

Our guests and income. Japan Accessible Tourism Center

Presentation abstract

For person with some difficulty for mobility such as a wheelchair user and elderly who cannot walk long distance, accessible information is the key to choose destination or go outside. When we travel abroad, language is another barrier. Japan Accessible Tourism Center is a non-profit organization that provides Japan tourism accessibility information in multiple languages on website with free of charge. We put a lot of photo (200 destination more) related specially wheelchair accessible each tourist spot. Photo is easy to understand the situation for everybody. Not all people speak English. We also open all metro and big railway station that have lifts or ramp for wheelchair users. Of course we show which hotels have a wheelchair accessible room.

Our organization started in 2011. Fortunately we success to continue this service without any support from government and city. We run by ourselves. Our income come from lift taxi airport transfer service and inbound city tour (Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Nara, Mt. Fuji) by a lift taxi. We sometime help a group tour but it does not happen so often. It is a niche market, but it is really demanded for travelers with special needs. 30 more countries guests used our lift taxi service in these 5 years. USA, Australia, Hong Kong, Thailand, UK, Philippine, Taiwan, Singapore, France, Indonesia are top 10 countries. Many question come to us by e-mail. We answer their question at least one time even though they do not pay anything.

65% of guests include a manual wheelchair user, 30% guests include a power wheelchair user, 5% others disability (cane, walker, baby buggy). 3/4 guests booked directly by themselves. 1/4 guests booked through travel agent. The average guests number per group is 4. Our main target is a family trip who has a wheelchair user from Asia because of reasonable price for 4-5 guests to charter our lift taxi (max 2 wheelchairs + 6 person without luggage).

We would like to share who our guests are and how we get money to keep the organization. Hope everybody can travel anywhere they want.

<http://www.japan-accessible.com>

Lead speaker : HIDETO KIJIMA

Organisation : Japan Accessible Tourism Center

City (Country) : Osaka(Japan)

Biography : President of Japan Accessible Tourism Center . Wheelchair traveler visited more than 150 countries . At 17 years old he injured his spinal cord T-11 in a rugby accident but has not stopped dreaming to explore the world. He started his professional career in an advertisement agency as a marketing planner. After 7 years in his old job he decided to dedicate his time to his own business as writer, consultant for accessibility issues and motivational speaker where he can use his travel experience. In 2011 he founded the information center for international travelers with mobility impairment who wish to visit Japan.



2nd speaker :

Organisation :

City (Country) : ()

Biography :