

This is subsidized by the Nakajima Foundation and supported by JASSO.

For International Students

Hosted by: Otsu International Goodwill Association

Co-hosted by: Otsu City

Now accepting applications!

Lake Biwa Cruise Tour



2018.10.21 (Sun)
9:00-17:00 (tentative)

Meet at 8:15a.m.

at Keihan Biwako Hamaotsu Station

Lake Biwa is both the largest lake in Japan, and the third oldest lake in the world.

Ride on the lake with locals and experience Lake Biwa's long history and the daily lives of those that live there today!

Rain or Shine

Event subject to schedule changes depending on weather conditions.

Participation fee: Students ¥2,000

※Includes ticket fee, museum fee, lunch fee, and insurance fees.

※Please inquire about fees for any additional family members intending to participate.

Maximum participants: 20 people

Time Schedule

9:00 Otsu Port
Board the environmental study boat "Megumi"
Divide into 8 groups and discover the wonders of Lake Biwa along with local residents!

10:00 Lake Biwa Museum
Learn and experience Lake Biwa's history and wildlife

12:30 Okishima Island
Only inhabited island within a freshwater lake in all of Japan!
Lunch made from locally grown island foods, island exploration & quiz challenge!

15:00 Enjoy a spectacular view from a special location
Very popular on social media!
Japanese Torii Gate on Lake Biwa

16:30 Otsu Port

Apply now! e-mail: info@oiga.jp

Otsu International Goodwill Association

Otsu-shi, Hamaotsu Asuto Hamaotsu (Tues.~Sat. 9:00-17:30 closed Sun, Mon, and holidays)

Deadline 9/28(Fri)

Meet at 8:15a.m.

at Keihan Biwako Hamaotsu Station

For more details/how to apply, see back of flier! →



Event Outline

The purpose of this event is to encourage interaction between local Japanese citizens and international students. Through this tour, you can learn about both the largest lake in Japan, Lake Biwa, as well as the people and culture in that area from different viewpoints.

Communication with local residents will be much smoother if you are able to speak Japanese. However, the objective of this event is to overcome the language barrier and enjoy an opportunity of interaction and exchange. Volunteer interpreters will also be available to help you, but try to communicate on your own as much as possible.

Lake Biwa Museum and Okishima Island

Lake Biwa Museum

Learn about the relationship between people and the lake, as well as the history of Lake Biwa that spans over approx. 4 million years.

Newly re-opened in 2016.

View the Giant Lake Biwa catfish and the rare lake Baikal seal, etc., at Japan's largest freshwater aquarium.

We will take a tour by groups throughout the facility.

Okishima Island

This is the only island located in a freshwater lake with people living on it in Japan. Okishima has a long history, and was once an unmanned island revered as an island of the gods. Okishima is an island with a relaxing atmosphere, where the past continues to live to this day. Our tour will divide into groups and complete a quiz challenge while exploring the island alongside island locals.

Please note:

- ① Cancellations are not generally accepted. However, if you are suddenly unable to attend, please contact us as soon as possible.
Cancellations without contacting us beforehand will result in a cancellation fee.
Please pay to our office via bank transfer.
- ② Please meet at 8:15 am at Keihan Biwako Hamaotsu Station. Please be on time so as not to miss the boarding time for the boat cruise.
- ③ Participants will be divided into groups who will cooperate with each other throughout the event.
- ④ We will leave Otsu Port via a chartered boat. **Once the boat has departed, you will not be able to board.**
Please bring your own medicine for motion sickness if needed.
- ⑤ Bento lunches made from local foods from Okishima Island will be provided.
We are unable to accommodate special requests for allergies, etc.
- ⑥ Pictures/videos of the event will be taken by our staff for our association's various publications (magazine, homepage, Facebook, etc).
Thank you for your cooperation.
- ⑦ Event will take place rain or shine, but please note that the schedule of events may change if necessary.
- ⑧ As of 7 am on the event day, if a severe storm warning is issued for the south Otsu or Omi Hachiman area, the event will be cancelled.
Please check the weather via our homepage or Facebook the day of the event.

How to apply

9/28(Fri) deadline

- ★ Please apply yourself if you wish to participate.
- ★ You may apply for family members, but not for friends.

e-mail: info@oiga.jp

[Please include the following info]

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|------------------------------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| ① Participant's name (w/ hiragana) | ✕ Names of family members if also participating | | |
| ② Name of university | ③ Age (as of 10/21) | ④ Gender | ⑤ Nationality |
| ⑥ Postal code | ⑦ Address | ⑧ TEL (home/cell) | ⑨ Email address |

Applications/Inquiries

Hosted by: Otsu International Goodwill Association

Otsu-shi, Hamaotsu 4-1-1 Asuto Hamaotsu 2F TEL:077-525-4711

(Tues – Sat. 9:00~17:30 closed Sun./Mon. and holidays)

Homepage: <https://www.oiga.jp/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/otsu.kokusai/>

