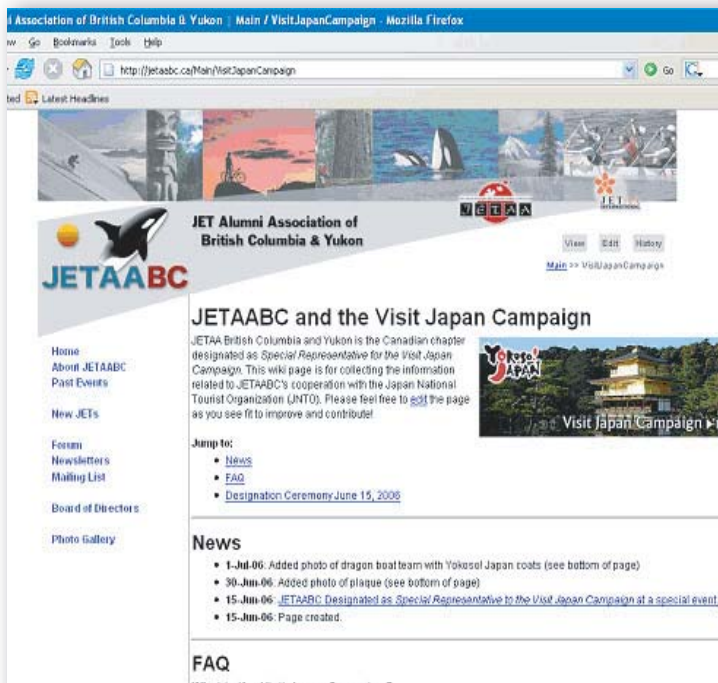


THE VISIT JAPAN CAMPAIGN IN VANCOUVER

In conjunction to the launch of the Visit Japan Campaign (VJC) in Canada last year, the Conference of VJC Promotion Committee and ‘Yokoso!Japan’ showcase were held in Vancouver on June 15, 2006.



The objective of the Conference is to create awareness of VJC and request promotional support from the Canadian travel industry on the west coast. Under the direction of the President of VJC Promotion Committee in Vancouver, Consul General Toshiyuki Taga, all the participants from the Japanese Government organizations, airlines, tour operators and the Japan and Canada Exchange Program organizations had contributed their valuable ideas in the tourism promotion.

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In the same evening, the Showcase was hosted by Mr. Ryuhei Maeda, Assistant Vice Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport. The objective is to create an opportunity for the Japan travel suppliers to showcase their products to the outbound travel organizations on the west coast of Canada. At the same time, this occasion was utilized to encourage and reinforce the promotional activities of outbound travel to Japan. A special ceremony was held to appoint the JETAABC British Columbia and Yukon to be the Special Representative to the Visit Japan Campaign in Canada. For more information, please access <http://jetaabc.ca/Main/VisitJapanCampaign>. From now on, the Japan National Tourist Organization looks forward to working with the JET alumni and welcome more chapters to join the VJC promotion team.



Please submit your comments and suggestions to the Editor, Athena Ho, at athena@jntoxyz.com.

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CALENDAR of EVENTS & FESTIVALS

Festivals are going on somewhere in Japan almost every day. If travelers can fit one into their itinerary, it will become one of the unforgettable and happy memories that they can bring home. Here are a few examples from the Annual Events in Japan:

www.jnto.go.jp/eng/RTG/PTG/pdf/pg-805.pdf

October

10

8-10th

Naha Festival and Giant Tug-of-War, Naha City Okinawa

www.ocvb.or.jp

9th & 10th

Takayama Matsuri of Hachiman Shrine, Takayama

www.hida.jp

17th

Autumn Festival of Toshogu Shrine, Nikko, Tochigi Prefecture

www.nikko-jp.org/english

22nd

Jidai Matsuri or Festival of Eras, Heian Shrine, Kyoto

www.kyotojoho.co.jp/english

22nd

Fire Festival of Yuki Shrine, Kurama, Kyoto

www.kyotojoho.co.jp/english



November

11

3rd

Daimyo Gyoretsu or Samurai Procession in Hakone, Kanagawa Prefecture

www.jnto.go.jp/eng/indepth/history/traditionalevents/a60_fes_hakone.html

2nd-4th

Okunchi Festival of Karatsu Shrine, Karatsu, Saga Prefecture

www.pref.saga.lg.jp/at-contents/gaikoku/english/eibun/ekankou/ekankou.html

15th

Shichi-go-san or Children's Shrine Visiting Day in Japan

Shichi-go-san means 'seven-five-three'. The traditional custom is that children of these ages are dressed in their best kimono and go to shrines with their parents to pray for future blessings and express their thanks to the gods for good health

http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/indepth/history/traditionalevents/a69c_fes_shichi.html

Narita Airport Opens Revamped South Wing at Terminal 1

***Airlines Change Locations; Now Grouped by Alliance
Easier Flight Connections, Larger Duty-Free Shopping Area
More Comfortable Traveling Environment***

Narita International Airport opened a sparkingly refurbished South Wing at Terminal 1. With this new wing, Japan's main international gateway now has the largest floor space of any terminal in Japan, 440,000 square meters, which is 2.4 times its 1995 size – when renovations began.

As part of the refurbishment, Narita Airport Authority (NAA) has rearranged the airlines that use the terminal according to their airline alliance groupings to make flight connections easier. NAA President Masahiko Kurono, proudly announced, "Narita will be the world's first airport to allocate each of the three largest airline coalitions – Star Alliance, Oneworld, and Sky Team – to distinct terminals."

Already, ten Star Alliance carriers, including Air Canada, All Nippon Airways, United Airlines, and Lufthansa, have moved to the upgraded South Wing. Terminal 1's North Wing will mainly house Sky Team members, including Northwest Airlines and Air France (Continental and Delta, also Sky Teamers, will move to Terminal 1 North in spring 2007). Terminal 2 will mainly serve the Oneworld alliance, including British Airways and American Airlines (moving there in winter 2006).

Qantas and Japan Airlines are already located in Terminal 2, but JAL will officially join Oneworld in 2007 (www.oneworld.com/pressroom/releases/details.cfm?ObjectID=7492). Non-Alliance member airlines, such as Air Japan and Air Nippon will find space in the new South Wing.

Kurono explained that the "move under one roof policy" of putting carriers of the same alliance in one terminal, is much easier for passengers on code-shared flights." Now Star Alliance transit passengers can get from one

international flight to another in 45 minutes, compared to 110 minutes, in the past. In fact, with the new terminal arrangement only 2.5% of code-shared flights will involve moving passengers between terminals.

The new Number 5 Satellite (Airplane parking slot) at Terminal 1 is also facilitating connections. It features boarding areas for domestic flights, allowing for smoother transit between international and domestic routes. Minimum connection times from domestic to international flights have been cut to 60 minutes from 110 and reverse connections from international to domestic flights have been cut to 75 minutes from 130!

The NAA invested \$600 million in the new South Terminal, and All Nippon Airways invested \$35 million of its own capital, installing 126 automatic check-in machines and new lounges with a total floor space of 6,300 square meters. Now the NAA is funding \$170 million on improvements to the newer Terminal 2, which should be finished by early 2007.

(continues to page 4)



Narita Airport Opens Revamped South Wing at Terminal 1

>> continued from page 3

Handling 26.5 million international passengers, Narita currently ranks eighth in the world in terms of international passenger traffic, and with 2.31 million tons of air freight, it holds second place in international air freight volume (2004 International Civil Aviation Organization figures). The Terminal 1 expansion is expected to ease congestion, as will the new state-of-the-art "in-line security screening system," a combination of an explosive detection system and a conveyor system to speed passengers through security. In this way, passengers can go straight to check-in counters, as baggage is screened AFTER check-in while on a conveyor belt to the plane.

The South Wing's new 3,500 square meter duty-free shopping area, the largest airport duty-free shopping space in Japan, is NAA's effort to make up for the decline in revenue, as a result of the 21% average landing fees reduction as of October 2006. However, travelers certainly can benefit from this shopping mecca, where just the right wrapped last-minute omiyage (gift) can easily be found.

I N F O

The above is from the Narita Airport Press Release.

For more information on the New Terminal 1 South Wing and the rest of the Narita Airport Renovations visit:

- ◆ www.bigchange-naa.jp/en/index.html and
- ◆ www.narita-airport.jp/en/index.html



Update of the Directory of Tour Products from Canada

The JNTO Toronto office would like to thank our marketing partners for providing us replies on the tour information sheets.

We will proceed with the update of the Tour Directory www.jnto.go.jp/canada. In the case that you, as a tour operator, could not find your tour products and company in the directory, please kindly contact us at info@jntooyz.com

For Travel Professionals

If you still have not had a chance to make use of the information on 'For Travel Professionals', we would like to bring your attention to <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/ttp/index.html>

We trust it will provide you with useful information for your tour product planning.

