

RUF Japan Mission Trip 2023

March 11th - 19th

General

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) Hawaii is planning a mission trip to Tokyo, Japan to visit RUF-Global Japan at Waseda University. Jeffrey Saunders, the Campus Minister at Tokyo, started this new work three years ago. This relatively young group consists of majority non-Christian students and are suspicious toward Christianity. Simultaneously, many of these students go to RUF in Japan because of the cultural exchange aspect. Therefore, they are eager to practice English and learn about our group in Hawai'i. This provides an avenue for intentional gospel conversations and sparks curiosity about Christianity.

Why Japan?

Japan is the second largest unreached people group in the world with 0.5 percent of the population identifying as evangelical Christians. Therefore, the need is tremendous for people to go to Japan and spread the gospel. Thankfully, we have a missionary in Japan who is doing the hard work on the ground level. RUF Japan is asking for our help to cultivate their group. A sense of community and trust is important for Japanese people. So we are there to get them excited about the community that they are in and to have intentional conversations that will hopefully spark interest in Christianity.

Rough Itinerary		
Day	Time	Activity
3/11 Sat	7:00am	Meet at HNL Airport
	9:00am	Depart HNL to Narita Airport (Tokyo) ZIPAIR 1
3/12 Sun	1:15pm	Arrive at Narita Airport
3/13 Mon		Travel to Nagano
3/14 Tue		Snowboard, Onsen, Games at Lodge
3/15 Wed		Travel back to Tokyo
3/16 Thu		Tour Tokyo, spend time with students (meals, karaoke, shopping)
3/17 Fri		Tour Tokyo, spend time with students (meals, karaoke, shopping)
3/18 Sat		House gathering with students

3/19 Sun		Go to church with students
	7:05pm	Depart NRT to HNL ZIPAIR 2
	7:00am	Arrive in HNL (travel back in time)

“This sounds like a vacation”

This would undoubtedly be one of the remarks you will get from family, friends and the church. Yes, the itinerary does have snowboarding in the Nagano mountains, and exploration of Tokyo. These are exciting activities but having fun and developing relationships with the students at RUF Japan is essential to open up deeper conversations with Japanese people. In America, randomly talking to people about Christianity is awkward and strange. Even more so Japan is shut off towards Christianity conversations from strangers but developing relationships and curiosity will open those doors.

Financial Information		
Item	Cost	Note
Flight Round Trip	\$932 (on 12/28)	The cheapest option from Hawaii to Japan. A low cost carrier with limited amenities. The attendee is in charge of buying their own ticket
Lodging in Nagano	\$110	
Lift tickets/clothes/equipment	\$200	Snowboarding in Nagano
Transportation to/from lodging	\$125	
Meals in Nagano	\$60	
Lodging in Tokyo	\$100	Possibly free
Meals in Tokyo	\$100	
Entertainment w/students	\$100	Karaoke and fun
Total	\$1727	I would raise between \$1727 - \$2000