

## WTIS-15

### Excursion on Wednesday, 2 December 2015

#### Visit to Miyajima and Itsukushima Shrine (listed as World Cultural Heritage site)

##### Miyajima

Since ancient times, the island of Miyajima has been revered and worshipped. Itsukushima shrine was originally constructed by worshippers in 593 and later restored to its current splendour by Taira no Kiyomori in 1168. This bold and unique structure sits on the water with the sea spread out in front of it and the virgin forests of Mount Misen, the island's highest peak, forming its backdrop. The historical significance, natural beauty and tranquillity of Miyajima has earned it a place on the World Cultural Heritage List.



##### Otorii Gate

Otorii Gate is the symbol of Miyajima. Constructed from camphor wood, this awesome structure stands 16 metres high with a supporting base 10 metres in circumference. Its base appears as if it has been buried in the ocean floor. However, it actually stands on the ocean bottom supported by its own weight. The gate is situated 200 metres from the shrine and at low tide, visitors are able to walk out and stand beside it.



##### Itsukushima Shrine

Itsukushima Shrine was constructed a little more than 1,400 years ago using the Shinden style of architecture, symbolic of the type of construction used for the residences of the noble classes. It seems as if it is floating on the sea. Visitors get the sensation of being on a boat. The beauty of the Otorii Gate and Itsukushima Shrine are illuminated from dusk until 11 p.m.

For further information on “Places of Interests in Hiroshima”, please refer to the following websites:

Website	Title	URL
Hiroshima Navigator	Transportation in Hiroshima City	<a href="http://www.hiroshima-navi.or.jp/en/transportation/">http://www.hiroshima-navi.or.jp/en/transportation/</a>
	Two World Heritage Sites	<a href="http://www.hiroshima-navi.or.jp/en/worldheritage/">http://www.hiroshima-navi.or.jp/en/worldheritage/</a>
YouTube	Hiroshima the Convention City	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IskIoN1RCsY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IskIoN1RCsY</a>
Hiroshima Peace Site	Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum	<a href="http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/index_e2.html">http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/index_e2.html</a>
Miyajima Tourist Association	Welcome to Miyajima	<a href="http://visit-miyajima-japan.com/en/">http://visit-miyajima-japan.com/en/</a>
Tourism Promotion Office	Visit Hiroshima	<a href="http://www.visithiroshima.net/">http://www.visithiroshima.net/</a>
Optional Tours	Hiroshima Optional Tours	<a href="http://www.hiroshimatours.info/">http://www.hiroshimatours.info/</a>