

World History Summer Trip 2027: Japan - Land of the Rising Sun

Purpose:

The purpose of this trip is to give students a chance to live and breathe history and supplement what they learn in the classroom. This particular trip will have students traversing through major cities, such as Tokyo, while also enjoying the peace of nature and Buddhist Temples. Over the course of the trip, students will immerse themselves in cultural sights, sounds, and tastes of the locations we travel as we fly to the island of Okinawa for the final three nights of the trip for some outdoor adventure. 2027's adventure will take Centennial students to an array of exotic locations where students will learn about and engage in a range of cultural experiences and enjoy the diverse landscapes that Japan has to offer. This trip will include temples, shrines, museums, city tours, castles, bullet trains, bamboo forests, snorkeling, hiking, and an array of other cultural activities.

Throughout the process, students will learn about the Japanese culture we visit as we involve them in the planning of the trip and include them in the decision making process of some of the places we will explore. One of the goals of the trip is for them to learn about preparing for travel and to create a foundation and sense of wonder for travel later in their lives. We will be using LEAP throughout this year and next to learn about each other, to grow closer as a group, to educate ourselves about the places we will travel, and to learn how to prepare and become a lifelong traveler.

Dates:

We would leave approximately July 17, 2027 and return two weeks later. (The departure and return date are flexible by a few days until flights are secured.)

Itinerary:

The proposed itinerary is included on the attached sheet, but we will be traveling to Tokyo, the Fuji-Hakone-Izu region, the Kansai region, and Okinawa.

Target Students:

The target audience for this trip is current 10th grade World History and AP World History students, but also 9th grade Human Geography students who cover culture as a thematic unit in class. Current 8th graders who will be ending their 9th grade year by the time of the trip are also eligible. This trip will appeal to students who love history, but also those that simply love architecture, nature, biology, or experiencing different cultures. The trip will also appeal to many students who can't participate in the other trips offered by band or foreign languages and would otherwise not have an opportunity to travel and engage with the world in high school. Many siblings of former travelers are excited for their opportunity to travel as well.

Travel Arrangements:

Flights are tentative at this point, but we would fly out around mid-July and return the end of July, 2027. During the trip, students will be traveling on buses, boats, planes, and other forms of public transportation.

Cost:

The price is approximately \$6.669 for the 12-day trip to Japan, including a three night stay in Okinawa. This includes not only the flight to Japan, but also several flights moving back and forth between the islands. Students who enroll early will be given an early enrollment

discount. Students will have a chance to fundraise as soon as the trip is approved and they are signed up. We should have plenty of time to fundraise for this trip and hopefully that will make it affordable for more families. The company we will travel with, EF, provides a variety of payment plans if students sign up within a certain date to make it as affordable as they can for families. This price includes everything but tips for the tour directors and any souvenirs the students want to buy. EF has also increased their partnership with Centennial and is donating \$1,000 to the CAEF Gala.