

A Short Escape from the Bustling City Life

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Discovering the Beauty of Kamakura

Recently, I spent a weekend in Kamakura with three friends from ESOP. Located only about 1.5 hours from central Tokyo, Kamakura feels like a completely different world. With its beaches, relaxed atmosphere, and slower pace of life, it is one of my favorite places to escape the city.

Temples, Hydrangeas, and Peaceful Moments

June is the perfect time to visit

Kamakura, as the rainy season brings beautiful hydrangea blooms. We explored Hase-dera Temple and Kotoku-in Temple, where the colorful flowers and lush greenery created a magical atmosphere. The gentle rain made everything feel even more peaceful and provided the perfect setting to reflect and enjoy meaningful conversations with friends.



Exploring Enoshima and the Ocean

Later, we visited Enoshima Island and spent time at the beach. Despite being among the few people brave enough to enter the water, we enjoyed our first swim in the ocean. In the evening, we stayed in a traditional Japanese house with a small garden, where we relaxed, talked, and enjoyed the calm surroundings.

Why This Day Was Unforgettable

What made this day special was the combination of new friendships, culture, and nature. It gave me the opportunity to strengthen connections with people I met during my exchange semester, experience another side of Japan, and take a break from everyday life. It was a simple but unforgettable reminder to appreciate the opportunity of studying abroad in Japan.

