensive and extremely efficient. By this point in the tour you will have the confidence to explore, either independently or with one of our local guides.

Our finale dinner tonight will be in a special location and we will enjoy traditional Japanese foods in an atmospheric setting.

Sleep: Tokyo, [The Blossom Hibiya Hotel](#), or similar

Included meal: Breakfast and Dinner



Day 13, Tuesday, Nov 19

The tour officially ends this morning but you may decide to stay longer in the Land of the Rising Sun. After this tour, you will have the confidence and experience to be able to travel in this wonderful and beautiful country.

Tokyo has two airports and both are easily reached via train from Shimbashi station. Haneda HND is south of the city and Narita NRA is east of Tokyo. Airport transfer by train to either Tokyo airport is included in the tour.

Included meal: Breakfast

Based on the following hotels:

Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa (1 night)

Onyado Nono Kyoto Shichijo Hotel (6 nights)

Hakone Yutowa Hotel (1 night)

The Blossom Hibiya Hotel, or similar (4 nights)

Japan has many accommodation options, from tiny capsule hotels to ancient ryokans with futons on the floor. Japan does not rate hotels using the Western star system, although the hotels on our tour would probably be considered 4 star. All of the hotels on the tour have been visited by our tour company, Pathfinders, and were chosen for their outstanding location, comfortable rooms, impeccable service and range of amenities.

Our hotels include washers and dryers for guest use. Most Japanese travelers use carry-on sized suitcases. Luggage is strictly limited to 63" in total size (height + width + depth). For comparison, most carry-on suitcases are 45" in total size.

Cost includes:

12 nights' hotel accommodation

Breakfast daily at hotel, 2 Lunches and 3 Dinners

Airport transfers via train from and to either Tokyo airport, Haneda HND or Narita NRT

Coach services, cable car tickets, subway tickets, train tickets and taxis as per the itinerary

Services of two English-speaking, certified, Japanese guides

Services of a tour organizer, Claire Jones

Guided walking tour of Kyoto the day of arrival

Curated maps of the area around each of our four hotels

Entrances to all gardens and attractions as listed on the itinerary

Local taxes and services charges

Transfer and portorage of 1 piece of luggage per person. Luggage is strictly limited to 63" in total size (height + width + depth)

Not included:

Airfare

Personal expenses

Gratuities

Meals not listed

Travel insurance (highly recommended)



Terms & Conditions & Other Information

Tour Registration

By submitting your form for this tour, you confirm that you have read and accept all Terms & Conditions.

Payments

Tour deposits and payments may be made by Visa/Master Card. Credit card payments are subject to a 3% processing fee. Payments may also be paid through TransferWise online. A \$50 contribution each to the Federated Garden Clubs of MD and Horticultural Society of MD, both tax exempt charitable organizations, are included in the price. Your contribution may be tax deductible.

Tour Organizer

A past Director of Federated Garden Clubs of MD, Claire Jones has planned garden trips to England, Wales, Portugal, France and Scotland and is an avid garden traveler with a library of over 100,000 images of gardens around the world. A photographer, landscape designer, and garden blogger at TheGardenDiaries, Claire loves to travel anywhere there are gardens and interesting sights. Contact Claire at jonesb1@comcast.net or 443-927-6285.

Tour Guides and Audio System

Japan has a certification and licensing program for tour guides. Individuals are required to pass exams demonstrating their language skills and their knowledge of tourism, history, geography and culture. The guides on our tour will be Certified Guides. Additionally, we will utilize an audio system with individual earpieces which will enable participants to easily hear their guide.

Tour Company

The travel company providing this tour is Pathfinders / STITA Tours of Cheltenham, UK. Claire Jones acts only as your contact with Pathfinders / STITA.

Additional Information

Please contact Claire Jones at jonesb1@comcast.net or 443-927-6285 with any questions regarding this tour.

This is a non-smoking tour. No smoking is permitted on the coach, group activities, or meals.

Each participant is required to fill out and sign the attached tour conditions within 30 days of acceptance.

Special Requests

Tour members are requested to inform us at the time of booking of any special medical, dietary, or other requests. We will do our best to accommodate all requests but cannot guarantee that such requests will be possible.

Baggage

Transfer of one piece of luggage per person from Kyoto to Tokyo is included in the tour. As space is often limited, we strongly suggest that you limit luggage to one suitcase and one overnight bag that you can hand carry.

Price

The tour is set at a minimum of 15 and maximum of 24 participants. Prices are in US Dollars.

Double or Twin Room (sharing): \$7,250

Single Room: \$1,250 additional

TOUR PRICE: You are invoiced for the full cost of the tour in one or more installments. Payments by credit card incur a 3% service charge. No refunds will be granted for any accommodation, services or events which are not used, or which are canceled.

DEPOSIT: Tour reservations are processed in the order received. You will be notified if your reservation has been accepted. A deposit of \$200 is required to secure your reservation. It will be refunded to you when your tour commences, and it will be refunded to you if the minimum number of participants is not met. Also, it will be refunded to you if you cancel, and your spot is filled from a waiting list. In all other cases, your deposit is non-refundable.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Travel Protection Insurance is highly recommended and is not provided under this agreement. Cancel for any Reason (CAFR) travel insurance should be considered – it was of great benefit for those that had non-refundable airfare for trips cancelled due to travel restrictions in 2020. Medical insurance coverage is also recommended; health insurance does not always extend to non-U.S. travel. Travel insurance may mitigate potential financial losses which may result from your withdrawal from a tour or its cancellation for unexpected reasons. Travel insurance may also provide for medical care and emergency evacuation coverage during your tour. Such coverage may add 5 to 10% to the cost of the tour, depending on your age, level of coverage and other factors. Some forms of coverage are time-sensitive and usually must be acquired at the time of any initial payment for the tour.

ORGANIZATIONS AND TOUR OPERATOR: The travel company providing this tour is Pathfinders/STITA Tours of Cheltenham, UK (“Pathfinders”). The person organizing this tour is Claire Jones. She is not an agent or employee of Pathfinders; she acts only as your contact with Pathfinders. By placing your deposit for this tour, you agree that you have read and agree to these Terms and Conditions. You further agree that this is a release of any claim that you may have against Pathfinders, as well as Claire Jones, Claire Jones Landscapes LLC (collectively “Claire Jones”), and tour cosponsor organizations (Horticultural Society of Maryland and Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland), arising out of this tour. By participating in this trip, participant acknowledges and provides consent that images from the trip may include those of participants and could be used for future trip promotion, shared on social media, shared by other tour participants, as well as other use.

CHANGES TO ITINERARY: Pathfinders and Claire Jones strive to operate according to their published itinerary. Unforeseen circumstances may require adjustments to that itinerary. We may make changes, without penalty, to the published itinerary, which are necessary for the comfort, convenience, and safety of tour participants.

CANCELLATIONS: Each tour will proceed if the minimum of 15 reservations has been met. If not met, the tour may be canceled. Should a tour move forward without filling to the minimum, there will be a price increase. You will be advised of the increase and may reconsider your application. Please do not book any nonrefundable airfare until your tour has been confirmed. Tours may be canceled if natural disasters, pandemics, terrorism, or any other circumstance makes it unsafe for travel. Neither Pathfinders nor Claire Jones or the tour co-sponsors will be responsible for refunds to you for a canceled tour. For that reason, you should consider purchasing travel or cancellation insurance. If the tour is canceled by the Tour Agent/Operator (STITA) due to circumstances beyond their control, including travel bans or health regulations, the amount of any refund is determined by the recoverable portion of your tour payments. (Pre-payments are made in advance to travel providers such as hotels and airlines. Refunds are at their discretion.) Travel insurance may insulate a participant from most of these penalties.

MEDICAL ISSUES: Tour participants must be physically and mentally fit, and able to participate and cooperate with other tour members and the tour escort. At times, this tour is moderately physically demanding, involving walking several miles over the day, boarding a bus, climbing stairs, handling their own luggage, traveling over cobblestones, and moving luggage. You acknowledge that you are fit to participate in this tour, and you do so at your own risk. Please read the tour itinerary carefully and contact the tour escort to find out if this tour is for you. Participants in the tour are solely responsible for compliance with requisite inoculations, passports, paperwork, all other compliance issues with respect to all countries, states, regions, other, that are included in the tour. Participants are required to certify they have had Covid-19 vaccine(s) administered to them, with requisite lead time prior to trip departure as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Countries and locations outside the U.S. may have specific COVID and/or other health and/or health insurance requirements, subject to changes both prior to and during the trip.

RISKS & HAZARDS: You agree that you are willing to accept the risks and uncertainty involved in taking a trip such as this, including transportation, terrorism, war, theft, illness, acts of government, pandemics, forces of nature, animal misbehavior, and damage to person or property. Cancellation of a tour from such a risk is not refundable. You accept and assume full responsibility for any and all risks from this tour.

DISPUTES: Any dispute concerning this trip shall be resolved by binding arbitration, submitted to and decided under the rules and procedures promulgated by the American Arbitration Association, with each party paying an equal share of the costs of such arbitration. Any in-person hearing shall be held in the State of Maryland.

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NOVEMBER 7-19, 2024

CO-SPONSORED BY THE MARYLAND HORTICULTURE SOCIETY AND FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF MD

Travel Information Form

Full Traveler name, must match passport _____

E-mail _____

Passport Issuing Authority _____ Passport Number _____

Passport Expiration Date _____ Date of Birth _____

Street address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Cell Phone Number _____ Home Phone, if different _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number _____

Type of Room Requested _____

If sharing a room, provide name of roommate _____

How Did You Hear About This Tour? _____

To Reserve a Space, a \$200 Deposit made out to Claire Jones is required, which will be refunded to you at the start of the trip. If you cancel, the deposit will be retained, unless another participant is found to take your place. Mail deposit to Claire Jones, 4 Bellclare Cir, Sparks, MD 21152

Airfare is not included in the price of this tour. Each participant will need to make their own airline reservation to arrive in Tokyo. If you want to arrive earlier and/or leave later, arrangements can be made with Pathfinders to stay extra nights or you may do this on your own. *Please Do Not* make your airline reservations until you are notified by email that the tour will proceed.

Important Dates: 10% Due by March 1, 2024 to Pathfinders at 877-753-6386 Toll free number, +5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time. Final Payment Due by September 1, 2024 to Pathfinders at 877-753-6386. A website will be set up to make online payments easier.

RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS I agree to the Terms and Conditions set forth above. I assume all of the risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury, illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I may incur in connection with this tour. I hereby release, discharge, and hold harmless Pathfinders, its employees, officers, and agents, Claire Jones and Claire Jones Landscapes LLC, as well as tour co-sponsors Horticultural Society of Maryland and Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, from any and all claims, including claims of negligence, from any injury, damages or loss due to my participation in and travel to and from this tour.

Participant signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____