

JAPAN VISAS

DATE OF EXPIRY AND PERIOD OF STAY

The *Date of Expiry* and the *Period of Stay* dates on your JAPAN VISA can be confusing. The following explanation may help prevent any misunderstanding.

A JAPAN VISA is issued by the Consulate and permits the holder to *enter* Japan. Permission to *remain* in Japan is granted at the point of entry by Japanese Immigration, along with the length of stay.

Visa holders must *enter* Japan on or before the visa expires, or *date of expiry*. Upon arrival in Japan, the traveler presents the visa in a valid passport or travel document, and, at the officer's discretion, the immigration officer will grant or deny the visa holder permission in the form of a status (of residency) with a specific time period the traveler may stay in Japan.

In most cases the *period of stay* granted by the immigration officer will be identical to the length of time designated on the visa "**For stay(s) of.**" Therefore, the visa expiration date is generally NOT the last day the visa holder may stay in Japan.

Notes:

1. The **Certificate of Eligibility** must also be presented to the immigration officer if the traveler submitted a **Certificate of Eligibility** with his or her application.
2. A **Certificate of Eligibility** loses its validity if not presented to an immigration officer within three months of its issue date. This will always be before the expiry date of the visa.