



David Weber <weberdavid@gmail.com>

Visit to Japan without Capello, Götz or Matze

Hirokazu Sugiyama <sugiyama@chemsys.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp>

Thu, Sep 22, 2016 at 5:36 AM

To: David Weber <david.weber@aksamit.ch>

Dear David,

November is actually a very comfortable season to travel around cities like Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima, etc. Kyoto might be more crowded than one would think, because of the autumn beauty of the trees in temples and shrines, but it should be feasible. However, your idea to climb up Mt. Fuji would be difficult because I guess they close the paths already in October. Regarding accommodation in Tokyo, I would recommend areas on the line of Yamanote (circle line), such as Shinjuku, Shinagawa or Ueno, which is easy to reach places worth visiting. I heard that airbnb in Tokyo works well - an ETH student who visited me in July used the site, and he was really happy. Regarding the travel from e.g. Hiroshima to Tokyo, I would take Shinkansen train, because it is more flexible and comfortable under the similar price.

May I connect you with Gioele, my Swiss PhD student? He has also a very good insight on hotels, food and the life (incl. night life) in Tokyo.

Regards,

Hiro

From: weberdavid@gmail.com [<mailto:weberdavid@gmail.com>] On Behalf Of David Weber

Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 5:59 PM

To: Hirokazu Sugiyama <sugiyama@chemsys.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp>

Subject: Re: Visit to Japan without Capello, Götz or Matze

... I forgot to say:

I also thought of visiting Mount Fuji on the way from or to Tokyo.

What do you think about that?

Cheers,

David

On Wed, Sep 21, 2016 at 10:56 AM, David Weber <<mailto:david.weber@aksamit.ch>> wrote:

Hi Hiro

Thank you for your immediate answer!

It might indeed be a very good idea to acclimatise first in Tokyo where you can give me some hints about the dos and don'ts ;)

Thus, I have to organise an accommodation for the first days in Tokyo and leave the rest after the conference open. I think I have enough time then in Japan to plan the further trip and organise appropriate accommodations in Kyoto and elsewhere since November is not the high season for travelers, right? If I would go as far as Hiroshima after the conference, would you recommend to take the train back all to Tokyo or to take a domestic flight?

I will let you know when I definitely have decided on my flight schedule but I will probably arrive in Tokyo on the 10th or 11th of November.

Could you recommend me any accommodation or at least an area in Tokyo where I could stay? I do not have very high standards since I am used to travel as a backpacker but for Tokyo I sure would like to have my own room with own bath ;) How is it with <http://airbnb.com> in Japan? I had very good experience with Airbnb in several European cities.

Cheers,

David

On Wed, Sep 21, 2016 at 1:45 AM, Hirokazu Sugiyama <<mailto:sugiyama@chemsys.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp>> wrote:

Dear David,

Thank you very much for the wonderful e-mail. Of course I remember you! Maybe you might have heard from Matze that I left Switzerland in 2013, and have been working in the University of Tokyo since then. My research topic is something similar to what Konrad was doing (process design) but strongly focused on pharmaceutical manufacturing. I still maintain a good connection with Switzerland , and my first PhD student is a Swiss guy ☺

It is great that you are coming to Japan. I am glad to support your trip! Answering the second question first, I will of course take time to have beer with you in Tokyo. The thing is, I will be in San Francisco during your conference week (KW 46), and in Zurich in the week afterwards (KW 47), I know which is a crazy trip. So, one option would be to meet up in the week before, e.g., 10th or 11th November. I can introduce the university and maybe the area around.

For your first question, and if the proposal above suits you, here is a model plan:

- 1) Fly into Tokyo, stay a couple of days to adjust the jet lag, and learn how things work in Japan
- 2) Move to Gifu and attend the conference
- 3) Travel around in Kyoto (you should not miss), Kobe (famous for Kobe-beef), or even to Hiroshima
- 4) Fly back from Osaka, Nagoya or from Tokyo

Regarding the flight, Tokyo offers many kinds of airlines, including direct flight to Zurich with Swiss. Osaka and Nagoya have also connections to Europe, but mostly Lufthansa to Germany. I guess the easiest would be to fly with Swiss between Zurich and Tokyo, and to take the bullet train (Shinkansen) inside Japan.

I hope it was informative enough for this stage – please come back to me anytime if you have any questions. I will ask Gioele, my first PhD student, for any suggestions.

Best regards,
Hiro

From: <mailto:weberdavid@gmail.com> [<mailto:mailto:weberdavid@gmail.com>] On Behalf Of David Weber

Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 9:12 PM

To: <mailto:sugiyama@chemsys.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp>

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