



INTERNATIONAL BONSAI EXPLORATION TO
2017 8TH WBFF BONSAI CONVENTION

Visit the
Finest Private
Bonsai Collections –
Gardens & Scenic Historic Areas
With
Wm. N. Valavanis & Kora Dalager

APRIL 25 - MAY 6, 2017
Optional Extension to Kyoto

Join us in a small limited group to attend the world bonsai convention and explore Japan's finest bonsai gardens and collections!

During the past 45 years I have made well over 50 trips to Japan and the Orient to view and study bonsai, gardens and culture. This Spring Kora Dalager, an experienced travel agent and bonsai teacher will join me in leading a special value-priced tour to attend the 2017 8th World Bonsai Convention in Saitama (Omiya) Japan. Held every four years this convention promises to be an exciting, fun and learning experience for everyone. The conventions includes a unique

bonsai and suiseki exhibition and sales area as well. After the formal convention we will travel in a small group privately to see some of the finest bonsai collections in Japan, including the Omiya Bonsai Art Museum located a few blocks from the famous Omiya Bonsai Village. Included with our tour is a visit to Kanazawa and Takayama, scenic historic areas. Finally we will complete our tour to the city of Tokoname where you can purchase bonsai containers at discounted prices. An optional tour to Kyoto is available to visit the gardens and temples in their spring glory. Ask about a personalized tour extension. If you have ever thought about traveling to Japan to see bonsai and to enjoy Japanese hospitality, here is "the" opportunity to do so in a small limited group. I look forward to exploring Japan with you. *William N. Valavanis*

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Tuesday, April 25, 2017 **U.S.A./Tokyo**

Leave your home city for your flight for your adventure in Japan. You are about to enter a totally foreign culture with traditions thousands of years old. You will cross the International Date line and arrive at the Narita Airport in Tokyo on the next day.

Wednesday, April 26, 2017 **Tokyo/Omiya (Saitama)**

After immigration and customs clearance you will be assisted to the convention hotel in Omiya (Saitama) for six nights.



Thursday, April 27, 2017 **Saitama/World Bonsai Convention**

This morning we will enjoy a private visit to Shunka-en Bonsai Museum of bonsai artist, Kunio Kobayashi. His museum features some of the finest bonsai in the world displayed in traditional Japanese alcoves of many different styles. Numerous of the top award winning bonsai can be enjoyed as well as an extensive antique container collection. Bonsai tables, suiseki, books and containers are available for sale.

After lunch we will attend the Opening Ceremony of the 8th World Bonsai Convention which will be followed by a demonstration by Masahiko Kimura. A reception will conclude today's activities.

Friday, April 28, 2017 **Saitama/World Bonsai Convention**

Join many others from around the world at the 8th World Bonsai Convention. Taiga Urushibata and an international artist will be on stage with their demonstrations. In the afternoon Hiroshi Takeyama and an international artist will present their bonsai demonstrations.

Throughout the four day convention the "Japan Bonsai Suiseki Greatest Exhibition" will be held in the Saitama Super Arena. Over 300 of Japan's highest class bonsai and suiseki masterpieces will be displayed, in addition to other special displays.

An extensive sales area with professionals offering bonsai, tools, containers, display tables and more will be in the same venue.



Saturday, April 29, 2017 **Saitama/World Bonsai Convention**

Today we return to the 8th World Bonsai Convention. To start the day's demonstrator Chiharu Imai, Kenji Oshima, Masayuki Fujikawa and Shigeo Isobe. International artists will present their bonsai demonstrations.

In the afternoon, following a shohin bonsai demonstration and an international artist, Kunio Kobayashi will demonstrate. A satsuki azalea demonstration follows. A Dinner Party in the evening will offer the opportunity to greet fellow bonsai hobbyists from around the world.

Sunday, April 30, 2017 **Saitama/World Bonsai Convention**

Visit the 8th World Bonsai Convention. In the morning Minoru Akiyama and Takashi Sakurai will be demonstrating followed by Isao Omachi and Mitsuio Matsuda. International artists will demonstrate in the afternoon followed by a suiseki presentation. Shinji Suzuki's demonstration follows. The "Grand Finale" will conclude the 8th World Bonsai Convention.



Monday, May 1, 2017
Omiya/Hanyu/Omiya

Today we will first travel to the private bonsai garden of Masahiko Kimura by private motorcoach. New innovative bonsai as well as classical masterpieces can be seen in his garden. Afterwards you will explore Omiya Bonsai Village including the newly opened Omiya Bonsai Art Museum featuring bonsai from the famous Takagi Bonsai Collection as well as antique containers and wood block prints. Some of the finest bonsai in the world are created and maintained in Omiya Bonsai Village and you will visit the bonsai gardens of Kato, Takeyama, Yamada and Murata. Our final stop for the day is in Hanyu to visit S-Cube Bonsai Garden Uchiku-Tei of Seiji Morimae. His garden has thousands of bonsai for sale as well as containers, antiques and bonsai tables for sale.

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
Omiya/Obuse/Nagano

After a delightful train ride through the northern part of central Japan we will visit the private bonsai garden of Shinji Suzuiki. This award winning bonsai artist specializes in a wide range of species and is well known for the appreciation of bonsai through the art of display. Following the visit we will stay at a hotel in Obuse or Nagano.



Wednesday, May 3, 2017
Nagano/Kanazawa

Another train ride will lead us through the scenic mountains to Kanazawa. Located in the central part of the mainland of Japan, Kanazawa is the prefectural capital of Ishikawa Prefecture. The southeast area of the city faces the mountains and the northwest area faces the Sea of Japan.

We will visit Kenroku-en, one of the three best landscape style gardens. Originally a private garden, construction began in the 1620s to 1840. Famous for its many varieties of trees, the oldest natural fountain operating by natural water pressure can be enjoyed. Well known pine trees and stone lanterns and bridges can be seen. Historic sights and buildings can be visited once we check into our hotel in Kanazawa.

Thursday, May 4, 2017
Kanazawa/Tokoname

Another train ride will lead us through central Japan with scenic views of the Sea of Japan and mountains. We will stop in Takayama famous for its preserved historic wooden Edo Period buildings and narrow streets. Free time after arrival at our hotel in Tokoname.

Friday, May 5, 2017
Tokoname

We will have an entire day visiting Tokoname, one of the ancient kilns in Japan. The finest bonsai containers are made in Tokoname where you will have the opportunity to see artists hand make bonsai containers and purchase containers at discounted prices.

Saturday, May 6, 2017
Tokoname/U.S.A.

This morning at your leisure. In the afternoon you will be transferred to the Nagoya airport which is in Tokoname, for your flight home. As you cross the International Date Line you will arrive home on the same calendar day.

OPTIONAL KYOTO EXTENSION

Saturday, May 6, 2017
Tokoname/Kyoto

Japan's famous bullet train will whisk you to Kyoto, one of the old capitals of Japan. We will have a full day of sightseeing in this serene and historical city including visits to many famous Japanese gardens. Specific gardens cannot be listed, but among the gardens we normally visit are: The Ryoanji Temple, noted for its quiet rock garden, the Golden Pavilion with a pond and exquisite stroll garden up a hill and Daisen-in Temple with rock arrangements. Each of these sites played an important role in the history of this island nation as part of the ancient capitol of Kyoto. Transfer to our hotel.

Sunday, May 7, 2017
Kyoto

This a free day to explore Kyoto, gardens, temples, shrines or other interesting historical areas on your own. Shopping is great in Kyoto!

Monday, May 8, 2017
Kyoto/Osaka/U.S.A.

This morning at your leisure. In the afternoon you will be transferred to the airport for your flight home. As you cross the International Date Line you will arrive home on the same calendar day.



INSURANCE

Comprehensive travel insurance, to protect you for cancellations due to medical reasons for you, members of your family or traveling companion, staying in the same room. Coverage for medical, baggage, baggage delay, travel accident, vacation delay and medical transportation is available and highly recommended please ask for quote. It is strongly recommended that you purchase this protection at the time of initial reservation payment. A pre-existing condition exclusion applies. If insurance is purchased within seven days of initial deposit, the pre-existing exclusion is waived. Insurance also protects you in the case of Default of Operator. If you purchase insurance and your traveling companion cancels, insurance will cover the cost for the single supplement. Each passenger must purchase his own policy in order to be covered. A complete Certificate of Insurance will be provided to you. It is your responsibility to understand the conditions of the insurance. If you have any questions needing clarification, please contact Trip Mate Travel Agency at 1-800-888-7292. Please contact Kora Dalager for other insurance options.

RESPONSIBILITY

Bonsai Travel acts only as agent for the owners of contractors providing transportation or other services. All tickets are issued subject to any terms and condition under which these means of transportation or other services are provided. The issuance and acceptance of your tickets will be deemed to be the consent to the further condition that neither Bonsai Travel or its hosts will be liable or held responsible in any way in connection with transportation or other services or any loss however caused. The tickets and/or contracts in the use by the airlines, owners or contractor providing transportation or other services shall constitute the sole contract between themselves and the tour member. The right is reserved to withdraw any tour and/or make alterations in the itinerary, if found necessary, and to decline to accept any person as a member at any time. Host is based on minimum participation. Invoices are subject to corrections for error or adjustment for changes. Bonsai Travel is unable to provide a refund for any unused portion of the package. Package price is only guaranteed when paid in full, however, may be subject to change based on currency fluctuations or tax increases which are beyond Bonsai Travel's control.

CA Sellers Of Travel: CST: 2081121-40

TOUR COSTS

LAND ARRANGEMENTS

Double Occupancy (Per Person)	\$3,150
Single Occupancy Supplement	\$400
Optional Kyoto Extension	\$575
Single Occupancy Supplement	\$150

Land Arrangements Include:

- Hotel Accommodations
- Round Trip Transfers– Airport To Hotel
- Bullet train & Private Motorcoach Transportation
- Admission to Bonsai Gardens ● Taxes
- Porterage For One Piece Of Luggage

Not Included:

- Airfare ● **Convention Registration NOT included**
- World Bonsai Convention Registration Information will be provided to easily register on line. Early registration ¥35,000 until Oct. 31. Standard registration ¥40,000.
- Gratuities & items not specifically described, personal items.

AIRFARE

Since airfares fluctuate daily, ask for rate from your hometown
All prices subject to change due to currency exchange

- Minimum participation necessary.
- Prices listed are for 10 people. There is a surcharge if less than 10 people participate.
- Contact Kora Dalager for questions at:
(510) 610-9064 or kora@ca.astound.net

CANCELLATION CHARGES

Assessed as follows:

Prior to January 1, 2017	Full Refund
After January 1, 2017	\$300 Penalty
February 1 to departure	NO REFUND

Fees assessed represent penalties charged by Bonsai Travel, hotels, tour companies and ground operators and under no circumstances can they be waived or reduced.

Yes, please register the following for the **World Bonsai Convention & Japan Bonsai Exploration Tour:**

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____ PHONE (DAY) _____ PHONE (EVENING) _____

E-MAIL _____

Deposit (payable to Bonsai Travel)	\$300	\$ _____
Land Arrangements (double occupancy)	\$3,150	\$ _____
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	\$400	\$ _____
OPTIONAL KYOTO EXTENSION	\$575	\$ _____
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	\$150	\$ _____

Airfare- Ask about departure cost from your home city as rates change daily

Ask about quote on Insurance Premium if desired

Final payments due by January 15, 2017 (Your balance will be billed later)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please indicate who you are traveling with if not included above: _____

I (we) have read, understand and agree to the conditions as set forth in this flyer, especially those paragraphs relating to payments, cancellations, refunds, cancellations/default of operator insurance and responsibilities of Bonsai Travel Insurance.

Signature(s) _____

Please send completed form and deposit to: **Kora Dalager ● Tel: (510) 610-9064**

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