



JAPAN WINTER SPECTACULAR Snow Monkeys, Red Crowned Cranes, Exquisite Landscapes, Whooper Swans, Stellar & White Tailed Sea Eagles

February 9 to February 21, 2014

The Japan Winter Spectacular photo tour and workshop will take you to the very best Japanese winter wildlife and landscape locations in Japan. In Nagano we will photograph the Snow Monkeys in the hot pools and capture images of their interaction and behavior. In Kushiro we will photograph the incredible Red-Crowned Cranes. The next stop is Lake Akan for Swans and landscapes of the caldera. We then move to Lake Masshu and Lake Kussharo for more wildlife and Whooper Swans. The last leg will be cruises to Rausu into the iceflows where we will photograph Seller's Sea Eagles and White Tailed Eagles in action. There will be many opportunities for landscapes in the mist and hoar frost covered trees. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity that must not be missed.

Who should attend?

This is a hands-on bird and landscape workshop for photographers of all skill levels. We will have an opportunity in the afternoon to review and critique images and learn post processing techniques for optimizing images. Individual attention will be given to attendees, irrespective of experience. Digital and film shooters are most welcome.

The primary focus is to learn how to capture the scene to the very best effect. You will use sweeping wide angle foregrounds and selective cropping, various focusing and panning techniques and the best way for obtaining optimum exposure in photography. In addition, a full list of topics which will be covered during the workshop, together with a suggested packing list will be forwarded to attendees before the workshop.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Japan, Tokyo

- Arrive at Tokyo's Narita Airport
- Clear Customs and Immigrations
- Meeting Service at the airport
- Shuttle to the hotel next to the airport
- Check into the hotel
- Buffet dinner at the hotel in the evening

Accommodations: Narita Tobu Airport Hotel (Western style twin room or single room)

Meals: D

Transportation: Shuttle from the airport to the hotel

Day 2: Jigokudani Snow Monkey Park

- Buffet breakfast at the hotel
- Travel by chartered bus to the Jigokudani Snow Monkey Park trail head
- Packed lunch during the ride
- Jigokudani Snow Monkey Park (The walk to the park is between 30 and 45 minutes)
- Travel by chartered bus to Nagano
- Check into the hotel
- Buffet dinner at the hotel

Accommodations: Nagano Metropolitan Hotel (Western style twin or single room)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: All transportation on the chartered bus

Day 3: Jigokudani Snow Monkey Park

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- Travel by chartered bus to the Snow Monkey Park trail head
- Snow Monkey Park
- Packed lunch
- Travel by chartered bus to the hotel in Nagano

Accommodations: Nagano Metropolitan Hotel (Western style twin or single room)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: All transportation on the chartered bus

Day 4: Jigokudani Snow Monkey Park

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- Shuttle to the Snow Monkey Park trailhead
- Snow Monkey Park
- Packed Lunch
- Shuttle to the ryokan
- Kaiseki-style dinner at the ryokan

Accommodations: Nagano Metropolitan Hotel (Western style twin or single room)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: All transportation on the chartered bus

Day 5: Travel to Kushiro

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- Travel by chartered bus to Haneda Airport
- Packed Lunch
- Fly from Haneda to Kushiro
- Travel by chartered bus to Kushiro
- Check into the hotel
- Overnight in Kushiro
- Dinner

Accommodations: La Vista Kushirogawa (Western style twin room or single room)

Meals: B, L, D

Transportation: All transportation by chartered bus, Flight from Haneda Airport to Kushiro

Day 6: Kushiro Marshland

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel or a Packed Breakfast
- Travel by chartered bus to the Otawa Bridge
- Kushiro Marshland Crane Areas
- Packed Lunch
- Travel by chartered bus to Kushiro
- Dinner

Accommodations: La Vista Kushirogawa (Western style twin room or single room)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: All transportation by chartered bus



Day 7: Kushiro Marshland, Lake Akan

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel or a Packed Breakfast
- Travel by chartered bus to the Ottawa Bridge
- Kushiro Marshland Crane Areas
- Packed Lunch
- Travel by chartered bus to Lake Akan
- Overnight at Lake Akan
- Dinner

Accommodations: New Akan Hotel (Western style twin room or single room)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: All transportation by chartered bus

Day 8: Kushiro Marshland, Lake Akan

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel or a Packed Breakfast
- Travel by chartered bus to Lake Kussharo
- Swan Photo Shoot
- Travel to Lake Masshu (based on weather)
- Lake Masshu photo shoot
- Travel to Lake Akan
- Overnight at Lake Akan
- Dinner

Accommodations: New Akan Hotel (Western style twin room or single room)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: All transportation by chartered bus

Day 9: Lake Kussharo and Lake Masshu, Travel to Rausu

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- Travel to Lake Kussharo
- Swan Photo Shoot
- Travel to Kawayu Onsen
- Lunch at Kawayu Onsen
- Travel to Lake Masshu
- Lake Masshu Shoot
- Travel to Rausu
- Check into the hotel
- Buffet dinner

Accommodations: Shiretoko Grand Hotel Kitakobushi (Western style twin and single rooms OR Western/Japanese Hybrid Rooms)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: All transportation by chartered bus

Day 10: Rausu Ice Flow Cruise

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- Rausu Ice Flow Cruise
- Packed Lunch
- Buffet dinner

Accommodations: Shiretoko Grand Hotel Kitakobushi (Western style twin and single rooms OR Western/Japanese Hybrid Rooms)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: All transportation by chartered bus



Day 11: Rausu Ice Flow Cruise

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- Rausu Ice Flow Cruise
- Packed Lunch
- Buffet dinner

Accommodations: Abashiri Kanko Hotel (Western style twin room or single room)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: Chartered bus for the day

Day 12: Fly to Haneda Airport, Travel to Narita Airport

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- Travel by chartered bus to the Abashiri Airport (Travel Time: 2 ½ Hours)
- Packed Lunch
- Fly to Haneda Airport (Travel Time: 2 Hours)
- Travel by limousine bus to Narita Airport (Travel Time: 1 ½ Hours)
- Shuttle to the hotel (Travel Time: 10 minutes)
- Check into the hotel
- Buffet Dinner

Accommodations: Narita Tobu Airport Hotel (Western style twin room or single room)

Meals: B,L,D

Transportation: Chartered bus from Rausu to Abashiri Airport, Flight from Abashiri Airport to Haneda Airport, Limousine Bus from Haneda Airport to Narita Airport, Shuttle to the hotel

Day 13: Return Home

- Buffet Breakfast at the hotel
- Shuttle to the airport (Travel Time: 10 minutes)
- Fly home

Accommodations: N/A

Meals: B

Transportation: Shuttle to Narita Airport

Accommodations

Accommodations including all taxes, fees and breakfast every morning

Narita Airport - Narita Tobu Airport Hotel (Western style twin room or single room)

Nagano – Nagano Metropolitan Hotel (Western style twin or single room)

Kushiro – La Vista Kushirogawa (Western style twin room or single room)

Lake Akan – New Akan Hotel (Western style twin room or single room)

Rausu - Shiretoko Grand Hotel Kitakobushi (Western style twin and single rooms OR Western/Japanese Hybrid Rooms)

Inclusions

All transportation as listed above
Emergency contact number in Japan
Tour Leader from Narita Airport to Haneda Airport
Tour Leader from Kushiro Airport to Abashiri Airport
Tour Leader from Haneda Airport to Narita Airport
Meeting service at Narita Airport

Exclusions

All lunches and dinners, except where noted
All admission fees except where noted
All transportation except where noted including all local transportation such as trains, subways, buses, taxis, etc.
Beverages at meals other than tea and water.
Deserts at all meals

Registration

Registration is limited to a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 14 participants. The cost is \$5,690 per participant on a double occupancy basis.
Single supplement \$695.

Please complete the registration and release forms (links are provided below or you can get them at:
<http://www.shivverma.com/workshop-registration-forms/>

A \$1000 deposit is required on booking to confirm your reservation. The balance \$4,690 is due by November 15, 2013. If paying by check, please make your payments to Shiv Verma and mail them to 652 Dedham Street, Wrentham, MA 02093-1149. You may also pay by credit card or PayPal, please call 617.759.0010.

Information

Contact us at 617.759.0010 or email sv@shivverma.com