



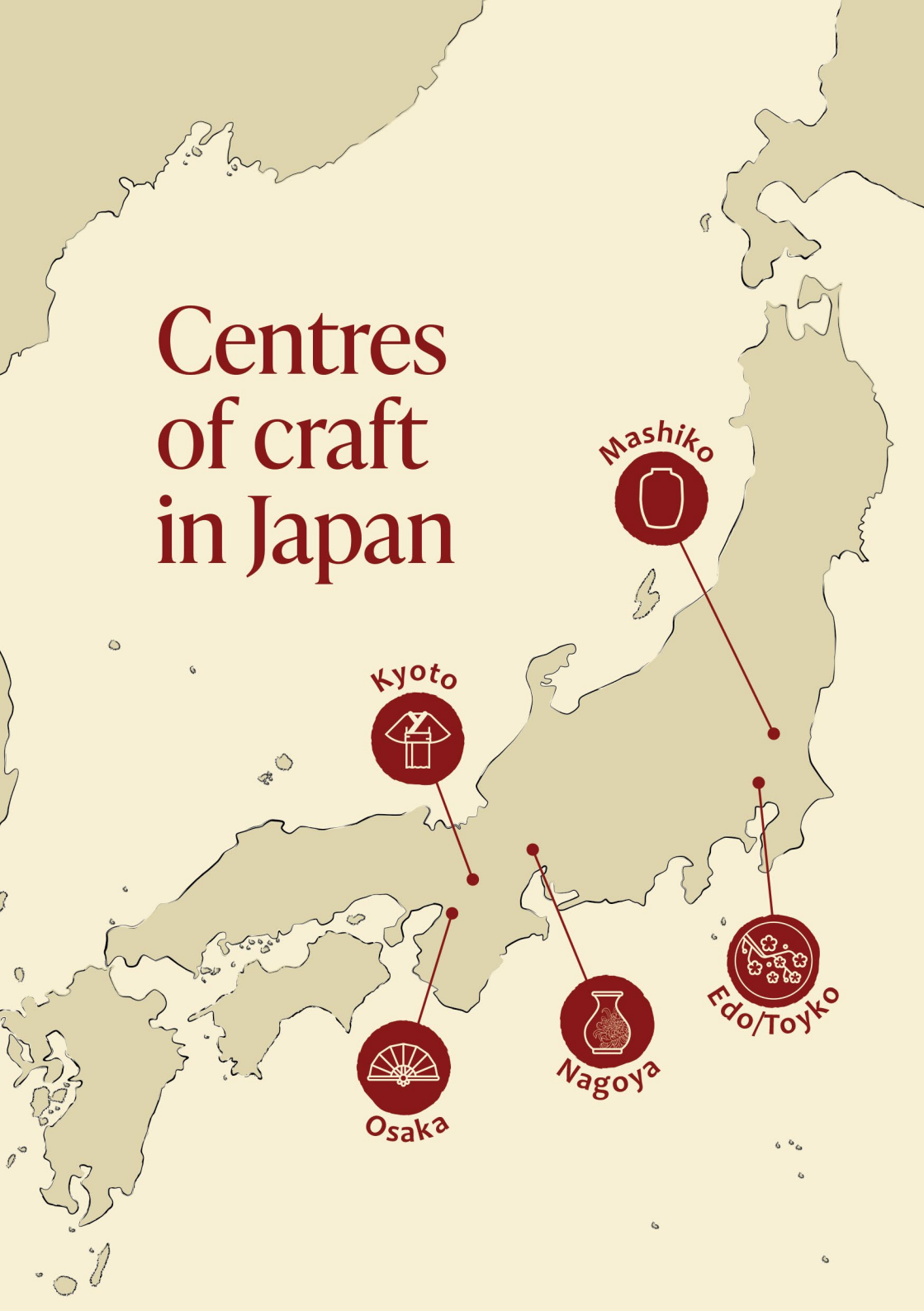
BLACKWELL

The Arts & Crafts house

House
of the
Setting
Sun

Visitor Guide and Trail Map

Centres of craft in Japan



Mashiko



Kyoto



Edo/Toyko



Nagoya



Osaka





HOUSE OF THE SETTING SUN

Japan has long been a source of inspiration for artists and makers in Europe. Nowhere was this inspiration more keenly felt than in the work of those associated with the Arts & Crafts Movement in Britain. This year, Blackwell - The Arts & Crafts house has taken inspiration from Japan, the 'Land of the Rising Sun', to celebrate the cultural and creative connections between Japanese and British makers. Welcome to the House of the Setting Sun.

The Lure of the Floating World Japan and its enduring influence

Exhibition Gallery, 1st Floor

The dedication to traditional handmade crafts has proved an enduring bond between Japanese and British makers. This exhibition celebrates their artistic legacies and the cross-cultural art they have created.

Yōkai trail

House and Gardens

Blackwell has some new and mischievous residents who are waiting to be found. In Japanese culture, yōkai are much-loved little animals and spirits that inhabit the human world. They delight in playing games and tricks on passers-by, asking them to solve riddles or even challenging them to a sumo fight! Created by the Japanese artist and illustrator Inko Ai Takita, this playful trail will introduce you to some of these yōkai, which formed the inspiration for creatures in the game Pokémon.



Spot the kanji (for sunset) around the house to find more makers inspired by Japanese craft.



Key Dates

Japan opens to international trade for the first time in over 200 years.

— 1853

Liberty's department store opens in London as an 'Eastern bazaar', selling Japanese wares.

— 1862

The Arts & Crafts Exhibition Society is founded in Britain, many of its founding members seek inspiration from the art and crafts of Japan.

— 1887

— 1860

The artist and philosopher John Ruskin (1819-1900) and the designer William Morris (1834-1869) inspire the creation of the British Arts & Crafts Movement. They encourage artists and makers to return to making goods by hand.

— 1870s

Japanese goods and art become more widely available in Britain.

— Japan begins making objects specifically for export.

Blackwell is completed. The house was designed by Arts & Crafts architect M H Baillie Scott (1865-1945), who in his book *Houses and Gardens*, writes about his admiration for the craftspeople of Japan.

1901

Bernard Leach publishes *A Potter's Book*, detailing the history and techniques of Mingei pottery for a British audience.

1940

On the 20th anniversary of Blackwell opening to the public, and the 120th anniversary of Blackwell being built; Lakeland Arts celebrates Japanese and British cultural relations again with the *House of the Setting Sun*.

2021

1920

Yanagi Sōetsu (1889-1961) founds the Mingei folk art movement, inspired by the British Arts & Crafts Movement's success in reviving handmade crafts.

Bernard Leach (1887-1979) opens Leach Potteries

2001

Japan 2001 festival takes place in Britain, celebrating Japanese and British cultures. Blackwell opens to the public the same year, opening with a major exhibition of Japanese arts and crafts.



Glossary

Use our glossary as a guide to Japanese terms and phrases (continues on page 7).

Ukiyo-e 浮世一絵 (uh-kee-yoh-eh)

The term ukiyo-e translates to ‘pictures of the floating world’. The Floating World was the name given to the colourful Japanese woodblock prints that captured the vibrant pleasure and theatre districts of the city of Edo (now Tokyo). Traditionally, the subjects of these prints were Edo’s famous courtesans and Kabuki actors, who lived in exclusive social circles that ‘floated’ above the rest of society.

Kabuki 歌舞伎 (ka-boo-kee)

Kabuki is a traditional form of Japanese theatre that originated in the Edo period, known for its elaborate costumes and charismatic performances. Kabuki plays were created as a form of national storytelling, in which significant events or wars, as well as well-known Japanese folk tales, are acted out to the audience. Kabuki theatre is considered an important part of Japanese heritage and culture, and Japan’s three most popular kabuki theatres have UNESCO World Heritage Site status.



Glossary

continued

Nippon 日本 (nih-pon)

The Japanese name for Japan, meaning ‘where the sun rises’.

Edo 江戸 (eh-do)

Edo is the historic name for Tokyo, the current capital city of Japan. The city lent its name to the Edo period (1603-1863) a time of great peace and prosperity in Japan, in which the arts and creative industries flourished.

Meiji 明治 (may-jee)

The Meiji period lasted from 1868-1912. It was the time in which Japan began to trade openly with the rest of the world.

Mingei 民芸 (ming-ay)

Mingei translates to ‘folk art’ or ‘art of the people’. In the early 20th century, the Japanese philosopher Yanagi Sôetsu (1889-1961) founded the Mingei folk art movement, which sought to bring traditional Japanese craft skills back to public consciousness.

The Lure of the Floating World

Objects from the collection





Ukiyo-e print

Kesai Eisen (1790-1848)
Courtesan on Parade
 1835
 Woodblock print

Masaaki Shibata slipware

Masaaki Shibata (b.1948)
Tea Ceremony Bowl
 2001
 Glazed earthenware



Kimono

Unknown maker
Kimono and obi
 Embroidered silk
 c.1800-50

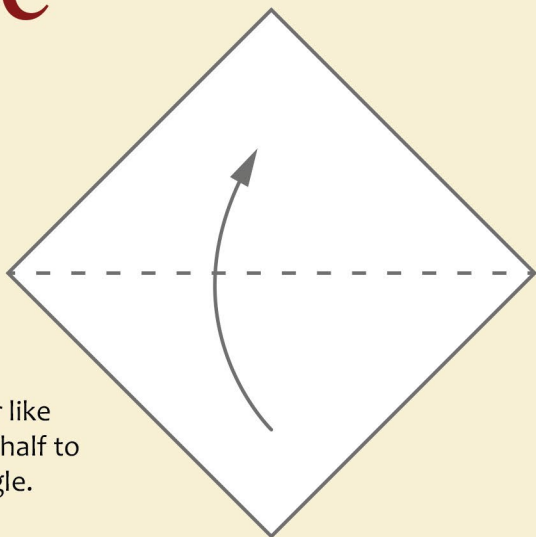
Follow these instructions to

make an origami envelope

1

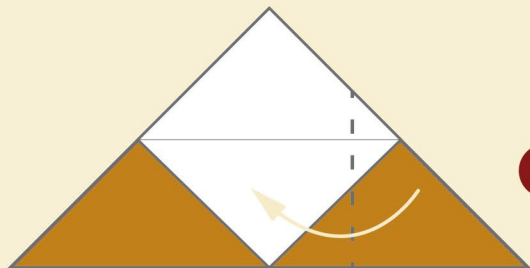
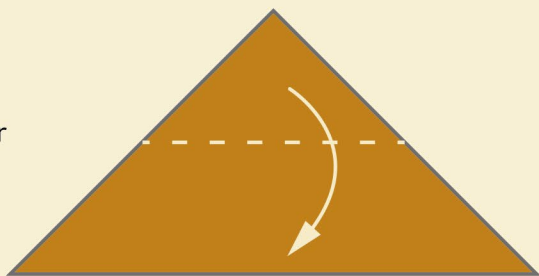
Start with a square piece of origami paper.

After positioning your paper like a diamond, fold the bottom half to the top half to make a triangle.



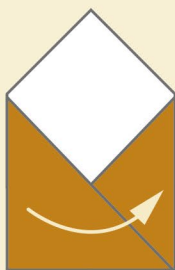
2

Now fold the top corner of the triangle to the bottom edge.

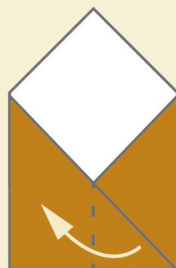


3

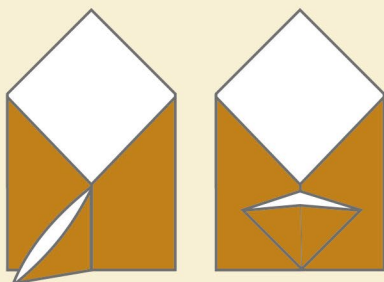
Fold in $\frac{1}{3}$ of the right side of the triangle.



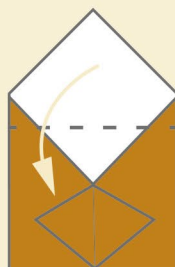
- 4 Fold in the left side of the triangle.



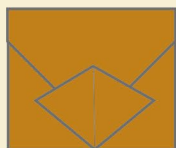
- 5 Fold that flap's corner back out to the edge.



- 6 Open the little flap and squash it to form a diamond pocket.



- 7 Fold down the top.



- 8 Tuck the tip into the diamond shaped pocket.





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