

The Lotus Dynasty



In only a couple of weeks, **IMWe 2013** will take place at Rieneck Castle in Germany, where we will meet at the end of **Edo period in old Japan**. This letter will give you the final information you will need in order to prepare and pack for this event.



Black Ships Approaching Mist Lying on the Water Unstable Future

Although Japan opened its ports to modern trade only reluctantly, once it did, it took advantage of the new access to modern technological developments.

I must have fallen asleep for only a second. As I open my eyes I can see the weather has cleared up, and the lofty cone of Mount Fuji is more distinctly visible. My feet hurt from guarding the docks all night. The dense fog is lifting slowly, revealing the shape of the numberless boats that are seen to reach Edo harbor. I look into the faces of my fellow countrymen, fearless and honorable warriors, yet not knowing what will happen when these strangers go ashore. The Emperor's wish is to welcome the intruders with courtesy and reservation. But being upfront, that might be a bad idea...



A nameless delegate describing the arrival of western black ships at Edo harbor, 1853



But Japanese society also came into a violent conflict with the question of tradition versus modernisation. Find yourself in 19th century Japan between new Western influences and the Japanese ancient way of living.

IN SHORT



The Lotus Dynasty

Programme: Creative Workshops, Interest Groups, Games, Dream Time, Music Time, Campfire, Day Out, Creative Evening, International Evening, Concert

Place: Rieneck castle, Germany (see www.burg-rieneck.de)

Date: Sunday 24.03. - Monday 01.04.2013

Participants: 100 Rangers, Rovers and Leaders from various countries

Organiser: Verband Christlicher Pfadfinderinnen und Pfadfinder (VCP) / German Association of Guides and Scouts, Wichernweg 3, D-34121 Kassel

Information: www.imwe.net, registration@imwe.net, or +47 905 19 278 (Jostein Søvik)

ARRIVAL and DEPARTURE

Please try to arrive between 2:30 pm and 4:30 pm on Sunday afternoon, the 24th of March 2013. If you arrive later than this, you will not be able to check in and be allocated to a bedroom until the end of the evening programme (approx. 23:00).

The group photos in costumes will be taken on the first evening at the Opening, so look your Sunday best!

There will be **no pick up from Rieneck train station** on arrival day. The walk takes about 20 minutes, or alternatively you can organise yourselves through the mailing list with participants who will come by car.

Address

Burg Rieneck
Schlossberg 1
D-97794 Rieneck

www.burg-rieneck.de

Contact telephone number for emergencies or problems with arriving:
+49 9354 902317.

This number cannot be used for private calls during the IMWe!

The workshop ends on Monday, 1st of April, at about 11:30 am, after breakfast and cleaning up. Please tell us at Check In if you want to stay for lunch on departure day (not included in the fee)

TRAVEL

How to get to Rieneck Castle

You can find all the necessary travel information about how to get to the castle on the following websites:

<http://www.burg-rieneck.de/en/stay/directions/>
(Rieneck Castle website)

<http://reiseauskunft.bahn.de/bin/query.exe/en>
(train information)

If you have any problems with travelling please contact us directly!

INSURANCE

Health and Liability Insurance Abroad

If you do not come from Germany and do not have health insurance for travel abroad, we would recommend you to use our health and liability insurance package for the week of the IMWe (24th March – 1st April 2013), costing only 12€. If you are interested in this insurance package, please write an email to Daniel (daniel.werner@imwe.net) **by the 1st of March**, informing him of your name, address and date of birth.



WHAT TO BRING



International Evening

On Tuesday there will be the International Evening, where you will have the opportunity to present your home country, region or town. Therefore, we ask you to prepare the following:

1. Presentation of your country and its scouting traditions

You will be given a table where you can display pictures, events, photos and/or objects. We would be happy if you also prepared a short sketch, dance or a game to present your home country. Please consider the international aspect: all explanations should be offered in English and presentations should be understandable to other nations.

2. Food/drinks from your country

We also ask you to bring a taste of your country: a regional or national specialty. On Tuesday there will be no dinner, we will eat the things you brought. There will be a possibility to heat up the food before it is to be served and also to store it cold before or after the evening.

Note that **no hard liquor is allowed at IMWe at all**, therefore please don't bring any to the castle. If we discover any hard liquor, we will confiscate it and pour it out. This rule also applies for International Evening.

Please plan the presentation and food organization together with the other scouts from your country – if you need help with finding out who they are, ask our contact person Jostein Søvik (jostein@sovik.net). German Scouts can work together in presenting the different regional states ('Bundesländer').

Day Out

On Thursday all participants will leave the castle and get to know the local area. There will be various possibilities: making trips to nearby towns Würzburg or Karlstadt, exploring one of three different hiking routes, doing Geocaching, swimming and enjoying sauna in Water Park Nautiland in Würzburg, or visiting The SOS Village Community Hohenroth

on Rieneck outskirts, where you will have a chance to get insight into the life of disabled people and take part in their workshops.

Depending on your choice, don't forget to bring a swimsuit, hiking boots and a handheld GPS device.

Please note that all the potential costs will be covered by the participants themselves, such as entrance fee for the pool, lunch and train tickets. Group tickets for regional trains are inexpensive and we will help you to organise yourselves with the other participants.

Other Things to Bring

Clothing: Scout uniform, slippers, working clothes for handicraft work, hiking boots (if you want to hike), comfortable clothes (e.g. for dancing), bad – weather clothes for cold and rainy days (we will have a campfire/game outside!)

Towel and bed linen (duvet cover, pillow case and single sheet). These items can alternatively be rented from the castle (towel for 1,50€ and bed linen for 5€).

If you own any musical instruments (also the ones you don't play!) as well as sheet music – especially for group performances (choirs, duets, trios, etc.) and, if possible, music stands, please bring them along.

Costume (further information on the last three pages)

Please bring your own cup as during IMWe we will provide coffee and tea

Scout/camp brochures from your own country and advertising for your own international camps and events

Cakes and/or biscuits for Chatting Time – ideally, cakes or biscuits that are typical for your home country; additionally if you like, savoury snacks for sitting together in the evenings

Board games to play with others in the gaming room during evening/afternoon.

WORKSHOPS



On Sunday evening you will choose a workshop to participate in during the mornings for the rest of the week. Here is a small overview - they are also going to be presented at the Opening:

How to draw comics

Many of the well known comics have their origin in Japan – a good reason to offer a workshop about how to draw comics! At the beginning we will try out some basic techniques and will learn about the special comic vocabulary. A major part will be image communication, how to tell a story within a few pictures, how to create a character and some drawing techniques. Then there will be enough time to create your own masterpieces. The result in the end should be an IMWe Comic Collection Book for every workshop participant. Don't worry, you do not need any pre-knowledge, we will start from the begin-



ning. But if you already have some skills, then feel free to share them with the others. If available, bring your own comics for our „cosy comic reading area“.

Paper Lamps and Lanterns

Create traditional as well as modern versions of Japanese style paper lamps and lanterns, using both candles and electricity as light source. By applying different kinds of paper and various methods of decorating, this workshop offers a wide range of possibilities for creating unique pieces of art. We will provide you with materials for building your own lamp, but you are welcome to bring an old discarded desk light or ceiling lamp to design a new shade and give it an individual look!

The Machine

Welcome to the machine! As you know, Japan is not only famous for tea and sushi, but also for its tradition of inventing and engineering. In this workshop we are going to experience the miracles of cause and effect by building a marvellous, gigantic chain reaction. Experience the thrill of inventing, trying and tinkering and learn how to form a great team to accomplish your goals. And last, but not least – have a lot of fun with THE MACHINE!



Game development

Victory is within your grasp, just a last little step and... Naaahh! You are doomed - all the other's allied against you. It was so close, what next? Fortunately, you still have your workers harvest resources and building your fortress... Come and create your own world, establish rules and break them, bribe your taker and trick the other. Join us to develop the game of the year 2013! It's about thrill, (im)patience, adventure and world domination. Are you a gamer?



WORKSHOPS



Patterns, Patience, Perfection

Origami-paper-folding, Kumi-himo-braiding and embroidered Temari-balls are three very different Japanese handicrafts - but all

of them follow the traditional Japanese ideals of beauty and harmony. During the three first days of workshop we will together learn the basics of these three handicrafts by trying out centuries old patterns, and afterwards there will still be time left to go wild...

Hashi's chopsticks

For generations the craftsmanship of fine chopsticks making has been passed on in my family. If you want to become a master of this craftsmanship, you have to learn for years. But not only chopsticks are made from wood. Many more shapes are possible. Feel the soul of the wood and bend it with your will, one day you might succeed. Bring patience, my willing apprentice, and I will teach you the way of the chopstick!



Tea ceremony

The Japanese tea ceremony, also called the Way of Tea, is a Japanese cultural activity involving the ceremonial preparation and presentation of matcha, powdered green tea. In this workshop we will first make our own Japanese tea pot and cups, than learn all the mysteries about the Japanese tea ceremony. There will also be time to make other kinds of tableware.

M3 - Most Meditative Mosaic

Practice your Zen and find your inner self while making beautiful or ugly and practical or useless items with figurative or modernistic patterns using razor sharp tile shards, sticky tile glue and messy grout. Mosaic is so dangerous that not even Samurais dare to do it! For this workshop, please bring clothes that you don't care that much about. And maybe an object or two you want to cover with tiles.

Art of writing

In early spring time

When the cherry blossoms wake

Beautiful words written.

Do you want to experience the fascinating art of writing, not only in the eastern way, but also the western? Only mastering the art of Japanese haiku poetry can let you understand the Japanese soul. Join us in the workshop of the written word!

Relax!

Getting some rest and finding the perfect spot for relaxation is very important to Japanese. Therefore we will create something, which is excellent for leisure moments. A hammock! Using just ropes, we will try to put the strings together, so that in the end we have a nice and cosy place to rest. If you like, you can bring other materials yourself (e.g. fabrics, wood for stretching the sides) for even better looking and more comfortable hammocks.



YOUR CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED



The IMWe is an **interactive creative** programme, where the participants are invited to share their creative talents and their crafts, dances and music. Here is an overview of various possibilities to get involved in the programme.

It is also possible to apply at the Check-In or during IMWe, but if you already have ideas which activities you could lead or make contribution to, we would be very happy to **receive your plans in advance, before IMWe begins, using our online form**. Please fill in one form per activity (if you are eager to contribute various things). You will find the link to the form in the email sent with this letter.

Games

On Monday there will be a possibility to play different games – everything from board games to Geocaching, outdoor running games to team-building games indoors. Feel free to bring your favorite board or card game, a game description (preferably printed) and/or be prepared to lead a game yourself. In the end all descriptions will be collected online for you to use in your own scout groups. If you have a handheld GPS device, please bring it with you for Geocaching!

Music Interest Groups (MIGs)

Every day in the afternoon there will be MG's with a lot of possibilities to make music together with others. Offers could be such as a choir, band, orchestra or working in small groups, etc. If you are a musician, please bring your voice, instruments, sheet music, interesting songs etc., and think about whether you know a particularly nice song or piece of music that you would like to work on with other like-minded people. However, you can also decide spontaneously to put a group of musicians together. You will have various opportunities to perform at IMWe, particularly at the Creative Evening and at the Concert.

The IMWe-team will provide following MIG's:

- Guitar for beginners (see special offer below)
- Dancing
- Historical dancing
- Latvian music
- Choir

We would be very happy to have more Music Groups, so if you have an idea and possibilities to run a group yourself, let us know by filling out the online form.

SPECIAL OFFER!!!

At the IMWe during Music time there will be a little guitar course for beginners. The course will teach you some simple chords and how to play a song and sing along. So if you are an absolute beginner or you already had some first experience with playing the guitar, then this course is perfect for you! If you want to participate please bring a guitar or make sure you know someone at IMWe that you could borrow a guitar from.

Interest Groups (IGs)

Are you familiar with any particular artwork, theatre activity, handicraft, game or a dance? You love to do roleplaying games, slacklining, improvisation theatre, massage or yoga? You know how to make hand puppets, natural cosmetics, glass magnets, knit leg warmers or turn old pencils into jewelry? Your second language is Klingon?

Then why not teaching your skill (or at least the basics) to the other participants in an Interest Group - a small workshop for 5-10 persons which lasts up to 2 hours. There are several spaces in the schedule where we will have 'IGs'.

If you are interested in leading one, please

YOUR CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED



bring everything you need (tools and materials for you and other participants) with you.

Waking Up

Starting punctually is very important for us – and we prefer to be woken up by music rather than by a beeping alarm clock! So if you can sing or play an instrument and would like to have the amusing task of getting everyone out of bed on one or more mornings, just let us know!

Dream Time

Every day after lunch there will be Dreamtime – 45 minutes of relaxation and dreams: play nice and relaxing music, do a meditation or tell pleasant stories. Contact us if you would like to help out!

Creative Evening

We will have a Creative Evening, where all sorts of fun performances will be presented on stage: sketches, juggling, plays, acrobatics, tricks, songs, dancing, or whatever you like. Even though you will find others to join and help you during IMWe, it is good to bring something you have prepared beforehand. You could, for example, get together beforehand with others from your country/region to prepare something for Creative Evening.

Scouting Café

Friday afternoon will be all about Scouting. In cosy atmosphere we will discuss Scout topics and methods whilst sipping coffee and tea. Please wear your Scout uniform. You will also have the opportunity to present future Scouting events or show pictures of past camps. Please tell us in advance if you need any special presentation material, e.g. a projector.

Meditation

After the evening programme there will be the possibility to come together to calm down after a full and busy day – just if you want to or if you feel you need it. Examples what we do: Listening to nice music and paint something, listen to a story, getting impulses for new thoughts, light some candles and relax, etc. Feel free to offer also your own meditative methods.

Concert

The Concert is for more serious and well prepared musical offerings; if you play an instrument or sing, you can perform at the concert. You will have time for rehearsing performances together with others during the IMWe, especially during Music Time, but not TOO much time, so if you can prepare something in advance – all the better! Please note that every participant can take part in up to 3 performances on stage.

Holy Week Programme

Two ecumenical vespers will be held in the castle chapel to celebrate Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Anybody is invited to join and contribute with ideas or music.



T-Shirt



See the draft version of IMWe T-Shirt 2013 design. There will be an unisex cut (comfortable cut) and a ladies cut (shaped cut).

This year we will order **FAIR TRADE / BIO COTTON T-Shirts!**

Sizes available:

Unisex Cut: S-XXL (3XL – 5 XL also possible)

Female Cut: XS – XL

Price: EUR 13,50 / pc

How to order?

Follow the link of the email and fill out our online form until 1st of March **LATEST!** After that deadline you can only hope that there will be a left-over shirt...

COSTUMES AND YOUR CHARACTER

What also makes IMWe special is that we are living with a theme - many (not all) programme points are acted out according to our theme. Therefore we ask you to bring a costume which fits the time period and surrounding. This year you will for one week live in 19th century Japan.

Please consider that IMWe will take place at the end of March - you should have some cold weather add-on for your costume as some programmes (e.g. a group game) will take place partly outside the castle. The other programme points will be inside - but you will always have to walk through a courtyard.

Not only can you dress up in a costume and travel through rich history of old Japan, but you can also try to develop your character to a greater extent. You are always invited to take opportunities to act out your role a little bit more, if you would like to.

**The first morning of spring:
I feel like
Someone else.**

Be inspired by these words of Matsuo Bashō, the most famous poet of the Edo period, and become a foreign explorer discovering a completely different culture, or assume a role of a Japanese countryman being confronted with visitors from a self-proclaimed civilised world - powerful feudal ruler daimyo, respected warrior samurai, disguised ninja, exquisite geisha, enlightened monk, roadside seller, basket weaver, tea picker, farmer, lantern maker, bon odori dancer, taiko drummer, kabuki actor or acrobat troupe member!

Or maybe one of many mythological creatures such as monster Akkorokamui, water spirit Kappa or mermaid Amabie?

You could even turn yourself into a prop: dress up as a human-sized fan, kotsuzumi drum, footwear geta or **ANYTHING** your imagination can think off!

Some ideas for costumes you find on the next page

COSTUMES AND YOUR CHARACTER



COSTUMES AND YOUR CHARACTER

