

BULLETIN



2025 USA KARATE

JAPAN TOUR

March 1 – March 10, 2025



USA-NKF Community Members,

I hope that you are all excited for the holiday season ahead! This year has been a tremendous year with many successes from our junior and senior national team athletes. Our top athletes have been putting in long hours into their training and traveling the world to put USA on the map. We are not done yet as we have our senior female and male team kumite athletes competing in the inaugural WKF World Team Cup, held in Pamplona, Spain, November 22-24, 2024.

We have exciting news for our youth developmental program (YDP) athletes!! USA Karate continues to strive for excellence as we start offering new events for them such as seminars, camps & international competitions. Next year March 2025, we will be taking a team to Japan to train, attend seminars and compete in a tournament while enjoying the beauty of Japan with some sightseeing and cultural exchanges with the youth karate-kas. Seminars will be conducted by WKF World & 2020 Olympic Games medalist, Sensei Ryutaro Araga and WKF World medalist, Sensei Kou Matsuhisa and other instructors. This opportunity will provide invaluable experience in preparation for becoming our future Team USA stars.

We are looking for athletes, ages 10-15 years, intermediate and higher to join this trip. The competition will include both kata and kumite. USA YDP Team must be in Osaka, Japan by Sunday, March 2, 2025. The trip will start in Osaka and we will head into Kyoto where the competition will be. Team will then be departing Japan on Monday, March 10, 2025. Please see the detailed itinerary below (rooms & pricing are based on double occupancy).

The USA YDP Japan trip will be led by Coach B. Maile Chinen, Head of our Youth Development Program. If you are interested in this trip, please complete the following questionnaire [USA KARATE YDP JAPAN EDITION QUESTIONNAIRE](#) so that it can be reviewed. Deadline to submit the questionnaire is Monday, December 30, 2024. Confirmation for this trip will be sent to the athletes via email.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Coach Chinen at mchinen@usankf.org.

“Empowering Youth, Building Tomorrow”

MARCH 01 (SAT): DAY 01

USA (DEPARTURE) – OSAKA

Fly to Osaka, Japan via (Kansai International Airport). Lose one day crossing the International Date Line.

MARCH 2 (SUN): DAY 02

OSAKA (ARRIVAL)

Arrive at Kansai International Airport. Clear Immigration and Custom formalities. Transfer to hotel (own expense; instructions will be given as to how to get to hotel). Accommodations at HOTEL HANKYU RESPIRE OSAKA

MARCH 03 (MON): DAY 03

OSAKA (KARATE TRAINING)

Breakfast at hotel.

Day set aside for training at Sensei Matsuhisa Dojo (Time TBA). Transfer to Dojo by subway (member's own expense).

Lunch at member's own expense. Transfer back to hotel after training. Dinner at member's own expense.

Accommodations at HOTEL HANKYU RESPIRE OSAKA

MARCH 04 (TUE): DAY 04

OSAKA (FREE DAY)

Breakfast at hotel.

Whole day free (Training TBA).

Suggest to visit Tempozan Kaiyukan Aquarium by public transportaton (own expense).

Lunch and dinner at member's own expense..

Accommodations at HOTEL HANKYU RESPIRE OSAKA

MARCH 05 (WED): DAY 05

OSAKA – NARA – KYOTO

Breakfast at hotel.

08:45AM – Board a chartered motorcoach and leave Osaka for Kyoto en route visiting Nara.

Visit the Deer Park and the famous Todaiji Temple noted for its huge bronze image of Buddha. Reboard motorcoach and proceed to Kyoto en route visiting Fushimi Inari Shrine.

Lunch at member's own expense. Transfer to hotel.

Dinner at member's own expense.

Accommodations at MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHIJO

MARCH 06 (THU): DAY 06

KYOTO (CITY TOUR)

Breakfast at hotel.

08:30AM – Board motorcoach for city tour visiting Arashiyama. Enjoy the rickshaw ride to the Bamboo Forest.

Reboard motorcoach and visit Kinkakuji (gold pavilion). Lunch at member's own expense.

Visit Kyoto Handicraft Center. Transfer back to hotel.

Dinner at member's own expense.

Accommodations at MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHIJO

MARCH 07 (FRI): DAY 07

KYOTO (KARATE TRAINING)

Breakfast at hotel.

Training at Sensei Araga Dojo (subject to confirmation). Local transportation (own expense) to dojo.

Lunch and dinner at member's own expense. Accommodations at MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHIJO

MARCH 08 (SAT): DAY 08

KYOTO (KARATE TOURNAMENT)

Breakfast at hotel. Whole day set aside to Karate Tournament (subject to confirmation).
Local transportation (own expense) to Tournament Site (to be advised),
Lunch and dinner at member's own expense. Accommodations at MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO
HACHIJO

MARCH 09 (SUN): DAY 09

KYOTO (KARATE SEMINAR)

Breakfast at hotel. Day set aside to Sensei Araga Seminar (location to be advised). Local
transportation (own expense) to Seminar Site.
Lunch and dinner at member's own expense. Accommodations at MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO
HACHIJO

MARCH 10 (MON): DAY 10

KYOTO – OSAKA – TOKYO (DEPARTURE) – USA HUB CITY

Breakfast at hotel. Free until departure.
Transfer to Itami Airport by chartered motorcoach.
Fly to either Haneda or Narita Airport to make International connection back to USA.

TOUR COST

\$1,750.00 (Ground Cost)

Ground Cost per person sharing a twin-bedded room

INCLUDES

- 8 nights hotel accommodations
- 8 breakfasts
- Admission Fees
- Motorcoach Fees as per itinerary

AIR RESERVATIONS

- *Member's are responsible for your own booking*
- Adjustments will be made if there is any change to Ground Cost (exchange rate).

GENERAL CONDITIONS

DEPOSIT & PAYMENTS: No deposit is required for Japan destination; however, completed Tour Reservation Form must be turned in to secure space on tour. Full payment must be made payable to

BOBBY CHINEN LLC by **January 17, 2025.**

TOUR COST: Tour Cost is based on one person sharing a twin bedded room. For person travelling alone, through choice or circumstances, the Single Supplement must be charged.

PRICE INCLUDES: Hotel accommodations, meals as specified, admission fees, etc.

NOT INCLUDED: Tour price does not include passport expenses, insurance, meals not listed, all beverages, tips to driver & guides, all items of personal nature; laundry, phone calls, etc. and any items not specifically mentioned in the itinerary.

SIGHTSEEING & TRANSFERS: By private deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach. No Smoking allowed in motorcoach. Seat rotation will be practiced.

BAGGAGE: Due to limited motorcoach capacity, only one suitcase and one carry-on per person will be allowed. Portage for this suitcase is included in the tour price. No responsibility is accepted for loss of or damage to baggage or any of the passenger's belongings.

RESPONSIBILITY: The tour organizer or any other travel agency involved, acts only as agents for the passenger in regard to travel, sightseeing, hotel and meal arrangements and other tour services. The organizer/agency will accept no responsibility or liability in respect of either person or property for any lost, damage, injury, accident, delay or irregularity, however occasionally sustained or suffered in or during any journey, trip or tour, or in the carrying out of any arrangement booked by, or through it. If the agency becomes aware that a passenger has a special or chronic health problem, the agency shall ensure that it is provided with a letter from the passenger's personal physician stating the nature of the health problem and certifying that the passenger is physically fit to participate in the tour. Also, in our endeavor to ensure congenial membership, we reserve the right to refuse the application of anyone and/or to expel from the tour, members whose conduct is incompatible with the interests of the tour. Further, we reserve the right to refuse the application of any handicapped passenger if it is determined that such passenger would impede in the schedule of the tour and greatly inconvenience the majority of the tour members. However, if a handicapped passenger accepted for the tour requires any form of assistance, he/she must be accompanied by a qualified helper who takes total responsibility for the handicapped passenger's well-being. Baggage is at owner's own risk. The right is also reserved to make any necessary changes in the itinerary or to withdraw the tour if deemed advisable. The Airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board the carriers concerned. The Airline ticket and passage contract in use by the Airlines concerned when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the Airlines and the purchaser of the tour and/or passenger.

CANCELLATION

Should you need to cancel after final payment has been made for Japan destination, cancellation charges will apply based on the date of cancellation as follows:

Cancellation Notice Received Prior to Group Arrival Date in Japan	Cancellation Charges Per Person
22 days or before	NO CHARGE
21 to 15 days	30% of total ground cost
14 to 8 days	50% of total ground cost
7 to 4 days	75% of total ground cost
3 to 1 day	100% of total ground cost
No show or on and after	100% of total ground cost

Cancellation notice must be received during business hours: 9:45am - 5:45pm, Monday to Friday based on Japan Standard Time.

TOUR INFORMATION

MONEY: Currency used in Japan is the "YEN". It is very important that you purchase your Yen before tour departure. The rate is much favorable in USA than in Japan. How much to bring depends on each individuals spending.

- If you have left over Yen and want to change it back to US Dollars; you can exchange this at the Bank at the Airport on your departure day. The rate is much favorable in Japan than in USA.
- Credit cards may be used when you do purchases at department stores, most restaurants or when you pay your hotel incidentals after checking out of your hotel.

ELECTRICITY

- In Japan, 100-volt outlet is dominant. If you plan to use electrical items, you may need to bring a converter and adapter. Note: For most digital cameras (made in Japan), the chargers automatically change to Japan's 100 volt outlet (check back of charger).

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- You will need your PASSPORT & air confirmation or boarding pass to check-in at the airport and as your I.D. throughout the tour. A driver's license is not necessary. Without your passport, you will not be able to leave USA.
- For flights to Japan, you may not want to lock your suitcases unless you have a TSA lock or use cable ties/tie straps. The TSA agent will cut your lock, if they have to open your suitcases.
- There are specific rules regarding Liquids on the Plane. Please check current TSA restrictions.
- Do not pack anything that may look like a weapon in your carry-on bag. For example, fingernail clippers, sewing needles, pocket knife, etc. These items can go into your suitcase.
- Leave a copy of your Hotel List and Flight Schedule in your suitcase. Always carry a copy of your Hotel List, passport and some money with you.
- We recommend that you purchase Mineral Water for drinking during your tour in Japan. Tap water is okay for brushing your teeth in all hotels.

[USA KARATE YDP JAPAN EDITION QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 30, 2024

USA KARATE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

JAPAN EDITION

Coordinated by *BCT* - Bobby Chinen Tours

Tour Name: **2025 USA KARATE YDP JAPAN EDITION**

Departure: **March 01, 2025**

TOUR RESERVATION FORM			
NAME IN FULL (Last, First, Middle) As shown in Valid Passport Send copy of Passport; Passport must be VALID within 6 months at date of return	1		
	2		
	3		
ADDRESS			
CONTACT	Home:	Cell:	E-mail:
TRAVEL INFORMATION (put an x mark in the appropriate box)	USA Departure flight information:		
	Japan Arrival flight information:		
	Japan Departure flight information:		
	*Please notify us if you are planning to extend your stay,		
	Return Date:	From:	
ROOM TYPE (Indicate with check mark)	<input type="checkbox"/> Twin Room <input type="checkbox"/> Triple Room		
Room Close-together (Indicate Name)			
MEAL ALLERGY			
TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: PASSPORTS			
<input type="checkbox"/> Have valid passport <input type="checkbox"/> Must apply for "Renewal" or "First Time" (circle)			
(1) Passport No.	Issue Date:	Expire Date:	D.O.B.
(2) Passport No.	Issue Date:	Expire Date:	D.O.B.
(3) Passport No.	Issue Date:	Expire Date:	D.O.B.
AIRLINE MILEAGE NUMBER			
NAME	AIRLINE/MILEAGE NUMBER		
On departure day, members will be responsible to reconfirm their own mileage number with carrier.			
EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION			
Name	Relationship	Phone	

****Please attach a copy of your passport along with the Reservation Form****

Please send in all information AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to:

COACH BARBARA MAILE CHINEN

Email: mchinen@usankf.org

[USA KARATE YDP JAPAN EDITION QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

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