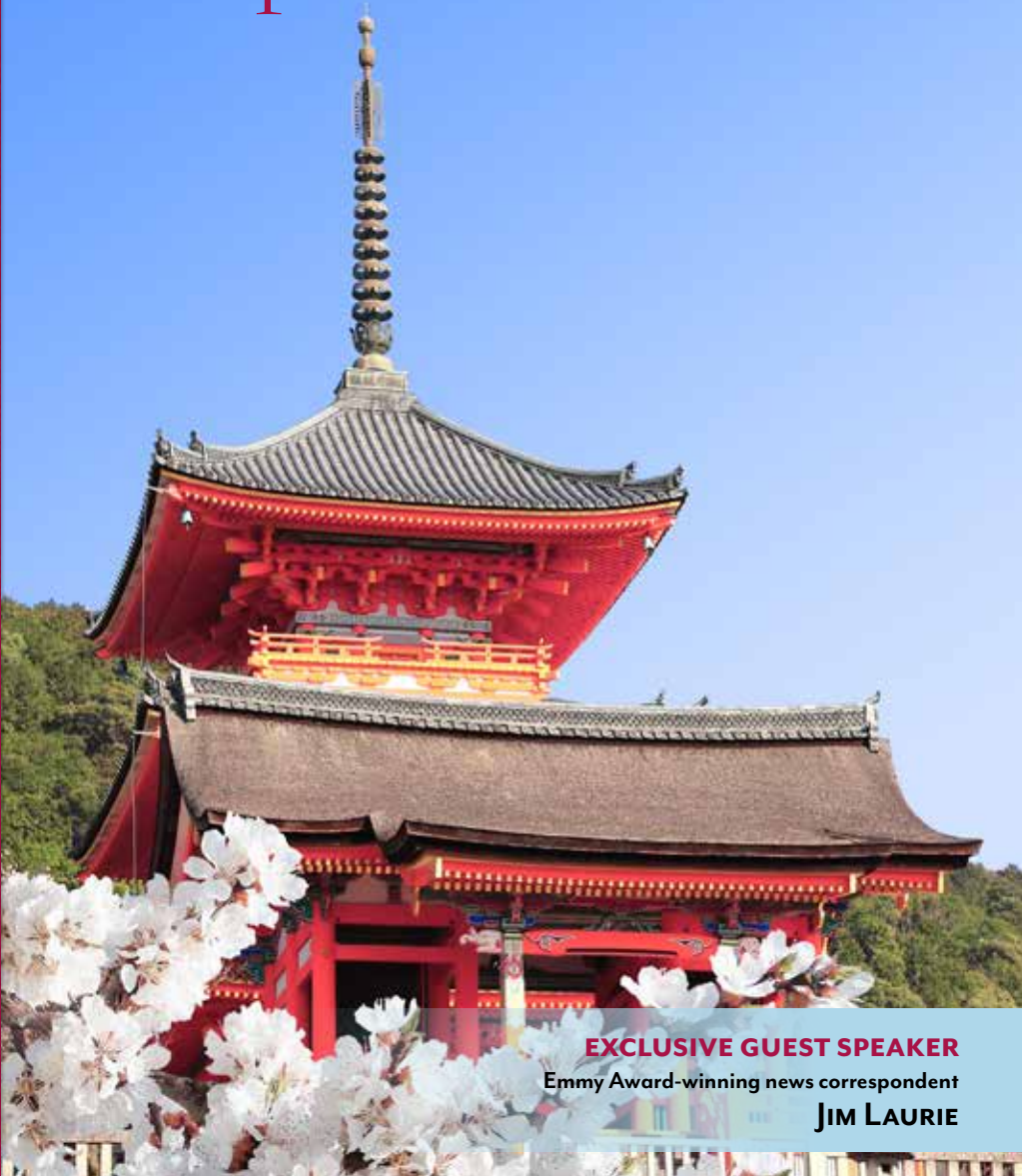




JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY

# Ancient Traditions of Japan's Inland Sea



**EXCLUSIVE GUEST SPEAKER**

Emmy Award-winning news correspondent

**JIM LAURIE**

April 16 to 27, 2024

# ANCIENT TRADITIONS OF JAPAN'S INLAND SEA

From the ethereal temples, jewel box pagodas, and shogun castles of Kyoto to the latticed merchant houses of Hagi's earthen-walled samurai district, Japan's ancient cities and towns evoke a storied legacy rooted in religious rituals and spiritual symbolism. This 12-day, 10-night land and sea voyage takes you to some of the most iconic sites along the Inland Sea of Japan and South Korea, featuring a seven-night, all-inclusive cruise on a 5-star small ship. Explore the breathtaking grounds of stunning Himeji Castle, a feudal fortress that dates to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Watch the Great Torii Gate appear to float on water on a visit to the sixth-century Itsukushima Shrine on the island of Miyajima. Marvel at the "living paintings" at the Adachi Museum of Art—a 20<sup>th</sup>-century fusion of modern Japanese art and spectacular garden landscapes. Learn more about the economic and cultural significance of the Inland Sea to Japan's history as we cruise to the cradle of the Silla Kingdom in ancient Gyeongju, South Korea. Emmy Award-winning international news correspondent Jim Laurie will join us as guest lecturer for the tour, speaking about his more than five decades of covering this remarkable region on what promises to be a journey to remember.

*Adachi Museum gardens near Matsue*





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Dear Alumni & Friends:

Immerse yourself in the natural beauty and storied history of Japan and South Korea on a carefully crafted itinerary that reveals each country's cultural treasures and divine mystique. This 12-day, 10-night journey provides unparalleled access to the region's vast architectural riches, bountiful landscapes, and venerable heritage.

Spend three nights in Japan's spiritual and cultural capital, Kyoto, home to a sublime concentration of UNESCO World Heritage-designated historical monuments, including the celebrated temples of Kiyomizu-dera, Ryoan-ji, and Kinkaku-ji and the imposing Nijo Castle. Cruise for seven nights along the coast of the Inland Sea to South Korea aboard the exclusively chartered, 5-star small ship LE SOLÉAL—an elegant French vessel featuring only 132 ocean-view suites and staterooms.

Enjoy excursions to seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Himeji Castle, Japan's largest surviving feudal complex; Hiroshima's poignant Peace Memorial Park; Miyajima's Itsukushima Shrine; and in Gyeongju, South Korea, the ancient Silla Kingdom Royal Burial Mounds; and the glorious Bulguksa Temple, the embodiment of Buddhist utopia on Earth.

This program is an excellent value with luxury accommodations and daily excursions; we encourage you to book now while space and early booking savings are still available.

Cordially,

Marguerite Ingalls Jones, A&S '74, Bus '88  
Travel Program Director  
Office of Alumni Relations  
The Johns Hopkins University

**Note:** A small portion of the cost of your trip supports the Johns Hopkins Alumni Travel Program.

**Eligibility:** At least one member of the traveling party is required to make a sustaining financial contribution of \$50 or more to the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association within the fiscal year. Please visit [alumni.jhu.edu/support](http://alumni.jhu.edu/support).

**To secure your spot, call Gohagan and Company at 800-922-3088  
or visit [gohagantravel.com/reserve](http://gohagantravel.com/reserve)**





## GUEST SPEAKER

### JIM LAURIE

A distinguished international broadcaster, writer, and media consultant who has witnessed defining moments in Asia's history for more than 50 years, Jim Laurie first visited Japan as a young writer/reporter in 1970 before embarking as a war correspondent in Indochina. He served as ABC News bureau chief in Tokyo in the late 1980s. Laurie's Emmy Award-winning documentary film, *Myths Behind the Miracle*, examined Japan's economic success in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and some of the social reasons that it could not be sustained.



# TRADITION, CEREMONY, AND RITUAL



A mysterious island nation, one of unsurpassed natural beauty and way of life, Japan and its fascinating culture are laden with ancient spiritual rituals, symbolism, and rich, storied tradition. 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. 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. Silent contemplation will reveal 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.



## INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS



GOHAGAN & COMPANY





## 12-DAY/10-NIGHT ITINERARY

### Leave Home City

#### Day 1

Depart the home city and cross the International Date Line.

### Osaka, Japan/Kyoto

#### Day 2

Arrive in Osaka, then transfer to impeccably preserved Kyoto. Check in to the ideally located KYOTO HOTEL OKURA and enjoy an evening at leisure.

### Kyoto

#### Day 3

Visit the Ryoan-ji Temple, constructed as an aristocrat's villa during the Heian Period (794 to 1185). Continue on to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kinkaku-ji Temple, the vaunted "Golden Pavilion." Spend the afternoon at leisure and attend a welcome cocktail reception this evening at the hotel. (B,R)

### Kyoto

#### Day 4

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated monument of *Kiyomizu-dera* (Pure Water Temple), where the main hall and veranda were built without a single nail. Experience the serenity of the temple's monumental *hondo* (main hall) and visit Otowa Falls, where a sip of the "pure water" is reputed to bestow health, success, or beauty. This afternoon, learn more about shogun history at the UNESCO-designated Nijo Castle, built for shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu. (B)

### Kyoto/Himeji

#### Day 5

Enjoy a guided visit of the grounds surrounding UNESCO World Heritage-designated

Himeji Castle, Japan's most stunning and best-preserved feudal fortress. Embark the ship this afternoon. (B,L,D)

### Hiroshima/Miyajima

#### Day 6

Drive to the solemn Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park in central Hiroshima—marking the spot where on August 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb used in war left only structural remnants of Hiroshima's Genbaku Dome—and visit the Peace Memorial Museum. Call at the island of *Miyajima* (Shrine Island) to tour the sixth-century Itsukushima Shrine. The shrine's impressive Great Torii Gate—appears to float on water during high tide. Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception on board the ship. (B,L,R,D)

Bulguksa Temple in Gyeongju, South Korea





Karamon (Chinese-style gate) to enter  
Nijo Castle in Kyoto

## Hagi Day 7

Tour Hagi's 17<sup>th</sup>-century Toko-ji Temple on Kikuyake and walk past dwellings that once housed samurai in the city's old castle town. Visit the Kikuyake House—one of the best-preserved examples of merchant-style architecture from the Edo period (1603 to 1868)—and explore the Hagi Uragami Museum. (B,L,D)

## Sakaiminato for Adachi Museum and Matsue

### Day 8

Tour the Adachi Museum of Art, where 20<sup>th</sup>-century and modern Japanese art coalesce with six landscaped gardens as “living paintings,” and see 17<sup>th</sup>-century Matsue Castle. Enjoy onboard lectures this afternoon while cruising the Sea of Japan. (B,L,D)

## Busan, South Korea, for Gyeongju

### Day 9

Travel from Busan in rural South Korea to the cradle of the Silla Kingdom (57 B.C. to A.D. 935) in historical Gyeongju. Visit the stunning eighth-century Bulguksa Temple and learn about Silla history in the Gyeongju National Museum, which houses more than 30,000 artifacts, before touring the Royal Burial Mounds at Tumuli Park. (B,L,D)

## Moji, Japan

### Day 10

Visit the striking 12<sup>th</sup>-century Akama Shrine, dedicated to the child emperor Antoku. Stop by Karato fish market, patronized by local professional chefs, on your way back to the ship. Enjoy the Captain's Farewell Reception on board the ship this evening. (B,L,R,D)

## Uno for Kurashiki/ Okayama (Koraku-en Garden)

### Day 11

Travel to the Kurashiki Bikan District to visit the old merchant quarter and see the traditional black-tiled houses—painted white and situated along a canal framed with weeping willows. This afternoon, walk through the beautiful Koraku-en in Okayama. This strolling garden is unique for its large, grassy areas and distinctive wooden Ryuten, a pavilion with a stream running through it. (B,L,D)

## Osaka/Home City

### Day 12

After breakfast, disembark the ship and continue on the Osaka and Nara Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)



Kinkaku-ji Temple in Kyoto



**LE SOLÉAL** Join us aboard the exclusively chartered, 5-star LE SOLÉAL, where distinctive French sophistication meets innovative nautical design. Each of the 132 5-star staterooms and suites (up to 484 square feet) features an ocean view and most have a private balcony. All accommodations feature individual climate control, two twin beds or one queen bed, a private bathroom with shower, and luxury hotel-style hotel amenities. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages and internet access are available throughout the cruise. All meals aboard ship are included.



**2024 DEPARTURE DATE: April 16 to 27** (Tour Begins: April 17)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <small>per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</small>	Early Booking Rate through Nov. 10, 2023	Rates after Nov. 10, 2023
5	Superior stateroom, large window featuring bathroom with shower. <i>Deck 3, forward. (limited availability)</i>	\$7,195	\$7,995
4	Deluxe stateroom, small window with door to partial-wall balcony. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i>	\$8,095	\$8,995
3	Prestige Stateroom, expansive sliding glass door, <b>private partial-wall balcony</b> . <i>Deck 4, forward and midship.</i>	\$9,445	\$10,495
2	Prestige Stateroom, sliding glass door, <b>private balcony</b> , shower or tub/shower. <i>Deck 5, forward.</i>	\$10,795	\$11,995
1	Prestige Stateroom, sliding glass door, <b>private balcony</b> , shower or tub/shower. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$11,695	\$12,995
Grand Deluxe Suite	Expansive sliding glass door, <b>large private balcony</b> , tub/shower, sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 6, midship. (limited availability)</i>	\$13,045	\$14,495
Prestige Suite II	Two rooms, expansive sliding glass door, <b>large private balcony</b> , two bathrooms: tub/shower and shower, large sitting area with sofa, two closets. <i>Deck 5, midship. (limited availability)</i>	\$15,745	\$17,495
Prestige Suite I	Two rooms, expansive sliding glass door, <b>large private balcony</b> , two bathrooms: tub/shower and shower, large sitting area with sofa, two closets. <i>Deck 6, midship. (limited availability)</i>	\$16,645	\$18,495
Owner's Suite	One bedroom, sitting room with sofa, table and four chairs, expansive sliding glass doors, <b>larger private balcony</b> , one and a half bathrooms, separate tub and shower. <i>Deck 6 midship. (limited availability)</i>	\$20,245	\$22,495

Single supplements apply to select categories at 160% of the per person double price and is capacity controlled.

Port taxes are an additional \$450 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

To secure your spot, call Gohagan & Company at 800-922-3088 or visit [gohagantravel.com/reserve](http://gohagantravel.com/reserve)

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## PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

### Iconic Tokyo

**April 13 to 17, 2024** (Tour Begins: April 14)

Explore Tokyo on a comprehensive three-night itinerary that includes a full-day excursion to Hakone, home to majestic Mount Fuji, and a journey aboard the high-speed Shinkansen, or bullet train, to Kyoto. Pass through the Kaminari Gate to visit the Senso-ji Temple, originally built in the seventh century. Visit the Tokyo National Museum, the largest art museum in Japan and one of the largest in the world. Accommodations are at the 5-star IMPERIAL HOTEL TOKYO.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy:* **\$1,865**

*Price per person, based on single occupancy:* **\$2,525**



## POST-PROGRAM OPTION

### Osaka and Nara

**April 27 to 29, 2024** (Tour Ends: April 29)

Extend your time in Osaka on a two-night itinerary that includes a visit to the Osaka History Museum, showcasing Osaka's interesting culture as a merchant city. Enjoy an excursion to the tranquil city of Nara, Japan's oldest capital. Visit the iconic Horyu-ji Temple, where a seventh-century, five-story pagoda stands as a testament to Japan's history, and Todaiji, the "Great Eastern Temple," one of Japan's most famous and historically significant temples. Accommodations are for two nights in the 5-star IMPERIAL HOTEL OSAKA.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy:* **\$1,260**

*Price per person, based on single occupancy:* **\$1,700**

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

EARLY BOOKING SAVINGS UP TO \$4,495 PER COUPLE



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