

Lesson 98: Onsen/ Hot Spring

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, practice each role.

Wakana: This is the Japanese hot spring. That's the area for men and this part is only for women.
Dolly: Oh, my... Is everyone naked in the pool?
Wakana: Yes. It's a Japanese practice to take off all our clothes when bathing.
Dolly: I don't think I can do that. Can I wear a bathing suit? After all, I'm a foreigner.
Wakana: Let me ask the attendant. (talks to somebody for a while) I'm afraid they don't allow wearing bathing suits in this resort.

Dolly: Oh, I see.

Wakana: We could go to another onsen that allows it. It's about an hour from here.

Dolly: I don't wanna trouble you by driving another hour. I'll just do it the Japanese way.

Wakana: Are you sure you wanna do this?

Dolly: Yes, I'm sure. It's a whole new experience for me.

2. Today's Phrase

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, make a few sentences using Today's phrase.

1. My trip to China gave me a whole new perspective of the country and its people.

- 2. Tokyo is like a whole new world for first-time visitors.
- 3. The new roller coasters in Disneyland have a whole new level of excitement for thrill-seekers.

* a whole new ... / 全く新しい...

3. Your Task

Your American friend doesn't want to go to an "onsen" because he fears the hot water. He also thinks that he will catch a disease in the hot pool. Tell him (=your tutor) that the hot springs in Japan are safe places to bathe in. Tell him about the health benefits of bathing in the "onsen".

4. Let's Talk

How often do you go to the hot springs? What is the right way of bathing in an "onsen"? What is the most unique "onsen" you've been to? Tell your tutor about it.

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.

