



**WABI SABI MOE**

**DISCOVERING JAPANESE**

**CALLIGRAPHIC CULTURE**

with **Monica Dengo** and **Satsuki Hatsushima**

**Karatsu, South Japan**



**Monica Dengo** and **Satsuki Hatsushima** are organizing a week long calligraphic event in Karatsu, Kyushu Island, located near Fukuoka, in the South of Japan. The workshop will be an immersion into Japanese calligraphic and design culture.

**Each day students will take tours with Monica and Satsuki.** We will attend a day long paper making workshop in a traditional paper making shop; visit a Kuzu factory, be guests at Satsuki's home which is an authentic handcrafted rural Japanese house, with a thatched roof made of grass, wood and soil; attend a tea ceremony; visit Sennyoji Temple; take the train to Tenjin, in the heart of Fukuoka, to experience city life; visit ink and paper shops as well as department stores to look at packaging design and much more. Every day we'll have some time to spend in class, either in the late afternoon or evening. Each student will make a sketchbook and Monica will guide them to include in it all the elements of this unique experience, with a particular attention dedicated to the subtle beauty of wabi sabi moe (Wabi sabi= aesthetic sense in Japanese art emphasizing quiet simplicity and subdued refinement, Moe= sprouting). Satsuki will give short presentations of Japanese culture and concepts relevant to our calligraphic interest.



Arrival date: **May 29, 2016**

Departure date: **June 6, 2016**

**Location:**

We will be based at Niji no matsubara Hotel in Karatsu, Southern Japan, by the beach. For info about Karatsu: (<http://www.karatsu-kankou.jp/english.html>)

**Costs:**

The total cost will be ¥210.820.

It includes a single room at the hotel for 8 days, breakfasts, lunches and dinners (except for one dinner on the free afternoon), the workshop in class with Monica and Satsuki. Included are also bus transportations to Itoshima, where Satsuki's traditional Japanese home is located and the Sennyoji Temple, Tenjin neighborhood in Fukuoka, Akizuki village and washi paper making workshop at Inowe Washi shop, a tea ceremony, the Palea spa.

Most materials will be available in class and included in the cost, as well.

Maximum number of participants: 18.

During the week we will take half-day or full-day tours every day, except for wednesday (full day in class with Monica and Satsuki). The classroom will be open 24 hours, so students can go at any time.

**Other things to know:**

The hotel has both Western and traditional style bedrooms. The hotel costs included in the fee are for single rooms with bathroom. Traditional style, tatami bedrooms are only available for three people, so if three students want to sleep together, they can choose the traditional bedroom.

**Meals:**

Once we have the final list of participants, we'll send a questionnaire to make sure we have all the info regarding diets or food allergies. Most dinners will be at the hotel, where we have planned a different Japanese meal every night, in case students prefer a non-Japanese meal, that is also possible.



### **Spa:**

Japanese spas are a very special tradition in Japan. We have planned to go to one of them on the last day. Normally people with tattoos are not allowed, but since we are a group they said we can all go. This means going all together (male and female separately), naked, to a public hot bath. In case some students prefer not to have this experience, we'll make sure to provide an alternative.

### **Flying to Japan and arriving at Karatsu:**

You should arrive at Fukuoka airport, then take a train from FUKUOKA Airport to HIGASHI KARATSU station (0955-77-2788). It takes 90 minutes and costs 1.070 yen. There you will meet one of us organizers with a shuttle bus to reach the hotel for the welcome dinner. Of course we will ask you to give us your flight info, to make a plan for arrivals.

### **Deposit and registration:**

First contact me at [ciao@monicadengo.com](mailto:ciao@monicadengo.com) to know if there are spaces available. A deposit of ¥35.000 is due by November 10, 2015.

### **To see some images of the places we'll visit:**

<https://flic.kr/s/aHskftKB3d>

For more information and subscription, contact:

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