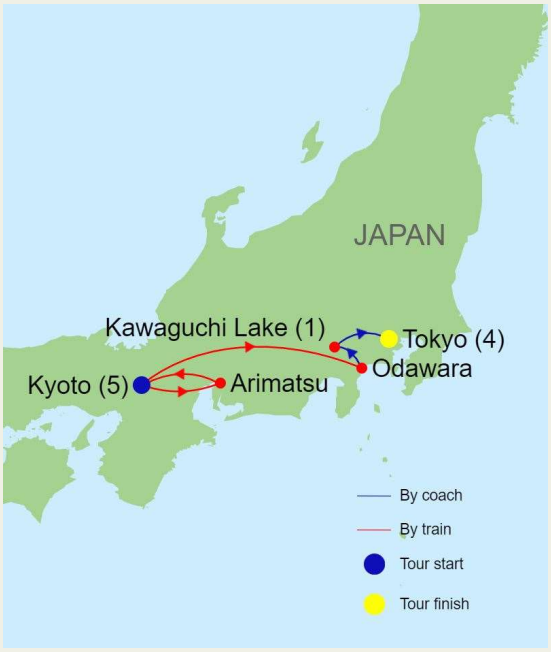
Japan Quilting & Textile Tour

May 25 – June 4, 2022
Tour Leader: Kimberly Einmo

TAILORED SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

- EXPERT TOUR LEADERS
- MAXIMUM 25 IN A GROUP
- CAREFULLY PLANNED ITINERARIES

Opulent Quilt JOURNEYS



Japan Quilting & Textile Tour

Tour dates: May 25 – June 4, 2022
Tour leader: Kimberly Einmo

Tour price: $5,190
Single supplement: $1,195

Booking deposit: $500 per person

Maximum places: 25

Itinerary: Kyoto (5 nights), Kawaguchi Lake (1 night), Tokyo (4 nights)

Inquiries and Bookings:
For further information or to book this tour, please contact Opulent Quilt Journeys at 877-235-3767 or info@opulentquiltjourneys.com

Overview

Our Japan Quilting & Textile tour is a gateway to the tradition that lies at the heart of Japan's fiber-art heritage.

Hands-on workshops introduce you to Shibori at the Narumi Shibori Museum and to Yuzen painting and Roketsu dyeing in Kyoto studios. Additional venues include the Kyoto Museum of Crafts and Design and Nomura Tailor, a treasure trove of fabrics, notions, and tools.

Travel to Kawaguchi Lake. On this leg of the tour, an en route stop at the Itchiku Kubota Museum provides a view of the Kubota Kimono Collection and majestic Mt. Fuji.

Enjoy shopping trips to several locations in Tokyo, including the Blue and White Shop, Quilt Party and Nippori Fabric Town.

Cultural sites round out the tour's itinerary. Sites include the Fushimi Inari Shrine with its thousands of orange torri gates and the Gion District, a Geisha quarter in Kyoto. Plus, feast in food markets and make your own sushi on this immersive 11-day journey.

YOUR TOUR LEADER

Kimberly Einmo is an author, award-winning quilter, fabric designer, international instructor, quilt judge, host of five popular classes on CRAFTSY/ Bluprint, and the National Spokesperson for Janome Sewing Machines. She has written six best-selling books published by the American Quilter's Society, created a signature line of unique, specialty quilting rulers, and she writes a column called Stray Threads, in every issue of American Quilter Magazine. Her debut basics fabric collection, Solid-ish, is a best-seller for Timeless Treasures Fabrics and she enjoys teaching on quilting cruises and leading luxury land excursions to exotic locales around the globe.

"I am personally inviting YOU to join me on this amazing trip! The eleven-day tour will be filled with textile workshops, fabric dyeing, lots of opportunities for fabric shopping, sightseeing, plenty of visits to museums and famous sights around Japan AND an exclusive opportunity to visit the Janome factory for a tour and half-day workshop! I hope you'll join me on this exciting journey for memories, fun, and incredible experiences to last for years to come!"

– Kimberly Einmo

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

KYOTO

In Kyoto, visitors discover the cultural heart of Japan. Once the nation's capital, this city of 1.5 million residents retains and offers a sense of Old Japan. It is resplendent with temples, shrines, traditional crafts, and other must-see points of interest.

TOKYO

Tokyo's modern face and popular attractions make it a leading international destination, drawing 15.2 million visitors in 2019. From exquisite cuisine and museums to craft markets and the Imperial Palace East Garden, Tokyo offers a memorable blend of cultural experiences.

TEXTILE WORKSHOPS

Hands-on workshops in Yuzen painting and two dyeing techniques – Shibori and Roketsu wax resist – connect you with generations of Japanese craftspeople. As you work with talented artisans in studio settings, you gain a deep appreciation for these time-honored processes.

JAPANESE TEXTILES

Japanese Textiles suggest the luscious silks of Kimonos and beautiful blues of indigo. There is so much more. Tokyo Nippori Fabric Town is street after street of textile bliss. Explore indigo dyer's shops in Kyoto. Arimatsu offers Shibori in every form imaginable. Antique kimonos, Tenugui Towels, Furoshiki cloths, and Indigo are just a few things you will be tempted by.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 Wed May 25 **Arrive Kyoto**

Our tour starts at 9 am and visits one of Japan's largest outdoor antique markets – **Kitano Tenmangu Shrine Antique Market**. Hundreds of vendors set up across the grounds and surrounding streets of this famous shrine to sell a wide variety of daily goods and antiques. We then stop at **Nishijin Textile Center**, situated in the Nishijin weaving area. There are displays of completed fabrics and kimonos, as well as weaving demonstrations, plus a shop selling items on the 2nd floor. Then visit the **Kyoto Museum of Crafts and Design** (formerly the Kyoto Museum of Traditional Crafts Fureaikan). Familiarize yourself with the techniques and history of local handicrafts, and admire exhibits covering dozens of categories and over 500 samples of traditional crafts. Enjoy a **welcome dinner** tonight. (D)

Day 2 Thu May 26 **Kyoto**

This morning visit **Yoshiko Jinzenji's studio** in the Mount Hiei region north of Kyoto. Yoshiko Jinzenji is one of the foremost quilt artists in the world. In the studio view a variety of her finished quilts, homeware pieces and yardage with her printed designs. Next, participate in a **Roketsu dyeing workshop** using a traditional wax-resist dyeing method. Yamamoto Roketsu is a family operated workshop, continuing this traditional Kyoto textile dyeing technique. A special trip today includes a visit to **Orinasukan Handmade Fabrics Museum**. Originally a machiya townhouse built as a home and weaving workshop. This hand-weaving museum, with its atrium, skylights, big beams, tatami reception room and courtyard garden to the rear, is the same today as when it was originally lived and worked in. (B)

Day 3 Fri May 27 **Kyoto**

After breakfast, visit the **Little Indigo Museum** owned by renowned Indigo Dyeing artist Hiroyuki Shindo. Then travel to the spectacular **Kinkakuji Temple**, known as the **Golden Pavilion**. The temple's stunning gold leaf coating makes it one of Japan's must-see structures. Next visit Japan's most famous rock garden, and a UNESCO World Heritage site **Ryoanji Temple**. (B)

Day 4 Sat May 28 **Kyoto-Arimatsu-Kyoto**

Following breakfast, travel by Bullet Train to **Arimatsu** – the center of Shibori dyeing dating back to the early 17th century. Visit the **Narumi Shibori Museum** and participate in a **Shibori-dyeing workshop**. Explore the town before returning to Kyoto. (B)

Day 5 Sun May 29 **Kyoto**

This morning visit the intriguing **Fushimi Inari Shrine**. The magical, seemingly unending path of over 5000 vibrant orange torii gates that wind through the hills behind Fushimi Inari-taisha Shrine makes it one of the most popular shrines in Japan. Then enjoy an

opportunity to create your own masterpiece in the **Yuzen painting workshop**. Later visit **Kiyomizu-dera** and explore the well-preserved historical district and pick up some souvenirs at **Kiyomizu-Zaka Street**. Then visit the iconic **Nomura Tailor**, filled with three floors of everything for last-minute fabric shopping. End our day with a walk through Kyoto's best-known Geisha quarter – the **Gion District**. (B)

Day 6 Mon May 30 **Kyoto-Kawaguchi Lake**

Travel by train and coach to Kawaguchi Lake with a stop at the beautiful **Itchiku Kubota Museum** to see the stunning Kubota Kimono Collection. This evening enjoy the views of Mt. Fuji from our onsen hotel. (B, D)

Day 7 Tue May 31 **Kawaguchi Lake-Tokyo**

Depart for Tokyo, en route, visit **Fujisan World Heritage Centre**. Also make a stop at **Akie Ginza's** remarkable **Sashiko Museum** in the small village of Hinohara. Housed in a 200-year-old house, it is filled with her sashiko work, apparel, wall hangings, handbags, jewelry, and home décor and more. Arrive in Tokyo for overnight. (B)

Day 8 Wed June 1 **Tokyo**

Today take a tour of the **Janome Sewing Machine Company** and enjoy an exclusive half-day **workshop** led by Kimberly Einmo, Janome's National Spokesperson. (B)

Day 9 Thu June 2 **Tokyo**

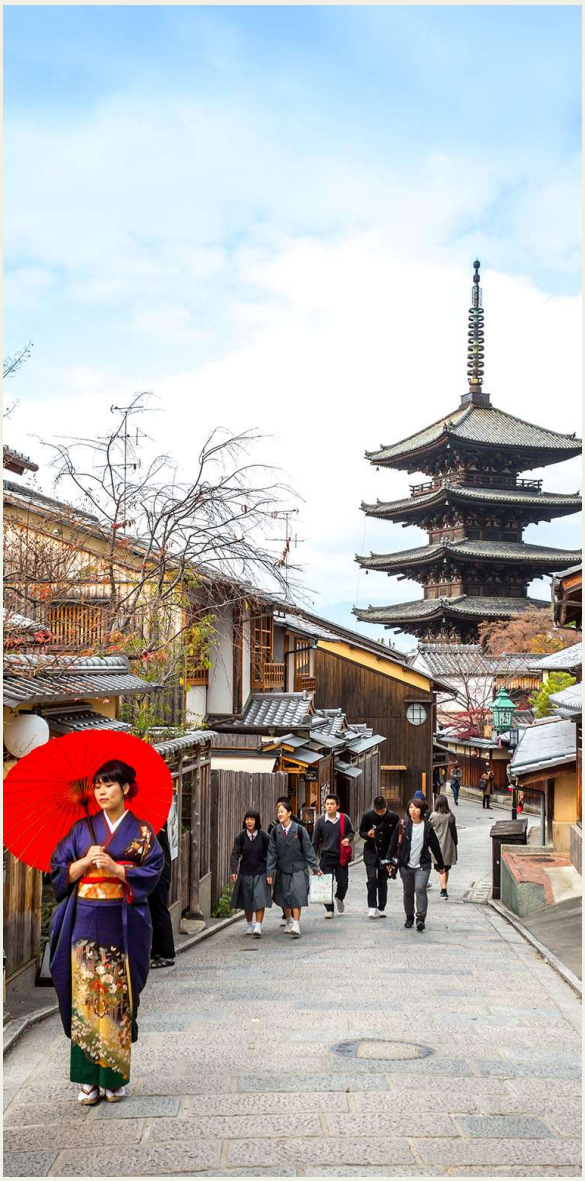
After breakfast stroll through the beautiful **Imperial Palace East Garden,** then attend a Japanese cooking class to enjoy a **Sushi making experience** and lunch. Also make a stop at **Amy Katoh's home** and her special shop - **Blue and White**, which houses artisan ceramics, designer clothing, traditional textiles, fun jewelry, collectibles, and gifts. (B, L)

Day 10 Fri June 3 **Tokyo**

This **morning enjoy** a leisure stroll in the **Omotesando area**. The main street, Omotesando dori, is often compared to the Champs-Elysees in Paris. Then visit **Meiji Jingu Inner Garden**, a secret garden within the Meiji Shrine complex. The highlight of the garden is the iris garden, which is in full bloom from late May through late June. Also visit the world-famous quilter Yoko Saito's retail shop **Quilt Party**. Then visit the historic **Nippori Fabric Town**, home to nearly 100 shops carrying all sorts of fabric and notions. Enjoy our **farewell dinner** in a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 11 Sat June 4 **Depart Tokyo**

The tour ends after breakfast. Limousine bus takes you to the airport for your onward flight. (B)



Price per person (Land Tour):

The tour price is $5,190 per person, twin share (land content only). The supplement for a twin or double room for sole use is $1,195 per person. A deposit of $500 per person is required to secure a place on the tour.

Inclusions:

- Arrival & departure transfers
- Transportation in Japan including trains and chartered coaches
- 10 nights twin-share accommodation at well-appointed hotels with breakfast daily
- Meals, workshops and entrance fees as stated in the itinerary
- An English-speaking guide throughout the trip in Japan

Exclusions:

- International airfares to Japan
- Travel insurance
- Porterage at hotels and gratuities
- Personal expenses and anything not mentioned

Fitness to participate: In order to get the most from your travels and keep up with the group, a reasonable level of fitness is required. You will need to be able to walk for a few hours at a gentle pace; use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities); undertake walking tours of 1-2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces; stand for long periods in museums and other sites; embark/disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance; handle your own luggage.

Last edited on April 9th, 2021

Opulent Quilt JOURNEYS

For tour details please contact **Opulent Quilt Journeys**

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