Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden

School Tour Handbook

Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden

About Us:

Experience the Friendship!

Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden is Lethbridge's symbol of friendship between Japan and Canada, that celebrates the influences of people of Japanese ancestry who narrate the history of this region through garden architecture, the natural environment, and culture.

Students and guardians will be led on a journey of discovery through the educational tours hosted at our acclaimed historical site. Immerse yourself in Southern Alberta's Japanese-Canadian history and delve into the world of traditional Japanese customs and etiquette, all through the engaging hands-on programs brought to you by our incredibly knowledgable staff and volunteers!

School Tour
Summer Details:

- Up to 100 students at a time (split into groups of 25)
- Includes **Admissions** and a **Guided Tour** of the Garden (45 minutes)

Groups reaching over 50 people have the option to opt out of the traditional tour for a **Scavenger Hunt** (45 minutes) activity that encourages exploration of the garden.

- $5 per student
- Admissions/Tours for Chaperones are **FREE**

- $25 for additional cultural activity (30 minutes) for a group of up to 25 students
- $1 per extra student, up to a maximum of 30 students

ALL SCHOOL TOURS MUST BE BOOKED A MINIMUM OF 2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE TO RESERVE A SPOT IN OUR SCHEDULE.

School Tour
Winter Details:

- Up to 100 students at a time (split into groups of 25)
- Includes **Admissions** and a **Guided Tour** of the Bunka (Culture) Centre and exhibits (45 minutes)

Groups reaching over 50 people have the option to opt out of the traditional tour for a **Scavenger Hunt** (45 minutes) activity that explores the Bunka (Culture) Centre.

- $4 per student
- Admissions/Tours for Chaperones are **FREE**

- $25 for additional cultural activity (30 minutes) for a group of up to 25 students
- $1 per extra student, up to a maximum of 30 students

THE GARDEN IS NOT OPEN FOR SCHOOL TOURS DURING THE WINTER SEASON, ALL ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD INDOORS.

School Tour

Educational Details:

Our guided tours are all curriculum-connected!

Suitable for all ages/grades, from Preschool kids all the way to University scholars, our tour reflects on the contributions made by Japanese Canadians towards the rich culture of Southern Alberta.

Grade K-3:

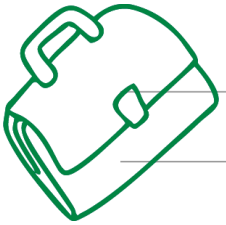
Japanese Imperial family member visits, shapes & symbolism of the Garden elements, community & culture

Grade 4-7:

History of Japanese Canadians in Southern Alberta & the plants at Nikka Yuko

Grade 8:

Japan's Meiji Era (1868-1912) & the West



Grade 9-10:
Citizenship, identity, & the Japanese Canadians

Grade 11-12:
Nationalism in Japan & Canada

Post Secondary Students:
Japanese language

ESL Post Secondary Students:
English translations

We can alter guided tours and some programs to accommodate special needs groups.

Please notify us of any special request at your time of booking, and we will do our best to accommodate your groups needs.

Cultural Activity Add-ons:

Embark on an immersive journey into Japanese culture with our diverse range of authentic cultural activities! Students of all ages will enjoy these hands-on and educational glimpses into Japanese culture. All supplies are included in the price for each activity.

Yukata Dressing Demonstration (Grade 3+):

Yukata dressing demonstrations show your class the history, culture, and significance of these authentic Japanese dresses and calls for a few volunteers. ***ONLY AVAILABLE DURING SUMMER SEASON***

Tea Ceremony Demonstration (All Ages):

Learn about the intricate details of tea ceremony with one of our trained hosts. Tea can be replaced with hand-whisked green hot chocolate instead of matcha green tea, as matcha tea is highly caffeinated and some may find it bitter in taste.

Fan or Lantern Decorating (All Ages):

Be creative and decorate your own sensu (folding fan) or tōrō (lantern).

Origami Lesson (Grade 1+):

Origami is a Japanese art form made with folding paper.

Japanese Phrase Lesson (All Ages):

Learn Japanese phrases like introductions, counting, and more!

Japanese Storytelling (All Ages):

Join our storyteller and mascot, Tomo, to hear Japanese folktales.

History Presentation (Grade 8+):

Presented by a Nisei (2nd generation) guest speaker. Focuses on the history behind Japanese Canadians moving from British Columbia to Alberta in 1944.

Teru Teru Bōzu Making (All Ages):

A Teru Teru Bōzu is a small traditional handmade doll/talisman made of white paper or cloth to ask for fine weather.

Additional Information
Rules & Expectations:

GROUP SIZE

We can accommodate groups of up to 100 students at a time. Large groups will need to be split into smaller groups of 25 students. The recommended student - chaperone ratio is 10:1. All chaperones are expected to stay with their groups at all times and to discipline unruly behavior. If you have more than 50 students, the Scavenger Hunt Program will be offered instead of the guided tours. The Scavenger Hunt Program requires 4-5 chaperones

WEATHER

Guided tours and some cultural activities will be held outside. Teachers are responsible for ensuring that students come with appropriate footwear and proper outerwear. Please note that in extreme weather conditions, programs may need to be modified.

LUNCH

We suggest groups bring a bag lunch if needed. The catering area can be booked prior for $50 for up to 1.5hrs (table/chair set-up services for max 100 people. No drinks included.) Please note that last-minute indoor lunchroom usages might not be accommodated depending on other bookings and staffing for setups. There are also outside grass areas and picnic tables nearby, outside our premises that can be used by the public.

TIMING

Try to arrive 10-15 minutes ahead of your scheduled start time. This will give your group some time to get settled and use the washrooms. If you are going to be extra early, or you will be arriving late, please phone us and let us know. We may be able to work around your new arrival time, but please be aware that our days are often tightly booked. Groups arriving early should expect to wait until their scheduled time to begin their programs.

Plan your Visit

Details:

To book a visit, contact us by phoning **403-328-3511 ext. 111** or by emailing **booking@nikkayuko.com**. You can also fill out the online inquiry form at **NikkaYuko.com**. Bookings are based on a first-come, first-served basis and must be done a minimum of two weeks ahead of time to prepare space and acquire staff for the occasion.

If you are unable to fulfill your booking commitments, please contact us as soon as possible to either cancel your visit or arrange an alternate date.

If the group ends up as a no-show for the booked hours, no refund is applicable, and no alternate date will be offered without making a new booking and deposit.

Arigatou gozaimasu!

Contact Us:

(403) 328-3511 ext. 101
info@nikkayuko.com