



Applications are now open for the 2014 Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar in Japan!

2014 Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar in Japan

We are offering eligible participants the opportunity to visit Japan

In order to promote a better understanding of Japanese local governments and culture, the Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar aims to bring together people from Japan, Australia and New Zealand who are working at local governments and related organisations by exchanging information regarding current issues of local governments.

General information about this year's seminar was included in our [last newsletter](#) issue and is also available on our [website](#). In this special issue, we would like to tell you more about this programme's purpose and Sakaide City, which is this year's host local government.

Seminar details:

➤ 2014 Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar includes:

- Seminars on Japanese Local Government in **Tokyo** and **Sakaide City** (this year's host local government)
- Tour of national/local government facilities and cultural sites
- Home-stay with Japanese families
- Feedback/Discussion

➤ Seminar Theme:

~Making the Best use of Regional Characteristics~

➤ Schedule

- The seminar will be held from:
Sunday 16 to Wednesday 26 November 2014



➤ Eligible Participants

- Applicants must be local government executives or executives involved in the promotion of local area international exchange and cooperation.
- In addition, applicants from national organisations, research institutes, or other related organisations may be eligible to participate, providing their backgrounds are related to the theme of the Seminar.
- Up to **6 participants** will be accepted from the following countries through CLAIR Sydney: **Australia** and **New Zealand**.

➤ Expenses

- Expenses incurred for the Seminar registration and materials will be borne by CLAIR.
- Any expenses prior to arrival in Japan and after departing from Japan shall be borne by participants
- Expenses incurred during the Seminar period in Japan will be borne by CLAIR.



Application:

To apply, please fill in the [Form](#) and send it to mailbox@jlgc.org.au by **Friday 1 August 2014**.

- For more details of the seminar, please refer to the [Outline](#).
- Please note that there is a limit to the number of participants (6), the outcome of your application will be made available to you by the end of August 2014.

If you have any questions about the Seminar, please feel free to contact us at mailbox@jlgc.org.au or on 02 9241 5033. We look forward to your application.



2013 Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar

About Sakaide City:

Sakaide City would like to show you how they make use of their regional characteristics in manufacturing and agricultural industries and how they work on human resources and community development. They would also like to

discuss about how Australia and New Zealand utilise their rich resources for Tourism purposes.

Since they are also facing a decreasing population, Sakaide would also like to hear your opinions on multicultural societies.

They look forward to talking with you about how to promote tourism and further develop the cities.

Population:

Approximately 53,700 (As of 1 June 2014)

Location:

Sakaide City is located in the north of the Shikoku island. It takes approximately 4 hours by a bullet train and an express train from Tokyo, or approximately 1.5 hours flight from Tokyo to Takamatsu airport (from Takamatsu to Sakaide is about 40 minute drive).

Famous for:

➤ Udon Noodle



Udon noodle is one of the soul food for Japanese people. There are several factories producing Udon in Sakaide, some of

which let visitors make and prepare their own noodles!

➤ Agricultural Products

Kintoki-mikan is one kind of Satsuma-mandarin. They are characterized by their high sugar content and sweetness. They are carefully sorted by their looks, size and sugar content before being shipped. Luckily late November, when the seminar is held, is the best season. You will have the opportunity to pick Kintoki-mikan and to try them! Sakaide is also famous for Kintoki-imo (sweet potato) and Kintoki-ninjin (carrot).

➤ Seto-Ohashi Bridge

Seto-ohashi Bridge connects Honshu Island, the main island of Japan, and Shikoku Island. On the Seto Inland Sea, there are countless beautiful islands which are described as the “Jewels of the World”.



➤ Historical Places

There are many historical places to visit in Sakaide. Recently the Shikoku Pilgrimage, which is a multi-site pilgrimage of 88 temples on Shikoku Island has become very popular. It is said that the Pilgrimage was established in the 17th century and Sakaide has two of the temples.



*Shiromineji-
the 81st temple
of 88 Temple
Pilgrimage-*

Sakaide City plans to provide the seminar participants with a historical and cultural experience as well as visits to the local industrial places.