

Dear Sir or Madam,

I'm writing you this letter today to tell you why I'm interested in the PVT (WHP) programme and more specifically in Japan.

After 10 years in a variety of jobs, I'd like to seize the opportunity offered by the PVT programme to broaden my horizons and go off on my own, with the aim of improving my Japanese language skills and learning more about the many facets of Japanese culture.

In fact, I've been rocked by it since childhood, so to speak. Like many of my generation, I was entertained, I learned and I grew up with manga, animated films and music. However, Japanese culture can only be summed up in this way. As I know very little about the more traditional culture of this country, whether it's myths and legends, the history of emperors and empresses and sovereigns, or ancient places and cities steeped in history, I want to quench my thirst for curiosity.

Almost 6 years ago, accompanied by family and friends, I went to Tokyo for 3 weeks. I loved the experience. However, when I got back to France, I couldn't get Japan and what I'd experienced there out of my head.

After 2 years looking to enter in a Japanese language study in university without success, I enrolled at a private school in Saint Quentin-en-Yvelines, and learnt the language with teachers. First in a group for 2 years, then individually for 1 year. I was able to learn a bit more about the culture and customs. I've been taking Japanese lessons with a teacher by videoconference since September 2022. My ambition is to take the JLPT level 4 exam in December 2023, to build on my current skills.

After a lot of hesitation, but above all a lot of thought about the logistical, linguistic and financial aspects, I've decided to embark on this great project. I've already drawn up a budget for the PVT (WHP), for the different cities and places I'd like to discover.

First of all, I plan to leave France in February 2024 and spend a few months in a school in Tokyo to improve my language skills and familiarize myself with the language. Then I was going to head for Fukuoka and visit the surrounding area, with a stopover in Nagasaki and Kumamoto. After this stopover in the south of the country, I planned to head back up to Osaka or Kyoto and stay there for a few months to work and lighten my expenses, while taking advantage of my free time to visit the region. Then I plan to head back up to Nagoya for a few weeks, to visit museums, castles or just wander around and get lost in the city streets. Finally, I'll be back in Tokyo for a few months for the festive season, before returning to France in early 2025.

You can find the details on the schedule attached to this cover letter.

I hope that I have been able to prove to you my motivation for this project and look forward to your reply.

Best regards,

RICHIER Alex