

BOOK BY OCT 31
SAVE \$200 PP

JAPAN

EXPLORER

Craig
travel

Chairman's Cruise

ESCORTED BY DAVID AND ROSLYN CRAIG

TOKYO ROUNDTRIP • HOLLAND AMERICA LINE • MS WESTERDAM

MARCH 26 - APRIL 13, 2024 | 19 DAYS | MOST MEALS

The majestic Mount Fuji surrounded by cherry blossoms in the spring.

Join David and Roslyn Craig on this **Chairman's 55th Anniversary Voyage** where culinary eccentricity meets historical adventure! This destination truly has it all... a rich and fascinating history, exotic beaches, active volcanos and interesting wildlife.

We start our journey with three wonderful nights in Tokyo, a city known for its natural beauty, sakura-lined streets, otaku culture, wonderful cuisine, and shrines and temples. Let the fun unfold as we explore the many fascinating ports of call in Japan, along with a visit to Busan, South Korea.

Once we embark on our ship we will be completely spoiled by the friendly staff and wonderful amenities on board the luxurious *ms Westerdam*. Spacious cabins, gourmet cuisine, and world-class service will make our time on board unforgettable - whether we plan to unwind, explore, or enjoy romantic moments; whatever we wish it to be without ever having to pack a bag until we are ready to head home.

Features and Highlights

- 3 nights pre-hotel stay in Tokyo at Prince Park Tower Hotel or similar with breakfast, city tour and transfers between airport / hotel / pier
- 14-night cruise on the *ms Westerdam*, based on sharing a twin-bedded stateroom in selected category
- Baggage handling shipside and at hotel
- All meals and entertainment on board
- Services of our cruise escort and/ or cruise director
- All gratuities for included shipboard services
- All cruise line taxes and fees

Air-inclusive rates also include:

- Return economy airfare from cities listed
- Transfers between the airport and the hotel / ship
- All related air taxes and current fuel surcharges
- Airport transfers in Canada or equivalent value

Cruise Escorts

David Craig, Chairman of Craig Travel, and **Roslyn** bring with them many years of travel experience both as escorts and as tour operators. After attending the University of Toronto and York University, David travelled around the world and lived in Australia for a number of years before returning to Canada and Craig Travel. For almost fifty years David has devoted his working life to arranging and operating tours and cruises to scores of destinations around the world. An Australian by birth, Roslyn, has lived and worked in the business of travel for most of her life. For over three decades, David and Roslyn have led tours and cruises visiting over 100 countries and all seven continents. They look forward to having you join them on this exciting Japan Explorer voyage!



55th Anniversary Cruise Series featuring Japan Explorer, Epic British Isles, and Mediterranean Ancient Kingdoms

Enjoy onboard spending money when you **book more***

First cruise receive \$50 USD pp
Second cruise receive \$100 USD pp
Third cruise receive \$200 USD pp

**Offer based on booking cruise series, inquire for details*

Our Cruise Ship • *ms Westerdam*

The *ms Westerdam* has won multiple Best Cruise Ship awards over the years, she features elegant public rooms, expansive teak decks and interiors inspired by musical instruments bringing a new world of sights and sounds to her guests. The 82,348-ton vessel accommodates 1,954 guests and is the ultimate expression of Holland America Line's brand evolution. She provides unforgettable entertainment experiences with the Music Walk, three stages presenting a variety of live music nightly.

Fabulous lounges and restaurants are yours to enjoy. The Dining Room is set on two floors and framed by views of the sea. The transformed Lido is now a modern marketplace offering different themed stations and selections, the Pinnacle Grill is an intimate alternative dining, and the Canaletto serves Italian classics, including pasta made fresh daily. A complete Promenade deck, a hydro pool, a Lido pool and a sea view pool, a superb fitness centre, spa and beauty parlour are all yours to enjoy.

All staterooms feature two lower beds, that can convert to a queen, a private bathroom with shower, and an individually flat-panel TV with an interactive menu of programming including; on-demand movies, music stations, as well as both live and pre-recorded television.



Cruise Itinerary

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Mar 26, Tue | Depart Canada |
| Mar 27, Wed | Arrive Tokyo, Japan Transfer to Prince Park Tower Hotel (3 nights) |
| Mar 28, Thu | Tokyo, Japan Enjoy a city tour including Imperial Palace |
| Mar 29, Fri | Hakone and Mt. Fuji A day of exploration, including Hakone National Park with incredible views of Mt. Fuji |
| Mar 30, Sat | Tokyo, Japan Embark / Sail 7:00pm |
| Mar 31, Sun | At Sea |
| Apr 1, Mon | Osaka, Japan Arrive 8:00am / Sail 7:00pm |
| Apr 2, Tue | Kochi, Japan Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm |
| Apr 3, Wed | Hiroshima, Japan Arrive 8:00am / Sail 4:00pm Scenic Cruising Kanmon Strait |
| Apr 4, Thu | Busan (Pusan), South Korea Arrive 10:00am / Sail 6:00pm |
| Apr 5, Fri | Sakaiminato, Japan Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm |
| Apr 6, Sat | Tsuruga, Japan Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm |
| Apr 7, Sun | Toyama, Japan Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm |
| Apr 8, Mon | Niigata, Japan Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm |
| Apr 9, Tue | At Sea |
| Apr 10, Wed | Otaru, Japan Arrive 7:00am / Sail 4:00pm |
| Apr 11, Thu | Hakodate, Japan Arrive 8:00am / Sail 11:00pm |
| Apr 12, Fri | At Sea |
| Apr 13, Sat | Yokohama (Tokyo), Japan Arrive 6:30 / Disembark and fly home |

Note: port times are subject to change

Ports of Call

Visit our website for more port details

Yokohama (Tokyo), Japan: Until the mid-19th century, Japan lived in isolation, closed off from the rest of the world, and Yokohama was a mere fishing village. But in 1853, American naval officer Matthew Perry demanded the country open to foreign trade, and Yokohama was changed forever. The city quickly emerged as an international trading center, and while today it is often overshadowed by nearby Tokyo, it continues to be one of Japan's liveliest, and most international, destinations. With its microbreweries and international restaurants, Yokohama has a decidedly different feel from many other Japanese cities.

Osaka, Japan: Osaka has many attractions and interesting things to do. Sumo wrestlers wait for trains, reeking of *chanko-nabe* (traditional sumo food; pure energy and calories), just daring the official railway pushers to push them. Yakuza (Japanese gangsters) get train cars to



Mount Fuji at sunset - courtesy of Holland America Line



Enjoy some delicious sushi - courtesy of Holland America Line



A Japanese Geisha - courtesy of Holland America Line

themselves, but if you get on with them, it's like you're invisible. Busy markets, the visual noise of neon and nonstop action on shopping streets offer insight into the energy and ambition of Osaka. And if all that isn't enough, Osaka is less than an hour from some of the most beautiful temples, shrines and ancient Japanese tourist attractions in the world - a thousand years of Japanese history - waiting in the old capitals of Kyoto and Nara.

Kochi, Japan: High atop a hill in Kochi sits 17th-century Kochi Castle, once the seat of the Yamauchi lords. Explore this historic site and enjoy panoramic views of the city, then dine on sushi at Hirome Market. Japanese *washi* paper is an iconic piece of Kochi's heritage, produced in the prefecture for more than 1,000 years. *Washi* paper is an Intangible Cultural Heritage Object.

Hiroshima, Japan: Located in the southwest of Japan, Hiroshima, the main city of the Chugoku region, is set within a striking natural landscape of mountains, sea and

rivers. Home to more than one million inhabitants, it's famous as the site of the explosion of the world's first atomic bomb, dropped by the U.S. in August 1945. This cataclysm is sensitively documented at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and associated Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.

Busan (Pusan), South Korea: South Korea's second-largest city (after the capital, Seoul), Busan is located in the southeastern corner of the country along the Sea of Japan. It combines a vibrant, big-city atmosphere with a famously laid-back attitude and subtropical landscapes. Often described as the "San Francisco of Korea," thanks mainly to its hilly terrain and close-knit neighbourhoods, it offers visitors a little of everything: fashionable boutiques, dynamic culture and buzzy nightlife, as well as sandy beaches, hot springs and nearby mountains crossed with hiking trails and dotted with temples.

Sakaiminato, Japan: Sakaiminato is home to Shigeru Mizuki, creator of GeGeGe no Kitaro (a character who's everywhere in contemporary Japan), and the gateway to the ancient region of Honshu, site of the famous "Black Castle."

Tsuruga, Japan: This sleepy little port city is home to the intimate Kehi Shrine, with its red-lacquered Torii gate and koi pond. Learn about the fascinating history of the town at the Tsuruga Museum. Dine on grilled seafood like a local at Nihonkai Sakana Machi.

Toyama, Japan: Japan's lush natural splendours are on full display as you cruise Toyama. Freshwater springs feed the spectacular bay, a bay so scenic, it belongs to the UNESCO-endorsed Most Beautiful Bays in the World Club. Toyama's enchanting, ridge-lined scoop of glistening sea is just the beginning. Visitors from around the globe come to this region to see the ancient villages, thatched-roof farmhouses, and incredible snow corridor.

Hakodate, Japan: Hokkaido is the only spot among Japan's primary islands where a non-Japanese culture manages to survive relatively intact, at least as an identity if not a lifestyle. The Ainu were here first, and are fairly easy to recognize; they have paler skin and more hair than ethnic Japanese. Cornerstones of Ainu culture remain, too: ceremonies that include sacrificing a bear (not often—bears are rare, although, this being the wild west, there are still some out there), the beautiful *attush* robe, a dislike of uncooked fish. And they're not going anywhere. In 1997, the Japanese government finally recognized the Ainu's right to their own culture. Get a taste of that unique culture in Hakodate, the capital city of this northern island.

CT Rating 1.5/5 - Easy: This cruise is suitable for all passengers who meet our basic criteria for group travel. Optional excursions are not covered by this rating and may involve considerable walking, sometimes over rough surfaces.

Shore Excursions are not included in your cruise cost, allowing you the freedom to choose from several optional tours that will be offered in each port. Excursions will also be available through the Holland America Line.

**Book and deposit before October 31, 2023
and save \$200pp**

Cruise Cost in Canadian Dollars per person

| Category/Description/Deck | Sharing Twin |
|---|--------------|
| K Inside (Various)..... | \$5,985 |
| J Inside (Main) | \$6,025 |
| E Outside (Main)..... | \$6,315 |
| D Outside (Main, Upper Promenade) | \$6,415 |
| C Outside (Main)..... | \$6,465 |
| VD Veranda (Upper Verandah, Rotterdam) | \$7,265 |
| VC Veranda (Various) | \$7,325 |
| VB Veranda (Various) | \$7,375 |
| VA Veranda (Various) | \$7,425 |
| SS Signature Suite (Upper Verandah) | \$8,615 |

Cruise only costs are based on joining at the hotel in Tokyo and leaving the group on the ship in Tokyo. See deck plan for full details on the various categories available. For single rates, ask for prices or visit our website.

Estimated air add-ons per person

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Toronto | \$2,365 |
| Ottawa / Montreal | \$2,545 |
| Halifax / Winnipeg..... | \$2,685 |
| Calgary / Edmonton..... | \$2,585 |
| Regina / Saskatoon | \$2,635 |
| Vancouver..... | \$2,295 |
| Victoria..... | \$2,495 |

Airfares from other gateways are available on request. Airfares and air carrier are subject to change and will be confirmed prior to final payment. Refer to inclusive features for details. Air prices are estimated (subject to confirmation). Final pricing will be advised once flights are confirmed. Cruise price is based on sharing a twin-bedded stateroom with private bathroom. Prices are based on rates, taxes and fees effective March 2023 and are subject to change due to factors beyond our control. This cruise will operate with a minimum of two members as listed and will be escorted with a minimum of 20 travellers.

Prices DO NOT INCLUDE the cost of insurance which is available and is highly recommended. Premiums vary with the cost, length of the trip, and the traveller's age. For passengers up to and including 74 years on departure date, premiums will range from \$312 to \$518pp plus applicable taxes. Cost supplements for travellers aged 75-85 will range from \$201 to \$434pp. plus applicable taxes. Please contact a Sales Specialist for insurance premium. This insurance is effective from the date of purchase and carries limitations on pre-existing medical conditions. Please discuss your insurance coverage prior to booking. Check our website for the most current information. Refer to the enrollment form for general information and conditions.

Final payment will be due Dec 20, 2023

Deposit is \$950 per person

To reserve your spot on this cruise, simply complete the enclosed enrollment form, indicating the cabin type you prefer and your home city, and forward it with your deposit to:



Experiencing Our World

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