



Thank you for your interest in Walking Softly Adventures. Below is the schedule of adventures for 2010-2011. Photographs, slide shows, and more information about each trip are on-line at www.walkingsoftly.com. (Our mountain hiking trips are described on-line at www.MountainHikingHolidays.com.) Please call us at 1-888-743-0723 if you would like a detailed itinerary for any trip. You can reserve a spot now on-line or by phone for any of these trips. We look forward to traveling with you!

Amy and John Osaki, and the Walking Softly Team

Walking Softly Adventures: Art, History and Architecture Trips

Japan Art Now! July 21-30, 2010 and June 29 – July 8, 2011

Discover the art that is being made and exhibited right now in Japan! Experience art inspired by the centuries-old culture of this island nation! Follow in the footsteps of Europeans and Americans who for over a century were drawn to the often exotic and alluring art of Japan. 10 days, \$4,895.

Japan: Temples, Gardens, Castles & Villages, October 26 – November 4, 2010

Behind contemporary Japan's facade of modernity lies an alluring, centuries-old culture that's yours to discover! In Kyoto, experience a treasury of temples and gardens. Visit Himeji-jo, the best preserved samurai castle in Japan. Retreat to the mountains to spend a night at traditional Japanese lodgings at Koyasan before exploring Nara, Japan's ancient capital. Enjoy a home-stay in a thatched-roof farmhouse in Shirakawago. From the bustle of modern Nagoya where you'll visit the impressive Tokugawa Museum, take a day trip back in time to walk a portion of the ancient samurai path from Edo (now Tokyo) to Kyoto. 10 days, \$4,895.

San Francisco Art Adventure, December 2-4, 2010

If you can't make it to Paris, come to San Francisco where the masterpieces from the Orsay Museum are on display at the de Young Museum. Works by Van Gogh, Gauguin, Cezanne and Renoir are on a "once-in-a-lifetime" tour. Enjoy three days of exceptional experiences with expert guide, Amy Osaki, focusing on what is new and changing in San Francisco's art world. Visit as many as eight museums, gain new insights into the power of art, and marvel at masterpieces of human creation. 3 days/2 nights. \$895.

Art in Paris, April 2011

Immerse yourself in the art and history of Paris, and feel the heartbeat of one of Europe's great cities! The Louvre and a wealth of other museums—including the Orsay, Picasso, and Rodin Museums—will be "in your backyard." Take your time and explore their vast and exquisite collections. Architectural masterpieces like Notre Dame and Sainte Chapelle are woven into a centuries-old cityscape. Day trips from Paris will let you experience Claude Monet's home at Giverny, the palace of Versailles, and the chateau and gardens at Vaux le Vicomte. Sip a café au lait; stroll down a shaded allée; feel the chic of the Champs Elysées! Paris is a city like no other! Prices and dates TBA.

Silk Road Adventure, September 2011

Since ancient times, the Silk Road was the major trading route between East and West serving as a conduit for the exchange of ideas and technologies. Journey along the eastern portions of this ancient trading route beginning in the city of Xi'an, imperial capital of two Chinese dynasties and often referred to as the eastern terminus of the Silk Road. Other highlights include Jiayuguan (the westernmost portion of the Great Wall of China), the imposing sand dunes of the Gobi Desert at Dunhuang, and the impressive Mogao grottoes filled with statues and paintings spanning a thousand years of Buddhist art. The oasis town of Turpan, the Bezeklik grottoes, the stunningly beautiful alpine lake of Tianchi and the fabled bazaars of Kashgar are also on the menu as is a side trip to Lake Karakul from where you'll see the tallest peaks in the Pamirs and Kunlun mountain systems. Itinerary in development. Prices and dates TBA.

Hiking Trips

Walking Softly's hiking trips are now offered under our "Mountain Hiking Holidays" label. You can access information about our hiking trips at the Mountain Hiking Holidays website at www.MountainHikingHolidays.com.