

CHAPTER 2: SISTER CITIES – CITY PROFILES

Introduction

The sister city concept was initially set up after World War Two to develop communication between the cities to build international understanding and friendship among nations. It also fosters human contact and cultural links between cities.

Go to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osaka> and list world cities other than Melbourne that hold sister-city status with Osaka.

OSAKA

The city of Osaka is located on the Japanese island of Honshu in Osaka Bay. Over 2.6 million people live in Osaka. The yachts competing in the Melbourne Osaka Cup will finish the race in Port of Osaka.



Osaka Port, Osaka City



Osaka Castle

Photo source:

<http://www.osakacup.com/2003e/ports/osaka.php>

http://www.tourism.city.osaka.jp/en/area_osaka/castle/attraction/castle/index.html

Go to <http://www.optc.or.jp/eng/water/water.html> to familiarise yourself with this area. Name three places of interest located in the bay. Which would you like to visit and why?

Go to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osaka> and read some facts about Osaka. Complete the following:

1. List three other major cities located on Honshu Island.

2. Osaka Castle is a famous castle in Japan. Find out where it is located. Why is it famous?

3. List some of the main tourist attractions in Osaka.

Osaka is divided into 24 wards (local areas) but the local people think of the city divided into broad districts or areas.

Go to http://www.tourism.city.osaka.jp/en/area_osaka/index.html to become familiar with some of these districts. Click on each area to show a more detailed map of the attractions.

1. Go to

http://www.city.osaka.jp/english/for_tourists/tourist_guide.htm and record the time it would take to fly from Melbourne to Osaka (Hint: Add one hour to the Sydney time).

2. Which festivals will be occurring around the time the yachts will arrive in Osaka? Go to

http://www.tourism.city.osaka.jp/en/enjoy_osaka/festivals/index.html to find out.

Research about Osaka

You will work in pairs to further investigate Osaka. Your task is to develop a profile of the city and present your information to the rest of the class. Your profile must include the following:

- a map showing the location of the Osaka in its region and country
- a brief history of the city presented as a timeline
- the general climate and a description of the weather expected when the yachts in the Melbourne Osaka Cup are visiting in port
- photos and map of the main attractions, including audio if available
- you should also develop a four-day sightseeing tour. Your tour should be based on one of the following areas of general interest: history; sport; the arts and culture; nature (gardens and animals) or food.

You should develop this tour as a brochure showing the places and attractions visited. Use maps and photographs to make your brochure interesting.

Use the Internet sites above but also consider further Internet research, going to a library and reading travel guides to gain further information.

MELBOURNE

As one of Osaka's sister cities, Melbourne has a lot to offer a visitor before the Melbourne Osaka Cup.



Melbourne Docklands and bay

Photo source: <http://www.travelvictoria.com.au/images/melbourne/photos/002.jpg> s

Imagine you have been appointed a tour leader with responsibility to introduce a group of visitors from Osaka to the delights of Melbourne. Plan a four-day itinerary for a family that showcases many of Melbourne's places of interest. Some Internet sites that can help you include:

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melbourne#Sister_cities
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melbourne_tourism
- <http://www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/info.cfm?top=259&pg=3059>
- <http://www.melbourneinfolink.com.au/>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_heritage_listed_buildings_in_Melbourne