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InterCultural Consulting Group
"supporting intercultural opportunities"

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www.interculturalconsultinggroup.com

Yuki Matsuri Japan

Visit The Sapporo Ice Festival

Yuki Matsuri Sapporo Japan February 2015

(including Tokyo, Snow Monkeys and Niseko ski experience)



The festival is one of Japan's largest and most distinctive winter events. About two million people visit Sapporo to see the hundreds of snow statues and ice sculptures at the Odori Park and Susukino sites, in central Sapporo, and at the Satoland site. The International Snow Sculpture Contest has been held at the Odori Park site since 1974, and 14 teams from various regions of the world participate.

The subject of the statues varies and often features an event, famous building or person from the previous year. For example, in 2004, there were statues of Hideki Matsui, the famous baseball player who at that time played for the New York Yankees. A number of stages made out of snow are also constructed and some events including musical performances are held. At the Satoland site, visitors can enjoy long snow and ice slides as well as a huge maze made of snow. Visitors can also enjoy a variety of regional foods from all over Hokkaidō at the Odori Park and Satoland sites, such as fresh seafood, potatoes and corn, and fresh dairy products.

Every year the number of statues displayed is around 400 in total. There are more than 400 statues created in the Odori Park site, in the Satoland site and in the Susukino site. The best place to view the creations is from the TV Tower at the Odori Park site. Join us in February 2015 when we travel to this winter wonderland to experience the beauty of the region and the magical ice sculptures that bring Sapporo to life.

We will fly from Brisbane, Australia to Tokyo where we will spend 5 days in one of the largest and most bustling cities in the world. We visit the world famous Ginza, New Tokyo Tower. The Edo Museum, Tsukiji fish market. The Imperial palace and of course the magic of Tokyo Disneyland.

Enjoy the food and culture of this unique city. We then fly to the Northern Island of Hokkaido and Sapporo and the magnificent Ice festival that is the Yuki Matsuri. After 3 days in this wonderland exploring we head off to Niseko and some of the best powder snow in the world. Niseko is renowned as an international ski resort. Enjoy Niseko and the winter wonderland for 2 nights before returning to Tokyo where we travel north to the Snow Monkey park of Jigokudani. Enjoy a traditional Japanese inn and view these mischievous creatures swimming in thermal pools before returning to Tokyo and the return flight to Australia.

Sapporo Snow Festival Tour 2015 and 2016

1st February

Depart Gold Coast ,Australia for Tokyo

1st February

Arrive Tokyo

Check into Hotel

Free time

Welcome Dinner at Izakaya (Japanese traditional Pub)

2nd February

Early morning visit to Fish Market

Imperial Palace viewing

New Tokyo Tower

Lunch at Japanese restaurant

Free afternoon

Viewing of Ginza lights in the evening

3rd February

Disneyland and Disney Sea visit

Night viewing of parade

4th February

Edo Museum

Shopping in Ginza

Akihabara electric City visit

5th February

Sensoji Temple and markets

Yukuni Shrine

6th February

Morning flight for Sapporo

Check into hotel

Free time

Evening sculpture viewing

Overnight Sapporo

7th February

Ice Sculpture viewing

Food market lunch

Free time

Overnight Sapporo

8th February

Depart Sapporo for Niseko

Overnight Niseko

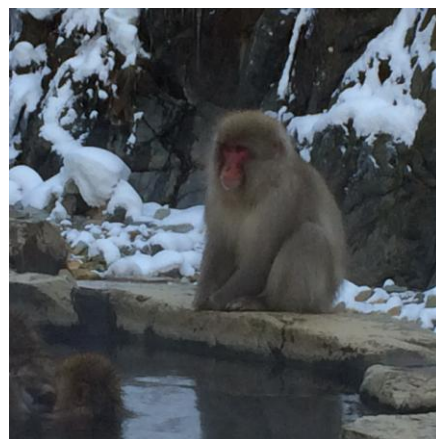
9th February

Niseko

Optional skiing or other snow activities

Free time

Overnight Niseko



10th February

Return to Sapporo and flight to Tokyo
Overnight Tokyo Airport

11th February

Travel by Shinkansen to Hukaba
Traditional Ryoken experience (Traditional inn) overnight

12th February

Visit the Snow Monkeys at JigoKudani Park
Overnight Ryoken

13th February

Return to Tokyo
Overnight return flight to Australia

14th February

Arrive Gold Coast Australia

Tour Highlights

The fully escorted and personalized tour includes as highlights

- *Tokyo hotel 5 nights*
- *Sapporo hotel 3 nights*
- *Niseko Hotel 2 nights*
- *Traditional Inn 2 nights*
- *All transfers*
- *Evening dinners*
- *Viewing in Tokyo, Tokyo Tower, Imperial Palace, Fish Market*
- *Akihabara, Sensoji Temple, Yaskuni shrine*
- *Disneyland visit*
- *Snow Monkey viewing*
- *Shinkansen travel to and from Hukaba*

Total costs \$5516.00

Single supplement \$560



Check out the full itinerary at www.interculturalconsultinggroup.com



Who are InterCultural Consulting Group ?

Intercultural Consulting Group has been operating since 2000 offering educational opportunities for a wide range of age groups from school groups to adult and special interest groups. The group founders Michael and Donna Fiechtner are both qualified educationalists having over 60 years of educational experience between them having worked at all levels of education both in Australia and Internationally. Both having developed educational facilities in Japan and implementing relevant international educational opportunities for children and adults alike while living there. Michael and Donna have two grown children who experienced education in Japan first hand.

ICG has taken numerous school groups and adult groups to Japan over the last 15 years and developed a network of contacts that provide both cultural and educationally diverse opportunities. An inbound program also has provided Japanese immersion opportunities into Australia. ICG has extensive relationships with a range of contacts in Japan who provide unique experiences not found elsewhere. ICG has provided indigenous educational opportunities in Japan also on a number of occasions

ICG has a unique relationship with The Hiroshima Peace Foundation and has worked closely in the area of Peace education . During 2013, ICG toured a Hiroshima Peace Exhibition in Brisbane Canberra and Sydney working with the Red Cross to tell the story of Hiroshima and the need for World Peace. In August 2013 , 9 former British Commonwealth Occupation Force soldiers took part in a tour to Japan to remember the events of August 1945 in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The 9 former soldiers aged from 85- 92 took part in commemorative events in Hiroshima and Tokyo as well as extensive sightseeing opportunities.

Recently ICG has turned its attention to the battlefields of France and Belgium hosting tours to coincide with ANZAC DAY at Villers Bretonneux in France on the Somme. These tours aim to highlight the growing interest in World War 1 history. ICG has developed a close relationship with Vignacourt in Northern France ,the home of the LOST DIGGER glass photographic plates, now part of a travelling exhibition during the Centenary commemorations of World War 1.

During July and early August 2014, ICG organized and hosted a group of 12 students from Vignacourt France and facilitated visits to 5 states and 1 territory to meet living descendants of those Aussie Diggers photographed in 1916-1918. Besides meeting the descendants, the group also met with the Australian Prime Minister for a 35 minute reflective opportunity.

Hiroshima in Japan and Ypres in Belgium are closely linked as cities of World Peace, Both having been destroyed in time of war. Plans are also underway for an Anzac tour 2015 which includes a visit to Japan to view Cherry Blossom season before travelling to Paris and the battlefields of the Somme and Salient.

ICG is a small provider of unique and outstanding cultural, educational, historical and tailor made opportunities for all ages.

We are dedicated and committed to providing unforgettable experiences that leave lasting memories.

InterCultural Consulting Group Supporting Intercultural opportunities.

***ICG has a number of websites and a facebook page
Check out the range of opportunities on offer.***

*www.interculturalconsultinggroup.com www.memoriesofvignacourt.com
www.bcofremembered.com www.storiesofthesomme.com
www.hiroshimainternationalcollege.com
Facebook.....Intercultural Consulting Group*

Michael and Donna Fiechtner