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## Kyushu

**March 6 - 13, 2012**

Price: TBA

(based on double occupancy)

Price Includes:

- Roundtrip Airfare from Honolulu to Fukuoka
- Ground transportation as indicated in the itinerary
- Hotel Accommodations
- Admission as indicated in Itinerary
- Daily breakfast and dinner
- Tour Escort from Hawaii

March 6, 2012                      Tuesday                      Day One                      Honolulu to Tokyo

A morning flight takes us to Tokyo.

March 7, 2012                      Wednesday                      Day Two                      Tokyo to Fukuoka

Upon arrival in Tokyo, we must first pass through immigration and then customs formalities. We will then connect to our next flight to Fukuoka. Upon arrival we will go to our hotel for our stay in Kyushu.

March 8, 2012                      Thursday                      Day Three                      Dazaifu

We begin our tour with a visit to Dazaifu, where we will visit Dazaifu Tenmangu and the Kyushu National museum. **Dazaifu Tenmangu** is dedicated to Sugawara Michizane, an imperial scholar unfairly exiled from Kyoto in the 9<sup>th</sup> century. Also known as Tenjin, he is the guardian of scholars, and is regularly called upon by earnest students preparing for exams. The **Kyushu National Museum** opened in 2005 and focuses not just on Japan's natural history all the way back to pre-historic times, but also Japan's relationship with neighboring countries.

March 9, 2012                      Friday                      Day Four                      Nagasaki Excursion

Our destination today is Nagasaki, where we will also visit the **Glover House**, home to Thomas Glover, a Scotsman who came to Nagasaki just as Japan's doors re-opened to the world. He was an enterprising gentleman who founded a coal mining company as well as a beer brewery, which would become known as Kirin Beer. His home is said to have inspired the author of the book for the opera, Madame Butterfly.

From there we will visit the **Atomic Bomb Museum and Peace Park**. Nagasaki is one of Japan's most international cities and a visit to **Dejima**, Japan's original Dutch Village, will show us why. In 1638, all foreigners except the Dutch were expelled from Japan. In 1641, the Dutch were ordered to contain their presence to a man-made island known as Dejima. Today, the little island is no more as the city of Nagasaki filled in around the island. But the original boundaries were marked and several buildings were preserved for historical posterity.

March 10, 2012                      Saturday                      Day Five                      Kumamoto Excursion

We head further south to Kumamoto. There we will explore **Kumamoto jo**, the Hosokawa castle that withstood a siege by Saigo Takamori at the beginning of the Meiji period. The Hosokawa clan ruled over Kumamoto for two hundred years. We will then stroll through **Suizenji-koen**, a park built by the Hosokawa clan that took over 80 years to construct. Its design recreates scenes from the road from Tokyo to Kyoto. **Miyamoto Musashi**, one of

Japan's most famous samurai, spent his last years in Kumamoto. We will visit the cave, **Reigando**, where he lived for two years writing his seminal work, *The Book of Five Rings*.

March 11, 2012                      Sunday                      Day Six                      Kagoshima Excursion

Our destination for the day is the furthest south we will travel in Kyushu, Kagoshima. In Kagoshima, we will visit the **Atsuhime Museum**. Atsuhime was the wife of the thirteenth Tokugawa Shogun, Iesada, and her life story was recently made into an NHK Taiga Drama. From there we will visit **Senganen**, a garden created by the Shimazu clan in 1658. The garden faces Sakurajima and was designed to make it appear as though Sakurajima and Kinko Bay were part of the garden itself. From the garden we will then go to **Sakurajima**, weather permitting. On rainy days and eruption days, travel is limited. Sakurajima is a volcanic island and possesses the most active volcanos in Japan. It is noted for its Daikon which grow quite large, nearly a foot in a diameter.

March 12, 2012                      Monday                      Day Seven                      Fukuoka

On our last day we will enjoy a free day. You may wish to visit **Canal City**, a district considered a city within a city, with extensive shopping, hotels, theaters, and restaurants. It is noted for its unique design and architecture.

March 13, 2012                      Tuesday                      Day Eight                      Fukuoka to Hawaii

An afternoon flight takes us back to Honshu where we will be catching a flight back to Honolulu. Upon arrival, we will pass through immigration and customs.