

# TAUCK

## SMALL SHIP CRUISING



### Cruising the Land of the Rising Sun - Northbound

A custom trip planner prepared for Larry Pagano

By Linda Pagano with Travel Advantage

# TAUCK

## SMALL SHIP CRUISING

Welcome Larry Pagano to our Japan Cruise Trip Planner!

New for 2015, embark on an emotionally powerful adventure that takes you beyond the Japan you think you know... Delve deeply into natural and cultural riches with five days in Kyoto and Tokyo and eight days aboard your yacht exploring charming coastal villages, untouched countryside, and vibrant Busan, South Korea... glide through the idyllic Seto Inland Sea, around the tip of Kyushu, and across the Strait of Korea... with included onshore excursions to renowned temples, outstanding museums, teeming markets, and Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In the worlds of pearl farmer, geisha, sumo wrestler, samurai, and monk, the "Land of the Rising Sun" shines its true light on you.

Thanks to our unique access ashore, we've carefully choreographed each and every day so you experience the Tauck Difference from arrival to departure. Years have been spent meticulously researching and defining every day so you enjoy in-depth cultural exploration on all-included shore excursions, locally guided sightseeing, a taste of regional cuisines, stays on land at hotels in the best locations – and of course a fantastic time at sea cruising aboard your ship, where all shore excursions are included in your price.

Throughout your trip, travel with Tauck's private group and our Tauck Director, who provides warm, caring, thoughtful service both on land and at sea. Tauck Directors take care of every detail so you connect with people, places, and centuries-old traditions. You'll return home refreshed, ready to do it all again!

We've built our business on one principle – to provide guests with the very best travel experience possible, with an uncompromising focus on personalized service, quality experience and inclusive value. Traveling – and cruising – with Tauck is peace-of-mind travel at its best.

Your Trip Planner includes just about everything you need to know to make your decision to travel with Tauck. You'll find a day-to-day itinerary, destination information, hotel details, practical tips, useful advice to prepare for your trip, and more – our expertise is right at your fingertips. I encourage you to make your reservation soon to be sure to get the departure date you want – space is filling quickly! Call Linda Pagano with Travel Advantage at 856 235 3666.

Thank you – and I hope you join us on our amazing new cruise.

Sincerely,



Daniel W. Mahar, CEO

# YOUR PERSONALIZED QUOTE

## Cruising the Land of the Rising Sun - Northbound

**NEW FOR 2015!** Spend fourteen days discovering the people and places of Japan – enjoy eight nights aboard our elegant yacht *L'Austral* and five nights at premier hotels in the heart of Kyoto and Tokyo. Your journey starts in lovely Kyoto, city of two thousand temples and shrines, and ends in Tokyo; on your cruise, sightseeing excursions include Osaka, Uno Ko, Uwajima, Kagoshima, Nagasaki... Uncover layers of Japanese culture – past and present; explore historic sights and trend-setting neighborhoods... attend a *taiko* drumming performance, a geisha performance, a sumo wrestling demonstration, and a tea ceremony... a calligraphy lesson... and more. You'll explore the volcano Sakurajima, visit a pearl farm, tour modern and historic museums, and see how the Japanese produce *shochu*, a popular beverage even stronger than sake. Travel in style aboard *L'Austral* – with outside staterooms; a choice of chic or casual dining; and all-day complimentary beverages, including wine and spirits. And that's just the beginning of the amenities and services onboard.



QUOTE: LARRY PAGANO'S TRIP, DEPARTING ON 4/19/2015

### Room 1 - Single - Superior Cabin - Deck 3, L'AUSTRAL

Tour Cost:	\$13,897 USD per person
Cruise Protection Plan:	\$697 USD per person

### Room 2 - Double - Superior Cabin - Deck 3, L'AUSTRAL

Tour Cost:	\$10,990 USD per person
Cruise Protection Plan:	\$697 USD per person

### Due Dates

Deposit Due Date:	April 4th, 2014
Balance Due Date:	February 18th, 2015

### Totals

Deposit Total:	\$7,191 USD
Booking Total:	\$37,968 USD

Note: Above quote was compiled based on the information available to us at the time you ordered this Trip Planner. It is not an offer to sell you the tour at the quoted price. Although not expected, prices in this quote may be subject to change due to unexpected significant external factors not forecasted at the time of quote; availability, tour details and other components may also be subject to change. Your quote does not include airfare to and from the tour start and end locations. Tauck's terms and conditions apply upon booking and depositing.

# ITINERARY

## Cruising the Land of the Rising Sun - Northbound

### TAUCK VALUE INCLUDES

- Private Tauck Shore Excursions – **\$2,267 Value!**
- All gratuities to Tauck Director, ship staff, local guides and drivers
- 8-night cruise aboard the yacht *L'Austral*
- 3 nights in Kyoto and 2 nights in Tokyo at premier city-center hotels
- Special Tauck Experiences featuring local cultural entertainment include a sumo wrestling demonstration, geisha and taiko performances, a tea ceremony, and calligraphy
- Onboard bar and restaurant beverages throughout the day, including house wines and spirits
- Airport transfers upon arrival and departure as noted
- 35 meals on land and at sea, service charges, applicable fuel surcharges, taxes, and portorage

### Day 1 - Arrive Kyoto

**Tour begins: Hotel Granvia Kyoto or the Westin Myako Kyoto.** A transfer is included from Kansai Int'l Airport or Osaka Int'l Airport to the Hotel Granvia Kyoto or the Westin Myako Kyoto. Dine tonight at your leisure in your hotel.

**Meals:** D

**Lodging:** Hotel Granvia Kyoto and The Westin Miyako Kyoto

### Day 2 - Temples and traditions in Kyoto

Immerse yourself today in the loveliness of classic Kyoto, city of 2,000 temples and shrines. Like a divine dream the Zen Golden Pavilion, bathed in gold leaf and capped by a golden phoenix, sits in a landscape design meticulously preserved since the 1400s, with a strategically placed pond that hauntingly reflects the shimmering golden temple. Step even further back in time into the Pure Water Temple, circa 780, home of the Jinshu Shrine, dedicated to the deity of love and matchmaking, and the Otowa Waterfall, where you can drink to love, longevity, or success. (Drinking to all three is considered greedy!) After lunch your local guide leads you through the narrow medieval streets of the geisha district Gion, lined with shops, fine restaurants, and teahouses. Spend the rest of the day getting to know Kyoto on your own, hopping on and off the Tauck coach which makes a regular circuit of the city's must-see areas for your convenience. Tonight enjoy a welcome reception, dinner, and geisha performance at the lively Fortune Garden restaurant.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Hotel Granvia Kyoto and The Westin Miyako Kyoto

### Day 3 - Taiko, Calligraphy, and Tea

This morning get to know traditional Japanese arts with a *taiko* performance (drumming as athletic as it is artful); a tea ceremony; and a calligraphy lesson. Your afternoon and evening are free to explore Kyoto independently. Our coach again makes a circuit of desirable areas so you can get on and off where you like.

**Meals:** B

**Lodging:** Hotel Granvia Kyoto and The Westin Miyako Kyoto

### Day 4 - Heian shrine & Osaka – Embark L'Austral

Say good-bye to Kyoto today with a visit to the Heian shrine, a powerful symbol of civic pride dedicated to the first and last emperors who ruled when Kyoto was the country's capital. Inside the shrine's massive *torii* gate stands a partial replica of the Heian-period imperial palace. After lunch it's on to Osaka for a walking tour of Dotombori, the energetic neighborhood famous for its dazzling array of neon and mechanical signs. Afterwards board *L'Austral* to begin your cruise through the peaceful Seto Inland Sea, known for its mild climate, and many islands of white sand beaches and green pine woods.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Aboard L'Austral

# ITINERARY

## Day 5 - Art in Naoshima and Kurashiki

Anchor in Uno Ko and board a ferry to the unique little island of Naoshima – it's exclusively devoted to art installations and the work of the world-class architect Tadao Ando. Wander through the Art Houses Project, traditional houses transformed into stand-alone art projects; the Ando Museum; and the Benesse House Museum, designed by Ando to express and explore coexistence among nature, art, and architecture. A walking tour of the historic quarter of Kurashiki reveals an old merchant town, where warehouses, shops, and mills remain virtually unchanged by time and weeping willows line a koi-filled canal. Another Kurashiki treasure, the Ohara Museum of Art, shows you its great collection of Western art, including works by Matisse, Monet, Gauguin, El Greco, and Pollack. Back onboard ship, enjoy your Captain's welcome dinner tonight.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Aboard L'Austral

## Day 6 - Today's Hiroshima

In your next port, Hiroshima – take in the iconic Miyajima-Itsukushima Shrine that seems to float on water (a photographer's dream); have lunch at a restaurant serving regional fare; and visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Aboard L'Austral

## Day 7 - Pearls and squirrels in Uwajima

Today provides a rare chance to spend a morning in a rural Japanese community. Visit a pearl farm, stroll through a market, and check out the Flying Squirrel Temple on a tour led by a Buddhist monk. The squirrels fly only at night!

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Aboard L'Austral

## Day 8 - A volcano, samurai, and shoju

Called the "Naples of Japan" for its location on a bay, Kagoshima lies on the southwestern tip of Japan's southernmost main island, Kyushu. Ferry across the bay to see the volcano Sakurajima up close. A shoju distillery tour reveals all about sake's prime rival; shoju, a bit like port, is the stronger of the two. In nearby Chiran, wander the well-preserved samurai district's stunning Chiran Samurai Gardens, and stop in at the Chiran Peace Museum for Kamikaze Pilots.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Aboard L'Austral

## Day 9 - A day in Nagasaki

Arrive in Nagasaki for another day of historic sights: the Nagasaki Peace Park, filled with notable monuments and memorials; the Atomic Bomb Museum; and Glover Gardens, an al fresco museum memorializing the Europeans who settled in Nagasaki in the late 19th century.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Aboard L'Austral

## Day 10 - Busan, South Korea

Cross the Strait of Korea to Busan, South Korea and visit the Haedong Yonggung Temple, which bears the motto, "At least one of your wishes will be answered here through your heartfelt prayers." Next go to Busan Cinema Center – quite a flamboyant architectural statement – for a private talk on Korea's relations with Japan, China, North Korea, and the USA.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Aboard L'Austral

## Day 11 - Matsue's Black Castle

Your yacht arrives in Western Japan's fishing industry center, Sakaiminato, for an excursion to Matsue, known as "the water city" for its river, canals, and setting on two lakes and the Sea of Japan. Weather permitting, take in a great view of the city and beyond from its feudal fortress, the Black Castle, which presides over the city in solemn majesty. After lunch aboard ship choose an optional visit to the Adachi Museum of Art or shuttle into Sakaiminato to pursue your own interests. Tonight say goodbye to captain and crew at the Captain's farewell dinner.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Aboard L'Austral

## Day 12 - Bullet Train to Tokyo – and Ginza

Disembark in Maizuru and take a scenic drive to Kyoto for the Bullet Train to Tokyo. Walking from your premier Tokyo hotel, your guide introduces the luxury shopping district of Ginza. Enjoy dinner and time to check out the city on your own.

**Meals:** B, L

**Lodging:** Mandarin Oriental, Tokyo and Shangri-La, Tokyo



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# ITINERARY

## Day 13 - From shrine to sumo in Tokyo

Plunge into an eclectic day in cosmopolitan Tokyo with visits to the Senso-ji Temple – devoted to the Buddhist deity of compassion – and the Meiji Shrine, plus a guided tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum. Lunch is at a local restaurant before an afternoon of poking around on your own. Finish the day in style with our farewell reception and dinner at Happa-en with traditional music and what's sure to be a highlight of your cruise adventure in Japan, an unforgettable sumo wrestling demonstration that has to be seen to be believed.

**Meals:** B, L, D

**Lodging:** Mandarin Oriental, Tokyo and Shangri-La, Tokyo

## Day 14 - Journey home

**Tour ends: Tokyo.** Fly home anytime. A transfer is included from the Shangri-La Hotel Tokyo or Mandarin Oriental, Tokyo to Narita International Airport. Allow a minimum of three hours for flight check-in.

**Meals:** B

# ACCOMMODATIONS

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## Cruising the Land of the Rising Sun - Northbound

### Hotel Granvia Kyoto and The Westin Miyako Kyoto

Night 1, 2, 3 - Kyoto, Japan



#### Hotel Granvia Kyoto

Hotel Granvia Kyoto is in a fabulous location in the heart of Kyoto; it is an integral part of the JR Kyoto Station Building. The hotel is a visually striking architectural masterpiece which also includes a department store, museum, musical theater, and a vast underground shopping mall. Rooms are beautifully decorated; the hotel boasts style, sophistication and elegance with a rich and vibrant cultural tradition – traditional Kyoto elegance. The hotel's architecture and décor is imbued with Kyoto's imperial heritage and oriental treasures; dining experiences discover the art of fine cuisine; and amenities are certain to please.

#### The Westin Miyako Kyoto

Standing on the Higashiyama Hills overlooking the beautiful ancient capital, The Westin Miyako Kyoto is dedicated to offering unrivaled comfort to guests. The Westin Miyako Kyoto is surrounded by an abundance of nature... Immerse yourself in a feeling of inspired serenity while you are visiting the hotel's garden, which is a registered cultural property of the City of Kyoto, or enjoy a stroll or wood bathing along the bird watching trail of the wild bird sanctuary forest. All guest rooms are equipped with the Westin "Heavenly Bed" featuring a plush mattress, fluffy pillows, light duvet and crisp sheets, which makes guests feel as if they were "sleeping on a cloud", guaranteeing that they will wake refreshed. The hotel offers diverse dining options including Japanese, Continental and Chinese cuisines; you can also enjoy cocktails and sweets at our lounges and bars.



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### Aboard L'Austral

Night 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 - Cruising coastal waters



*L'Austral*, a sleek yacht launched in 2011, is small enough to provide a truly intimate cruise experience; her size makes her ideally suited for visiting ports that bigger ships can't reach. *L'Austral* sports 6 decks that include Le Restaurant Gastronomique, the elegant main dining room serving French and international cuisine; the casual Le Grill Restaurant; three lounges offering evening entertainment, bars and access to the open decks; Le Théâtre hosting informative lectures and entertainment; a Fitness and Beauty Corner; a Medical Center; and multiple observation areas. Elevators serve all passenger decks.

Staterooms (ranging in size from 200 to 210 sq. ft.) and suites (ranging in size from 301 to 398 sq. ft.) have ocean views; 95% have private balconies. Staterooms are decorated by French designers, offering individually controlled air conditioning, twin beds converting to a queen-size bed (or one queen-size bed), DVD / CD player, flat-screen TV with satellite channels, electronic safe and minibar.

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### Mandarin Oriental, Tokyo and Shangri-La, Tokyo

Night 12, 13 - Tokyo, Japan