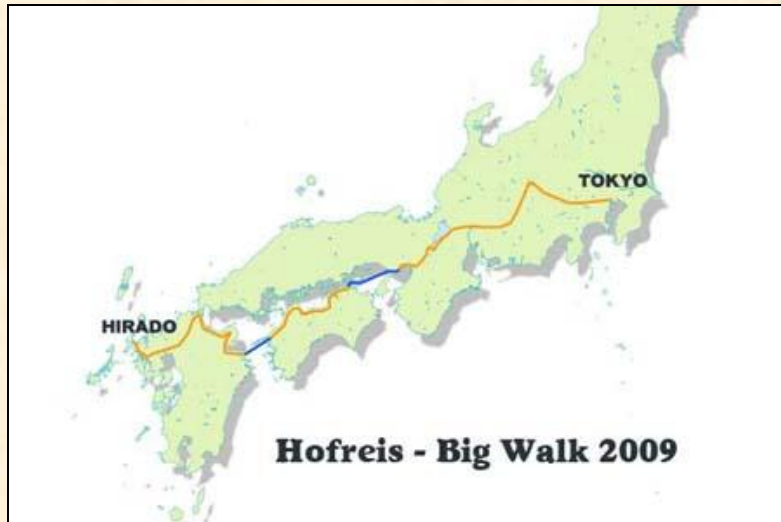


Hofreis - Big Walk 2009



In 2009 The Netherlands and Japan will celebrate a milestone. They will commemorate the 400th anniversary of commercial relations, which date back to the year 1609 when shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu issued an official trade permit to The Netherlands.

Walkers of the two countries will celebrate this anniversary by travelling again De Hofreis [Edo sanpu] from the remains of the Dutch Trading Post in Hirado [Nagasaki Prefecture] to Edo-Nihonbashi in Tokyo.

They wish to meet many people and to observe the history of interchange between the cultures of the two countries, and so deepen the relationships of our countries.

Date

From 14 March to 12 May 2009

Course

From Hirado Trading Post [Hirado City, Nagasaki-ken] to Edo Nihonbashi [Chuo-ku, Tokyo]
passing over the islands Kyushu, Shikoku and Honshu

Walkers

Main Walkers: three Dutch and three Japanese people

Goodwill Walkers: Any person who wants to join for one or more days

Sponsor

Hofreis - Big Walk 2009 Executive Committee

Supporter

Japan Walking Association

Website

<http://www5e.biglobe.ne.jp/~masaji/bigwalk2009/>



The Big Walk is one of official events of "Nederland in Japan, 2008-2009" promoted by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Hofreis - Big Walk 2009

Course in detail

Start	Hirado	Hirado Trading Post	
Kyushu (Land route)	Hirado to Sasebo	Hirado Highway	
	Sasebo to Takeo	Arita Highway	
	Takeo to Kokura	Old Nagasaki Highway	Old Hofreis Course
	Kokura to Usuki	Oita	where De Liefde beached [1600]
Bungo Straits (Sea route)	Usuki to Yawatahama	by ship	
Shikoku (Land route)	Yawatahama to Takamatsu	Shikoku Pilgrim Road	Ehime, Kagawa
Seto Inland Sea (Sea route)	Takamatsu to Kobe	by ship	
Honshu (Land route)	Kobe to Nishinomiya	Old Saigoku Highway	Old Hofreis Course
	Nishinomiya to Osaka	Old Chugoku Highway	Old Hofreis Course
	Osaka to Kyoto	Old Kyo Highway	Old Hofreis Course
	Kyoto to Shimosuwa	Old Nakasendo Highway	
	Shimosuwa to Tokyo	Old Koshu Highway	
Finish	Tokyo	Edo Nihonbashi	via Edo Castle (Imperial Palace East Garden)

Main walkers

Nick Name	Post	Country	Comments
Lolie	Captain (Capitão)	The Netherlands	Lo Liebregts
Hans	First Secretary	The Netherlands	Hans van Wuijckhuise
Jack	Narrator	The Netherlands	Jacques Liska
Kumatetsu	Interpreter	Japan	Kiyoshi Katayama
Masaji	Doctor and Reporter	Japan	Masaharu Kitayama
Ryohei	Interpreter	Japan	Ryohei Tamura