



# Aleksandar

from

Oakville Trafalgar

to

Japan

*"I have been living LIFE."*

I have been living LIFE. Japan is where it's at. I love this country so much now that I can speak conversational Japanese. This country is so great I am most likely going to come live here for the rest of my life. Japan really has it all figured out, I love this lifestyle. It suits me well. I have been spending every single day with friends and my awesome family. I'm really making the most out of my last month here in Japan. I hate thinking about coming back to Canada, so I just keep that out of my head and think about coming back to Japan next year summer time. All summer long. Booyah.

I'm not really sure where I left off since my last beaver tale, all my memories are jumbled up together since everything is passing by so quickly but I'll recall the things that stood out. I went to Tokyo twice! And once more in June. Tokyo is HUGE. Toronto is a village compared to Tokyo. There are more people in Tokyo station than there are in all of Canada. I love it.

The first time I went was with my family, my friend also happened to be there at the same time as me so we hung out too. We did a lot of sightseeing; the best was seeing this golden poop on top of a black building. It is huge. I have no idea why it is there and neither do my parents. What was really sad but hilarious was that my dad got massive gout in his foot just days before our Tokyo trip so he was drugged up and limping the whole time. He really has a samurai fighting spirit, and we were making jokes about it the whole 3 days. We met up with my sister and uncle as they live in Tokyo and it was nice to see them again.

The highlight of the trip must have been meeting Tokyo's yakuza boss by accident. On the second day we went to Shibuya, known for its massive crossing. I spent most of my time with my friend. We went shopping and walked around talking to other high school students. Near the end of the night on our way back near the massive crossing we saw a golden plated Lamborghini parked with its doors open for show. So obviously we went to take a look and

take pictures. We ended up talking to the guy who owns the Lamborghini only to find out he is the leader of the yakuza. Quite unbelievable considering how nice he was; just shows how nice Japanese people are when even gang members are friendly. The only reason why I know he is who he is, is because I asked what his job is and he told me to watch Underground Hero on YouTube, which is a short documentary on him and his gang. It's unbelievable how wealthy he is too; he was wearing golden plated shoes to match his golden plated Lamborghini. I also went to Akihabara which is famous for its maid cafes. A maid cafe is basically young Japanese girls dressed up as maids and put on an act of a maid treating you like a master. It was so funny going with my parents. You have to choose which maids to take a picture with so they bring out this poster with pictures of all the maids with their names and you have to pick who you want. It's crazy expensive though, a drink is about 10 dollars. But it was worth it for the experience. We also went on a boat ride which was great as we got to see Tokyo as a whole. Tokyo's transit must be the best in the world. The trains come every 3 minutes, and they are always on time to the very second. It is insanely crowded though which is an experience on its own.

My second time around in Tokyo was with Rotary, and the two other inbound students. We did a lot of sightseeing that had to do with Japanese culture. We saw a massive Buddha, literally so big you can go inside it, and there is stairs. We went into a cave where people go to place little Buddha statues and make wishes. The best thing about the trip was by far Disney Sea. We spent all day there. We were so lucky to have gone right after the Japanese golden week holiday as there were few people which enabled us to go on every ride, some even twice. Normally however Disney Sea fills up with 100,000 people and that's when they close the entrance and don't let anymore people in. When we went only 10,000! Quite nice. The coolest ride was definitely the Indiana Jones one. They recreated the temple from the movie and inside is amazing. You go through all the famous scenes of the movies such as the massive boulder rolling to crush you. They also put on shows throughout the day but the best one has to be at night. It is one of the best shows I've seen, better than the ones in Disney World in Florida. It's all done over the lake too. On the last day we visited more cities to experience the Japanese culture. We got to see Japan's best sumo wrestler. They are huge, superhuman like. Tokyo is the best.

As always just want to finish this off by saying I love you Rotary for giving us students this experience. You are doing a really good thing keep it up. You have no idea how you changed my life for the better. I have definitely come out a different person. I am really content with my exchange and how I made use of my time. It's such a shame I have to leave when things are so great. See you soon!

Regards,

*Aleks Japaneseoman*