

GENERAL INFORMATION

Airline Carrier

International flights from all over the world land in Japan, most of them arriving in Tokyo.

Airport

Narita International Airport

Narita International Airport is located 60 km to the east of central Tokyo. This airport handles mostly international air traffic and is the arrival point of a majority of foreign visitors.

For further information, please visit <http://www.narita-airport.jp/en/index.html>

Haneda Airport (Tokyo International Airport)

Haneda airport is located close to downtown Tokyo, which saves time for traveling from the airport to the city. This airport was designated to handle Tokyo's domestic air traffic. However, thanks to the completion of a new runway and international terminal building, Haneda will resume handling an increased number of international flights from October 2010.

For further information, please visit <http://www.tokyo-airport-bldg.co.jp/en/>



Car Rental

Cars can be rented in Yokohama from local or International companies. Average cost per day for a medium-size car is JPY 6,000-. Most cars are right-hand drive. Most hotels in Yokohama offer parking space for JPY 2,000-.

Passport and Visa

Every person entering Japan must have a valid passport. In addition, persons coming from certain countries must have a visa issued by Japanese consulate in their own country. Please be aware that in some cases, it takes more than one month to obtain a visa. For details, inquire at your nearest Japanese embassy or consulate.

Insurance

The organizer cannot accept responsibility for accidents that might occur. Participants are encouraged to purchase travel insurance before leaving their home country. Insurance plans typically cover accidental loss of belongings, medical costs in case of injury or illness, and other possible risks of international travel.

Currency exchange

It is recommended to change foreign currency into Japanese Yen upon your arrival at the airport, as we do not have the currency exchange around town. You can exchange money at international hotels upon presentation of your passport, but there is a limitation of currencies such as EUR, USD, GBP, AUD, HKD or so. In addition, you can withdrawal JPY cash from ATM machine in convenience stores like Seven-Eleven.

Japanese notes are: ¥ 10,000.-, ¥5,000.-, ¥2,000.-, ¥1,000.-.

Coins are: ¥500.-, ¥100.-, ¥50.-, ¥10.-, ¥5.-, ¥1.-



Exchange rate (June 2010): EURO 1. = JPY115 / USD 1. = JPY 92

Traveler's Checks and Credit Cards

The use of traveler's checks in Japan is not as popular as in some other countries and they are accepted only by leading banks and major hotels in principal cities. Credit cards like VISA, MasterCard, Diners Club, and American Express are widely accepted at hotels, department stores, shops, restaurants and nightclubs.

Banks

Banks are open from Monday to Friday from 09:00 – 15:00 and you can exchange money at foreign exchange banks, but it's not many. Instead, you can withdrawal JPY cash from ATM machine in convenience stores like Seven-Eleven.

Tipping

There is no custom of tipping in Japan. Instead, at places such as high class restaurants, bars and hotels, a 10% service charge is usually added to your bill.

Electricity

In Japan, 2-flat-pin plugs are used instead of columnar-shaped plugs or 3-pin plugs. The voltage used throughout Japan is uniformly 100 volts, A.C. There are two kinds of frequencies in use; 60 Hertz in western Japan (including Kyoto) and 50 Hertz in eastern Japan. A convertible type of electrical appliances such as a travel iron, hair dryer, and shaver will therefore be handy. Otherwise, a step-down transformer is required to convert the voltage.



Mobile Phones

You can use your mobile phone in Japan in SoftBank Mobile or DOCOMO's 3G (3rd Generation) service area. All you have to do is bring your own SIM card and insert it to a rental phone or your own 3G handset. For more details, please check with your local mobile phone service provider. Rental phone service is also available upon arrival at Narita Airport or Kansai Airport.

Facilities for Disabled Persons

If you require specific facilities, please notify the Congress Secretariat ISW 2011.

Hospitals

Medical systems and facilities in Japan are well established so that you can expect to receive a high standard medical treatment, should you have a problem with your health during your stay. As the medical costs are expensive, participants are encouraged to purchase travel insurance before leaving their home country.

Emergency Contact Numbers

110 Police

In the event that you are involved in a traffic accident or crime related incident, dial 110 immediately and tell the police the details.

119 Fire / Ambulance

In the event of a fire, or if you need an ambulance dial 119 and report what has happened.

Shopping and Eats

Saturday, Sunday and national holidays are the legal holidays in Japan. There is no national holiday during the period of ISW2011. Shops and other sales outlets in Japan are generally open on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays as well as weekdays from 10:00 to 20:00. Most restaurants open from lunch time to 10:00 PM or later everyday.

Time Difference

All of Japan is in the same time zone, 9 hours ahead of G.M.T. No Daylight Saving Time is practiced in Japan.

Climate

In August and September, it is very hot and humid in Yokohama. The highest temperature is over 30 Celsius (86 Fahrenheit), and the lowest temperature is around 24 Celsius (75.2 Fahrenheit). The average precipitation is 150 mm. Light clothes are recommended, and cardigans and other similar kinds may also be handy, since indoor facilities are mostly air-conditioned.

