



TREASURES OF JAPAN

GARDENS, ART & ARCHITECTURE

With American Horticultural Society Expert
HOLLY H. SHIMIZU

Aboard the Deluxe *Le Soléal*
May 11-21, 2024



Dear Friends of the American Horticultural Society,

I personally invite you to join fellow American Horticultural Society members and other like-minded travelers on an unforgettable journey to Japan in May 2024 aboard the beautifully appointed small ship, *Le Soléal*.

On this once-in-a-lifetime tour, we will experience some of the most serene and breathtaking gardens in the world. Highlights of this program include Naoshima Island, known for its extraordinary art, gardens, and architecture, and Miyajima, home to the majestic Itsukushima shrine. We will discover the magnificent Sengan-en Garden in Kagoshima and call at Glover Garden while in Nagasaki. Our explorations will also include South Korea with a visit to a great Buddhist Temple as well as Daeyeon Arboretum, featuring 600 species of trees and plants. Back in Japan we will visit Yushien Garden's vast collection of peonies.

To illuminate this fascinating country and shed light on the central role gardens play in its culture, AHS Expert Holly Shimizu, member of the American Horticultural Society Board of Directors and former Executive Director of the United States Botanic Garden, joins guests on board. Holly and her husband, garden designer Osamu Shimizu, will give lectures during the trip and serve as your companions for a deeper understanding of Japan's beautiful aesthetics.

I hope you will join us on this very special tour. Participation in the AHS Travel Study program supports our nonprofit work to increase knowledge among gardeners and garden enthusiasts, inspire passion for plants and the natural world, and encourage responsible stewardship of the earth.

For your convenience, a reservation form is enclosed in this brochure.

Sincerely,

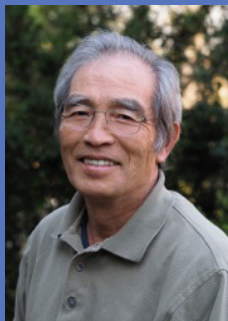
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Laporte".

Suzanne Laporte
President and CEO

FEATURED AHS TOUR EXPERT AND HOSTS



HOLLY H. SHIMIZU, a member of the American Horticultural Society Board of Directors and retired Executive Director of the United States Botanic Garden, is an internationally recognized horticulturist. She has worked in gardens in many parts of the world and is often recognized from her ten years as a host of the popular *Victory Garden* television show on PBS. Holly has received numerous awards, most recently The Scott Medal & Award from The Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, as well as the prestigious Thomas Roland Medal for outstanding contributions to horticultural education from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and the Professional Award for an Outstanding Public Garden Director from the American Horticultural Society. Dedicated to heightening an awareness and love of plants through her work, she has written for numerous publications and has been an international flower show judge. Her husband Osamu is a garden designer whom she met while working in Europe.



OSAMU SHIMIZU grew up in Japan where he studied and worked in both historic and contemporary Japanese gardens. He worked in Europe for over ten years helping with garden designs, mapping, and garden improvements. In 1982 he started his own garden design/build company, Shimizu Landscape Design, and has been creating gardens for residences as well as public spaces. Many of his gardens are Japanese but some represent a blending of styles with influences from east and west.

Osaka



ITINERARY



Saturday, May 11 or Sunday, May 12, 2024

FLY FROM THE USA

Monday, May 13

OSAKA, JAPAN | EMBARK (D)

Tuesday, May 14

TAMANO | NAOSHIMA ISLAND

Travel by ferry to Naoshima Island's "Art Island," the whimsical and curious destination sprinkled with surrealist art, sculptures, and architecture. Included in our visit is the Benesse House Museum, a facility containing numerous site-specific works created for the natural environs of Naoshima or inspired by the architectural spaces they inhabit. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, May 15

DAISHO-IN TEMPLE | ITSUKUSHIMA SHRINE

In the morning, enjoy a visit to Daisho-in Temple where you will attempt Zazen Meditation*, a founding element of the Zen practice. An afternoon excursion takes us to the Itsukushima Shrine on the island of Miyajima, a holy place of Shintoism since the earliest times. The present 13th-century shrine is an accurate reflection of the 12th-century construction style favored by the most powerful leader of the time, Taira no Kiyomori. (B,L,D)

Thursday, May 16

UWAJIMA | UCHIKO

Walk Uchiko's picturesque old street of Yokaichi, lined with buildings from the late Edo period and the early years following the Meiji Restoration. See the Museum of Commercial & Domestic Life, the Uchiko-za Theater and the Kami Hagi-tei, the former home and workshop of one of Uchiko's most influential families. (B,L,D)

*Subject to re-confirmation closer to departure.

Friday, May 17

KAGOSHIMA | CHIRAN

Visit Sengan-en Garden, a fine example of a feudal lord's garden. In the afternoon, drive through scenic tea plantations to Chiran, a small town known for its fine collection of samurai houses and their enclosed gardens. Several residences are still being used by samurai descendants. (B,L,D)

Saturday, May 18

NAGASAKI

Today we explore Kofukuji Temple, the oldest Chinese-founded temple in Nagasaki. Next we visit Oura Catholic Church before completing our tour in Glover Garden, situated on a hillside overlooking the port. (B,L,D)

Sunday, May 19

BUSAN, SOUTH KOREA

Depart on an excursion to Haedong Yonggungsa Temple, originally built in 1376 by the great Buddhist teacher known as Naong. Explore Haesu Gwaneum Daebul (Seawater Great Goddess Buddha), Daeungjeon Main Sanctuary, Yongwangdang Shrine, and Gulbeop Buddhist Sanctum. We will also visit the Daeyeon Arboretum, featuring 600 species of trees and plants and the Jagalchi Fish Market with a rich variety of fresh catches. (B,L,D)

Monday, May 20

SAKAIMINATO, JAPAN

Visit Yushien Garden, established in 1975 as a private garden. The grounds feature a variety of landscape elements, but its main attraction is its collection of Japanese peonies, with over 250 different types that bloom in an array of colors. Then visit the Adachi Museum of Art, housing works by the great masters of modern Japanese art, and its gardens. Most of the pieces were selected by the museum's founder Adachi Zenko (1899-1990), who collected a wide range of styles. After lunch, visit Matsue Castle, one of the few remaining original castles in Japan. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, May 21

MAIZURU | DISEMBARK | FLY TO USA (B)

An optional pre-extension tour in Kyoto is available; more information to come.

Itsukushima Shrine



Traditional tea house

Haedong Yonggungsa Temple



Busan

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

- ✓ Comprehensive 8-night cruise aboard *Le Soléal*.
- ✓ All accommodations are outside staterooms and suites and 95% feature a private balcony.
- ✓ All meals aboard ship including coffee & pastry, breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner, and sweets from Ladurée
- ✓ French-inspired gourmet cuisine, with menu creation and chef training by Ducasse Conseil
- ✓ Complimentary open bar aboard ship, including select wines served with lunch and dinner
- ✓ Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship
- ✓ 24-hour room service
- ✓ Unlimited WiFi
- ✓ Airport/pier transfers and handling of luggage
- ✓ Gratuities to shipboard personnel, porters, guides, and drivers
- ✓ Port taxes and charges
- ✓ Pre-departure materials

Not included

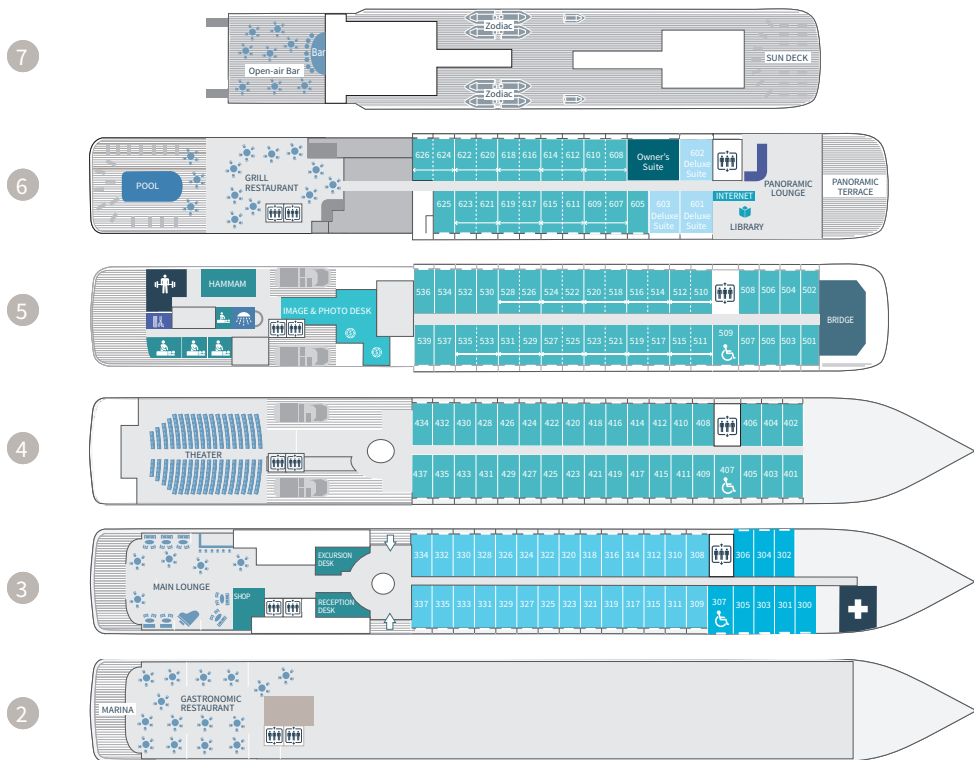
Airfare; airport taxes; visa and passport fees and/or immigration reciprocity taxes; luggage, cancellation, medical, repatriation and accident insurance; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone; spa; and beverages other than those specified above.

LE SOLÉAL



The deluxe, five-star *Le Soléal* is one of the most beautifully conceived and technologically sophisticated small ships afloat. Designed in France and built in Italy, *Le Soléal* boasts an elegantly understated aesthetic that one associates with European sensibility and craftsmanship, with room for no more than 264 guests. It is one of four sister ships of the PONANT cruise line, selected as Best Luxury Cruise Line by Cruise Critic's editors. All of PONANT's ships are recognized as eco-friendly "Clean Ships" by Bureau Veritas.

DECK PLAN



FARES PER PERSON, DOUBLE AND SINGLE OCCUPANCY

All accommodations aboard *Le Soléal* face outside affording sea views, and, other than the eight superior staterooms, all feature a private balcony. All staterooms include a bedroom with either two twin-size beds or a king-size bed, sitting area (separate living room for the Prestige Suites), mini-bar, safe, spacious closets, climate control, telephone, Wi-Fi access, TV with movies on demand, iPod player, and bathroom with marble vanity, shower, and fine amenities.

	DOUBLE	SINGLE
SUPERIOR STATEROOMS	\$7,150	\$12,020
DELUXE STATEROOMS	\$7,500	\$10,110
PRESTIGE STATEROOMS, DECK 4	\$7,990	\$10,840
PRESTIGE STATEROOMS, DECK 5	\$8,230	\$11,200
PRESTIGE STATEROOMS, DECK 6	\$8,530	\$11,650
DELUXE SUITES	\$10,710	\$14,920
PRESTIGE SUITES, DECK 5	\$13,420	\$18,990
PRESTIGE SUITES, DECK 6	\$13,960	\$19,800
OWNER'S SUITE	\$27,360	\$52,440

- Owner's Suite—Deck 6
- Prestige Suites—Decks 5 - 6
- Deluxe Suites—Deck 6
- Prestige Staterooms—Decks 4 - 5 - 6
- Deluxe Staterooms—Deck 3
- Superior Staterooms—Deck 3

Early arrivals, transfers and additional hotel nights available upon request.



TERMS & CONDITIONS

Compagnie du PONANT, PONANT Group USA, LLC, and PONANT USA, LLC are hereinafter collectively referred to as "PONANT GROUP" and is the tour Operator/Organizer of this cruise and has invited members of the American Horticultural Society (Sponsor) to participate. Please carefully read this information as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms & Conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the passenger and PONANT GROUP and the tour's sponsoring organization.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: To secure a booking, the guest is required to pay a \$1,500 deposit: \$500 donation payable to the American Horticultural Society and an additional \$1,000 payable to PONANT. Final payment is due by February 13, 2024, 90 days prior to departure. Checks and credit cards are accepted.

CANCELLATION, MODIFICATION PENALTIES & REFUNDS: All cancellations or modifications must be in writing. Any and all guests not reporting for departure or prevented from reporting for departure or waiving for any reason whatsoever the benefit of services included in the program cannot claim any refund. PONANT GROUP shall not be required to refund any monies to any guests who must leave the cruise prematurely for any reason, nor shall PONANT GROUP be held responsible for any costs, fees, damages or causes of action which result from the transportation expenses incurred by guest's early departure. For any deposited or fully paid booking, cancellation penalties will be assessed as noted below. These cancellation penalties are applicable on all services booked with PONANT GROUP.

- For cancellations received up to 180 days prior to departure, by November 15, 2023, no cancellation penalty applies.
- 91 days prior or February 12, 2024 departure: \$1000 per person.
- 90-61 days or February 13, 2024 – March 13, 2024, prior departure: 50% of full fare
- Within 60 days or March 14, 2024, prior to departure: 100% of full fare.
- \$500 donation to AHS is non-refundable.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Passengers shall be responsible for subscribing to cancellation/luggage/assistance repatriation/medical insurance(s).

ITINERARY: PONANT GROUP reserves the right to withdraw and/or cancel a sailing to make changes in the itinerary whenever, in its sole judgment, or in the judgment of the vessel owner or operator, conditions warrant it.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS/LIMIT OF LIABILITY: The passenger agrees that PONANT GROUP acts as agent and/or trustee for any person, ground and maritime agents and subcontractors, who provide any service forming, or in connection with, any part of the cruise. Transportation services to the port of departure, transfers to the ship, including, as applicable, hotel room and restaurant bookings or guided tours, are performed by independent suppliers who are not employees of PONANT GROUP. In this respect, PONANT GROUP acts only as an agent and shall not be held liable for said services or for the acts or omissions of sub-contractors or other contractors. PONANT GROUP shall not be held liable for bodily injury to, or death of passengers, or

for loss of, or damage to luggage or other personal belongings, unless it is proved that the carrier has infringed statutory obligations or that it or one of its employees or agents has committed gross negligence. However, in the event the liability of PONANT GROUP is incurred, such liability is limited (details available upon request). PONANT GROUP shall in any case not be liable for failure of an improper performance when the same is due to or caused by the fault of the passenger; the unforeseeable or unavoidable fault of a third party unconnected with the provision of any services to be provided under the contract; unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond the control of PONANT GROUP; an event of "Force Majeure" such as a war, threat of war, riots, civil commotion, acts of God, terrorist activities, natural and nuclear disaster, fire, technical problems with transport, closure of ports, strikes and any industrial action, or any other event beyond the control of PONANT GROUP.

RATES: The prices given at the time of booking are based on economic conditions known on April 25, 2023, and are subject to change. These conditions are, amongst others, the cost of transport and fuel, relevant dues, and taxes for the proposed operation (port taxes, embarkation and disembarkation taxes, entrance costs to tourist sites), currency exchange rates relevant to the pricing of these programs. PONANT GROUP reserves the right within the legal limits of applicable laws to vary the prices if necessary. All variation of the cost of transport, fuel, taxes, dues, and visa costs will be passed on within the voyage cost. Any change in fare cannot be imposed less than 60 days prior or March 14, 2024, to departure.

PERSONS WITH REDUCED MOBILITY: Report any physical conditions and dietary or treatment requirements to PONANT GROUP in writing at the time of booking. PONANT GROUP will try to accommodate special needs where possible, but any extra costs associated with special accommodation are the responsibility of the passenger. For limited mobility, wheelchair users, or conditions requiring assistance, inform PONANT GROUP in writing as soon as possible, but at least 30 days or April 13, 2024, before the service starts.

JURISDICTION: These terms & conditions are subject to and interpreted according to International regulations and concern the transportation of passengers and their luggage from the time of boarding the ship to the moment of disembarking, as well as at ports of departure, destination, or stopover. PONANT GROUP shall incur no liability outside this period of time. Without prejudice to required legal regulations, any actions related either to the interpretation, or execution of this agreement shall be brought before the competent courts of Marseille-France. PONANT is not responsible for omissions, printing and/or presentation errors and reserves the right to make corrections as required.

SHIPS' REGISTRY: France FL Seller of Travel Ref No ST37706 CA Seller of Travel Ref No 2120712-40

COMPLETE TERMS: For complete Terms & Conditions applicable to these cruises, please see Particular Terms & Conditions PONANT | <https://us.ponant.com/terms-conditions> By registering for this program, the passenger agrees to the Terms & Conditions herein.

REGISTRATION

AHSO S0130524

Payment is possible via credit card or check.

To make payment by credit card:

Enclosed is my credit card number and signature: (1) for a \$500 per person non-refundable donation to American Horticultural Society; (2) to PONANT for \$1,000 per person deposit to hold ____ place(s) on **Treasures of Japan***.

I understand that final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

To provide payment details and signature online, please visit the secure DocuSign link (you will receive a confirmation email once the payment has been processed):

<https://tinyurl.com/AHS-Treasures-of-Japan-2024>

Or, scan QR code:



*Please note that credit card payments will be processed separately by AHS & PONANT.

AmEx Discover Visa MasterCard

No. _____

Exp. _____

3- or 4-Digit Security Code _____

To make payments by check:

Please mail donations to: American Horticultural Society 7931 E. Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308

Please mail deposit and signed reservation form to: PONANT Yacht Cruises & Expeditions 420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 2838 New York, NY 10170

The Operator and the Sponsor are not joint venturers and are not otherwise connected with each other. All organizational and operational matters associated with this cruise tour, including the handling of all payments and/or refunds, are controlled by the Operator and any communication and/or disputes relating to any such matters shall not be brought against the Sponsor.

Please select cabin category in order of preference (1st, 2nd & 3rd choice):

Superior Stateroom - Deck 3 ____

Deluxe Stateroom - Deck 3 ____

Prestige Stateroom - Deck 4 ____, Deck 5 ____, Deck 6 ____

Deluxe Suite - Deck 6 ____

Prestige Suite - Deck 5 ____, Deck 6 ____

Owner's Suite ____

Two Beds King Bed

Single Occupancy

DR./MR./MRS./MS. FIRST LAST

DR./MR./MRS./MS. FIRST LAST

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

TELEPHONE (DAY) (EVENING)

E-MAIL

Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the "Terms & Conditions" section and agree to its terms.

SIGNATURE DATE

SIGNATURE DATE



American Horticultural Society
7931 East Boulevard Drive
Alexandria, VA 22308

Indicia
Placement



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For reservations or information, please call
(703) 768-5700, ext. 117 or 132 • www.ahsgardening.org

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