

The Sketch Book Tour of Japan

With painter and mixed media artist Cathy Shugg



8 days 7 -14 May 2018. Rates from \$3650 per person

Artists, painters and art lovers of all levels Luxury Holiday of a Lifetime.

We sketch and draw Kyoto and Osaka the cultural heartland of Japan.

Visit famous temple, shrines, the notorious geisha district, gardens and the old city precincts with our artist. Fully guided.



www.paintingholidays.com.au

All enquiries to: glen@paintingholidays.com.au

The Sketch Book Tour of Japan

A classic adventure that we think would inspire van Gogh

Introduction

Many of the impressionists of the late 19th to early 20th century were directly influenced by classic Japanese art. Join us and you will see why.

Kyoto is “old Japan” writ large

Quiet temples, sublime gardens, colourful shrines and “geisha” scurrying to secret liaisons. The Old Town areas have preserved the unique buildings and Japanese merchant houses, temples, shrines and ancient tea houses. Find these alongside modern shops, city buildings and in hidden alleyways. Colourful lanterns light up streets at night. We explore the famous Gion area and sketch our way around town, along the ancient alleyways taking in the old style machiyas, laneways and preserved streets. Sketch by the famous Kamo river, go boating to see Mt Arashiyama’s autumn scenery. So much to experience!



Osaka is the working heart of this region. Famous for its down-to-earth citizens and the colourful dialect. It's a good counterpart to the refined atmosphere of Kyoto. Osaka is famous for a wide selection of food classics like udon noodles. We explore *retina burning neon* of Dōtombori Arcade. With our artist we seeking out some great urban sketching, unique buildings, gardens and discover the subways, night sketching and Osaka's vibrant street life. **A Great Adventure.**



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Sketch Book Holiday Itinerary - Kyoto 2017

Day 1 Monday 7 May Arrival & Welcome Dinner

Arrive at Osaka International Airport (NIX) and make your way by Limousine bus to our Kyoto hotel.
6:30pm - We meet up in the reception area for a Welcome Dinner and to meet our group.

Day 2 Tuesday 8 May Nishiki Market, Sketching & Gion District Night Tour

9.00am After breakfast we walk to the famous Nishiki Market for some early morning warm-up sketching before the crowds arrive. Explore the market and stop for refreshments then off to the beautiful Kamo River with our artist to capture the light before returning to the hotel around mid afternoon. 6.00pm This evening join us as we explore the back alleys of the "Geisha district" and traditional night entertainment precinct of Gion with our guide.

OPTIONS guests continue on to Sake Tasting & Dinner

Day 3 Wednesday 9 May Ginkaku-ji (Silver Pavilion) & Philosopher's Walk

9.00am Bring your sketch pads and your camera. We visit the "Silver Pavilion" to see the temple and gardens at their best in the morning light.

The "Philosopher's Walk" is a 1.5 km walk along a canal that passes through villages and suburban streets with a lovely autumn aspect all along the way. There are cafes for refreshments or lunch along the way and shops, galleries and several more shrines and temples if you are in the mood to explore. We stop to sketching along the walk then make our way back to the hotel.

Evening at leisure.

OPTIONS guests join our guide for a Maiko/Geisha performance

Day 4 Thursday 10 May Mt Arashiyama, Tenryu-ji Temple, Bamboo Forest

9.00am Off to an early start today. Great things await us. The autumn colour is a feature of this mountain area and a big local tourist attraction. We start the day travelling to our 2 hour adventure boat ride down Hozugawa River to Togetsui Bridge.

A short walk to where you can get a light lunch and do some sketching of the bridge or local gardens and houses before we head off to Tenryu-ji Temple and visit its great gardens, feed the huge golden carp and walk through to the Bamboo Forest. We catch a tram back to the hotel.

Evening at leisure.



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Sketch Book Holiday Itinerary - Kyoto 2017

Day 5 Friday 11 May - Kinkaku-ji the famed Golden Pavilion

Yes we have saved the best for last. Today we want to catch the last golden rays of sunshine on this beautiful temple so linger over breakfast if you like. 9am Our artist will take us sketching along Kamo river or urban lane ways and preserved streets. 1pm We leave the hotel to “capture the light” at Kinkaku-ji the famed Golden Temple. It is worth the wait and has beautiful gardens to explore. We are back around 4:30pm and transfer to our “Machiya” accommodation. Evening at leisure. OPTIONS guests stay in the current Hotel accommodation.

Day 6 Saturday 12 May - Fushimi Shrine & Village Sketching

9.00am After breakfast we head off to the little urban town of Fushimi Inari for some urban sketching with our artist. OPTIONS guests join our Sumi-E Japanese Calligraphy class this morning in Saori's studio. We all share some lunch at the art studio. Then head out to Fushimi Inari Shrine to experience the most popular temple in the region. My fortune teller I hope is there and you can have your palm read. A wonderfully creative day before we return to the hotel. Evening at leisure.

Day 7 Sunday 13 May - Transfer to Osaka, Afternoon Sketching & Night Life

Today we transfer to our hotel in Osaka opposite Osaka Castle across the river. Settle in then join our artist for some urban sketching or walk to Osaka Castle for a look at this great attraction and park lands.

5:30pm Meet our guide in the hotel foyer for a Night Lights Adventure to the “NEON” district around Dōtombori Arcade. Our guide walks us through some of this fascinating, *retina burning* urban nightscape. An introduction to Osaka night life not to be missed.

8pm Farewell Dinner close to Dōtombori Arcade area before we return to the hotel.

Day 8 Wednesday 14 May - Transfer to your flights

Transfer to Osaka International Airport (NIX) or Inari Local airport for your flight or onward travel.

*Please be advised that this is our proposed itinerary and may be subject to change due to variations in availability of resources and/or weather conditions that may effect our schedule.



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The Artist

Cathy Shugg

Cathy Shugg is an award-winning painter and mixed media artist from Sydney, Australia with many years of experience as an art maker and teacher. Based in her studio in Sydney and travelling widely, Cathy creates original paintings, mixed media and collage art for purchase and by commission.

Cathy is an exhibiting member of Ku-ring-gai Art Society. Her artworks are held in private and corporate collections in Australia and abroad.

"For me art and travel are like salt and pepper; they work together brilliantly to enhance different flavours, so you can appreciate life and wherever you find yourself in the world to the full! My aim as an art teacher is to help develop the individual artist in everyone and to ensure that everyone enjoys the journey!" *Cathy Shugg*

Cathy has received numerous awards for her contemporary mixed media and collage works, acrylic paintings and non-traditional watercolours. Her work is outstanding in its use of colour and its creative approach to a wide range of subjects and media. [Read more> http://www.paintingholidays.com.au/artists.html](http://www.paintingholidays.com.au/artists.html)



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Art Materials for your Sketching Holiday

What our Artists Use

- 2 watercolour art blocks 240gsm or thicker, suggest Cold Press medium or Hot Press (smoother) for ease of sketching & paint application, sizes around A4 up to A3
- A Bound Sketch Book rather than individual sheets with high quality watercolour cold press
- Water colour and acrylic brushes
- Grey lead, 3 Waterproof pigment ink fineliners, Staedtler or similar 0.3-0.8mm tip sizes, coloured pencils, black ink and pens
- A light weight board, a roll of masking tape (good quality) and scissors.
- A Chux or similar absorbent cloth and/or travel pack of tissues
- Suitably small palette for water colours or gouche that has a lid.
- A 250ml pop-top drink container, plastic syringe or eye dropper for application of clean water
- A back pack or bag big enough to carry your sketches, on site sketching materials and water
- A hat & Light weight folding stool
- Camera or iPad - My trusty iPad. Why an iPad? It is a tool and I can paint from the photos I have taken.

WATERCOLOURS (Half pan sets or tubes)

A pocket field half pan set - (small travel set of water colours).

Good quality sets come from Winsor & Newton, Schminke, Daniel Smith and many more.

Typically a 14 colour half pan set has Alizarine Crimson, Burnt Sienna, Burnt Umber, Purple Lake, Cerulean Blue, Ultra Marine Blue, Yellow Ochre, Chinese White (or Titanium White gouche), Lemon Yellow Hue, Cad. Yellow, Cad. Red Pale, Cad. Red Hue, Viridian and Sap Green.

Other useful tube colours you could add are Sepia, Prussian Blue or Phthalo Blue, Cobalt Blue, Raw Umber.

TOP TIPS while you are away

- Observation. Draw or paint what you see not what you think you see. This mean spending more time looking at your subject and makes for interesting results.
- Practice. The more you practice plein air the better you become even if it is in your backyard
- Keep it simple. You don't have to fit in every detail.
- Technology is here to stay IPads and cameras are simply tools you can use
- You are the Artist. I don't think it matters what standard you are at, live it, love it. If you are sketching amongst lots of people focus on your work and come up with a result.
- Confidence Building. Finishing a painting brings a sense of acheivement building your confidence.
- Enjoy! Have fun. Get emotional. You are painting for the pleasure in another country.
- Go Light. Before you travel have a plein air test run to work out what you need.

Please note - some supplies are available locally in Siem Reap however we cannot guarantee availability in this provincial country town.

Pack art supplies in plastic sealable bags for travel in your suitcase - NOT IN HAND LUGGAGE.



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Our Accommodation

Quality 4 + Star Hotels in Traditional Riverside Areas

Kyoto Hotels

Located very close to the famous "Geisha" district and night life along the Kamo River our 5 Star Hotel has commanding views of the cityscape and country side. Located close by is shopping, restaurants, night life and dining precincts as well as Temples that light up at night with street markets and entertainment everywhere you look.

We stay (subject to availability) 2 nights in a beautifully renovated traditional "machiya" (wooden houses) overlooking the Kamo river. Please note that you may share a room and facilities if we stay in a "Machiya" wooden house where futons on traditional Tatami mats are used for bedding and are super comfortable.

In Osaka we choose to stay in 4 or 5 Star quality hotels within easy reach of our tour destinations, food, shopping and night life. All accommodation includes good quality restaurants, bars and lounges, some have a pool and exercise facilities, massage and beauty salons. Rooms include flat-screen televisions and contemporary bathrooms throughout along with all the room amenities you would expect.



*Please note

The accommodation displayed on this page is our first preference. Accommodation may vary subject to availability at the time of booking for the Sketching Holiday dates. Accommodation bookings are confirmed prior to final payment (one month before we leave). Alternative accommodation venues that may be selected will be to a similar standard - Painting Holidays.



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Important Stuff

Holiday Costs

Painting Holiday rates are in AUD\$ per person for the Sketching Holiday itinerary described in this document and do not include airfares, art materials and costs other than those included in the itinerary.

Accommodation

We choose to stay in 4 or 5 STAR Boutique style accommodation that has a traditional flavour to it. All rooms have quality modern amenities and an ensuite with access to WIFI or internet. Additional nights may be available; please advise us as early as possible if you wish to book early arrival or late stay nights. Autumn is high season in Japan for local and international tourists. We cannot guarantee accommodation if it is not booked early.

Inclusions

- Daily sketching tuition by international watercolour and acrylics artist or tutor.
- Be met at NIX Kansai International airport on arrival transfer to Limousine bus to Kyoto Town Hall (50 mtrs walking distance to our hotel)
- Accommodation in 4 or 5 STAR Hotels and 2 nights in a traditional style "Machiya" as available
- Daily breakfast and Welcome & Farewell Dinners.
- Other meals including lunches and morning breaks where listed as being provided part of a tour or outing.
- Entry to all Temples and Shrines included in our itinerary.
- Private tours in the itinerary fully guided by our professional Japanese guide.
- Sketching & sightseeing walking tours of the old alleyways and preserved streets per the itinerary.
- Morning local market guided walking tour.
- Visit an very old shrines to sketch and draw.
- Daily sketching and tuition with reviews by our artist.
- All transport, studio visits, galleries, tips and locations included on the final itinerary.
- Night sketching adventure in Osaka.
- Evening Tour of the Gion district in Kyoto.
- Listed sessions of tuition and mentoring in sketching groups.
- OPTIONS that guests can add (at additional cost) to enhance their stay - see our website for details
- Limousine bus transfer to NIX Kansai International airport from Umeda JR Station Osaka

What is not included

- Travel arrangements not specified in the itinerary.
- Airfares.
- Passport and visa entry fees and taxes.
- Visas for Japan should be obtained before leaving as necessary.
- Additional tours or outings offered that are not included as part of the itinerary.
- Personal transport not included in the itinerary.
- Art materials including paints, brushes, papers and other consumables.
- Drinks and meals not included in the itinerary.
- Travel and Medical insurance To join the tour we require that you are covered by insurance that covers you for medical emergencies and ask that you provide a copy of your travel insurance documents and an emergency contact person prior to departure.

Your Health and other Precautions

We suggest you see your doctor before you leave. Check with your GP about any vaccinations they might recommend. Please advise us if you are taking any important medications while you are on holidays.



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More Important Stuff

Holiday Costs

Painting Holiday rates are in AUD\$ per person for the Sketching Holiday itinerary described in this document

Weather

One of the best times to visit Kyoto, and Japan is in the fall during the foliage season. On average, the leaves in the Kyoto area start to change colors at the end of October and the middle of November. It is truly amazing to see Japanese temples, many in the lush forested hills in a kaleidoscope of fall colours. The contrast of the bright yellow and scarlet leaves and the blue sky adds to the romance.

The temperature is mild and pleasant, and it can range from 12°C to 20°C (around 50°F to 70°F). The days are sunny, and the rainy season is long gone (Japan's summers are considered as a wet season). At night, the temperature drops, though not drastically, so do come prepared for cooler evenings. The autumn foliage season is considered a high season for local and international travellers.

Money

The local currency is Japanese Yen. Rates are available at money exchanges, banks, travel agents and online for your currency.

Our rates are all quoted in AUD\$ for fees and services.

Japanese Yen is required to be used whilst in Japan and foreign currencies can be exchanged at our hotel.

ATM's are available in public spaces however many local banks do not offer international exchange services.

7 Bank (7 Eleven stores) is quite handy and our hotels offer exchange services and facilities.

Visas, Passports & Costs

Japan has reciprocal agreements with many nations including Australia, USA, UK and many more so that a visa is not required for tourist visits for up to 90 days. Please check your country's Japanese embassy website for details or with your travel agent. Your passport must have a minimum of 6 months validity.

Airlines

Arrive and transfer to the hotel by Limousine coach or taxi. Transfer is approximately 90 minutes from Osaka airport to JR Kyoto station and then approx 15 minutes to the hotel or bus can stop for an extra fee across the road from the hotel in Kyoto. Taxi transfers are at guests cost.

Minimum Numbers and Alterations to Holiday Rates

Each Painting Holiday has been priced on the basis of a minimum number of guests travelling.

In the event that fewer than the minimum number of guests have confirmed their booking 60 days from the date of commencement or there is an unforeseen rate change in the cost of travel and accommodation services, Painting Holidays reserves the right to offer alternative arrangements to proceed with the Holiday at a modified price or cancel the Holiday, giving a refund of monies paid less the booking fee that remains non refundable.



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Important Stuff

Terms and Conditions

By agreeing to join this tour you are deemed to have agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions set out in this document and on our website.

Holiday Touring can involve walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour guests have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in these activity without the need of assistance from others. Tour guests must be responsible for carrying their own art equipment.

1. Booking Deposits & Holiday Payments

A booking deposit of AUD\$500 per person is required at the time of booking. Final payment is due 60 days prior to the departure date. Payment can be made by credit card (Visa, Mastercard) or direct deposit. Details are on your invoice.

2. Minimum Numbers and Options to "Sketching Holidays" Tour Prices

Each "Painting Holidays" Tour has been priced on the basis of a minimum number of tour guests travelling. "Painting Holidays" reserves the right to offer alternative arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified price or cancel where unforeseen changes effect the minimum numbers or tour costs.

3. Cancellation and Amendments

A 7 day "cooling off period" applies to all bookings where no cancellation or amendment fees apply to your booking. Cancellations after the "cooling off" period received in writing 61 or more from the date of departure will result in a cancellation fee of \$500 per person.

Cancellations received 60 or fewer days before departure will result in a loss of all fees paid. There are no refunds for tour services not utilized while on a Painting Holiday.

4. Travel Insurance

To join the tour we require that you are covered by travel insurance that covers you for medical emergencies during the Sketching Holiday. Travel insurance is also recommended to cover cancellation fees that could result from illness, accident, death or other circumstances.

5. Pre-Holiday Accommodation

We request that tour guests organize their flights to arrive prior to midday on the commencement day of the "Painting Holidays" Tour where possible. If this is not possible then we recommend that "Painting Holidays" guests arrive a day early and stay at the designated pre-tour hotel.

Tour guests will be given details of the Tour hotel upon confirmation of the tour reservation. Usually the Tour Manager will be staying at the Sketching Holiday Tour hotel the evening prior to the commencement of the Tour.

To make a reservation at the hotel, please contact "Painting Holidays" by email: glen@paintingholidays.com or via the Enquiry Form on our Contact page of our website - www.paintingholidays.com.au/contact.html

6. General

In the unlikely event that a "Painting Holidays" tutor is unable to perform his or her duties due to unforeseen circumstances, "Painting Holidays" reserves the right to substitute another tutor to continue with the tour as planned or to provide a refund to guests equivalent to the value of the "Painting Holidays" artist costs (less substitute tutor costs) at our discretion.

7. Personal Data

All personal data provided by guests and suppliers remains strictly confidential at all times.

"Painting Holidays" will not provide any personal or financial data or tour details to third parties directly or indirectly as a result of tour guests claims or submissions for compensation for cancellation of a holiday other than copies of invoices supplied to the tour guest as requested by that booked tour guest.



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Important Stuff

Terms and Conditions

8. Booking Security

To secure a booking we require valid credit card details and payment of a \$500AUD deposit per person. Bookings are not guaranteed until this information and payment has been processed.

9. Refunds and substitution

"Painting Holidays", will not substitute or refund any part (or whole) of a service that is not used during the course of your stay unless that service was cancelled by "Painting Holidays", or its nominated agents. Painting Holidays reserves the right to substitute another artist as tutor or to continue with a Sketching Holiday as planned or to provide a refund to "Painting Holidays" guests equivalent to the value of the Sketching Holiday tutor costs (less any substitute tutor costs incurred) at our discretion.

10. Responsibilities

Abstract Ideas Pty Ltd publishing as "Painting Holidays", their agents, officers, affiliates, and/or suppliers of services pursuant to or in connection with "Painting Holidays" and a Sketching Holiday tour shall act only as agents for the passenger in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, restaurants, or any other service and do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence or of default of any hotel, carrier, restaurant, company or person rendering any services included in a Sketching Holiday Tour itinerary. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism, or other causes beyond "Painting Holidays" control. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expenses, omissions, delays, rerouting or acts of any government or authority. Baggage remains at owner's risk throughout the Sketching Holiday Tour. The passage contract in use by the carriers concerned shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of these services. The right is reserved to withdraw any Sketching Holiday Tour and/or to make such changes in a Sketching Holiday Tour as may be found desirable for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying-out of the Sketching Holiday Tour. Registration for any Sketching Holiday Tour constitutes a contract which shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia. We reserved the right to withdraw any Sketching Holiday Tour and/or to make such changes in the Sketching Holiday Tour as may be found desirable for the convenience of the participating parties and the proper delivery of the Sketching Holiday Tour.

11. Contract

Registration for any Sketching Holiday Tour constitutes a contract which shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia.

12. Care Statement

"We endeavor to ensure that your personal safety, health and possessions are cared for at all times".

We wish to advise that this "Care Statement" is not an admission of liability in any way.

Abstract Ideas Pty Ltd publishing as "Painting Holidays".

Please read Terms & Conditions carefully and email any questions you may have to:

info@paintingholidays.com.au

How to Book

Bookings can be made by completing a booking form online.

Book and pay your deposit online at

www.paintingholidays.com.au/book.html

All enquiries to: info@paintingholidays.com.au

Online at www.paintingholidays.com.au/contact.html



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