Friends of Nisei Veterans
Japan Spring Special
(featuring Fukuyama Rose Festival)

May 9 – 18, 2027

ITINERARY



Sunday, May 9 **DEPART KAHULUI**
Meet your escort Deidre at 8:00am at the Kahului Airport.

Depart Kahului for your flight to Kansai Airport (Osaka) via Honolulu on Hawaiian Airlines.

09 MAY 27 - SUNDAY
ALASKA 1065 COACH CLASS EQUIP-717
LV: KAHULUI MAUI 1011A NONSTOP MILES- 101 CONFIRMED
AR: HONOLULU 1056A FLYING TIME- :45
ARRIVAL TERMINAL-1
OPERATED BY-ALASKA AS HAWAIIAN

ALASKA 849 COACH CLASS EQUIP-332
DEPART TERMINAL-2
LV: HONOLULU 145P NONSTOP MILES- 4106 CONFIRMED
AR: OSAKA/KANSAI 645P FLYING TIME-10:00 ARVL DATE-10 MAY
ARRIVAL TERMINAL-1
OPERATED BY-ALASKA AS HAWAIIAN
MEAL-MEAL

Monday, May 10 **KANSAI AIRPORT / KYOTO**
6:45pm - Arrive at Kansai Airport.

After clearing entry formalities, meet the English speaking assistant outside of the exit hall, holding a sign with "Friends of Nisei Veterans" on it.

8:00 pm - Transfer to your hotel in Kyoto by motorcoach
Baggage will be transferred by luggage truck separately.
Grab dinner somewhere or pickup at convenience store near hotel
9:30 pm - Arrive at hotel.

Hotel accommodations at: Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo / 2 nights

Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo
Address: 17 Nishikujo Inmachi, Minami Ward, Kyoto, 601-8412, Japan
Phone: +81 75-661-7111

Tuesday, May 11 **KYOTO / GION** **(B,D)**
Breakfast at hotel is included.

9:30 am Meet your English speaking guide for half day sightseeing on bus, visiting:
10:30 -11:30 Enkoji Temple (Enkoji Temple is a Zen Buddist temple founded by the great Lord Tokugawa Ieyasu)
12:00-3:00 Nishiki Market (Lunch on own) a 400-year-old, narrow covered food street in downtown Kyoto, Japan. Known as "Kyoto's Pantry," the vibrant arcade stretches about 390 to 400 meters and houses over 100 to 135 specialty shops and stalls.

4:00 pm Return back to the hotel. Time for shopping or relaxing until dinner.
5:30 pm Dinner and Maiko performance in Gion with light Kaiseki dinner (lots of gohan with all meals)
7:30 pm Returning back to hotel

Hotel accommodations at:
Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo / 2 nights

Wednesday, May 12 **KYOTO / HIROSHIMA** **(B,L,D)**
Breakfast at hotel is included. Check out of hotel.

Luggage will be sent from Kyoto hotel to your hotel in Hiroshima by Chartered truck **Please prepare an overnight bag for one night.** (size of your overnight bag- should be the size like a carry on bag that you take on the airplane) due to limited space on the train.

8:30 am Meet English speaking guide in the lobby for half-day sightseeing
9:30-11:00 Visit Ginkaku-ji (Silver Pavillion)
11:30-1:00 Lunch included at local restaurant (Tairiki-tei) in Kyoto
1:15 pm Arrive at Kyoto Station
1:25 pm Leave Kyoto Station to Hiroshima Station by JR Super Express Train NOZOMI #27 (Ordinary class seats included)
3:02 pm Arrive at Hiroshima Station. Walk to your hotel.

Afternoon free at your own leisure to explore Hiroshima.
6:00 pm Okonimiyaki Dinner (please make sure that we choose a restaurant where okonomiyaki is cooked for guests) included Transfer by motorcoach.
8:30 pm Return back to hotel

Hotel accommodations at: Hotel Granvia Hiroshima / 3 nights

Hotel Granvia Hiroshima
1-5 Matsubaracho, Minami Ward, Hiroshima,
732-0822, Japan
Phone: +81 82-262-1111

Ginkaku-ji



The Omotesando shopping street is about 350 meters long and has about 60 stores of all kinds, from souvenir stores to restaurants. Among them, there are more than 10 stores selling momiji manju, a famous confectionary of Hiroshima.



Thursday, May 13 **HIROSHIMA / MIYAJIMA ISLAND** **(B, L)**

Breakfast at hotel is included.

8:30 am Full day sightseeing of Hiroshima by chartered bus with English speaking guide, visiting:
9:00 Peace Memorial Park includes Sadako's memorial.
Visit Museum and go to Cenotaph.
11:00 Proceed by bus to Miyajima port
12:00 Take ferry to Miyajima Island (about 10 minutes)
Miyakojima only has a population of 2,000 people, plus some free-roaming deer. The iconic Itsukushima Shrine and floating Gate are listed by UNESCO as world heritage sites.

12:15-1:15 Lunch included – Akushu Restaurant (French Course)
1:15-2:15 Omotesando Street
2:15-3:30 Itsukushima Shrine
4:00 Take ferry from Miyakojima port to Hiroshima
4:30 transfer to hotel
5:00 Arrive at hotel

Dinner on own
Hotel accommodations at: Hotel Granvia Hiroshima

Itsukushima Shrine





The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum is a museum in Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, in central Hiroshima, Japan, dedicated to documenting the atomic bombing of Hiroshima in World War II. The museum was established in August 1955.

Friday, May 14 **HIROSHIMA** **(B)**
Breakfast at hotel is included.

Free day to enjoy at your own leisure. Lunch and dinner on your own.

Optional tour – Suo-Oshima

- Visit Suo Oshima (sister city to Kauai) to look up their family history at the Museum of Japanese Emigration to Hawaii
- Lunch at Irori Sanzoku (the Bandit's Hearth) has created quite a stir in Yamaguchi, where it's known as an entertainment-filled restaurant.
- Shopping and exploring
- Kintaikyo Bridge in Iwakuni

Hotel accommodations at: Hotel Granvia Hiroshima



Suo Oshima Island



Irori Sanzoku



Kintaikyo Bridge (Iwakuni)



Optional tour visit to The Museum of Japanese Emigration to Hawaii

Saturday, May 15 **HIROSHIMA / TOMONOURA / FUKUYAMA** **(B,D)**
Breakfast at hotel is included. Check out of hotel.

9:00 am Meet English speaking guide. Transfer from hotel to **Fukuyama (Maui's sister city)** on private bus. Baggage will be by separate baggage truck.

11:30 -2:30 Visit Tomonoura.
Tomonoura, is a port town at the southern end of Fukuyama City, Hiroshima Prefecture. Situated at a bay facing the Seto Inland Sea, the picturesque port town features an endearing old-fashioned fishing townscape, with a calm and laid-back atmosphere. Tomonoura is part of the Setonaikai National Park.

Lunch on your own while visiting Tamonoura.

3:30 pm Leave Tomonoura back to Fukuyama
Afternoon free at your own leisure.



Tonight, teppanyaki dinner is included.

Hotel accommodations at:
Fukuyama New Castle Hotel / 2 nights

Sunday, May 16 **FUKUYAMA** **(B,D)**
Breakfast included at your hotel.

9:15 am Morning free at your own leisure
12:15 pm Make our way to the Rose Park by bus from hotel
1:00 Walk in the Rose Parade
2:00 Parade ends. Free time to explore and enjoy the Festival
3:15 Transfer from Rose Festival back to the hotel by bus.

Running for over 50 years now, the annual Fukuyama Rose Festival is a celebration of resilience, beauty, and hope. After the destruction that the area weathered after the 1945 atomic bombing, citizens planted 1000 roses in what is now Bara Koen (Rose Park) in an effort to boost people's spirits. This number has grown year upon year, and Fukuyama is often called the "city of roses" nowadays - there are around a million of them across the region to enjoy.

Along with the impressive number of beautiful blooms to admire, the festival also offers a range of rose-themed products available for purchase. There's everything from rose-flavored ice creams through to rose oil infused moisturizers,and even rose-themed jewelry and neckties.

Dinner included at Hotel.(Chinese menu)

Hotel accommodations at:
Fukuyama New Castle Hotel / 2 nights

Rose soft serve ice cream



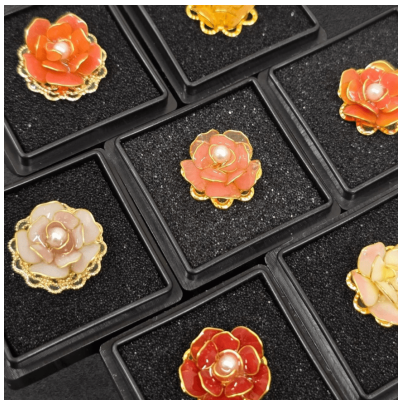
Rose Furoshiki



Rose sparkling water



Rose pin badges



Monday, May 17 **FUKUYAMA / KURASHIKI / OKAYAMA (B,D)**

Breakfast at your hotel is included.
Check out of hotel.

9:00 am Depart hotel to Okayama for a Full day of sightseeing with English speaking guide and private bus with bags, visiting:

10:00-12:00 Kurashiki Bikan Area
2:00 – 3:00 Soba making experience
3:30 – 5:00 Korakuen Garden / Okayama Castle
5:30 Arrive at hotel & Check in.
6:00 Dinner at your hotel is included.

Hotel accommodations at: Hotel Granvia Okayama / 1 night

Hotel Granvia Okayama
Address: 1-5 Ekimotomachi, Kita Ward, Okayama, 700-8515, Japan
Phone: +81 86-234-7000



Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter:
A remarkably preserved Edo-period (1603–1868) merchant and rice-storage district. It features willow-lined canals, classic black-and-white storehouses (*kura*), stone bridges, and traditional flat-bottom boat rides.

Fukuyama Rose Parade – May 2026





The 2026 Chrysanthemum Ambassador (in pink),selected as the program's top representative, traveled with NVMC to **Hiroshima and Fukuyama, Japan**, where they lay peace cranes at **Sadako's Memorial**, pay respects at the **Cenotaph**, and represented Maui in meetings with **Fukuyama Mayor Edahiro** and members of the City Council.

Tuesday, May 18 **OKAYAMA / OSAKA / HOME (B, L)**

Breakfast at your hotel is included.
Check out of hotel. Departure day…

Free Day at your own leisure until your airport transfer to Kansai Airport. Shopping and exploring Hawaii's sister city Okayama.

You will have your room until 2:00 pm.

2:30 pm Departure by motorcoach or train??

5:00 pm Tour ends at the Kansai Airport for your Return flight back to Maui on Hawaiian Airlines at 8:45pm…Sayonara 🙏

18 MAY 27 - TUESDAY
ALASKA 850 COACH CLASS EQUIP-332
DEPART TERMINAL-1
LV: OSAKA/KANSAI 845P NONSTOP MILES- 4106 CONFIRMED
AR: HONOLULU 920A FLYING TIME- 7:35
ARRIVAL TERMINAL-2
OPERATED BY-ALASKA AS HAWAIIAN
MEAL-MEAL

ALASKA 1106 COACH CLASS EQUIP-717
DEPART TERMINAL-1
LV: HONOLULU 136P NONSTOP MILES- 101 CONFIRMED
AR: KAHULUI MAUI 221P FLYING TIME- :45
OPERATED BY-ALASKA AS HAWAIIAN

Okayama Castle at Korakuen Garden



Welcome home everyone! We hope you had a memorable trip! Take it easy for a couple of days to relax and think about the memories and fun you had. Domo Arigato gozaimashita! 😊



Momiji Manju in Hiroshima



Hiroshima style Okonomiyaki

Palms Travel Express
77 Waiale Road, Suite 101
Wailuku, HI 96793
(808) 243-3709

char@palmstravel.com



Bukkake Udon