

PAV M

PATRONS OF THE ARTS IN
THE VATICAN MUSEUMS

ASIA CHAPTER



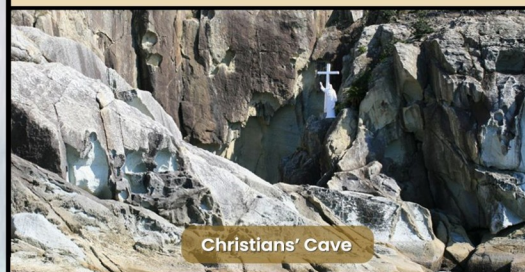
PAV M Japan Trip 2025 "In Search of Hidden Christians" 26 April to 4 May 2025 Fukuoka | Kagoshima | Nagasaki | Goto Islands



PAV M JAPAN 2025 In Search of Hidden Christians 26 April to 4 May 2025

IN SEARCH OF HIDDEN CHRISTIANS

In 1614, Christianity was outlawed in Japan by the Tokugawa Shogunate with expulsion of all missionaries and execution of converts. However some Christians refused to abandon the religion and went underground, continuing their faith in secret for centuries. These people were known as "Kakure Kirishitan" or "Hidden Christians". Join us for this first Asia trip of the Asia Chapter of the Patrons Of The Arts In The Vatican Museums as we explore the fascinating history of Japan's hidden Christianity.



Christians' Cave



26 Martyrs Museum

USD3300/pax *
(USD600 single supplement)

- * Includes all hotels, group meals, offsites, education, transportation
- * Excludes: Air-tickets to/fro Fukuoka

REGISTER NOW

Participants must be patrons with membership until at least end 2026

TRIP ITINERARY:

Schedule	Program
26 Apr (Sat)	Fukuoka Welcome Dinner Reception
27 Apr (Sun)	Fukuoka and transfer to Kagoshima
28 Apr (Mon)	Kagoshima and transfer to Nagasaki
28 Apr - 2 May	Nagasaki and Surrounds
2 May (Fri)	Nagasaki and transfer to Goto Islands
3 May (Sat)	Goto Islands and transfer to Fukuoka
4 May (Sun)	Departure from Fukuoka

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

- Plan to arrive at Nishitetsu Grand Hotel, Fukuoka on 26 April 2025 for check-in at 1500hrs
- Official Trip Program commence with Welcome Reception and Dinner @ 1800 hrs, 26 April 2025
- Departure upon check-out on 4 May 2025 from Miyako Hotel Hakata, Fukuoka

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



For more information & to register, please visit or contact:

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APAVM 2025 TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

KAGOSHIMA

- Monument of St Francis Xavier which commemorates the 1549 landing of Francis Xavier, marking the establishment of the first Christian mission in Japan
- Cathedral of St Francis Xavier, a testament to the work of the Spanish missionary who attempted to bring Christianity to Japan
- Kirishima Open Air Museum, a 20ha open air art museum at the foothills of Kirishima at an elevation of 700m above sea level

NAGASAKI

- Oura Cathedral where Kakure Kirishitans, descendants of early Japanese Christians who went into hiding were discovered more than 200 years later in the 19th Century
- Reconstructed Urakami Cathedral, the largest Christian structure in Asia Pacific until its destruction in 1945 by the atomic bomb that fell on Nagasaki
- Twenty-Six Martyrs Museum and Monument commemorating the canonization of the Christians executed in 1597 on the order of Toyotomi Hideyoshi.
- Reconstructed Shimabara Castle and symbol of Shimabara Christian rebellion in 17th Century when 37,000 Christians were executed, mostly by beheading, but some were thrown alive into nearby natural boiling waters.
- Model of Dejima, a man-made island in the port of Nagasaki, constructed in 1636 to segregate Portuguese from the Japanese and control their missionary activities. After the Portuguese were expelled from Japan, the Dutch were restricted to Dejima during Japan's two centuries of isolation as the only remaining Westerners allowed in the country.
- The Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum is in the city of Nagasaki, Japan. The museum is a remembrance of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki by the United States on 9 August 1945 at 11:02:35 am.

GOTO ISLANDS

- Dozaki Church, built by French missionaries, is the oldest church in the Goto islands. It now serves as a museum displaying historical documents relating to Christians and the 300-year period of suppression of Christianity in Japan.
- Christians' Cave where Christians hid themselves in a 50m-deep cave only accessible by boat. They were discovered, arrested and tortured when a passing boat saw smoke from their cooking fire.

IN SEARCH OF HIDDEN CHRISTIANS

"Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am pleased to welcome you to The Vatican on the occasion of your pilgrimage in the wake of the 2018 inscription of the Hidden Christian sites in the Nagasaki Region of the World Heritage List, I very much appreciate your efforts to preserve these sites as a precious witness to a great but hidden chapter in the history of the universal Church and in the history of your noble people. And this is something that I want to emphasize: the Japanese people are a noble people. It is my hope that this recognition of the importance of these sites will not only ensure their proper conservation but also serve as a living testimony to the fidelity of so many Japanese Christians who passed on the precious treasure of the faith as a legacy from generation to generation."

- Pope Francis

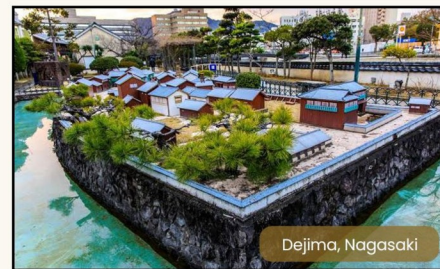
Private Audience Address to the Delegation of the "Hidden Christians Research Association"
30 November 2024

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Dozaki Church



Dejima, Nagasaki



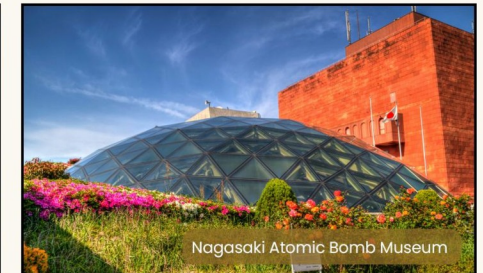
Oura Cathedral



St Francis Xavier Cathedral



Kirishima Open Air Museum



Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum

HOTELS:

Fukuoka (26 to 27 April 2025, 1 night):
Nishitetsu Grand Hotel, 810-8587 Fukuoka, Fukuoka, Chuo-ku Daimyo 2-6-60, Japan

Kagoshima (27 to 28 April 2025, 1 night):
Daiwa Roynet Hotel Kagoshima Tenmonkan PREMIER
Kagoshima Tenmonkan, 892-0843 Kagoshima, Kagoshima, Sennichicho 1-1, Japan

Nagasaki (28 April to 2 May 2025, 4 nights):
Candeo Hotels Nagasaki Shinchi Chinatown, 850-0841 Nagasaki, Nagasaki, Dozamachi 3-12, Japan

Goto Islands (2 to 3 May 2025, 1 night):
Colorit GOTO ISLANDS, 853-0026 Nagasaki, Goto, 546-2 Hamamachi, Japan

Fukuoka (3 to 4 May 2025, 1 night):
Miyako Hotel Hakata, 812-0013 Fukuoka, Fukuoka, Hakata-ku Hakataeki-higashi 2-1-1, Japan



SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:
REV DR ANDREW PEH

Rev Dr Andrew Peh is a lecturer in mission and world religions at Trinity Theological College (TTC) in Singapore. He is an alumnus of TTC as well as Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore Kentucky, USA. He is ordained as a diaconal minister in the Chinese Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in Singapore and is attached to Bukit Panjang Methodist Church. His research interests are in colonial missions history of Southeast Asia (Singapore) and the missions history of East Asia (particularly Japanese Christianity).