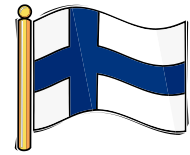


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Press Release

Ambassador of Japan visits Ranua's Japanitalo

11th Sept 2015



<Japanitalo, in Ranua>

On Monday 14th September, H.E. Ambassador Kenji Shinoda will make an official visit to Japanitalo, in Ranua.

Japanitalo, or Japan House, is a traditional Japanese-style architecture, set on the shores of the beautiful Lake Simojärvi. It was built in 1998 as a cooperation project between Ranua and its sister city in northern Japan, Iwasaki Village (currently Fukaura Town). Since its inception, Japanitalo has been an important cultural hub in the northern part of Finland, transmitting Japanese culture throughout the region.

On Monday 14th September, Ambassador Shinoda will visit Japanitalo with representatives of Ranua as well as representatives from various important industries in nearby major cities such as Rovaniemi. A traditional Japanese tea ceremony will be held by the Chado Urasenke Tankokai Finland Association, followed by a luncheon hosted by Ambassador Shinoda.

The Embassy of Japan, together with Ranua Municipality, Fukaura Town, and all other stakeholders, will continue to support the activities of Japanitalo, in order to preserve and promote this fascinating cultural resource.

For further information about the Ambassador's visit, please contact Yukiko Nakahari, Head of Public Relations & Cultural Affairs: 090-686 0200 / culture@hk.mofa.go.jp

For further information about Japanitalo, please see the official website: <http://www.japanitalo.fi/>