Japan & China: Ancient & Modern Connections
With Harvard professors Peter Bol & Andrew Gordon
May 8 - 22, 2017
EXPLORE THE TIES OF TWO ANCIENT EMPIRES

By Peter Bol and Andrew Gordon

China and Japan have been connected for 1500 years through language, religion, trade and the organization of politics and society. The square layout of Chang'an, the great capital of medieval China, became the model for the capitals of Nara and Kyoto. Chinese schools of Buddhism found a welcome in Japan, and a stream of officials, merchants, and monks moved between the two lands. We will visit the great buildings and gardens that commemorate these early exchanges and see for ourselves the many ways in which they are connected still today. In modern times, the cultural and power flows shifted, as modernizing Japan of the late 19th century became a model for—and a threat to—late imperial China. Tokyo and Shanghai will serve as locations to explore these more recent interactions.

Yet for all these strong ties, the two countries have remained distinct; their cultural trajectories have diverged. Japan maintained a single unbroken imperial line while the government changed; Chinese history was broken by dynastic change and foreign invasion. In daily life, nowhere is the difference more evident in a way we can appreciate than in the cuisines of Japan and China, which we intend to sample every day of the trip. This tour is a chance to explore how two great cultures have developed from ancient times into the present. We will learn how and why they have diverged, what they have gained from each other, and how they continue to challenge and compete with each other in peace and war of modern times.

TO BOOK A TRIP, CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL.
May 8–9, Monday–Tuesday

**U.S. / Tokyo**

Depart the U.S. on May 8th for flights to Tokyo Narita International Airport, arriving in Japan on May 9th. Transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is free. (MEALS ALOFT)

**Overnight: Hotel New Otani**

May 10, Wednesday

**Tokyo**

Start your time in Japan with a trip to the Tokyo City View Observatory to take in the breathtaking views from 52 stories high. Visit Kyu-Iwasaki Tei Gardens near Ueno Park, which features elaborate and elegant wooden buildings that were once the home of Hisaya Iwasaki, the third president of Mitsubishi. Explore the nearby Shitamachi area of Yanesen and experience what’s left of an older version of Tokyo. Walk the festive Ameyoko street with colorful vendors selling clothes, bags, cosmetics, fresh fish, dried food, and spices. Tour the Edo Museum to discover Japan’s rich history and culture of Edo and Tokyo since 1600 A.D.E. The evening is free for independent exploration. (B.L)

**Overnight: Hotel New Otani**

May 11, Thursday

**Tokyo**

An optional visit to the Tsukiji Fish Market is offered in the early morning. It is the biggest wholesale seafood market in the world with more than 400 varieties of seafood from around the globe! Nezu Museum has the finest collection of Japanese art, including the famed 17th-century screen painting of Irises by Ogata Korin. Visit the Meiji Jingu Shrine, a Shinto shrine dedicated to the great-grandparents of the emperor. Walk the fashionable Omotesando and Aoyama Streets to soak in modern Japanese culture. If time allows, stop by Yasukuni Shrine. Tonight, enjoy a welcome banquet in Tokyo. (B.L.D)

**Overnight: Hotel New Otani**

May 12, Friday

**Tokyo/Nagoya/Miho Museum/Kyoto**

After breakfast, head to Tokyo Station, one of the world’s busiest railway stations. Take the train to Nagoya Station and transfer by private coach to Meiji mura. Explore this open-air museum located on the hillside facing Lake Iruka. Take a coach ride to the elegant Miho Museum. Skillfully designed by IM Pei, the museum harmonizes with the lush natural surroundings of the valley. Continue to Kyoto. The rest of the day is free for your own exploration. (B.L)

**Overnight: Hyatt Regency Kyoto**

May 13, Saturday

**Kyoto**

After breakfast, tour Kinkakuji, the elegantly landscaped temple completely gilded in gold leaf. Visit the famous Ryoanji Temple with serene rock gardens. Meet with the American Buddhist priest and scholar, Tom Kirchner at Tenryuji Temple. Enjoy a Shojinryori, a delightful vegetarian lunch prepared by the temple staff. Walk the extensive Bamboo Grove behind the temple, which will transport you into a world of lush green. Nearby is Okochi Sanso, a sprawling garden and teahouse. Explore the historic entertainment district of Gion, Kyoto’s most famous geisha district. In the evening enjoy dinner at the Sodoh Higashiyyama. (B.L.D)

**Overnight: Hyatt Regency Kyoto**

May 14, Sunday

**Nara Day Trip**

Take a short ride to Nara, the ancient capital designed after the city of Xi’an, China. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site Todaiji Temple, the largest wooden structure in the world. You will also see Kasuga Grand Shrine, a beautiful Shinto shrine of vermillion-colored pillars and an astounding 3,000 stone and bronze lanterns. Horyuji Temple awaits as one of Japan’s most significant gems of historic architecture including the Gallery of Temple Treasures. Stroll through Nara Deer Park where hundreds of deer roam free and will bow politely for treats. Return to Kyoto in the late afternoon. Enjoy a special Japanese Kaiseki dinner. (B.L.D)

**Overnight: Hyatt Regency Kyoto**

May 15, Monday

**Kyoto/Osaka/Shanghai**

After breakfast, transfer by private coach to Osaka for your flight to Shanghai. Visit the Shanghai Urban Planning Museum that features the old and new Shanghai with beautiful models, maps, and 3D movie. Walk along the historic Bund, famous for its vintage colonial buildings of the 1920s and 1930s. The evening is free for independent exploration. (B)

**Overnight: Portman Ritz-Carlton**

May 16, Tuesday

**Shanghai/Suzhou**

View the Shanghai Museum with its wonderful collection of Chinese antiquities. Drive to Suzhou for lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, visit the Humble Administrator’s Garden, with countless pavilions surrounding the tranquil lakes and greenery. Stop by I.M. Pei’s exquisite museum. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. Enjoy the rest of the evening free for independent exploration. (B.L.D)

**Overnight: Hyatt Regency Shanghai**

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Pei’s Suzhou Museum, a building that is a blend of classical Suzhou architecture with contemporary styles. See Hanshan Temple, with a grand prayer hall, sutra library, and beautiful views of Suzhou. In the evening, enjoy Suzhou cuisine at Songhelou Restaurant. After dinner, attend a classical music show at Master of Fishing Nets. (B.L.D)

Overnight: Tonino Lamborghini

MAY 17, WEDNESDAY
SUZHOU/BEIJING/CHENGDE
In the morning fly from Shanghai to Beijing. Upon arrival, drive through the rugged northern countryside to Chengde. Check into the boutique hotel bordering the Imperial Summer Resort. (B.L.D)

Overnight: Qiwanglou Hotel

MAY 18, THURSDAY
SUZHOU/BEIJING/CHENGDE
Spend the morning at the Qing emperor’s Summer Resort. Stroll to the Lake Area, divided into nine lakes defined by dikes and willow-lined paths. Take a ride to Puning Temple, based on the design of the Sanye monastery in Tibet. Visit the nearby Pule Temple with its beautiful circular design reminiscent of the Temple of Heaven in Beijing. Explore Putou Zongcheng, a massive complex modeled on Lhasa’s Potola Palace. (B.L.D)

Overnight: Qiwanglou Hotel

MAY 19, FRIDAY
GREAT WALL JINSHANLING/BEIJING
In the morning, drive to the Great Wall of China at Jinshanling. As the most beautiful and best-preserved stretch of the wall, Jinshanling has been impacted the least by tourists and is most preferred by photographers. Ride the cable car up and take in the stunning views as you hike atop the wall. Enjoy a picnic lunch at the wall before driving to Beijing. (B.L)

Overnight: Raffles Hotel Beijing

MAY 20, SATURDAY
BEIJING
Tour Yonghegong Lamasery Temple, known for its authentic Chinese and Tibetan architecture. Explore the nearby Guozijian Confucian Temple where the imperial exams were held during the Qing dynasty. Tour the picturesque Houhai district by pedicabs for a closer and more engaging experience of traditional Chinese life. Enjoy lunch with a local family in their home. Visit the National Museum by Tiananmen Square. (B.L.D)

Overnight: Raffles Hotel Beijing

MAY 21, SUNDAY
BEIJING
Enter the gate of the Forbidden City, the abiding symbol of Imperial China. Enjoy a delicious lunch at Huajiaiyuan Restaurant. Visit the 798 Dashanzi Art District. This renovated factory area is known as the “Soho” of Beijing. Enjoy our farewell banquet at the luxurious Duck de Chine featuring fine cuisine and the famous Peking duck. (B.L.D)

Overnight: Raffles Hotel Beijing

MAY 22, MONDAY
BEIJING/U.S.
Depart China for your flight home. Arrive in the U.S. on the same day. Extension tours start today. (B, meals aloft)

PRICING: MAIN TOUR
Not including international airfare
Per person, double occupancy: $9,695
Single supplement: $3,195

HIGHLIGHTS
• Travel with Harvard study leaders who will offer in-depth lectures on the heritage of China and Japan.
• Visit the Meiji Jingu Shrine in Tokyo, known as the spiritual oasis of the capital.
• Tour the Edo Museum to discover Japan’s rich history.
• Explore the lovely Nezu Museum and garden with the famed 17th century screen paintings by Ogata Korin.
• Wander in Kyoto’s historic Gion district famous for geishas and traditional Japanese architecture.
• Meet with a local scholar for a private tour of Tenryuji Temple and an introduction to Zen Buddhism.
• Visit the ancient capital Nara with one of the oldest and most grand Japanese Buddhist temples.
• Stroll Shanghai’s historic Bund lined with rich colonial art deco buildings from the 1920s and 1930s.
• Explore the exquisite Suzhou gardens and grand canal.
• Visit the Qing Emperor’s massive Imperial Summer Resort in Chengde.
• Take a cable car to Jinshanling, a rugged section of the Great Wall.
Andrew Gordon is the Lee and Juliet Folger Fund Professor of History at Harvard. His teaching and research focus primarily on modern Japan. He has also taught Japan’s pre-modern history and courses on comparative history of labor. He has written, edited, or translated numerous books and has published articles in journals in the United States, Japan, Great Britain, France, and Germany. His most recent book publication is *Fabricating Consumers: The Sewing Machine in Modern Japan* (University of California Press, 2011), on the emergence of the modern consumer in Japan, using the sewing machine as a window to that story. It has been translated into Japanese and published by Misuzu Shobo in 2013. He is currently working on the contemporary history of Japan’s “lost decades,” 1990s through present, in a longer, historical context.

Peter K. Bol is the Vice Provost for Advances in Learning and the Charles H. Carswell Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations. Together with William Kirby he teaches ChinaX (SW12x) course, one of the HarvardX courses. His research is centered on the history of China’s cultural elites at the national and local levels from the 7th to the 17th century. He led Harvard’s university-wide effort to establish support for geospatial analysis in teaching and research; in 2005 he was named the first director of the Center for Geographic Analysis. He also directs the China Historical Geographic Information Systems project, a collaboration between Harvard and Fudan University in Shanghai to create a GIS for 2,000 years of Chinese history. In a collaboration between Harvard, Academia Sinica, and Peking University he directs the China Biographical Database project, an outline relational database currently of 380,000 historical figures that is being expanded to include all biographical data in China’s historical record over the last 2,000 years.

**OPTIONAL EXTENSION TOURS**

**POST-TOUR: GUILIN & LONGSHENG RICE TERRACES**
MAY 22 – 26
Activity Level: Active
Explore the sublime scenery of Guilin, Longsheng, and the famous Li River. Known for rice terraces cut into precipitous hills since the Yuan dynasty, Longsheng’s beauty is awe-inspiring. Take in the spectacular karst limestone formations of Guilin, vertical mountains thrust up from the seabed some 300 million years ago.

*Price:* $2,795 per person, double occupancy; $1,195 for single supplement

**POST-TOUR: THE MAGNIFICENT HUANG MOUNTAINS**
MAY 22 – 26
Activity Level: Active
This extension focuses on Anhui Province and its idyllic landscape of rice paddies, Ming and Qing dynasty villages, and old town centers. Discover traditional Anhui life, regional architecture and museums, and the crown jewels of the region, the Huang Mountains.

*Price:* $2,295 per person, double occupancy; $1,095 for single supplement

**HARVARD STUDY LEADERS**

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GENERAL INFORMATION

TOUR COST INCLUSIONS: Double occupancy accommodations in centrally located, first-class hotels; all meals listed in the itinerary; round-trip airfare to and from Boston; ground transportation in Japan; Japanese sightseeing; all sightseeing, entertainment, and cultural activities listed in the itinerary; all air and ground transportation; shared coach transportation in Japan; Chinese airfare taxes; English-speaking local tour guides; China Advocates' national tour director; $200,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance; gratuities to local guides, local guides, and drivers; preparatory materials.

TOUR COST EXCLUSIONS: Domestic U.S. and international airfare; Local departure air/airport tax(es); Airport transfers and porterage; Airport facility and security taxes and federal inspection fees not listed in the “inclusions” section; Personal expenses; gratuities on extension tours; visa processing; meals not listed in the itinerary; excess baggage charges; travel insurance; liquor and other items of a personal nature.

PROGRAM SIZE: This tour, exclusively developed for Harvard Alumni Travels, is limited to 36 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. The maximum group size is 20. Should the minimum not be met, we reserve the right to cancel the program, levy a small group surcharge, and/or send the program without a Harvard study leader. We retain the right to add staff members and/or invited guests to any of our group departures regardless of the stated group-size limitation.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, & FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this program, a $1,000 deposit is required per person. Please call Harvard Alumni Travels at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806 or fill out and mail or fax the registration form found at www.harvardalumni.com/travel. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Deposit may be made on a credit or check. Payment must be made by check or credit card, is due is February 7, 2017, 90 days prior to departure. Payment terms will be sent to you with your reservation confirmation from our partner tour operator.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations must be made in writing to the Harvard Alumni Association. Cancellation penalties based on the date of receipt of written notice are as follows: 91 or more days prior to departure, no refund is made. 61–90 days prior to departure, $500 per person is retained; 45–60 days prior to departure, $1,000 per person; 30–44 days prior to departure, $2,500 per person; 0–39 days prior to departure, no refund is made.

INSURANCE: We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance to cover unexpected trip interruptions, cancellations, and lost baggage. An additional $1,000 per person is required per person and will be provided by Harvard Alumni Travels upon confirmation. The pre-existing medical conditions exclusion is waived if the insurance is purchased within 30 days of the initial date of first scheduled trip. Cancellations or changes must be submitted in writing. Cancellations or changes made after the initial date of first scheduled trip will be subject to the terms and conditions stated above. Cancellation insurance will not be offered if the trip was purchased less than 30 days prior to departure.

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