

Optional Tour on November 7th

Pre-registration is required (<http://justec.tamagawa.ac.jp/2016registration.html>)

We reserved a sight seeing bus and take you to the following sight seeing spots. Student volunteer guides of Ehime University and Matsuyama University will accompany participants throughout the tour. These students are working for us as part of a collaborative project with neighboring universities. For the students, this is a typical task-based lesson, where they learn English while participating in local community service. As English will be the medium of communication, it will be a unique and educational tour for all.

Meeting Time & Place: 13:00 at the main gate of Ehime University
Tour Starts at 13:15

Mt Ishizuchi (at 14:30)

It is the tallest mountain in western Japan (1,982m). People usually climb up the mountain passing through the Omotesando route that starts from the Sanroku Shimodani station in the city of Saijo. The mountain is one of seven sacred mountains in Japan.



Omogokei Gorge (at 15:30)

It is located approximately 60 kilometers from Matsuyama, at the foot of Mt. Ishizuchi, and is roughly 8 kilometers in length. Under a canopy of virgin forest, there is an abundance of fantastically shaped rocks, waterfalls, and ravines with towering cliffs to be enjoyed, and the gorge is designated as one of the most beautiful scenic spots in Japan. Visitors can enjoy hiking around in the colorful autumn leaves.



Iwayaji Temple (at 16:10)

The temple was founded 1,200 years ago (in 815). The principal image of Buddha is the mountain itself (Mt. Ishizuchi). Kobo-Daishi, one of the most famous Buddhist monks, and the temple on the mountain contains an old stone statue of Buddha. There are some other legendary spots such as “Seriwari Zenjo”, or the ascetic training place for Kobo-Daishi, and “Ana-



Zenjo”, or the place where the holy water springs. This is the 45th temple on the 88 Temple Pilgrimage.

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Tobe-yaki Pottery Traditional Industrial Art Museum (at 17:15)

Tobe, a suburb of Matsuyama, is noted throughout Japan as a famous pottery town with a 230-year old history. The museum exhibits historical works and records, and also displays and sells products made by local potteries.



Dogo Onsen hot spring Main Building (at 18:30)

Dogo Onsen, registered as an Important Cultural Property in Japan, has a long history (3,000 years), and is the oldest hot spring in Japan. It was described in a novel "Botchan" by a famous Japanese novelist, Soseki Natsume. The main building, completed in 1894, is the symbol of the Dogo spa resort and is surrounded by hotels and traditional Japanese-style inns

. There is also a shopping arcade, which draws residents and tourists towards the bathhouse. The three-storied timber structure is said to be the inspiration for the gods bathhouse in the film "Spirited Away (Sen to Chihiro no Kamikakushi)" by Hayao Miyazaki. It was also given three stars in the Michelin Guide 2009.

People can truly relax by taking a bath and wearing a cotton yukata, a kimono-style bathrobe, in the spacious bath area or in a private room. People are also allowed to take a look at Yushinden, which is the exclusive bath to the Imperial Family. In 2017, Dogo Onsen will be under construction; thus it will be a great opportunity to experience this nostalgic great Hot Spring this year, 2016.

