

Craftsmanship skills that continues to be passed down to the present day.

Kyoto lacquer ware and lacquer craftsman Tour

A tour to feel and experience the beauty of the traditional industries in Kyoto

Program content

- (1) Explanation of 74 traditional crafts items on display by a professional guide designated by the Kyoto Museum of Crafts and Design.
- (2) Talk by a lacquer craftsman and a lacquer painting demonstration
- (3) Experience the finishing process (sharpening) of Kyoto lacquer ware



Kyoto Museum of Crafts and Design



Historic Kyoto is a city of many traditional industries closely related to the lives of the Japanese people such as kimono, lacquer ware, dolls and Buddhist altar fittings etc. At this museum you could see all such 74 certified traditional industries.

On this tour, you'll be able to admire the artifacts while listening to the commentary by the museum's expert guides.

Photography is allowed here and it's popular with foreign guests. At the museum shop you can buy craft souvenirs too.



Explanation by a Lacquer Craftsman



"The World of Lacquer"

Kyoto lacquer ware craftsmen are invited to the Museum to talk about lacquer

Kyoto lacquer ware became popular in Kyoto culture through tea ceremony, Kyoto cuisine etc.

The production process is divided among few craftsmen. Lacquer artisans are an important part of the process.

From collecting lacquer from trees to refining, making the paint and the special tools made for painting, you can listen to many profound stories of the trade from veterans artisans. You can also see demonstrations of their delicate work.



Lacquer experience program

You will be able to experience hands-on the final process of Kyoto lacquer ware making called "shiage" (polishing), "togi" (grinding).

Experience the delicate process of creating the deep gloss (tsuya), the charm of lacquer ware.

You can take your finished piece of lacquer ware home as a souvenir.

Variety of other lacquer-related experience programs are available to suit your budget.



After the program, you are free to enjoy the crafts on display.

After completing the program, visitors are free to tour the Kyoto Museum of Traditional Industries. You may also enjoy shopping for souvenirs at the museum store.



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What is Kyoto Workshop concierge?



Kyoto Workshop Concierge is a traditional industry experience program organized by the Kyoto Museum of Crafts and Design.

In Kyoto, also a popular city of manufacturing, you can apply for workshop tours of traditional industries, interact with craftsmen and experience craft making etc. through a dedicated website.



Takagi shikkou

Learn the traditional decorating technique of Kyoto lacquer ware with gold and silver powder and try your hand at making your own original confectionary plate.

Making your own original confectionary plate.

From 14,000yen (Including Tax)

detail ⇒



Kyo kinpaku oshi Tokowaka

In this experience, you will be making your own paperweight by pasting gold leaf onto various shaped pebbles using the efficiency of lacquer as an adhesive.

Pasting gold leaf using cashew as an adhesive etc. are also available.

Gold Leaf Stamping Experience(Includes glass bottle with gold leaf)

From 4,000yen (Including Tax)

detail ⇒



Tsutsumi Asakichi Urushi Shop

At this workshop, new lacquer varieties are developed to meet the needs of the times while preserving traditional techniques.

You can observe how the lacquer raw materials are refined and also a demonstration by a lacquer craftsman.

You will be presented with a "Tableware lacquer kit" for you to try your hand at home.

Tour of lacquer refining workshop and Fuki lacquer classroom (Includes Fuki lacquer set)

(Applying lacquer and wiping off excess lacquer multiple times is known as Fuki lacquer technique)

From 12,000yen (Including Tax)



KYOTO Artisans Concierge

<https://www.kyotoartisans.jp/en/>

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