JAPAN BY SEA
LAND OF THE RISING SUN
Featuring Tom Rohlich, Professor Emeritus of East Asian Languages and Literatures

APRIL 15-28, 2018
Aboard the Caledonian Sky
Dear Smith Alumnae,

Cruise through the Inland Sea and the Sea of Japan on a delightful springtime exploration of Japan, with deluxe hotel stays in both Kyoto and Tokyo. This small nation of nearly 7,000 islands is wonderfully suited for exploration by small ship, and our chartered vessel, the 114-passenger Caledonian Sky, conveys us comfortably to a fascinating variety of tranquil historic towns, artistic centers, and remote islands.

Experience dramatic coastlines, sacred temples, celebrated gardens, and cutting-edge art and architecture. Meet and interact with a kabuki actor and the owner of a traditional geisha house, and participate in a hands-on taiko drum workshop with the world-famous Kodo drummers at their home base on remote Sado Island. Take part in a traditional tea ceremony, attend a specially arranged performance of sacred bugaku dance, travel on Japan’s high-speed rail (the shinkansen, or “bullet train”), and marvel at the stunning iconic beauty of Miyajima’s torii gate.

Accompanied by Smith Professor Tom Rohlich, as well as travelers and lecturers from several other organizations, explore the culture, art, architecture, and history of Japan during an enriching educational program both on board the ship and during shore excursions. An optional pre-cruise extension to the Kii Peninsula and Shikoku Island’s remote Iya Valley, and an optional post-cruise extension to Kamakura and Hakone, are also available.

Japan is a perennially favorite destination for travelers, and this trip will surely fill quickly. To ensure your place on this voyage, please call Smith Travel at (800) 225-2029 or go to http://alumnae.smith.edu/travel.

Best regards,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director, Smith Travel
Office of Alumnae Relations

TOM ROHLICH, Professor Emeritus of East Asian Languages and Literatures, retired from Smith College in June 2015, but continued his long-standing interest in Japan by serving a fourth term as 2015-16 Resident Director of the Associated Kyoto Program at Doshisha University. Over the span of his career he has lived in Japan for approximately eight years, mainly in Kyoto, but also a year each in Hiroshima and Nagoya, and has visited each of Japan’s forty-seven prefectures from Okinawa to Hokkaido. His teaching and research have focused on the poetry and prose of the Heian period (794-1185). His favorite courses at Smith College were his first-year seminar “Kyoto Through the Ages,” which included a January term trip to Kyoto with the students, and his advanced courses on Murasaki Shikibu’s The Tale of Genji and Sei Shonagon’s The Pillow Book, masterpieces written by two women of the Heian Court. This will be his third Smith College Travel Program in Japan.

Visit two of Japan’s most iconic sights: the dramatic red gate, or torii, of Itsukushima shrine (cover), which appears to float on the water at high tide; and the Temple of the Golden Pavilion (this page), which embodies the classical correlation of building and setting characteristic of the Muromachi period of Japanese garden design.
MIKAEL ADOLPHSON is the Keidanren Professor and Chair of Japanese Studies at the University of Cambridge. A premodernist, he was inspired by the similarities between medieval Europe and Japan to focus his studies on pre-1600 Japan. Professor Adolphson’s current interests and projects center on cultural icons, historical narratives, and agency in societal changes. He is presently working on trade and the rise of the Heike family in the 12th century, as well as their poorly known capital of Fukuhara (present-day Kobe).

WILLIAM W. KELLY is Professor of Anthropology and the Sumitomo Professor of Japanese Studies at Yale University. A noted authority on the socio-cultural anthropology of Japan, Kelly focused his early research on farming life and regional society in northeastern Japan, returning to the same villages for 40 years. Much of his research for the past two decades has explored sport and body culture and their significance in modern Japan. He is finishing a book about a professional baseball team in Osaka and has been writing about the growing influence of soccer and the importance of the Olympic Movement in Japan and East Asia.

JAMES SALZMAN is the Donald Bren Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law with joint appointments at UCLA Law School and the University of California, Santa Barbara, School of Environment. He regularly teaches at the Harvard Law School, as the Jeremiah Smith, Jr., Visiting Professor of Law. He is one of the world’s leading experts on drinking water and regularly comments in the media on environmental issues.
While geishas, pottery, and exquisite gardens are traditionally associated with Japanese culture, cutting-edge architecture and technology are a testament to the forward-looking spirit of the Japanese people.

**ITINERARY**

**SUNDAY & MONDAY, APRIL 15 & 16  
Home / Kyoto, Japan**

Depart home on an overnight flight to Osaka and transfer to the Kyoto Hotel Okura in the heart of Kyoto.

KYOTO HOTEL OKURA

**TUESDAY, APRIL 17  
Kyoto**

Visit Tenryu-ji, a Rinzai Buddhist temple and UNESCO World Heritage site; the atmospheric Arashiyama bamboo grove; and UNESCO World Heritage-designated Kinkaku-ji (Temple of the Golden Pavilion), whose shimmering central pavilion is covered in bright gold leaf. This evening, enjoy a private presentation by a former geisha and maiko (apprentice geisha) and a festive welcome reception and dinner.

KYOTO HOTEL OKURA (B,L,R,D)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18  
Kyoto**

**ALL:** Travel east of Kyoto to the Miho Museum, built into a mountain slope and considered one of the master achievements of architect I.M. Pei. Return to Kyoto for afternoon options.

**OPTION 1:** Visit Sanjusangendo temple, part of the Tendai school of Buddhism and famous for its 1001 statues of Kannon, the goddess of mercy. The temple’s name means “Hall with Thirty-three Spaces between Columns,” which describes the architecture of Japan’s longest wooden structure.

**OPTION 2:** Participate in an ikebana (flower-arranging) workshop (additional $40 per person). KYOTO HOTEL OKURA (B,L)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 19  
Kyoto / Kobe (Embark)**

Depart Kyoto this morning and drive to nearby Nara. During the short time that Nara was the capital of Japan (710–784), Buddhism became firmly established and some of the country’s most magnificent temples and works of art were created. Visit the National Museum and two UNESCO World Heritage sites: Todai-ji, famous for its monolithic statue of the Great Buddha, and Horyu-ji, Japan’s oldest surviving Buddhist temple and the world’s oldest wooden structure. Embark the Caledonian Sky in Kobe.

CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

**FRIDAY, APRIL 20  
Naoshima**

Disembark in Uno Ko and take a ferry to Naoshima, an island in the Inland Sea that has become a mecca for cutting-edge art and contemporary architecture. Explore the world-class Chichu Art Museum and Benesse House Museum, both designed by Tadao Ando.

CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 21  
Miyajima**

Anchor offshore of Miyajima Island this morning and board Zodiacs to access the island. Visit the 6th-century Itsukushima Shinto Shrine, with its iconic vermilion torii, a grand wooden gateway that appears to float on the sea at high tide. Enjoy ample free time for hikes, visits to tiny temples, and strolling the picturesque streets of the town.

CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

**Note:** Several days offer optional excursions from which to choose.
SUNDAY, APRIL 22
Hagi
Explore Japan’s medieval heritage at Hagi, which boasts one of the best-preserved samurai and merchant quarters in Japan as well as a ceramics tradition nearly 400 years old. Stop at the kiln of a master artisan to observe how the highly acclaimed Hagi-yaki pottery is made. Walk the grounds of Toko-ji temple, where hundreds of moss-covered stone lanterns guard the graves of five Mori lords. Cruise overnight across the Korea Strait.

MONDAY, APRIL 23
Ulsan, South Korea
From the South Korean port of Ulsan, drive inland to the UNESCO World Heritage city of Gyeongju, ancient capital of the Silla kingdom, which ruled for 1,000 years. Visit Bulguksa, one of the most beautiful Buddhist temples in South Korea, with intricate paintings inside and out and two original 6th-century pagodas. After a lunch of Korean specialties and a performance of Korean folkloric music, choose an afternoon option.

OPTION 1: Explore the royal tombs, shaped like domes, gourds, or half-moons, in Tumuli Park. Also visit the Sokkuram Grotto, part of the Bulguksa temple complex. A Korean National Treasure and an A指定 Foreigner Tourist Place, the grotto contains a large Buddha sculpture, an acclaimed piece of Buddhist art.

OPTION 2: Visit the world’s largest automobile assembly plant, operated by Hyundai Motor Company.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24
Matsue, Japan
Drive through lush countryside to the Adachi Museum of Art to explore its collection of modern Japanese works, set in exquisite gardens. Continue to charming Matsue and visit one of the few surviving castles in Japan, built in 1611. Enjoy free time to stroll through Matsue’s historic samurai quarter.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25
Kanazawa
Call at the artistic center of Kanazawa for a visit to Kenroku-en, considered by many to be the finest landscape garden in Japan. Also visit the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, whose collections are focused on works produced since 1980, and enjoy time to explore Kanazawa’s historic neighborhoods.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26
Sado Island
Arrive at remote Sado Island, once a place of exile for intellectuals and political dissidents and now the home base of the taiko drumming group Kodo (“heartbeat”). Enjoy a hands-on drumming workshop and short performance by several of the resident drummers, as well as a guest lecture on this ancient art form. Also explore the picturesque fishing village of Shukunegi, where more than one hundred traditional Edo-period houses line the narrow streets. Ride aboard one of the unusual local boats called tarai-bune, circular wooden tubs rowed with a single oar that are used to collect shellfish and seaweed. Conclude with a tour and tasting at a local sake brewery. This evening enjoy a farewell reception on board the ship.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27
Niigata (Disembark) / Tokyo
Disembark the Caledonian Sky in Niigata port and board a high-speed “bullet train” for Tokyo.

OPTION 1: Explore the Nezu Museum’s impressive collections of Japanese, Chinese, and Korean calligraphy, painting, sculpture, and ceramics, and its lovely traditional gardens dotted with waterfalls, ponds, and teahouses.

OPTION 2: Visit the Toto show-room in Shinjuku, where the company’s innovative lavatory products are on display.

ALL: Gather this evening for a special farewell dinner with a private demonstration of kabuki, followed by an optional Tokyo-by-Night motor coach tour.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28
Tokyo / Home
Transfer to Narita or Haneda Airport for flights home (arriving the same day).

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION
APRIL 10–16, 2018
Kii Peninsula & Iya Valley
After an initial night near Osaka, travel to the remote and peaceful Kii Peninsula. Weather permitting, delight in the gorgeous blooms of the cherry trees. Continue to Shikoku, the smallest of Japan’s main islands, for a two-night stay in the remote Iya Valley (above), where vine suspension bridges, thatched-roof farmhouses, and village traditions date back to the Edo period. En route to Kyoto to start the main tour, stop in Takamatsu to stroll through Ritsurin Park’s 17th-century gardens, with graceful bridges arcing over ponds, then continue by coach and high-speed train to Kyoto. Hotels in the Kii Peninsula and the Iya Valley are traditional Japanese inns, or ryokans.
PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE
- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary
- Niigata/Tokyo bullet train
- Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations
- Arrival and departure transfers by airport limousine bus or shared shuttle van
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel
- Port charges
- Entrance fees
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- Wine, beer, and soft drinks with welcome and farewell dinners and with lunches and dinners on board the Caledonian Sky
- Bottled water on motor coaches
- Professional tour manager

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Daily excursions involve up to one mile of walking at a time, often on uneven terrain. In some instances, elevators are unavailable and stairs may not have handrails. You will be required to remove your shoes while visiting temples, shrines, and a number of other sites. You will need to climb into and out of Zodiacs for one excursion ashore (there will be staff and crew members on hand to assist). Participants must be physically fit, active, and in good health.

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

PLEASE NOTE: U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates.

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS
Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

The Caledonian Sky is a 114-passenger premier expedition ship refurbished in 2012. All cabins have an ocean view, en suite bathroom with walk-in shower and/or bathtub, spacious wardrobe or walk-in closet, safe, minibar, individually controlled heat/air-conditioning, flat-screen television, and sitting area with sofa. Twenty-three of the suites feature private balconies. The ship’s amenities include a dining room, two lounges with bar service, small library and gym, sun deck with comfortable lounge chairs, hairdresser, laundry service, and gift shop. An elevator services all passenger cabin decks. The Caledonian Sky’s chefs prepare quality international meals, predominantly Western-style, served in a single open seating. A friendly crew provides exceptional, personalized service, with more than a 1:2 crew-to-passenger ratio. The ship features advanced satellite navigation and communication equipment, roll stabilizers, and a fleet of Zodiac landing craft.
RESERVATION FORM

To reserve your space, please make your deposit check payable to Criterion Travel and mail it, along with the completed reservation form, to Smith Travel, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063. You may fax credit card information to (413) 585-2015. For questions, call Smith Travel at (800) 225-2029.

PAYMENT
☐ Enclosed is my check for $ ____________ ($1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel), to reserve _______ place(s) on Japan by Sea, or
☐ Please charge my deposit to my: ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

CREDIT CARD NUMBER ___________________ EXP. DATE ____________

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE ___________________ SECURITY CODE ____________

☐ I/we understand that final payment is due December 16, 2017, 120 days prior to departure. Registrations after December 16, 2017: full payment is due at registration.

NAME #1 (as on passport) ___________________ SMITH AFFILIATION ___________________

NAME #2 (as on passport) ___________________ SMITH AFFILIATION ___________________

STREET ADDRESS ________________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP ________________________________

HOME PHONE __________________ WORK PHONE __________________

FAX __________________ E-MAIL __________________

SINGLE TRAVELERS
☐ I prefer to have single accommodations.
☐ I plan to share accommodations with ______________________________________
☐ I’d like to know about roommates. I am a ☐ smoker / ☐ non-smoker.
I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of December 16, 2017, I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Cabin category preference: 1st ☐ 2nd ☐
Bed preference at hotels (not guaranteed): ☐ Two beds ☐ One bed
☐ I/we have read the tour information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated therein.

SIGNATURE __________________ DATE ____________

SIGNATURE __________________ DATE ____________
April 15–28, 2018 aboard the Caledonian Sky

HIGHLIGHTS

CRUISE Japan’s Inland Sea and beyond for 8 nights, including a day ashore in South Korea, aboard the spacious and comfortable expedition ship Caledonian Sky.

ENJOY a special presentation about the life and training of a geisha, and watch a kabuki actor transform himself into character during a private make-up and dressing demonstration.

TRY your hand at taiko drumming at the remote Sado Island home of the world-famous Kodo drummers and thrill to their exhilarating music.

ENGAGE with local people during several interactive experiences including an ikebana lesson in Kyoto, a tea ceremony in Miyajima, and a visit to an artisan’s kiln in Hagi.

LEARN about some of the products and processes for which Japan and Korea are renowned, from traditional ceramics and landscape design to robotically assembled automobiles and high-tech lavatories.