

Imabari, Japan Schedule, 2012

Tuesday, June 26 6:00 am-7:25 am Tampa TPA to Dallas DFW
 10:45 am-1:15 pm Okinawa to Tokyo Narita (Richard)
 10:35 am-1:35 pm (Wed) Dallas DFW to Tokyo Narita

Wednesday, June 27 2:00 pm-5:00 take bus Narita to Haneda
 5:30 pm-7:00 pm Tokyo Haneda to Matsuyama
 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Ride from Matsuyama Airport



8:30-9:00 pm

Meet host families, ICIEA office

Thursday, June 28 9:30-10:30 am

City Office, Meet Mayor Kan (10 am)



10:30-11:30 am

Japanese Lesson 1, City Office

12:00-1:00 pm

Hakurakuten Chinese Lunch

Named either for the flower "Camellia" or for a Chinese 8th century poet and 14th century play written about him (concerning the influence of China on Japanese poetry & arts), this popular restaurant tucked into a downtown Imabari side street, gets high compliments for its fried rice, pork cutlet, baked sweet potato, and hearty soup. You can get an Imabari specialty here called yaki-buta-tamago-meshi featuring seasoned pork on a bowl of rice, topped with two soft fried eggs, with a sauce (tare) made of fermented ingredients.



2:00-4:00 pm

Oshie Class, ICIEA

Popular in the 17th to 19th century as a way of recycling kimono scraps, oshie is a 3 dimensional craft that provides a view from every direction, made of kimono material or special chiyogami paper applied with cardboard, foam and layering.



6:00-10:00 pm

Welcome Party, Kokusai Hotel

Imabari Kokusai Hotel offers elegant 5 star service, accommodations and eight restaurants. Be swept away with breathtaking views of the city, Seto Island Sea and Kurushima-Ohashi Bridges. [Dana-brief speech]



Friday, June 29

9:30-10:30 am

English Class 1, ICIEA

A discussion class for intermediate & advanced English learners. Topics provided. We will each have 5 students with whom to lead a discussion and nurture their skills.

11:30-12:30 pm

La Soiree Pizzeria Lunch, downtown

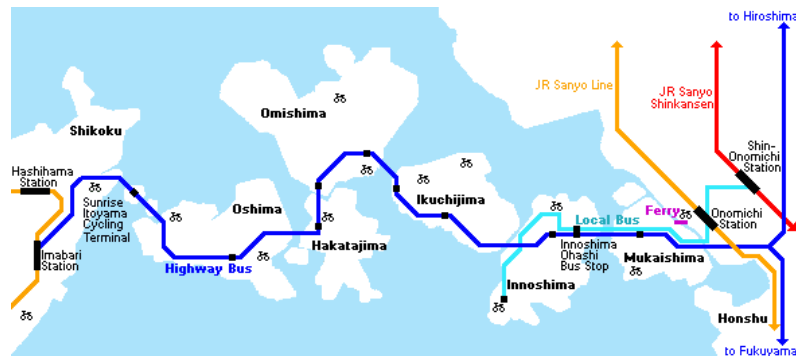
Napoli pizza in a stone kiln, (also pasta, salad, pie)



12:30-1:30 pm

Shimanami Kaido Islands Tour

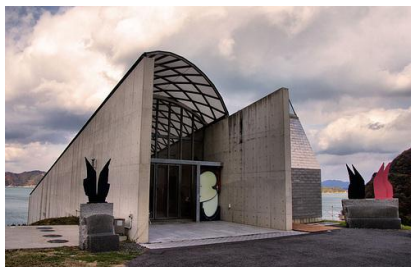
Opened in 1999, this 40 mile bridge skips across six beautiful islands on the Seto Inland Sea, costs 5000 yen one way, only bridge to be walked or biked.



1:30-4:30 pm

Tokoro Museum, Omishima

This museum houses a collection of contemporary sculptures by Katz, Marisol, Hayashi & Fukai, belonging to wealthy art collector Atsuo Tokoro, constructed on a cliff top of Omishima Island. (Museums subject to change.)



Toyo Ito Museum of Architecture

Designed by architect Toyo Ito, you can download the plan off its website to construct a miniature paper model of this 4-polyhedron-shaped steel museum, designed to look like a ship and opened in 2011.

(Museums subject to change. TBD)



5:00 pm

Kirosan Observatory, Oshima

An architectural phenomenon, Kirosan Observatory is atop a 908 ft mountain peak on Oshima, ranked as the 1898th highest mountain in Japan. The observatory, built by Kengo Kuma, a post modernist, whose goal was to erase architecture, making it transparent to itself, by preventing the appearance of any object. He explored heterogeneous collage, brutal superposition, and stylistic interference in his intent to dissolve this architecture of chaos. Kuma came up against a paradox : while wanting to dissolve architecture and denounce the object, he was, in spite of everything, producing new objects that were every bit as loquacious. In his project for the Kiro-San observatory (1994), by reversing the way the eye sees—a turnaround from seen to seeing—he attempted to solve the paradox. The building here becomes invisible, hewn into the land, as if the architecture wanted to extend to the whole mountain and to the landscape offered to the beholder. The observatory is uniquely designed under the mountain and cannot be seen from outside. From the top, you can enjoy the panoramic view of the Kurushima Kaikyo Ohashi Bridge, the world's first triplet suspension bridge and Mt. Ishizuchi.



6:00 pm

Supper & Evening with Host

Saturday, June 30

morning

with Host Family

3:00-7:00 pm

Beach BBQ w/Host Families

Toyo Kokumin Kyukamura, "National Vacation Village"

Sunday, July 1

(a.m.-Dana change host families)

Host Family Day-Enjoy! ❤️

Monday, July 2

9:30-10:30

Japanese Lesson 2 (& Snacks)

11:30-1:30

Boat Cruising/Fishing, Ohama

2:00-4:00 pm

Texport Handweaving Experience

Imabari, famous for towels with 200 firms, including related industries in dyeworks, printworks and industrial sewing, are 60% of towel production in Japan. Products also include bathrobes, headbands, bathmats, cushions, bags, bedding and baby products. They have 2000 looms, 4000 employees, make 10,000 product tons annually.



4:00-5:00 pm

Recycle & Antique Shop Tour

5:15 pm

Supper, TBD

7:00-8:00 pm

English Class 2 Discussion Class

(p.m.-Beatty, Rocky, Richard-change host families)

Tuesday, July 3

9:00 am

Drop-off, ICIEA

10:00-12:00 pm

Tomita Elementary Visit

This school has 650 students, grades 1-6, with 4 classes at each grade, 27-34 students per class (Florida kids, 18-22 /class). Seven of Dana's students emailed students from this school all year & wrote about this in I-News, Imabari's bilingual paper. We will tour and interact, joining them for a school lunch like the children receive. Good opportunity to speak Japanese & English with youngsters. [Dana-brief speech]

12:00

School Lunch



2:00-4:00 pm

Kawara Pottery Class, Kikuma Kawara Center

Unique ceramics can be found at the seaside town of Kikuma, they've engaged in traditional roof tile production for several hundred years. Kikuma-gawara, as the local tile is known, is of such a high grade, it is even made by appointment to the Imperial Household in Tokyo. Roofs of temples & palaces beginning in the late 6th century, were covered with round roof tiles bearing designs on their outward surfaces, usually of lotus flowers and Korean influence but some with animal or demon faces.



5:30 pm

Dinner & Evening with Host Family

Wednesday, July 4 9:00-10:00

Japanese Lesson 3

10:00-12:00

Ikebana Workshop

Ikebana may have come to Japan in the 7th century with the Buddhists, as a disciplined art form in which nature and humanity are brought together. Ikebana often emphasizes other areas of the plant (than blooms), such as its stems and leaves, draws emphasis toward shape, line, form and employs minimalism. Though a creative expression, it has certain rules governing its form. The structure of a Japanese flower arrangement is based on a scalene triangle delineated by three main points, usually twigs, considered to symbolize heaven, earth, and man or sun, moon, and earth. The container is a key element of the composition. We will be taught by one of our host parents. The spiritual aspect is very important to its practitioners. Silence is a must during creation. It is a time to appreciate things in nature that people often overlook because of their busy lives. One becomes more patient and tolerant. Ikebana can inspire one to identify with beauty in all art forms. This closeness to nature provides relaxation for the mind, body, and soul.



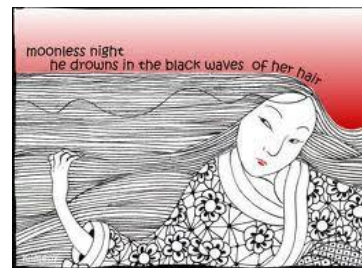
12:30-1:30

Lunch TBD

2:00-4:00

Haiga Class

Haiga is a style of painting based on adding image to haiku poems in a single piece of word and drawing, based on simple yet profound observations of the everyday world, created with the same brush and ink. The art work does not necessarily directly represent the image presented in the haiku and varies widely based on training and preferences but is usually minimalistic (Zen). Some are produced as woodblock prints. Moon, Mt. Fuji, rooftops are common subjects. Contemporary artists experiment with form, using digital imagery, photography, etc. Our Haiga lesson will be taught by Shigeo Tomita & calligrapher Yoko Jinno, who gave us prep work in early June.



5:00-6:00

English Class 3

Designed for High School Students-our Lakeland guests. No plan yet. Richard may lead, based on his experiences with Japanese guests on recent exchanges.

Thursday, July 5

7:30-11:00

Bus/Ferry Travel to Naoshima Island



An island of 3000 people, renowned for its contemporary art galleries, the Chichu Art Museum is entirely underground so not to detract from the panoramic view of Seto Inland Sea. Benesse House is a marriage of hotel and museum to illustrate the coexistence of nature, art & architecture. The Lee Ufan Museum houses paintings & sculptures of the acclaimed Ufan. Art House Project is a series of 7 homes converted into art works. Depart at Takamatsu Port, gateway to Shikoku

11:30-1:00

Guided Museum Tour



1:00

Museum Restaurant Lunch

Benesse House features a restaurant and a café. Issen serves Japanese cuisine in a tranquil, relaxed ambiance. The menu, focused on kaiseki cuisine, offers a variety of prix-fixe options with fresh seasonal seafood from the Inland Sea. There's also a small gift shop.



2:00-5:00

Tour Continues

5:00-6:00

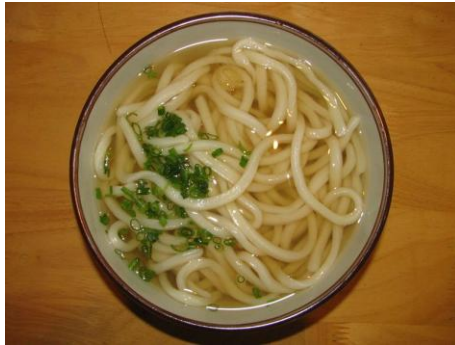
Miyaura Port to Takamatsu Port



6:30

Udon Restaurant, Takamatsu

Takamatsu is extremely well known for its udon, a specialty noodle dish of the area. Kake udon is the basic hot variety in a soy broth with sliced onions. Or you may order it with kitsune (fried tofu) or tempura (shrimp & veggie) or you may even get it cold (zaru udon) or with raw egg.



7:30-9:00

Bus Travel Home

Friday, July 6

10:30-11:45

Nihon Shokken Factory Tour

The head office of the liquid and powder seasoning plant is in Imabari. There are offices in LA & NY.

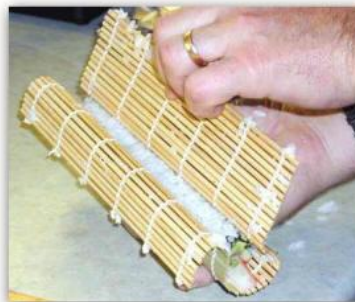


12:00-1:00 pm

Lunch-TBD

1:30-4:00 pm

The Art of Sushi Making Class



5:30-8:00 pm

Potluck Party, Shimin Kaikan

This is our farewell dinner.

Saturday, July 7

TANABATA. The day is a festival that originates from a Chinese holiday based on folklore. The story of this Japanese fairy tale is that two stars, a boy and a girl, were in love but were separated by the Milky Way. Every year on the 7th day of the 7th month, the two get to meet; this day is Tanabata. Over time, the festival has evolved into a children's holiday. There is a Tanabata song that is traditionally sung, and the main ritual of Tanabata is for children to write a wish on a colorful piece of paper, then hang that paper on a tree for their wish to come true.



9:00 am

Load luggage, ICIEA

9:30-11:00 am

Travel to Matsuyama



12 pm to 1:30 pm

Matsuyama to Tokyo Haneda

2:00 to 5:30 pm bus

Tokyo Haneda to Tokyo Narita

6:15 pm to 4 pm

Tokyo Narita to Chicago (ORD)

5:30 pm to 9:05 pm

Chicago to Tampa

Sunday, Jul 8

6:50 am to 6:30 am Tokyo Haneda to New York JFK (Richard)

Sunday, Jul 8

7:35 pm to 10:35 pm New York to Tampa (Richard)