



# Alice Springs Language Centre

Learning Languages | Connecting Cultures

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## JAPAN STUDY TOUR 2020

Thank you for your child's interest in the 2020 Japan Study Tour. In this pack you will find information about the planned tour, costs, itinerary and frequently asked questions.

We would like to make sure that all families have adequate information to make an informed decision. Please contact us if you have any other further questions or require more information.

Yours Sincerely,

Susan Moore  
Principal  
Alice Springs Language Centre

### EDUCATION AIMS OF OVERSEAS STUDY TOURS

#### Language Skills

The immersive nature of an overseas study tour gives students the opportunity to use and improve their language skills in real time and provides an opportunity to have authentic interactions in that language.

#### Cross Cultural Competence

The experience of living with a host family and joining the local community, facilitates an appreciation of different cultures and lifestyles, develops coping skills and resilience.

#### Personal Growth

Study tours enable students to explore and develop new ways of thinking. This analysis and clarity is a life skill that helps students to reach academic potential.

#### Leadership Ability

An overseas educational study tour is both mentally and physically challenging. This provides students with an opportunity to set and achieve goals and to explore and develop personal strengths.

#### Growth in Confidence

Study tour students grow in confidence with improved presentation, communication skills and global awareness that helps them achieve success.

## TOUR OUTLINE

The trip is planned to depart Alice Springs on July 13, 2020. The group will spend 12 travelling through Japan and will visit Tokyo, Hiroshima, Ayabe and Kyoto. Students will participate in language lessons and visit local tourist attractions such Meiji Shrine, Peace Memorial Park and Museum, and Miyajima Island. The students will be accompanied by 2 teachers.

This is an educational study tour, therefore during the tour students will participate in language lessons and be required to complete a daily journal which will be used for an assessment when students return.

## COSTS OUTLINE

Tour:	\$3800	
Passport:	\$148	\$293
	(under 16)	(over 16)
Insurance:	\$150 – included in tour cost	
Visa:	N/A	

Inclusions in tour cost:

- Domestic and international flights from Alice Springs to Japan
- Accommodation
- Public transport and private transfers
- Language lessons and homestay in Ayabe
- Entry fees to local attractions
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
- 4x polo shirts

**\*Please note that these costs are approximate only and have not been finalised\***

## PAYMENTS

A non-refundable deposit of \$300 is required to secure your child's place on the study tour. This is due by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Final payment is due in full by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

Payments can be made in instalments or in one lump sum payment. ASLC is happy to sit down with you to set up a personalised payment instalment plan. An approximate guide is \$106 per week starting from 9<sup>th</sup> September (week after deposits are due).

ASLC covers the cost of our staff and any other expenses not included in the itinerary provided by the tour company (GET Educational Tours), this includes meals and transport costs. The usual practice is to incorporate these costs into the student price. In order to keep costs as low as possible for families, the ASLC pays for these expenses.

Indigenous students may be eligible for some funding from Centrecorp Foundation ASLC is able to help with applications, please contact us if needed.

## KEY DATES

Thursday, 1 August	Term 3, Week 2	Parent Information Session Applications Open
Monday, 19 August	Term 3, Week 5	Applications Close
Monday 26 August	Term 3, Week 6	Successful applicants notified
Friday, 30 August	Term 3, Week 6	Non-refundable deposit due (\$300) All permission forms due
Friday, 28 February	Term 1, Week 5	Passport copies to ASLC
Friday, 24 April	Term 2, Week 1	Final payment due
Monday, 6 July	Holidays	Final parent meeting
Monday, 13 July	Holidays	Depart Alice Springs
Saturday, 25 July	Term 3, Week 1	Return to Alice Springs

*We will also hold a compulsory student coaching session, date to be confirmed*

## ITINERARY

Day 1	Depart Alice Springs, fly to Tokyo via Sydney.
Day 2	Arrive in Tokyo and use the subway to make your way to the accommodation. Spend the afternoon settling in and exploring.
Day 3	Tokyo - enjoy an 8 hour guided tour of the Tokyo. Visit the Meiji Shrine, Imperial Palace Plaza and Sensoji Temple.
Day 4	Catch the Shinkansen (bullet train) to Hiroshima. Visit the Peace Memorial Park and Museum.
Day 5	Hiroshima - activit to be confirmed
Day 6	Travel to Ayabe on the Shinkansen. On arrive, transfer to the school and participate in a welcome ceremony and other activities with local students. In the afternoon, meet your homestay family.
Day 7	Participate in school lessons with host student. Activities may include Aikido training session, participate in live classrooms, kimono wearing session, tea ceremony and club activities.
Day 8	Participate in school lessons with host student. Activities may include Aikido training session, participate in live classrooms, kimono wearing session, tea ceremony and club activities.
Day 9	Participate in school lessons with host student. Activities may include Aikido training session, participate in live classrooms, kimono wearing session, tea ceremony and club activities.

Day 10	Farewell your host family and travel to Kyoto. Spend the afternoon settling in and reflecting on school visit.
Day 11	Kyoto – Toei Eiga Mura (Kyoto Studio Park)
Day 12	Kyoto – Samurai lesson or workshops (TBC)
Day 13	Travel to Osaka on the Shinkansen and depart Japan. Return to Alice Springs via Sydney.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications open on Thursday, 1 August and close on Monday 19 August.

1. Students and parents complete application form which can be found on our website or by contacting the Language Centre
2. ASLC contacts the student's school and collects information on the student's attendance and behaviour
3. The student may be called for an interview if deemed necessary
4. ASLC will send a letter to successful applicants

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- ▶ Students must respect and follow directions from all ASLC staff and accompanying adults.
- ▶ Under no circumstances should students be given or borrow money from ASLC staff, accompanying adults or other students.
- ▶ Students must maintain personal hygiene including daily showers. Students must provide their own toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste etc.)
- ▶ Communication to Alice Springs whilst on study tour is the sole responsibility of students and their families. The ASLC is not responsible for costs of students' calls or internet us. This does not include emergency situations.
- ▶ Students are permitted to take ONE electronic device on the trip (e.g. Phone or iPad). NO Laptops
- ▶ Students will only be allowed to listen to music devices or wear earphones while travelling on the airplane or in their room in the evenings.
- ▶ Electronic devices will be confiscated for the duration of the day if students use them throughout the day for purposes other than taking photos.
- ▶ Under no circumstances are students permitted to consume alcohol or non-prescription drugs, regardless of age.
- ▶ Students will not bring excessive quantities of high sugar, high fat junk food/lollies. A small sweet treat is okay.
- ▶ Students must wear appropriate clothing, adhering to the following guidelines:
  - All students will wear a uniform
  - NO short skirts or shorts
  - NO t-shirts with inappropriate slogans or images
  - Do not bring unnecessary or valuable jewellery
  - Limit of one sturdy suitcase per student

- ▶ Students will be required to give their passports to staff for safekeeping.
- ▶ Students are representing themselves, our school and our country. Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.
- ▶ Students are required to complete their journal daily
- ▶ Students are required to give a short PowerPoint presentation at their school assembly upon return

**Students who are unwilling to adhere to these guidelines may not be allowed to participate in certain activities and may be sent home at the families' expense.**

## CANCELLATIONS

Students who wish to withdraw from the study tour will forfeit the \$300 deposit. Any withdrawals after February 1, 2020 will also forfeit all other payments made.

## INSURANCE

ASLC purchases a group insurance policy through QBE Insurance. It is compulsory for all students and staff on an overseas excursion to be covered by a comprehensive travel insurance policy.

## STUDENT COACHING SESSIONS

Students will be required to participate in coaching sessions run by ASLC staff. These sessions will prepare students for the mental and physical challenges of an overseas study tour. Topics that will be covered during these sessions include, cultural differences, manners & gratitude, currency, basic language, punctuality, expectations while overseas and emergency procedures.

## FAQs

### **What happens if my child gets lost?**

At every new location students will be given a muster point, this is a location in the area where students are to meet if the group is separated. If a student gets lost they need to remain where they are and an ASLC staff member will come to look for them. Students will also be given a card with the teacher's mobile number and accommodation details. For European tours - a local sim card will be purchased for each student upon arrival so that staff and students can be in contact. For Asian countries, students will set up online group messaging as free Wi-Fi is readily available.

### **What happens if there is a natural disaster or terrorist attack?**

We book all our study tours with GET Educational Tours who provide a 24 hour emergency support service. In the case of a natural disaster such as earthquake or a terrorist attack, our staff and GET Tours will take immediate action to remove students from danger and return to Australia. The ASLC has been running overseas study tours for over 15 years and we have never been involved with any incidences where we've had to use this service.

**What happens if my child loses their passport?**

All passports will be collected by the teachers and kept together to prevent students from losing their passport. Students will be given their passports back at airports and any other time where ID is required. Students will also be provided with a photocopy of their passport to keep in their bag.

**What if my child gets sick?**

All ASLC staff are trained in first aid. If your child becomes sick or injured, staff will determine whether it is necessary for the student to visit a doctor or be taken to hospital. All medical costs will be covered by the ASLC and claimed back on insurance.

**What if there is a family emergency at home?**

Please notify the Language Centre, who will arrange for you to come into the ASLC and call the teachers so you can speak to your child. If you require your child to fly home immediately, these costs will not be covered by the ASLC.

**How much spending money will my child need?**

Because the tour cost is all inclusive your child will only need spending money for souvenirs and additional snacks. Each country is different depending on the exchange rate and cost of living. Usually \$500 is sufficient, we don't encourage students to take excessive amounts of spending money.

**Will my child's bank card work overseas?**

Debit cards with Visa or Mastercard will work at most major establishments overseas. We suggest contacting your bank to discuss the best option for your child. Most banks offer travel cards, however, in the past some students have had problems with these. Remember that fees to withdraw money overseas add up quickly, we suggest withdrawing cash every couple of days to avoid fees.

Australian money can be exchanged to at the international airport or you can exchange money at the bank before departure. Speak with your bank about how far in advance you need to purchase your foreign currency.

**How can I get a passport for my child?**

Applications forms for Australian passports are available at the post office, or online. Visit [www.passports.gov.au](http://www.passports.gov.au) for all information regarding how to apply for a passport and the required documents. You should allow approximately 4 weeks for the passport to arrive after successful lodgement. All passports need to have 6 months validity from the date of arrival back into Australia.

**What will the weather be like?**

Japan will be starting their summer months so the weather will be quite warm and humid. Temperatures around 30 degrees should be expected.

**Does my child need any vaccinations?**

We suggest speaking with your general practitioner regarding all vaccinations.

### How will I know my child is safe while overseas?

The Language Centre will set up a closed Facebook group for parents. The page will be updated every day with photos of the group. For parents who don't have Facebook or would prefer not to join, the Language Centre will send a daily email with a short update and photo. If your child becomes sick or injured, the ASLC will contact parents directly. You can always ring the Language Centre if you are worried about your child.

### I have more questions, who can I contact?

Please call the Language Centre on 89552366 and speak with Tara Welch or email [tara.welch@ntschoools.net](mailto:tara.welch@ntschoools.net).



China 2019



Spain 2018



Japan 2018



Japan 2016