



WashU

Inland Sea of Japan & South Korea



FEATURED GUEST SPEAKER
Pico Iyer

April 25 – May 7, 2026

An island nation of unsurpassed natural beauty, Japan is laden with rich culture and storied tradition. This 13-day, 12-night land and sea voyage showcases sites from the ethereal temples and jewel box pagodas of Kyoto to the latticed merchant houses of Hagi's samurai district. Admire the Adachi Museum of Art's modern Japanese art collection and celebrated garden. Explore seven different UNESCO World Heritage sites in two countries. Stroll through iconic landscaped gardens, dine on fresh local foods and be awed by traditional theater. In temples, parks and historic sites, discover the varied and unforgettable appeal of Japan and South Korea. Guest speaker Pico Iyer, a leading visionary on global culture and author of numerous books and essays, will enhance your journey with informative lectures and commentary. Augment your visit with a pre-tour extension in Tokyo and/or a post-tour extension in Osaka.

Exclusive Highlights

- Eight-night round-trip cruise aboard *Heritage Adventurer*, an exclusively chartered small ship.
- Specially arranged excursion to Itsukushima Shrine to see its iconic “floating” Torii gate in the Seto Inland Sea.
- Seven UNESCO World Heritage sites in Japan and South Korea.
- Visit to the Hiroshima Peace Park with special presentation by a family member of a Hiroshima survivor.



Above: Kinkaku-ji “Golden Pavilion” Temple, Kyoto, Japan
Cover: Sakura flowers in front of the Kiyomizu Temple, Kyoto, Japan



WashU

Washington University Alumni and Friends:

Travel with a wonderful group—on a remarkable journey.

We invite you to join fellow Washington University alumni and friends for an extraordinary 13-day, 12-night land and sea adventure through the Inland Sea of Japan and South Korea. This thoughtfully designed itinerary includes an 8-night, all-inclusive cruise aboard the *Heritage Adventurer*, an expedition ship known for its comfort, intimate atmosphere, and immersive experiences. Guest speaker Pico Iyer, acclaimed author and global cultural commentator, will further enrich your journey with insightful lectures and commentary.

Why travel with Washington University?

At the heart of every trip is the community—thoughtful, curious travelers who share a love of learning and exploration. Whether you're exploring the ancient ruins of the Silla Kingdom in Gyeongju or marveling at the harmonious beauty of art and landscape at the Adachi Museum, you'll not only visit remarkable sites but also engage in meaningful conversations and forge lasting connections.

Who travels with Washington University?

Alumni, parents, friends—and their friends—are all welcome. Our journeys are open to all who value enriching travel experiences. Many of our travelers return year after year, drawn by the welcoming spirit and shared curiosity that define our program.

Don't miss your chance to join this one-of-a-kind journey.

Space is limited, and our special savings offer—up to **\$2,000 per couple**—is available only through **September 15, 2025**. Complete cruise rates and details can be found in the enclosed brochure.

We look forward to welcoming you on this exceptional journey.

David E. Webb

Director, Travel Program and Education
Washington University in St. Louis

P.S. The WashU Travel Program recommends that you purchase travel insurance to protect yourself and your investment from unforeseen circumstances. For more information, please contact the WashU Travel Program office at (314) 935-0474 or email the program director at davidewebb@wustl.edu.

Faculty Host



Rebecca Copeland is a professor of modern Japanese literature, a writer of fiction and literary criticism, and a translator. Her research focuses almost exclusively on modern Japanese women writers, examining the way their gender has defined and often confined their literary production. In the classroom, she offers a diverse range of courses, from postwar fiction and women writers to translation, mythic monsters, and mystery fiction. Her creative writing travels between Japan and the American South and touches on questions of identity, belonging, and self-discovery. The *Kimono Tattoo* (2021), her debut novel, takes readers on a journey into Kyoto's intricate world of kimono design, and into a mystery that interweaves family dynamics, loss, and reconciliation.

***Faculty hosts are not guaranteed. Their participation is contingent upon a minimum number of WashU travelers signing up for the trip.**

More information:

Departmental Website:
<https://ealc.wustl.edu/people/rebecca-copeland>

Personal Website:
<https://www.rebecca-copeland.com/about/>

**For reservations, call Gohagan & Company at 800-922-3088
or visit gohagantravel.com/reserve**



Day 1 | April 25

Depart your home city .

Day 2 | April 26

Osaka, Japan | Kyoto

Arrive at Kansai International Airport or Osaka Itami International Airport. Transfer to Kyoto and check in to the first-class *Kyoto Hotel Okura*. Spend your evening at leisure and make your own plans for dinner.

Day 3 | April 27 B-R

Kyoto

Visit two UNESCO-inscribed Zen Buddhist temples today. Ryoan-ji, established in 1450, features a world-famous rock garden. Kinkaku-ji, the Golden Pavilion, is a visual feast, boasting two stories covered in gold leaf. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception, followed by dinner on your own.

Day 4 | April 28 B

Kyoto

Kiyomizu-dera looks over the city from its perch in the eastern hills. After touring the temple, walk through

the surrounding charming neighborhood, where the streets are lined with shops and restaurants.

Day 5 | April 29 B-L-R-D

Kyoto | Osaka | Embark

Learn about traditional Noh drama — often involving choral music, dancing, stylized acting, archetypal themes, and performers in elaborate masks and costumes — and enjoy a performance. Transfer to the port in Osaka and embark *Heritage Adventurer*, a first-class expedition ship. Join your fellow travelers for a Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner on board.

Day 6 | April 30 B-L-D

Miyajima | Hiroshima

Walk to one of Japan's most iconic sites, the Itsukushima Shrine. The imposing vermilion Torii gate appears to float above the Seto Inland Sea. At Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, learn about the events of August 6, 1945, when the U.S. dropped an atomic bomb during WWII. See the iconic domed Peace Memorial — the only building that withstood the blast — and talk with the family member of a Hiroshima survivor.





Kiyomizu-dera main hall and wooden stage

Day 7 | May 1

B-L-D

Hagi

Explore UNESCO-inscribed Hagi, a well-preserved castle town. Stop at Toko-ji, a complex of Zen Buddhist temples in a forested compound. Continue to Kikuya-ke and tour the traditional home and beautiful grounds. At the Hagi Uragami Museum, marvel at the impressive collection of woodblock prints by master artists Hokusai and Hiroshige.

Day 8 | May 2

B-L-D

Sakaiminato | Matsue

Visit the Adachi Museum, with its large collection of 20th-century art and award-winning garden.

See Matsue-jo, often called the “black castle” for its dark-tiled roof and dark exterior.

Day 9 | May 3

B-L-D

Ulsan, South Korea

Visit the UNESCO-inscribed Gyeongju Historic Areas — comprised of pagodas, sculptures, tumuli and ruins of temples and palaces. During your excursion, stop in Bulguksa Temple, the center of Korea’s Buddhist culture. Tour the Gyeongju National Museum, with precious archaeological artifacts, including gold jewelry, pottery, art and more. Stop for lunch, where you’ll enjoy a performance of traditional music and dance.

Finally, visit a fifth-century tomb and discover its many artifacts.

Day 10 | May 4

B-L-D

Nagasaki, Japan

This historic port city is an important international trade hub set on a natural harbor at the base of rolling mountains. Like Hiroshima, its name is synonymous with the atomic bombing that took place here in 1945. Today, choose between two included excursions: visit the Museum of History & Culture and Peace Park and learn its fascinating story. Or tour the Atomic Bomb Museum. This museum covers the bombing as a story, with exhibits

Bulguksa Temple, South Korea





Kurashiki Bikan District

reconstructing the events leading up to and following the explosion. See the nearby Peace Park and Oura Cathedral as well. Both excursions finish with a visit to lovely Glover Garden. As you tour the mountainside grounds, take in scenic views of the harbor below.

Day 11 | May 5 **B-L-D**

Fukuoka

Japan's sixth-largest city, Fukuoka, is known as Japan's ramen capital and with an abundance of fresh seafood, supports a vibrant foodie culture. Explore Dazaifu Tenmangu, a famous shrine that is home to over 6,000

plum trees. Pass through the Tori gate and stroll two lovely arched bridges to cross a pond, built in the shape of the Japanese character for a heart, before arriving at the shrine itself. Continue to the Kyushu National Museum, which aims to examine Japan through an Asian point of view.

Day 12 | May 6 **B-L-R-D**

Uno Ko

Stroll through the charming Bikan District — the old merchant quarter, where white-walled homes, shops and storehouses preserve the ambiance of an important trading port. Visit the tranquil Koraku-en garden, an iconic



Traditional kimonos

retreat dating from the late 1600s. This lovely green space is recognized throughout Japan as one of the top three parks in the country. Join your fellow passengers this evening for a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 13 | May 7 **B**

Osaka | Disembark | Return to Home City

After breakfast, disembark the ship in Osaka and transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Note: This itinerary is subject to change due to local conditions.



Featured Guest Speaker | Pico Iyer

Pico Iyer was born in Oxford, England. He won a King's Scholarship to Eton and then a Demyship to Magdalen College, Oxford, where he was awarded a Congratulatory Double First with the highest marks of any English Literature student in the university. He became a Teaching Fellow at Harvard, where he received a second master's degree. He holds an honorary doctorate in Humane Letters.

Iyer has been a full-time writer since 1982, publishing 15 books, translated into 23 languages, including "A Beginner's Guide to Japan" and "The Half Known Life." He has also written the introductions to more than 70 other books, 100 newspaper and magazine articles a year, a screenplay and a libretto.

Since 1992 Iyer has spent much of his time at a Benedictine hermitage in Big Sur, California, and most of the rest in suburban Japan.

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION



Tokyo

April 22 to 26 (Program Begins: April 23)

Tour the Tokyo National Museum, one of the largest art museums in the world, and enjoy a Yakatabune dinner cruise on the Sumida River. Choose between a full-day excursion to Hakone, home to majestic Mount Fuji, or an in-depth exploration of old and new Japan. Pass through Tokyo's Kaminarimon (Thunder Gate) to visit the seventh-century Senso-ji Temple. Wrap up with a journey aboard the memorably high-speed Shinkansen, or bullet train.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$2,195

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$2,895

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

POST-TOUR EXTENSION



Osaka

May 7 to 9 (Program Ends: May 9)

This vibrant, bustling port city is the second largest in Japan. Enjoy a full-day excursion to the tranquil and distinctive city of Nara. Visit the Todai-ji, with its imposing 50-foot bronze Buddha, and the iconic Horyu-ji, one of the world's oldest wooden structures. Tour the Osaka History Museum, with its fascinating exhibits and lovely views of Osaka Castle. Continue to the Umeda Sky building and up to the Sky Garden Observatory for incredible city views.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,395

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,795

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

INCLUDED FEATURES



- 3-night stay in the *Kyoto Hotel Okura* in Kyoto.
- 8-night cruise round-trip from Osaka, Japan aboard the first-class *Heritage Adventurer*.
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Included Meals | 11 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 8 dinners.
- Complimentary nonpremium liquor, house wine, beer, nonalcoholic beverages and minibar service throughout the cruise and at all meals during the land program.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Director accompanies you throughout the program. (1 for every 40 guests).
- Expert lecturers and local guides enrich your experience with their knowledge and insight.
- Featured Guest Speaker Pico Iyer, a leading visionary on global culture and author of numerous books, essays and other writings.
- Specially arranged excursion to Miyajima's Itsukushima Shrine to see its iconic "floating" Torii gate in the Seto Inland Sea.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Complimentary water is available in your room and on excursions.
- Our extensive pre-departure materials better prepare you for your travel experience.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

GOHAGAN & COMPANY AIR | Your Air, Your Way

Advantages of booking your air with Gohagan include:

- Our experts know the best flight itineraries that work with your travel program's start and end times, and they will work to find the best rates comparable to those available to the public.
- Free group transfers and luggage handling for arrivals and departures during the designated transfer window.
- 24-hour emergency support throughout the program to handle any schedule changes and unexpected delays.
- Flexibility to change or cancel reservations up to 60 days prior to departure with minimal penalties on applicable tickets.

TERMS ***The Special Savings Rate is valid if booked by 9/15/25 and paid in full at booking.**

These Special Savings consist of \$500 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full Savings.

- Single supplements apply in select categories at 160% of the per person cabin fare, plus taxes, with limited availability. Single rates for all other categories are at 200%. Special Savings still apply. (Cabin fare is the standard rate less taxes.)
- Deposit amount is \$1,500 per person. Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure.
- Full ship information and deck plans are available on our website at gohagantravel.com.
- Gohagan & Company reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees, promotions and surcharges at any time. Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/



HERITAGE ADVENTURER

Purpose-built for adventure in 1991, *Heritage Adventurer* provides a relaxing home base for experiencing Asia and Oceania. The comfortable accommodations include suites, staterooms and public areas filled with natural light from large picture windows. Soak up sea views from open decks; two separate bar and lounge areas feature 180-degree views.



2026 DEPARTURE DATE | April 25 to May 7 | Tour Begins: April 26

Category	Description	Standard Rate	Special Savings Rate*
E	Stateroom with 2 porthole windows; writing desk. 236 sq ft Deck 3, mid.	\$9,495	\$8,495
D	Stateroom with panoramic window; living area with writing desk. 236 sq ft Deck 4, mid.	\$9,995	\$8,995
C	Stateroom with panoramic window; living area with writing desk. 236 sq ft Deck 5, fwd.	\$10,595	\$9,595
B	Stateroom with panoramic window; living area with writing desk. 236 sq ft Deck 5, mid.	\$11,195	\$10,195
A	Stateroom with panoramic window; living area (with sofa, club chairs & large desk); private en-suite bathroom with shower & bathtub. 236 sq ft Deck 6, mid.	\$12,695	\$11,695
S	Suite with double panoramic windows; living area (with sofa, coffee table, club chairs & large desk); separate sleeping area; private marble-finished bathroom with double basin, shower & bathtub; floor-to-ceiling cabinetry for storage. 475 sq ft Deck 6, fwd.	\$14,695	\$13,695

All suites and staterooms are ocean-view and feature: a comfortable sitting area; two twin beds convertible to one double bed; writing desk; spacious wardrobe; flat-screen TV with entertainment system; private en-suite bathroom with shower; minibar; hair dryer; in-room safe; toiletries.

All rates are in U.S. dollars, per person, based on double occupancy, including taxes (unless otherwise stated)

The Gohagan Difference – An Inclusive Luxury Experience

For your comfort and convenience, our fares are comprehensive. We offer incredible inclusions not typical of all providers.

Included in your Rate:

- Featured Guest Speaker
- Shore Excursions
- Wi-Fi/Internet
- Beverage Package
- Port Charges & Gratuities
- Travel Director(s)

A VALUE
of up to
\$1,600

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SAVE \$2,000 PER COUPLE!



Bronze Buddha statue, Bulguksa Temple, South Korea



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