retreat | recreate

Japan Textiles & Handcrafts Tour 10 - 24 May 2027

Application Form

Name (as per passport)	Title	Last Name	
	First Name(s)	Middle Name(s)	
	Date of Birth day / month / year	Age at time of travel	
Passport details	Passport number	Nationality	
	Date of Issue day / month / year	Date of expiry day / month / year	
Address	Number and Street		
	City/Suburb	State/Province	Postcode
	Country		
Email			
Mobile/cell phone			
Medical condition[s]			
Medication[s] (in case we need to consult with medical professionals on your behalf)			
Dietary requirements (Pescatarian, allergies etc)			
Room selection (please select one)	**Single** ☐ *Single supplement applies*	**Share double** (1 bed) ☐ **or** **Share twin** (2 beds) ☐ Sharing with: _____ *Due to the very small size of Japanese hotel rooms, we will only pair up friends/relatives, not solo travellers. See the Trip Notes for further details.*	
Emergency contact (Must be someone NOT travelling with you)	Name		
	Relationship to you		
	Telephone	Email	
How did you hear about us?			

Check boxes

- If advised a place is available, I agree to pay a deposit of AUD $1500 within 48 hours: ☐
- I agree to pay the tour balance no later than 10 February 2027: ☐
- I have read, understand and agree to the Booking Conditions: ☐
- I have read and completed the 'Fitness to Travel' declaration as per Item 5 of the Booking Conditions: ☐
- I have read the Trip Notes and Itinerary and acknowledge my obligations regarding fitness, mobility, travel insurance, travelling as part of a group and the health & safety notes: ☐

Signature: Date:

Please complete, sign and scan/photograph the Application Form and the Fitness to Travel declaration and email them to retreatrecreate@gmail.com with Japan Textiles in the subject header

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'Fitness to Travel' Declaration

All retreat|recreate travellers must complete this declaration of their fitness to travel, and submit it with their application form.

While retreat|recreate doesn't have an upper age limit on our tours, we recognise that some travellers may find our itineraries challenging. We have a duty of care to *all* tour participants, our tour guides, tour hosts and service providers. Due to recent experiences on some tours we have decided, like many other tour companies, to implement this policy requiring participants to carefully assess their health, fitness and mobility and if appropriate, sign a declaration of their fitness to travel. This is in an effort to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all involved in our tours.

Our aim is for all our travellers to enjoy their tour, not struggle through it, and to also not negatively impact others in the group OR the itinerary and our workshop hosts. We reserve the right to decline an application if we feel that the requirements of the tour are beyond the capacity of the applicant. We also reserve the right to remove a traveller from the group during a tour without right of refund if the guide deems the traveller's levels of health, fitness and mobility are having a negative impact on the group and/or itinerary.

<u>All participants MUST have good levels of health, fitness and mobility to participate in this tour and must be able to:</u>

- spend much of the day on your feet
- walk at a moderate to fast pace to keep up with the guide and group
- manage stairs at a moderate to fast pace – the train system in Japan features many stations without escalators or elevators, and with many, many flights of stairs. We often have tight timeframes for catching/changing trains and if one member of the group cannot manage stairs at a good pace it negatively affects the whole group and the timelines in the itinerary. From stations we often walk for up to 20 minutes at a moderate to fast walking pace to our next destination, and that destination often involves more walking
- sit on the floor for the duration of a meal, presentation, tea ceremony, workshop etc
- sleep on futons on tatami mats on the floor at our Nagoya accommodation
- navigate arrival and departure airports without assistance
- manage your own luggage
- embark and disembark buses, coaches, trains without assistance
- use shower over bath facilities as it is not possible to guarantee availability of separate showers
- be able to satisfactorily participate in the full tour program as described.

By signing below, I certify that:

- I have read the above information;
- I understand my obligations regarding the tour;
- I verify that I adequately meet all of the health, fitness and mobility requirements as outlined;
- I verify that my assessment of my health, physical ability, fitness and mobility as described below is true and accurate;
- I agree to advise retreat|recreate of any negative changes in my health, fitness, mobility and/or medical circumstances that occur prior to departure that may impact my ability to fully participate in the tour;
- I understand that if the guide deems my health, fitness and mobility levels are not sufficient for the demands of the tour and/or are having a negative impact on the group and/or the itinerary, I may be removed from the tour with no right of refund.

Health, fitness and mobility capabilities (please describe *in full*):	
Signature:	
Date:	

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Booking Conditions

This tour is a private group tour, arranged and operated by retreat|recreate and A&F Japan Land Operations

1. Our contract
By booking with us you are deemed to have read and understood the Booking Conditions and agree to be bound by the Booking Conditions. Your booking will be accepted by us on this basis.

2. Deposit requirement
- You are required to pay a deposit of AU$1500 per person and email a copy of the transfer receipt to retreatrecreate@gmail.com within 48 hours of your application being accepted. Payment instructions will be provided to successful applicants.
- If your application is made on or after 10 February 2027 then the full amount will be payable upon acceptance.
- Should we not reach minimum numbers and the tour does not proceed, your deposit will be returned or credited to another tour.

3. Final payments
- Payment of the balance of the trip price is due no later than 10 February 2027
- If the balance is not paid on or before the due date, we reserve the right to treat your booking as cancelled.

4. Your details
In order for us to confirm your travel arrangements you must provide all requested details as indicated on the Application Form and pay your deposit. Necessary details include full name as per passport, date of birth, nationality, passport number, passport issue and expiry date, mobility and fitness levels and any pre-existing medical conditions you have which may affect your ability to complete your travel arrangements. Your booking cannot be confirmed without provision of these details. (If your passport is due for renewal, simply write TBA on your application form).

5. Age, fitness & health requirements
We ask you to be honest with yourself about your fitness and mobility levels and realistic about your ability to keep up with a group and fully participate in this itinerary. Due to the nature of the tour, this trip is not for you if your fitness is compromised or you use mobility aids. Please carefully and realistically consider your physical abilities and contact us if you have any queries before applying for a place. We reserve the right to decline a booking if we deem your fitness or mobility levels to be a detriment to your own and others' satisfactory participation in the tour. We also reserve the right to remove a traveller from the group during a tour without right of refund if the guide and host deem the traveller's fitness levels are having a negative impact on the group and itinerary.

- The minimum age for participants is 18 at the time of travel
- All applicants must complete and submit the 'Fitness to Travel' declaration together with their Application Form
- All applicants must have good levels of health, fitness and mobility to manage the physical demands of this tour. The Fitness to Travel declaration outlines the health, fitness and mobility requirements for this trip, as do the Trip Notes
- For the safety of those who travel with us and that of the people we visit on tour, we strongly recommend all our travellers are fully vaccinated against influenza and COVID-19
- If you are unwell and/or displaying symptoms of cold, flu or COVID-19, you will be required to wear a mask
- retreat|recreate is able to provide details on mandatory health requirements; however, we are not medical experts. It is your responsibility to ensure that you obtain proper and detailed medical advice at least two months prior to travel for the latest vaccinations, health requirements and recommendations for this destination.

6. Cancellation by the traveller
Once you've paid your deposit, we incur very real costs in booking and confirming this trip. Thus, if you cancel your booking, cancellation fees will apply. Notification of a cancellation must be provided in writing.

If you cancel your place on the trip:
- before 10 February 2027 we will retain the deposit;
- after 10 February 2027, no refund is possible and we will retain 100% of the total price (see also point 7 below);

You should lodge a claim for these costs through your travel insurance. Travel insurance is required on our trips. You are strongly advised to take out your travel insurance at the time of booking to assist with coverage of any cancellation fees you incur if you cannot complete the trip. If you leave a trip for any reason after it has commenced we are not obliged to make any refunds for unused services. If you fail to join a tour, join it after departure, or leave it prior to its completion, no refund will be made. The above cancellation fees are in addition to fees which may be levied by accommodation providers, travel agents or third party tour and transport operator fees.

7. Cancellation by retreat|recreate
- We may cancel this tour any time prior to departure should we not achieve the minimum number of passengers required or if we receive cancellations which cause the number of passengers to fall below our minimum number. In this case, your deposit is fully refundable.

- We may cancel a trip at any time prior to departure if, due to terrorism, natural disasters, political instability, Covid-19 border closures and related travel restrictions or other external events if it is not viable for us to operate the planned itinerary.
- If we cancel your trip due to external events before 90 days prior to departure, your deposit is fully refundable.
- If we cancel your trip due to external events within 90 days of departure, you will receive a full credit towards a rescheduled tour. In circumstances where the cancellation is due to external events, you may request a refund however, refunds will be less any unrecoverable costs plus an administration fee of $150 per person. You should lodge a claim for these fees and costs through your travel insurance.
- We are not responsible for any incidental expenses that you may incur as a result of your booking, including but not limited to visas, vaccinations, travel insurance excess or non-refundable flights.

8. Booking amendments

If you wish to transfer your booking to a third party you must notify us at least 90 days prior to the proposed departure date. A fee of $150 per person per change will apply (in addition to any charges levied by hotels, ground operators or airlines). If you notify us less than 90 days prior to the proposed departure date the refund policy applicable to cancellations will apply. Transfers to a third party are only permitted where the transferee meets all the requirements in relation to the trip and with the written permission of retreat|recreate. Amendments to any other arrangements made in conjunction with your trip will incur a $150 administration fee per booking per change. This fee is in addition to any charges levied by hotels, ground operators or airlines. No amendments are permitted to your booking within 30 days of departure.

9. Inclusions

The price of your trip includes:

- All accommodation as listed in the itinerary
- All transport listed in the itinerary
- Sightseeing, activities and meals as listed in the itinerary
- The services of the guide as described in the itinerary

10. Exclusions

The price of your trip does not include:

- International flights
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Excess baggage charges
- Meals other than those specified in the itinerary
- Beverages with meals
- Visa and passport fees
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Early check in or late check out at hotels
- Tip for guide

11. Prices & surcharges

Prices are based on currency exchange rates as of October 2025. We reserve the right to impose surcharges up to 90 days before departure due to unfavourable changes in exchange rates, increases in transportation costs, increases in local operator costs, taxes, or if government action should require us to do so. If any surcharge results in an increase of more than 10% of the trip price you may cancel the booking within 14 days of notification of the surcharge and obtain a full refund. We will not surcharge any booking for travel once paid in full.

12. Passport and visas

You must carry a valid passport and have obtained all of the appropriate visas, permits and certificates for the countries which you will visit during your trip. Your passport must be valid for 6 months beyond the duration of the trip and have at least one blank page.

13. Travel insurance

Travel insurance is mandatory for all our travellers and should be taken out at the time of paying your deposit. Your travel insurance must provide cover against personal accident, death, medical expenses and emergency repatriation. We also strongly recommend it covers cancellation, curtailment, personal liability, COVID-19 related scenarios as far as possible, and loss of luggage and personal effects. You must provide proof of your travel insurance; you will not be able to join the trip without it.

14. Flexibility

You appreciate and acknowledge that the nature of this type of travel requires considerable flexibility and you should allow for alternatives. The itinerary provided is representative of the types of activities contemplated, but it is understood that the route, schedules, itineraries, amenities and mode of transport may be subject to alteration without prior notice due to local circumstances or events.

15. Change of itinerary
While we endeavour to operate the tour as described we reserve the right to change the trip itinerary. Before departure: If we make a major change we will inform you as soon as reasonably possible if there is time before departure. The definition of a major change is deemed to be a change affecting at least one day in five of the itinerary. After departure: We reserve the right to change an itinerary after departure due to local circumstances or events outside of our control. In such emergency circumstances the additional cost of any necessary itinerary alterations will be covered by you. Please note we are not responsible for any incidental expenses that may be incurred as a result of the change of itinerary such as visas, vaccinations or non-refundable flights.

16. Authority on tour
The trip is fully escorted by a local English-speaking, tourism-accredited Japanese guide.
The decision of the leader is final on all matters likely to affect the safety or well-being of any person participating in the trip. If you fail to comply with a decision made by a group leader, or interfere with the well-being or mobility of the group, we may direct you to leave the trip immediately, with no right of refund. You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited, and you also agree to travel in accordance with our responsible travel guidelines.

17. Acceptance of risk
You acknowledge that the nature of the trip is adventurous and participation involves a degree of personal risk. You may be visiting places where the political, cultural and geographical attributes present dangers and physical challenges greater than those present in our daily lives. We use information from government foreign departments and reports from our own contacts in assessing whether the itinerary should operate. However it is also your own responsibility to acquaint yourself with all possible relevant travel information and the nature of your itinerary. You acknowledge that your decision to travel is made in light of consideration of this information and you accept that you are aware of the personal risks attendant upon such travel.

18. Limitation of liability
retreat|recreate contracts with a network of companies, government agencies and individuals to assist in the running of our trips as agent for these third parties. We are not responsible for the acts and omissions of these third parties.
To the fullest extent permitted by law:

- Any liability for any loss, death, injury or damage which you may suffer (directly or indirectly) in connection with or arising out of your participation in a trip, or any breach of the Booking Conditions, is excluded;
- You release us and our officers, employees, agents and representatives from any liability and expressly waive any claims you may have against us arising out of or in connection with your participation in a trip; and
- Any condition or warranty which would otherwise be implied by law into these Booking Conditions (Implied Warranty), is excluded.

To the extent an Implied Warranty cannot be excluded, our liability in respect of the Implied Warranty is limited to (in our absolute discretion): (i) the provision of a similar trip to an equivalent value; or (ii) a refund of the total amount received by us from you in connection with your booking.
Any claim by you is excluded to the extent that it is for indirect or consequential loss, loss of profits or economic loss, however it arises, or for indirect, special, punitive or exemplary damages.

19. Optional activities
Optional activities not included in the trip price do not form part of the trip or this contract. You accept that any assistance given by your group leader or local representative in arranging optional activities does not render us liable for them in any way. The contract for the provision of that activity will be between you and activity provider.

20. Claims & complaints
If you have a complaint about your trip please inform your retreat|recreate host and/or guide at the time in order that they can attempt to rectify the matter. If satisfaction is not reached through these means then any further complaint should be put in writing to us within 30 days of the end of the tour.

21. Severability
In the event that any term or condition contained in these Booking Conditions is unenforceable or void by operation of law or as being against public policy or for any other reason then such term or condition shall be deemed to be severed from this contract or amended accordingly only to such extent necessary to allow all remaining terms and conditions to survive and continue as binding.

22. Photos and marketing
Unless you specify otherwise, acceptance of these Booking Conditions means you consent to us using images of you taken during the trip for advertising and promotional purposes. Please advise before the tour commences if you do not wish photos of yourself to be used.

23. Privacy policy
Your email address will only be used for any purpose associated with the operation of a trip or to send you marketing material in relation to our events, special offers and future tours. All personal details you provide (passport scans, notice of medical conditions, medications, etc) will be retained securely for the duration of the trip only.

24. Applicable law
The laws of Victoria, Australia govern these Booking Conditions to the fullest extent allowable. Any disputes in connection with a trip or these Booking Conditions must be initiated in the courts of Victoria, Australia.