EXPERIENCE
SKI

Perfect moments, always

SKI JAPAN

Beat the crowds: introducing the lesser-known ski resorts of Japan!

Central Japan

NAEBA

An oft-overlooked ski region, the Naeba and Kagura ski regions are connected by Japan's longest gondola. This region has one of the largest hotels in Japan with over 1,000 rooms and takes less than 2 hours to reach from Tokyo Station. Naeba is one of the best ski resorts for families, with many family rooms and activities on offer, including snow tubing, snow trains, snowmobiles and kids clubs!

NAEBA PRINCE HOTEL

The Naeba Prince Hotel is a one-stop shop for everything you need on your next family ski holiday including restaurants, shops and hot springs. There are multiple room options for groups of all sizes and budgets.

FROM \$250 per person twin share



SHIGA KOGEN

An area deserving more recognition, Shiga Kogen boasts the largest ski area in Japan. It is a national park area, with minimal development; perhaps not the most exciting for those seeking to party, but appealing to families and beginners, with wide open slopes and not too many people.



SHIGA KOGEN PRINCE HOTEL EAST WING

The Prince Hotel at Shiga Kogen has an onsite food court with affordable dining, local buses down to the main Ichinose township, and grants ski-in/ski-out access to the slopes. Enquire about possible early bird stay-pay deals!

FROM \$288 per person twin share, with daily breakfast

8 PEAKS RESORT

The northern Nagano region is home to some of the most well-visited ski runs in Japan. Introducing 8 Peaks Resort, the less crowded ski fields of southern Nagano. Comprised of six separate ski areas, this accessible region is set to be the next big ski area in Japan!



IKENOTAIRA HOTEL

This lakeside hot spring resort hotel is located the Shirakaba Ski resort of 8 Peak Resorts. There is a large mixed open-air hot spring bath that you enter with a swimsuit. This hot spring resort even includes a family fun area and pool.

FROM \$212 per person twin share, with daily breakfast

NOZAWA ONSEN

Another resort in the Nagano region, Nozawa is a sightseeing destination all year round, as it's also a traditional hot-spring town. The number of rooms at Nozawa Onsen are in exceedingly short supply, making them a hot commodity for those seeking to combine a traditional experience with their ski holiday.



PHOTO CREDIT: FLIZABETH

ELIZABETH

It is located halfway between the slopes and the centre of the village. The rooms are a mix of Japanese or western style, all rooms with private toilet/basin and some rooms with private bathrooms. There is a cosy lobby fireplace which is a great place to relax after a day on the slopes and there is also a Japanese bath. The Elizabeth Hotel is a non-smoking establishment.

FROM \$432 per person twin share, with daily breakfast (minimum stay duration applicable)

MADARAO MOUNTAIN RESORT

Home to some of Japan's finest groomed slopes, fantastic snow quality and backcountry skiing opportunities, Madarao Mountain Resort is the Japanese Alps best kept secret! Madarao offers a small-town feel that many larger resorts no longer do – so feel like a local and have an authentic experience in town at one of the restaurants or bars. The resort has 15 lifts, mixed terrain, and night skiing offerings!

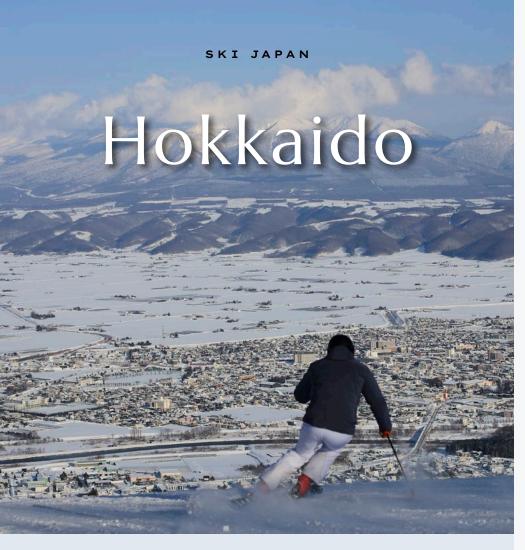


MADARAO KOGEN HOTEL

Madarao Kogen Hotel is a ski-in/ski-out hotel conveniently located at the top of the slopes of Madarao Kogen Ski Resort with wonderful views. It offers indoor/outdoor hot spring baths – the natural onsen bath has the best quality water that soothes your muscles and replenishes your skin after a hard day on the slopes. The lounge area with an open fire is everyone's favourite spot to hang out.

FROM \$366 per person per night twin share, including 1 lift pass per night







RUSUTSU

Just 50mins by local bus away from Niseko, Rusutsu is Hokkaido's 2nd largest ski area behind Niseko. A fully self-contained ski resort and arguably one of the best choices for offpiste skiing, Rusutsu is in high demand for the right crowd. In summer months, Rusutsu is also highly sought after, with a hugely popular theme park on site, along with gold and other summer activities readily available, it's fun for the whole family.

RUSUTSU RESORT HOTEL AND CONVENTION

Stay in comfort surrounded by nature at Hokkaido's premier resort complex, where there's so much to do all year round.

In winter enjoy the ski-in/ski-out access and indoor heated swimming pool, and in summer ride the rollercoaster at the amusement park, go hiking or enjoy one of the many other outdoor activities the resort offers! The resort also offers a wide variety of restaurants and shops to explore at your leisure.

Rusutsu Resort makes excellent use of Hokkaido's abundant nature to promote health and wellbeing of visitors. In an environment surrounded by nature, you can refresh your body and mind with delicious meals, exercise, hot-springs, and saunas. You can relieve your daily stress and enjoy a healthy resort lifestyle.

FROM \$455 per person twin share, with daily breakfast

POWDER BELT PASS

Introducing the Hokkaido Powder Belt Pass – a lift pass that grants access to lifts not only in the Furano region of the belt, but also nearby resorts including Kamui Ski Links & Tomamu!

FURANO (POWDER BELT PASS)

Located in central Hokkaido, Furano is a small town with a ton of heart, for the perfect local immersive ski experience. This region of Hokkaido is known as the Powder Belt where you can experience some of the dryest snowfall you'll find in Japan.



SHIN-FURANO PRINCE HOTEL

This ski-in/ski-out property is located in the Furano Zone of Furano ski resort, secluded away from the main township with exclusive use of the local runs.

FROM \$350 per person twin share, with daily breakfast

TOMAMU (POWDER BELT PASS)

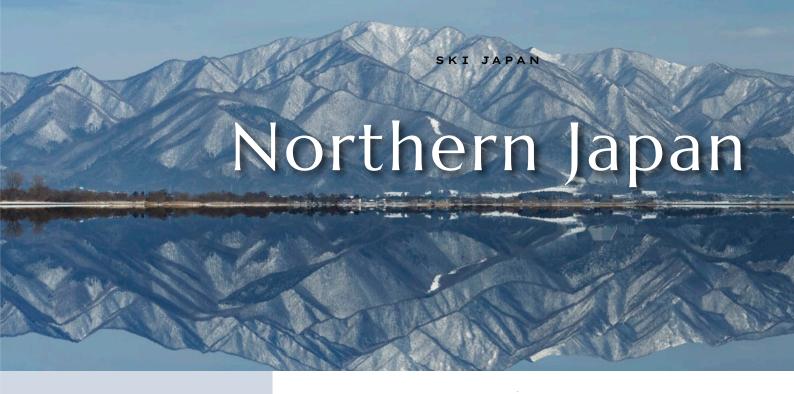
Looking for a snowy wonderland in the heart of the mountains for your next getaway? Look no further than Tomamu Ski Resort – a resort surrounded by stunning mountains perfect for skiers of all abilities. This ski-in/ski-out resort offers more than just snow sports – visit the famous Igloo Ice Village by night or Mina-Mina Beach, an indoor pool kept at 30 degrees year-round.



TOMAMU THE TOWER

Conveniently located in the center of Tomamu Ski Resort, take in the beautiful view over the mountain range from your well serviced room. Tomamu is an all-seasons location, perfect for winter skiing or a summer mountain escape.

FROM \$150 per person twin share, with daily breakfast



JTB AUSTRALIA'S PICK: INAWASHIRO

An active volcano region known as Mount Bandai, this ski resort is situated just slightly north of the gorgeous Lake Inawashiro. Our resident ski expert considers Inawashiro to have better snow than Hakuba, and the state-ofthe-art facilities available at this ski resort are too cool to miss, such as side-by-side motion records, time trials, kicker recorders, spur recorders, and a new structure specifically for training backflips! For a limited time, visitors to Inawashiro can join the ski resort fan club (Ina-Ski! Club) and ski entirely free on weekdays! The nearby town of Aizu-Wakamatsu and village of Ouchi-juku have immense sightseeing potential, well worth visiting even outside of the winter period, with sake breweries, arts and crafts, traditional villages and samurai history to explore!



INAWASHIRO KANKO HOTEL

This ski-in/ski-out hotel is located at Inawashiro ski resort. The chic interior with a Western theme and the warm Japanese-style rooms harmonize to provide a luxurious and tranquil atmosphere.

FROM \$194 per person twin share, including breakfast & dinner

SHIZUKUISHI

Shizukuishi is perfect for budget travellers looking for a ski-in/ski-out destination off-the-beaten path!
Located in northern Tohoku, away from the main tourist trail, Shizukuishi is great for intermediate skiers where you may be the only foreigners on the mountain.



SHIZUKUISHI PRINCE HOTEL

This small resort is perfect if you're looking for an authentic experience that is great value – particularly for early-bird bookings. This hotel oozes 80's charm and has views over the entire valley due to being the only large property in town.

FROM \$240 per person twin share, with daily breakfast

ZAO ONSEN

Famous for the unique 'snow monsters' natural phenomenon, where hundreds of trees are covered with snow and ice, making them look like strange monsters, Zao Onsen also hosts a ski resort and many hot-springs. The best time to see the 'snow monsters' is between February-March. Whilst the monsters are well known, few international tourists visit this resort – so the abundance of courses and slopes will be yours to enjoy with little crowds.



HOTEL LUCENT TAKAMIYA

Featuring both Japanese and westernstyle spacious rooms, Hotel Lucent Takamiya is located in the centre of town and has a stunning open-air hot-spring bath – perfect after a day of skiing.

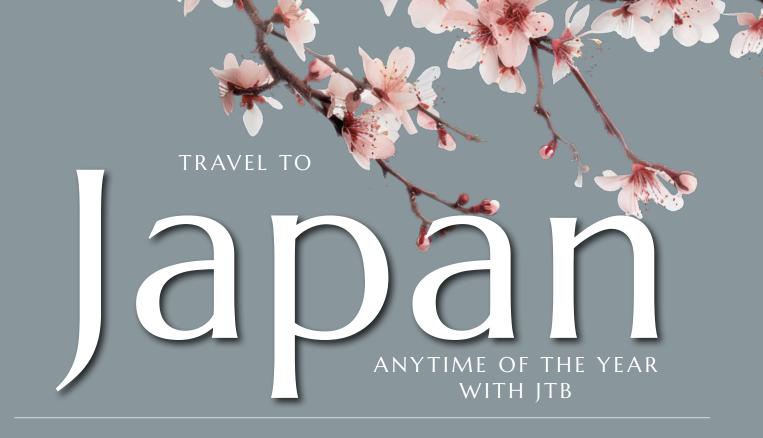
FROM \$175 per person twin share, with daily breakfast

EXPERIENCE

APAN

JULY 2025 ----- JUNE 2026





From the bustling metropolis of Tokyo to the sweet sea breeze of Okinawa, the islands of Japan are a diverse and magnificent wonderland of sightseeing bliss. Since our inception in 1912, we have made it our mission to provide you with the most comprehensive and intuitive travel experiences all over Japan.

Whether you're an independent traveller, corporate traveller or a family looking to explore Japan, we relish the opportunity to share the wealth of knowledge that we have culminated over more than a century of doing what we do, and that is being the Japan travel experts.

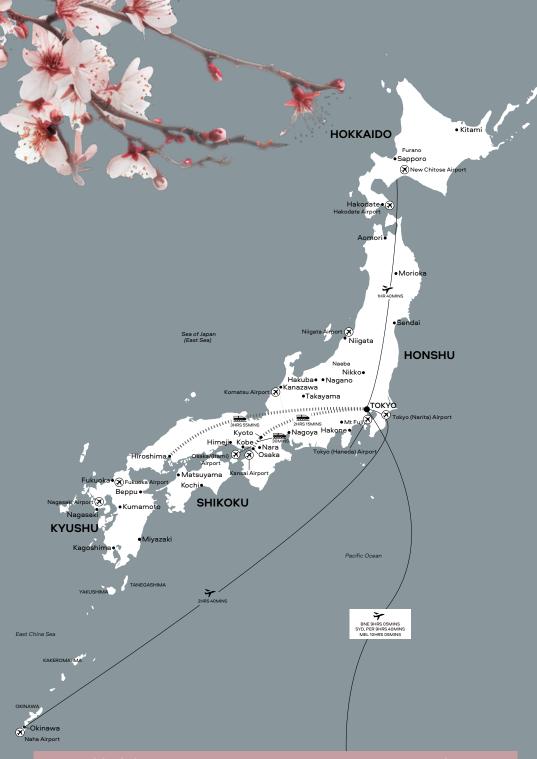
Our goal is to provide you with attentive service that you can rely on, paired with the most comprehensive travel advice and the widest range of Japan travel packages. If you are looking for something more than a holiday, let our team of Japan experts create a unique, personalised and completely unforgettable Japan travel experience.

Contents

Introduction to Japan	ifc
Holiday Planning Map of Japan	
Japan Rail Passes	2
Airport Transfers and Hotels	
Independent Suggested Itineraries	4
Off the Beaten Track	6
Guided Packages	
Tokyo	10
Mt. Fuji	12

14
16
18
19
20
21
22
23

Chugoku	24
Beppu & Kyushu	26
Matsuyama & Beppu	28
Matsuyama & Shikoku	30
Tohoku	32
Hokkaido	33
Sugoi Japan – Pop Culture	34
Universal Studios Japan	35
Offiver sai Otaalos Japan	00
T	20
Terms & Conditions	36
Ski Japan	38



National holidays in Iapan

January 2025 — December 2025

01 January	New Year's Day
13 January	Coming of Age Day
11 February	National Foundation Day
24 February	Emperors Birthday
20 March	Spring Equinox Day
29 April	Showa Day
03 May	Constitution
	Memorial Day
04 May	Greenery Day
05 May	Children's Day

06 May	Greenery Day (observed)
21 July	Maritime Day
11 August	Mountain Day
15 September	Respect for the Aged Day
23 September	Autumnal Equinox Day
13 October	Health Sports Day
03 November	Culture Day
23 November	Labour Thanksgiving Day
24 November	Labour Thanksgiving Day (observed)

JTB Australia is your one-stop shop.

- Arrange our extremely popular quided tours around Japan.
- Piece together a unique independent itinerary or package that is tailored to suit your specific travel needs.
- Book a wide range of accommodation in Japan that includes anything from 2-5 star properties or traditional Ryokans. Boasting over 7,000 contracted properties, we have Japan covered
- Arrange unique special-interest holidays such as cycling trips, bird watching, school groups, wedding packages and luxury travel.
- Arrange packages when unique events or festivals are on throughout the calendar year.
- Provide advice on the best train and transportation passes for your itinerary and help you book it
- Book a wide range of cruises sailing to and around Japan.
- Arrange theme park and museum tickets throughout Japan.
- Book sporting events and concert tickets.
- We can book not only Japan, but worldwide destinations as well

JIB Australia offers a lot more than the above, so please visit www.jtbtravel.com.au or contact us on 1300 739 330 and we are more than happy to assist you any way we can!

VISA INFORMATION

Australian Passport Holders

Do not require pre-prescribed visas. You will be issued with a visitors entry permit valid for stays up to 90 days upon arrival in Japan, provided you have proof of ongoing travel and have at least 6 months of validity on your passport from the date of return into Australia.

Other passport holders

Please contact your department of foreign affairs or the consulate of Japan to check your specific visa requirements, if any.



Your key to convenient sightseeing in Japan!

A Japan Rail Pass is one of the most convenient ways to get around Japan, giving you access to bullet trains, buses, JR local trains and a ferry. Japan Rail Passes are available to travellers visiting Japan with a tourist (temporary visitor) visa. They are not available for working holiday or student visa holders. The trains are comfortable, clean and easy to ride so sit back, relax and enjoy Japan as you glide across the country.



National Japan Rail Pass

This pass covers the entire Japan Railway JR system including some buses and a ferry. You are able to travel everywhere in Japan using this pass. Choose between 7, 14 and 21 consecutive passes. Each are available in Economy (Ordinary) and Green (Executive) Class.

TYPE	ECONOMY	GREEN (Executive)
7-day Pass	\$544	\$761
14-day Pass	\$870	\$1,196
21-day Pass	\$1,087	\$1,622

Regional JR Passes

A number of regional JR passes providing excellent value for money are also available, including JR Hokkaido, JR West, JR Shikoku and JR Kyushu. Please see pages 24 to 33 for recommended regional sightseeing of Japan using these passes!

Train sector fares

JTB can arrange most train sectors, subject to availability at time of booking. Prices are subject to change at time of booking.

TYPE	ECONOMY
Tokyo – Kyoto	\$212
Tokyo – Shin Osaka	\$221
Tokyo – Hiroshima	\$303
Kyoto – Hiroshima	\$181

Prices are based on low season, reserved seats, ordinary class trains. Train tickets are only sold in conjunction with at least 1 night of accommodation booked through JTB, for a stay PRIOR to the first train journey, in order to securely deliver physical tickets locally.

Pocket Wi-Fi

JTB can organise local pocket Wi-Fi devices, without the need to drain your mobile data or face international roaming fees. These devices grant you near constant connectivity, wherever you are in Japan, ensuring your loved ones can always reach you. These can either be delivered to your local hotel, or to a major airport counter for collection on arrival. Up to 5 devices can be connected at any one time, with lightning fast speeds and unlimited data.

PRICES START FROM \$43 for one day, or up to \$252 for 31 days.

- * For current prices, all pass types and conditions, please visit www.jtbtravel.com.au where passes can be ordered online.
- * If you require the passes to be sent out to you, postage and handling charges will apply.
- * Seat reservations can be made once in Japan at no extra cost.
- * $\,$ Children's (6 to 11 years) Passes are also available at 50% of the adult price.
- Shinkansen (Super Express Bullet trains) can be used with the Japan Rail Pass. Travel on the Nozomi Bullet trains is permitted with your JR Pass, at additional cost on the spot.



Airport TRANSFERS AND HOTELS

TOKYO NARITA AND HANEDA AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Green Tomato Shared Airport Shuttle

Door to door shuttle service to most Tokyo city accommodation.
*Conditions apply

Narita Airport to Tokyo city accommodation

ONE WAY - \$111 Per Person

Haneda Airport to Tokyo city accommodation

ONE WAY - \$87 Per Person





HILTON NARITA

Modern, luxurious and convenient, Hilton is an excellent choice for your stay in Narita or your transit through the airport. There is a courtesy bus that will get you to Narita within 15 minutes.

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$216 per person twin share



KANSAI AIRPORT WASHINGTON HOTEL

This hotel enjoys a favourable location, only 15 minutes by complimentary shuttle bus. The interior of the hotel is minimal and well executed, providing a nice area to relax after a long flight.

+++ 3 STAR

FROM \$118 per person twin share

KANSAI AND ITAMI OSAKA AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Airport Bus

Pre-paid airport bus coupon.

Kansai Airport to Kyoto (approx 100mins)

ONE WAY - \$39 Adult / \$19 Child (6-11yrs)

Green Tomato Airport Shuttle

Door to door shuttle service to Osaka hotels.

*Conditions apply

Kansai Airport to Osaka

ONE WAY - \$101 Adult

PRIVATE transfer options also available; conditions apply for all transfer service types. Contact JTB directly for more details.





HOTEL VILLA FONTAINE GRAND HANEDA

Located inside Haneda Airport Garden, the major shopping complex connected to Haneda Airport T3. Perfect for stopovers, overnight connections, and access into Tokyo city.

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$194 per person twin share



HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT

Directly connect to Kansai Airport, enjoy a sophisticated environment for your transit. There are several restaurants to choose from that serve up Chinese, Teppanyaki and Western cuisine.

+++ 4 STAR

FROM \$121 per person twin share

WANT TO EXPLORE

APAN

IN YOUR

OWN TIME

INDEPENDENT SUGGESTED ITINERARIES

Need more flexibility and freedom in your itinerary? Look no further!

- We book your accommodation and tours, you make your own way between cities
- We can modify these flexible itineraries to suit your needs.
- These packages give you the freedom to explore Japan the way you want
- Special airfares in conjunction with any land packages are available
- Not what you are looking for? JTB can design a tailor-made itinerary.





13 DAYS

FROM \$3,895 per person twin share

INCLUSIONS

12 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION ♦ ♦ ♦

7-DAY NATIONWIDE JAPAN RAIL PASS (VALID DAYS 5-11)

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE AIRPORT TRANSFERS

GUIDED 1-DAY TOURS IN TOKYO, FUJI, KYOTO AND HIROSHIMA

SUGGESTED ITINERARY

DAY 1: TOKYO

Arrive into Narita/Haneda Airport in Tokyo and transfer into the city by shared/private bus transfer. Stay in Tokyo for 3 nights.

DAY 2: TOKYO

Get introduced to the sights of Tokyo including Tokyo Imperial Palace and Tokyo Tower with a 1-Day Tokyo Dynamic Sightseeing Tour.

DAY 3: TOKYO

Entire free day to explore Tokyo at your own leisure.

Suggested optional activities:

- Tokyo Disneyland or DisneySea
- Teamlab Planets
- 1-Day Nikko Sightseeing Tour from Tokyo

DAY 4: HAKONE

Visit the world-famous Mount Fuji and Hakone's Lake Ashi via our 1-Day Mount Fuji and Hakone Tour before being dropped off at a traditional Japanese ryokan in nearby Hakone. Stay in Hakone for 1 night.

DAY 5: TAKAYAMA

Exchange your JR Pass in Odawara before travelling into the mountains of Takayama. Take a walk around Takayama to discover historical gems such as Takayama Jinya, San-machi Traditional Building Preservation Area, Hida Folk Village and Takayama Festival Museum. Stay in Takayama for 1 night.

DAY 6: KANAZAWA

Explore the diverse Takayama morning market before travelling by train to Kanazawa. Points of interest here include Kenrokuen garden, Higashi Chaya District, Nagamachi Samurai District and Omicho Fish Market. Stay in Kanazawa for 1 night.

DAY 7: KYOTO

Travel by train to Kyoto. Free afternoon to explore Kyoto.

Suggested optional activities:

- Tea Ceremony Experience with Kimono Wearing
- Family Ninja Experience
- Kyoto Afternoon Tour including Fushimi Inari Shrine

Stay in Kyoto for 2 nights.

DAY 8: KYOTO AND NARA

Get introduced to the sights of Kyoto and Nara including Kinkakuji Temple and Nara Park with a 1-Day Kyoto & Nara Sightseeing Tour.

DAY 9: HIROSHIMA AND HIMEJI

This morning depart for Hiroshima stopping at Himeji by bullet train. Points of interest in Himeji include UNESCO Heritage Himeji Castle and Kokoen Garden. Continue by bullet train to Hiroshima. Stay in Hiroshima for 2 nights.

DAY IO: HIROSHIMA AND MIYAJIMA

Get introduced to the sights of Hiroshima and Miyajima Island including the Hiroshima Peace Museum and Itsukushima Shrine with a 1-Day Hiroshima & Miyajima Sightseeing Tour.

DAY 11: OSAKA

Depart Hiroshima at leisure and travel by bullet train to Osaka. Points of interest here include Osaka Castle, Osaka Museum of History, Shitenno-ji Temple and Namba Area. Accommodation in Osaka for 2 nights.

DAY 12: OSAKA

Entire free day to explore Osaka. Suggested optional activities:

- Universal Studios Japan
- Dotonbori and Shinsekai Food Tour.

DAY 13: OSAKA

Package concludes with shared/private transfer to Kansai/Itami Airport.

TRAVEL THE BEATEN TRACK OFF Experience the cultural heritage, traditions and hospitality of Japan from the comfort of small, intimate groups and self-guided and custom packages. Focused on getting away from the crowds, JTB has a wide range of itineraries created by those with a passion for Japan and all its hidden beauties.

NAKASENDO SELF-GUIDED WALKING 3 DAYS

FROM \$1,933 per person

Recommended from March to November

INCLUSIONS

2 NIGHTS AT JAPANESE INNS ALONG THE NAKASENDO TRAIL

2 BREAKFASTS, 2 DINNERS

ROUND TRIP TRAIN TICKETS FROM KYOTO OR TOKYO TO THE TRAIL

TRAIN TICKETS FOR INTERMEDIATE JOURNEYS ON THE NAKASENDO TRAIL

DETAILED DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY WITH WALKING DIRECTIONS AND MAPS



DAY 1: HIKE FROM MAGOME TO TSUMAGO

WALKING DISTANCE: 8.3km/Approx 3hrs

Take the bullet train to Nagoya then board a local bus to Magome. Walk over Magome Pass to Tsumago, one of the best preserved and most evocative of the Nakasendo trail towns. Spend the night at a family-run Minshuku (inn) with a delicious home-cooked Japanese dinner and breakfast.

DAY 2: HIKE FROM TSUMAGO TO NOJIRI

WALKING DISTANCE: 18.4km/Approx 6hrs

Today you will hike the sensational track between Tsumago to Nojiri. The trail travels through small valleys and past forests of bamboo and Japanese cedar trees. Continue by train to Kiso-Fukushima. Stay at a traditional ryokan and relax and rejuvenate in their onsen hot spring.

DAY 3: HIKE FROM YABUHARA TO NARAI

WALKING DISTANCE: 6.2km/Approx 3hrs

You will be driven back to Kiso-Fukushima after breakfast, where you will board a train bound for Yabuhara. Explore this atmospheric village before travelling via train to Tokyo or Kyoto.

KUMANO KODO SELF-GUIDED WALKING 4 DAYS

FROM \$1,902 per person

Recommended from April to November

INCLUSIONS

3 NIGHTS AT JAPANESE INNS ALONG THE KUMANO KODO TRAIL

3 BREAKFASTS, 3 DINNERS

ROUND TRIP TRAIN TICKETS FROM KYOTO OR OSAKA

DETAILED DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY WITH WALKING DIRECTIONS AND MAPS



DAY 1: HIKE FROM TAKIJIRI TO TAKAHARA

WALKING DISTANCE: 4.5km/Approx 2hrs

Travel to the small town of Kii-Tanabe by train, after which you will board a local bus bound for Takijiri. You will begin on the picturesque Nakahechi portion of the Kumano Kodo pilgrimage route, making your way to the beautiful ridge-top village of Takahara. Overnight in a Japanese style inn and enjoy a home cooked dinner featuring local seasonal ingredients.

DAY 2: HIKE FROM TAKAHARA TO CHIKATSUYU

WALKING DISTANCE: 10km/Approx 4-5hrs

After a Japanese breakfast, follow the trail as it winds through small settlements and the peaceful countryside. You will pass several Oji shrines before descending to Chikatsuyu village. Overnight at a family run Minshuku (inn).

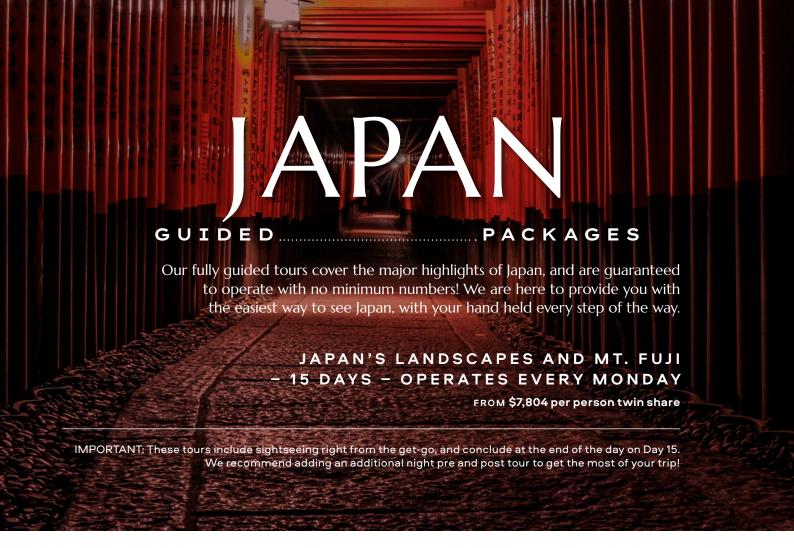
DAY 3: HIKE FROM CHIKATSUYU TO HONGU

WALKING DISTANCE: 7km/ Approx 2hrs

Today, walk a gentle section of the trail from Hosshinmon-oji to the Kumano shrine at Hongu, one of the three 'Grand Shrines of Kumano'. From the Kumano shrine, a short bus ride will bring you to either Yunomine Onsen, one of the oldest natural hotspring villages in Japan, or to Kawayu Onsen, famous for its thermal water bubbling to the surface of the crystal clear river. Enjoy a relaxing soak in a Japanese bath after your delicious, multi-course Kaiseki style dinner.

DAY 4: HIKE FROM HAYATAMA GRAND SHRINE AND SHINGU

Take the morning to explore the atmospheric village of Yunomine Onsen or Kawayu Onsen. Travel by bus along to Shingu and visit the Kumano Hayatama Taisha, one of the three Grand Shrines of Kumano. The Kamikura Shrine on Mount Gongen, is also well worth a visit. After visiting the sites of Shingu, travel back to Osaka or Kyoto.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: WELCOME TO JAPAN! TRANSFER BY COACH TO THE HOTEL

Upon your arrival in Japan, the adventure begins with a seamless transfer by coach to your hotel. As you settle in, anticipation builds for the journey ahead, promising a blend of modernity and tradition unique to Japan. The rest of the day is yours to explore this bustling metropolis at your leisure!

DAY 2: TOKYO

The morning starts with a comprehensive 5-hour tour led by our guide, unveiling the wonders of Tokyo. We begin at Zojoji Temple for a snapshot of Tokyo Tower against the city skyline. Here, Jizo statues stand as protective deities, guiding travellers and imparting strength to the vulnerable. Next, we delve into Shibuya's iconic Scramble Crossing, witnessing its controlled chaos and the Zen escape of Meiji Shrine, located in an urban forest. Continuing along Omotesando's elegant boulevard, before we admire the Imperial Palace's serene beauty and the historic Nijubashi Bridge. A journey through Akihabara reveals Tokyo's anime and electronics hub, contrasted with the Sensoji Buddhist Temple Complex in Asakusa. Free time allows exploration of Nakamise traditional market street. Lunch is provided at a local restaurant, ensuring a taste of authentic Japanese cuisine before heading to the bustling district of Shinjuku to take in the night life.

DAY 3: TOKYO-KYOTO

After breakfast, we board the bullet train to Kyoto, a city untouched by World War II's devastation, preserving its cultural heritage. Sights include Fushimi Inari Shrine, famed for its torii gates, and Kinkakuji Temple, the "Golden Pavilion" set amidst enchanting gardens. Free time precedes an evening in Gion, Kyoto's geisha district, offering a glimpse into traditional Japanese culture.



DAY 4: KYOTO-NARA-OSAKA

Our journey to Nara, a former capital of Japan, features Todaiji Temple, housing a colossal Buddha and freely roaming friendly deer in its park. We will have lunch before visiting Horyuji Temple, an ancient Buddhist complex showcasing Japan's architectural legacy. In Osaka, the evening brings us to Dotonbori, a vibrant district brimming with nightlife and culinary delights, offering a taste of Osaka's energetic spirit.

DAY 5: OSAKA-HIMEJI-KORAKUEN GARDEN-OKAYAMA

Departing for Himeji, we explore Himeji Castle, a national treasure renowned for its elegant architecture. After lunch at a local eatery we proceed to Korakuen Garden in Okayama, celebrated for its scenic landscapes and tranquil teahouses. Then stop by the aptly named 'Crow Castle' overlooking Korakuen Garden – Okayama Castle.

DAY 6: OKAYAMA-KURASHIKI-MIYAJIMA-HIROSHIMA

Kurashiki charms with its preserved historical district and canals before our journey continues to Hiroshima. Here, the Peace Memorial Park and Museum pay homage to the city's poignant history. A ferry ride transports us to Itsukushima Island (Miyajima), home to the iconic Itsukushima Shrine. The day concludes with dinner and relaxation back at our Hiroshima hotel.

DAY 7: HIROSHIMA-MATSUYAMA

Next, take a short ferry to Shikoku Island, offering scenic views of Japan's archipelago. In Matsuyama, a cable car ascends to its castle, followed by a visit to Ishiteji Temple, a revered pilgrimage site. Afternoon leisure is enhanced by a visit to Dogo Onsen, a historic hot spring bathhouse dating to the 19th century.

DAY 8: MATSUYAMA-KOTOHIRA-TAKAMATSU-NARUTO-KOBE

Departing for Kotohira, we visit the Shinto shrine Kompira-san, dedicated to seafaring deities. Lunch is served in Takamatsu, followed by a stroll through Ritsurin Garden's meticulously landscaped grounds. Crossing the Naruto Bridge offers panoramic views of its whirlpools, en route to Kobe for an overnight stay.

DAY 9: KOBE-OSAKA-MOUNT KOYA

Kobe's Earthquake Memorial Museum offers insight into the city's resilience. Journeying onward to Osaka, we ascend Mount Koya, a sacred site of Shingon Buddhism. Here, Kongobuji Temple and Okuno-in Mausoleum provide spiritual solace amid serene surroundings. Accommodation is in a monastery, offering a Zen meditation experience (Ajikan) and vegetarian dinner.

Notes

- 1: On some dates, the Earthquake Museum may be changed for the Sake Museum or a climb up Kobe Tower.
- 2: We consider the sojourn at the monastery as an experience of great existential value. The rooms at this place are modest, without bathrooms, in the traditional Japanese style with tatamis. Bathrooms are communal.

DAY 10: MOUNT KOYA-KYOTO

Morning meditation and breakfast at the monastery precede our return journey to Kyoto. Enjoy a free day to explore Kyoto's treasures independently, guided by our expert's recommendations.

DAY II: KYOTO-TSUMAGO-MATSUMOTO-NAGANO

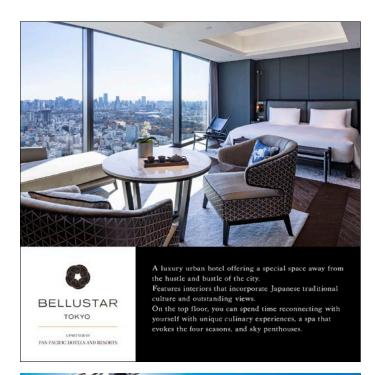
Travelling to Tsumago, we explore the picturesque wooden houses of the Nakasendo Trail and visit Matsumoto Castle, a stunning example of 16th-century architecture. Nagano offers an evening retreat, perfect for relaxing and reflecting on our journey thus far.

DAY 12: NAGANO-MONKEY PARK-KUSATSU-IKAHO ONSEN

In Nagano, Zenko-ji Temple invites contemplation, followed by the unique Jigokudani Monkey Park, where Japanese macaques bathe in natural hot springs. Our route continues through scenic mountain vistas to Kusatsu, renowned for its therapeutic hot springs. Ikaho Onsen offers an evening in a ryokan, complete with traditional Japanese hospitality and cuisine.

DAY 13: IKAHO-NIKKO-TOKYO

Journeying to Nikko, we visit Nikko Toshogu Shrine and Taiyuinbyo Mausoleum. After a serene riverside stroll, return to Tokyo for an evening arrival.





DAY 14: TOKYO-KAMAKURA-ENOSHIMA-ODAWARA

Day trip to Kamakura includes Hokoku-ji Temple's bamboo forest and the Great Buddha of Kamakura. Enoshima offers seaside relaxation, with Odawara Castle's imposing presence capping off the day.

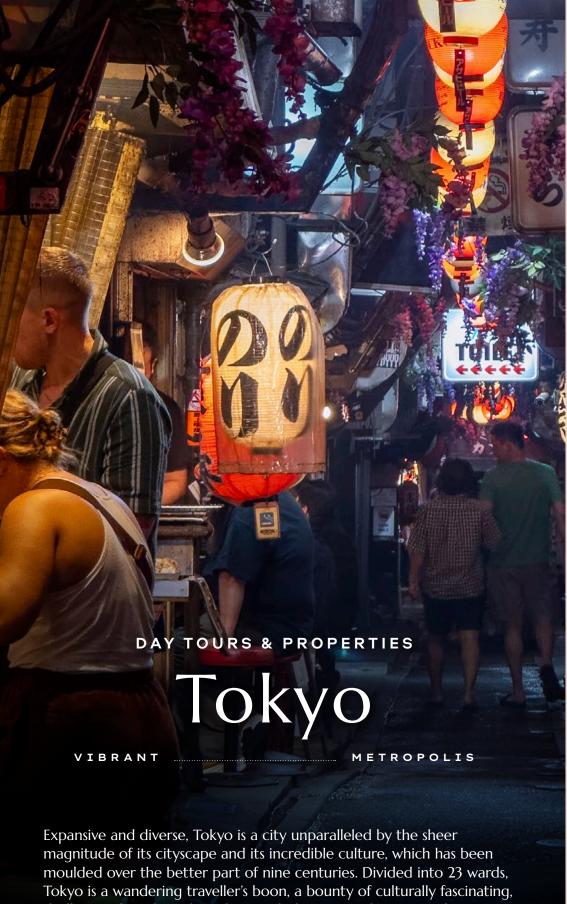
DAY 15: ODAWARA-OWAKUDANI-OSHINO HAKKAI-KAWAGUCHIKO-MT. FUJI-TOKYO

Our final day journeys through Hakone's volcanic landscapes, including Owakudani's sulfurous springs and Oshino Hakkai's serene ponds. A boat ride on Lake Kawaguchi offers views of Mt. Fuji, concluding our journey full circle back in Tokyo.

Notes:

 $\label{lem:condition} Access is sometimes closed due to high volcanic activity or toxic gases, in which case we would include the Arakurayama Sengen park.$

In winter, the climb to Mt. Fuji is often closed by snow or other weather conditions; if this is so, we



Expansive and diverse, Tokyo is a city unparalleled by the sheer magnitude of its cityscape and its incredible culture, which has been moulded over the better part of nine centuries. Divided into 23 wards, Tokyo is a wandering traveller's boon, a bounty of culturally fascinating, thrilling and quirky sights. These include areas such as Ginza, known for high class shopping, Akihabara, the electronic centre of Tokyo, and Shinjuku, famous for its neon lights and futuristic skyscrapers. Tokyo is also an extremely important figure in Japanese history, with relics of the bygone Edo period on show throughout the city. The most famous of these sights is the Imperial Palace, formerly Edo Castle, which even today is still surrounded by its original innermost moat.

ACCOMMODATION



KEIO PLAZA HOTEL LOCATION: SHINJUKU

The bustling Shinjuku ward leaves you spoiled for choice with plenty of entertainment, shopping and dining options, though the Keio Plaza has more than 29 restaurants and bars itself!

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$350 per person per night twin share, room only



MIMARU TOKYO STATION EAST LOCATION: TOKYO STATION

A chain of apartment hotels, Mimaru are perfect, affordable options for larger groups and families. In the case of Mimaru Tokyo Station East, the majority of the apartments offer multiple bedrooms, for parents looking for a separate sleeping area to their children.

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$718 2BR apartment per night quad share, room only

THE SUMO SHOW WITH LUNCH OR DINNER

FROM \$168 per person

If you are coming to Japan, you must see a natural interaction of ex-sumo wrestlers performing. On this day, not only will you be watching them perform, but you can also have the chance to put on a sumo suit and wrestle with the wrestler. After you sweat, enjoy Tonkatsu (Japanese pork cutlet) and Chankonabe (hearty noodle soup) for lunch. Chankonabe is the soul food for sumo wrestlers.

They would eat this dish to get bigger every day.

Don't miss your chance to interact with real sumo wrestlers! Learn about a real sumo wrestler's behind-thescenes stories and daily life while enjoying Tonkatsu and Chanko soup. This is also an infrequent opportunity to wrestle with retired sumo wrestlers.

1 DAY WORLD HERITAGE NIKKO WALKING TOUR WITH LUNCH (FROM SHINJUKU)

FROM \$315 per person

A sacred place for Japan's mountain worship, Nikko is home to the "Shrines and Temples of Nikko," a registered World Heritage Site. On this tour, walk around World Heritage component sites such as Nikko Toshogu Shrine together with a National Government Licensed English Guide Interpreter. In small groups, travellers walk on a course where they can learn more about Japan while listening to explanations in English about Nikko's history, culture, and faith.

TOKYO DISNEYLAND/ DISNEYSEA 1 DAY ADMISSION TICKETS

FROM \$162 per person

A visit to Tokyo is incomplete without a trip to Tokyo Disney Resort! The nostalgia will hit you heavily as you walk the very familiar grounds of Tokyo Disneyland, modelled after the original Anaheim Disneyland; while the very original concept of DisneySea is made for Japan only!

PANORAMIC TOKYO FULL DAY TOUR

FROM \$156 per person

Explore Tokyo city by coach, in this convenient 1 day tour taking you around the city to see the best Tokyo has to offer, including drive throughs of major districts such as Shinjuku, Ginza and the Imperial Palace Plaza, along with stops at Meiji Shrine, Sensoji Temple and the old town area of Asakusa. Lunch is included on this tour.



YANAKA HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR IN TOKYO'S OLD TOWN

FROM \$126 per person

See Japan's unique Shinto culture up close as you cross under a vibrant red arch in Nezu Shrine, a portal into another world. Craft a lucky cat for your travel memory in a cafe of an old folk house.

Sample a variety of local foods as you stroll around Yanaka Ginza and find yourself in a cozy house that serves Soba lunch, a food engrained in Japanese culture!



DISCOVER TOKYO PRIVATE 8 HOUR WALKING TOUR

FROM \$589 per person (minimum 2 people)

Tell us your interests or let us know of anything you want to see or do in Tokyo, and we'll customize a tour with the help of our friendly local tour guide!





Mt. Fuji is a true icon of Japan. Although Fuji-san can be seen for miles, the best place to take in a breathtaking view is from the town of Kawaguchiko at the base of the mountain. The most popular spots to see those iconic panoramas are on the north shore of Lake Kawaguchi, and up the scenic ropeway to Arakurayama Sengen Park. For those that seek adrenaline, Fuji-Q Highland is Japan's highest-octane amusement park with numerous record-breaking rollercoasters sure to test any thrill seeker's limits.

TOURS



MT. FUJI & ARAKURAYAMA SENGEN PARK TOUR RETURN FROM TOKYO

FROM \$181 per person

Enjoy the experience of visiting one of Japan's most famous landmarks, Mt. Fuji. Your adventure will start at Mt. Fuji's 5th Station where you can bask in the amazing views of the surrounding area (weather permitting) before heading to Lake Kawaguchi to take in the view of Mt. Fuji over the lake. The final stop is the famous Arakurayama Sengen Park which is rich with views of the mountain and Kawaguchiko from Chureito Pagoda.



FUJI-Q HIGHLAND UNLIMITED RIDES TICKET, WITH RETURN TRANSFERS FROM TOKYO

FROM \$157 per person

Not only for those seeking the wildest rides Japan has to offer in this incredible theme park just on the outskirts of Tokyo, but for those looking to visit some of the most perfect vantage points of Mt. Fuji, look no further! We have proudly partnered up with Fuji-Q Highland to offer a convenient round trip journey from Tokyo city, and offer unlimited rides at Fuji-Q!

ACCOMMODATION

LAKE KAWAGUCHI



KASUITEI OOYA

A relatively low cost option located at the south side of Lake Kawaguchi, this traditional ryokan offers rooms either facing Mt. Fuji or Lake Kawaguchi. Be treated to the full traditional experience of Japanese banquet dining, futon bedding and world class service, while you enjoy the natural hot springs on site!

+++ 3 STAR

FROM \$264 per person twin share, including dinner and breakfast



PHOTO CREDIT: HOSHING

HOSHINOYA FUJI

This luxurious glamping option located on the outskirts of Fuji is the absolute best Japan has to offer. Extremely popular and often sold out, HOSHINOYA Fuji is one entirely unforgettable experience.

++++ 5 STAR

FROM \$2,094 per person twin share, including dinner and breakfast



The popular hot spring getaway is a must visit spot for anyone keen to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city. Located between Tokyo and Kyoto, Hakone is easy access and even easier to explore due to the various public transportation offerings. Ride by boat on the volcanic Lake Ashi, see one of Japan's geothermally active "Hell valleys" by ropeway and if you are lucky, you may have the chance to see the majestic Mt. Fuji from the top. Visit the famous Open-Air Museum with various sculptures and artworks from all around the world and stay at one of the many ryokans for an authentic Japanese getaway experience.

TOURS



MT. FUJI AND HAKONE 1 DAY TOUR RETURN BY BULLET TRAIN

Adult FROM \$351 per person

Child (6-11yrs) FROM \$238 per person

Combine the best of Mt. Fuji and Hakone in one day! Start off by visiting the Mt. Fuji 5th Station (weather permitting), after which you will cruise your way along Lake Ashi to a traditional Japanese garden, Hakone-en. On route back to Tokyo you will board the Komagatake ropeway for your final Mt. Fuji picture perfect moment before jumping on the Shinkansen Bullet Train.



3 DAY HAKONE FREE PASS

Adult FROM \$88 per person

If you're coming from Tokyo and decide to spend a couple of nights in Hakone, make sure you pick up one of these passes, offering 3 consecutive days of transportation in the Hakone region, starting with a journey from Shinjuku Station in Tokyo to Hakone. Within Hakone, virtually every form of public transportation including local trains, buses, cable cars, ropeways and cruise rides are covered on this single ticket.

ACCOMMODATION

HAKONE



HAKONE PAX YOSHINO

FROM \$369 per person twin share, including dinner & breakfast

Enjoy this traditional hot spring resort, complete with Japanese banquet dining! Most rooms here have low lying beds to cater for those who are keen on a traditional experience but don't quite want to sleep right down low on futons!

+++ 3 STAR



HOTEL INDIGO HAKONE GORA

FROM \$352 per person twin share, including breakfast

For those after a more luxurious hot spring resort experience, rather than a traditional one, look no further than Indigo Hakone Gora! Unlike most hot spring resorts in Japan, this modern hot spring resort permits use of swimwear in the thermal hot springs on site.

++++ 4.5 STAR

DAY TOURS & PROPERTIES Kyoto CULTURE HISTORY Japan is a deeply spiritual and soul-filled nation, and if this idealism could be personified into a city Kyoto would be the star. Originally the capital of Japan for more than one thousand years, there are plenty of incredibly well-preserved remnants of a time long gone, from the countless Buddhist temples to hundreds of Shinto shrines, each has its own unique story to discover. There are also priceless treasures such as Kinkakuji (Golden Pavilion), the Ryoanji Rock Garden, the Kyoto Imperial Palace and the awe-inspiring grandeur of nearby Nara. The culture and history alone make Kyoto unrivalled as a must-see destination for your trip.

ACCOMMODATION



MIMARU KYOTO STATION

Located only 3 minutes on foot from Kyoto Station, this centrally located chain of apartment hotels are affordable and provide a great experience for families. Not only that, but they have exclusive Pokemon themed rooms, an unmissable adventure for lovers of anime!

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$640 per quad room per night, room only



SUMIHOTARU OBORO

Machiya are traditional wooden townhouses that date back to the 7th century. These luxurious townhouses give you a glimpse into ancient Japan, styled as a traditional ryokan yet providing all the amenities that you expect from modern day accommodation.

These private townhouses are perfect for everyone, from couples looking for an intimate getaway to large families who are looking for a little bit more room. Each Machiya can accommodate anywhere from 2 to 10 guests and come fitted with a fully equipped kitchen, washing machine, free Wi-Fi, bathroom amenities and much, much more.

At the Machiya Residence Inn townhouses you can truly discover the meaning of privacy and live like a local.

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$520 per 4 Person House per night

TOURS



JAPANESE
EXPERIENCES
WITH MAIKOYA –
TRADITIONAL TEA
CEREMONY WITH
KIMONO FITTING

FROM \$86 per person (age 7+ only)

Be expertly fitted in a kimono and experience a Japanese tea ceremony in a traditional tea house!



KYOTO SAKE BREWERY AND TASTING TOUR IN FUSHIMI

FROM \$173 per person

Take a stroll around Fushimi district, Kyoto's major sake brewery district, and visit the Kyoto Sake Museum. After visiting the Sake brewery, enjoy tasting 18 kinds of Kyoto's local sake! Be a little tipsy, stop by one of Kyoto's shrines, and get refreshed by drinking exquisite Japanese groundwater at the end of the tour!



JAPANESE EXPERIENCES WITH MAIKOYA – NINJA EXPERIENCE (FAMILY AND KID FRIENDLY)

FROM \$75 per person

Learn the secrets of ninja, get kitted out in full ninja garb, and tour the Samurai and Ninja Museum in Kyoto!



5 HOUR PRIVATE KYOTO WALKING TOUR

FROM \$393 per group (up to 5 participants)

Let our local friendly tour guide take you around Kyoto's hidden spots, and walk away feeling as you've made a friend in Japan!

KYOTO ARASHIYAMA BAMBOO FOREST AND GARDEN HALF DAY WALKING TOUR

FROM \$226 per person

Immerse yourself in solitude in the mesmerizing nature of Arashiyama. Visit the world famous, must-visit bamboo forest and Tenryu-ji, a UNESCO world heritage site, and immerse yourself in its rich history. Have a local Kyoto lunch and visit UNESCO world heritage temples Tenryu-ji!

KYOTO NIGHT FOODIE TOUR

FROM \$271 per person

Try Kyoto's traditional, seasoned dishes at a hidden restaurant in Gion. Enjoy many kinds of Kyoto sake with guide's explanation. Finish the tour with Kyoto's local dessert or even more foods!



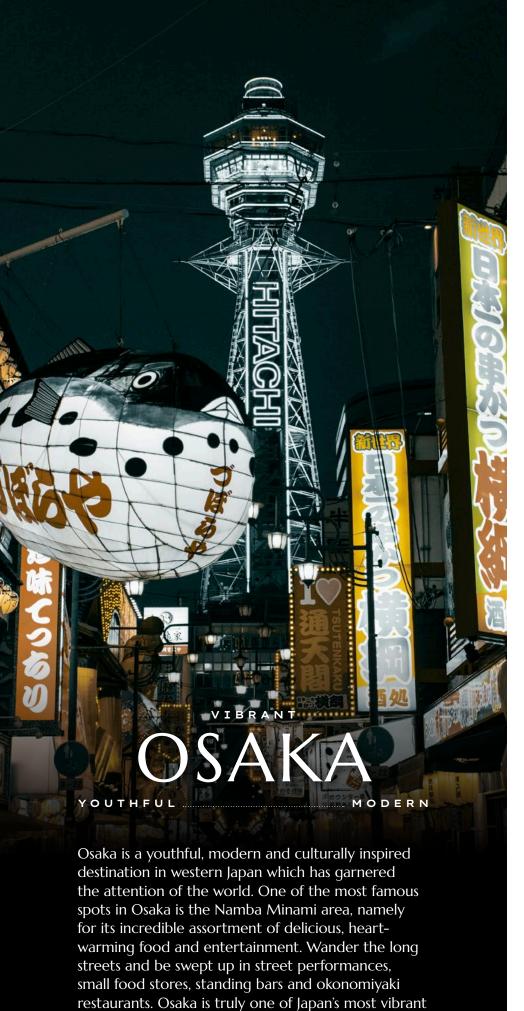
Side Trip from Kyoto NARA AFTERNOON TOUR

FROM \$173 per person

Take the time to explore Japan's first capital, Nara. Founded in the 8th century, Nara has some of the oldest and most exciting sights in the Kansai region, including the world's largest wooden structure, Todai-ji. You will also have the chance to get up close and personal with the deer at Nara Deer Park and check out Kasuga Shrine.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NARA VISITORS BUREAU



ACCOMMODATION

OSAKA



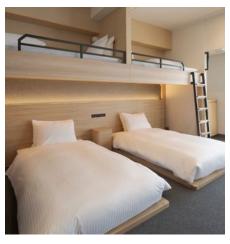
HOTEL INTERGATE OSAKA UMEDA

Located near Osaka Station, this 4-star option gives you a sense of openness that feels like the room and the city of Osaka are connected as one.

A variety of room types are available depending on the purpose of your trip. Guests can enjoy graphic arts in ancient and modern times painted on the walls, and streaming content of Osaka Original Kamigata Rakugo (comic storytelling).

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$136 per person twin share, room only



MIMARU OSAKA NAMBA STATION

Situated in the heart of Osaka's shopping and dining district, this family friendly apartment hotel is the perfect place to stay and relax at the end of your trip; any stomach room you've been conserving all trip long, time to throw it out the window and get on board Osaka's Eat-Til-You-Drop dining culture.

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$520 per family apartment, quad share

international cities.





KUROMON MARKET WALKING STREET FOOD TOUR IN OSAKA

FROM \$88 per person

Try Osaka's "must-eat" street food, Takoyaki at Kuromon Market. Have a taste of local favourite foods while walking through Kuromon Market and Dotonbori Street. Find unique Japanese kitchenware and tableware souvenirs to bring home!



5-HOUR PRIVATE OSAKA WALKING TOUR

FROM \$421 per group (up to 5 participants)

Let our local friendly tour guide take you around Osaka's hidden spots, and walk away feeling as you've made a friend in Japan! There's also an option to take a day trip to Kyoto or Nara with your guide from Osaka.

OSAKA AFTERNOON WALKING TOUR

FROM \$158 per person

Our afternoon tour explores two highlights of Osaka! Take in the cityscape from the Ogawa River on a river cruise spotting many famous and historic sights of the city before moving on to the famous Osaka Castle and its beautiful castle grounds famous for cherry blossoms in the spring.



CYCLE OSAKA – THE BEST OF OSAKA 5-6 HOURS TOUR

FROM \$211 per person

Our full day Osaka cycle tour is designed for those with less time and more energy!

After our first stop at the Japan Mint, we will cruise past the European style buildings and gardens of Nakanoshima before turning south and heading to one of our favourite local eateries for a quick lunch. After that, we will check out Japan's oldest Temple and Japan's tallest building before entering the legendary Shin-Sekai neighbourhood (for more food?) and then the star of the show (Osaka Castle!) before returning to base.



NAMBA BAR HOPPING NIGHT TOUR

FROM \$188 per person

Discover the hidden alleyways where Osaka locals dine and drink to experience the best nightlife Osaka has to offer. With your local guide, roam the neon lit streets of Namba and try local street food and pub cuisine before snapping pictures in Dotombori.

Side Trip from Osaka

WORLD HERITAGE HIMEJI CASTLE & AKASHI KAIKYO BRIDGE WALKING TOUR (FROM OSAKA)

FROM \$413 per person

Take a day trip out of Osaka to the world famous Himeji – departing from Osaka via bullet train. In Himeji explore the UNESCO World Heritage Himeji Castle with its stunning white exterior. After buffet lunch, visit Maiko Marine Promenade at one of the world's longest suspension bridges – the Akashi Kaikyo Bridge spanning to Awaji Island. The observation point also includes a glass floor down to the ocean!

Kansai

8-DAYS IN KANSALITINERARY

FROM \$2,819 per person twin share

Many airlines are now offering flights from Australia into Osaka's Kansai International Airport – giving Australian travellers direct access to the heart of Japan – the Kansai Region. Kansai is home to many distinct destinations such as the world-renowned Kyoto and Osaka, but we recommend exploring Kansai further to see the adventures and wonders this easily traversed region offers.

INCLUSIONS

7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION

(3-STAR STANDARD)

MEALS AS SPECIFIED

5-DAY JR KANSAI WIDE AREA PASS

A COLLECTION OF TOURS TO FURTHER YOUR EXPERIENCE

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE AIRPORT

DAY 1: OSAKA

After arriving at Kansai International Airport, take a shared airport transfer to your accommodation. We recommend exploring Namba & Dotonbori at night for some delicious street food!

DAY 2: OSAKA

Today join our full day Osaka tour to explore Osaka Castle, Umeda Sky Building's Floating Garden Observatory for a view over the city and cruise down the Ogawa River.

DAY 3: HIMEJI DAY TRIP

Head to Himeji, home to the UNESCO Heritage Himeji Castle for a small group bike tour around the castle grounds, stopping by Kokoen Garden for a cup of green tea.

DAY 4: LAKE BIWA

Lake Biwa is Japan's largest lake, nestled in the heart of Kansai. Take in its beautiful surroundings from a traditional ryokan and experience Japanese hot springs for a break from the hustle and bustle of it all!

DAY 5: KYOTO

No visit to Japan is complete without visiting Kyoto, the former capital and historical centre of Japan. Explore the city at your leisure today – consider roaming the traditional narrow streets in Gion or exploring Pontocho alley.

DAY 6: KYOTO

Join our Kyoto tour visiting the highlights of the city, including the Golden Pavillion (Kinkakuji), vermillion gates of Fushimi Inari and spectacular views from Kiyomizudera.

DAY 7: NARA DAY TRIP

Explore the city at your leisure in the morning – we recommend visiting Nishiki Market in downtown Kyoto! In the afternoon, join our tour to the historical city of Nara – famous for the friendly deer roaming Nara Park and incredible Todai-ji Temple.

DAY 8: KYOTO

Rise early to explore Arashiyama and its famous bamboo grove on our walking tour before the crowds arrive! Spend the afternoon at your leisure before taking an airport taxi to the airport to wrap up your visit to Kansai.





Big room to stay together

We offer rooms that are sized to reverse the image of Japanese hotels.

Recommended for who travel with their families.











PRIVATE KANAZAWA FULL DAY WALKING TOUR

FROM \$369 per person (Minimum 2 people)

Discover Japan's most creative city on our spectacular Kanazawa full day tour. Our award-winning private guide will collect you from your hotel lobby (or other suitable place) and guide you through this UNESCO city of Arts and Culture together on your custom tour. Visit the beautiful Geisha Districts, the Samurai enclaves, Kenrokuen Gardens, Kanazawa Castle and Omicho fish market to name just a few highlights.



GOLD LEAF CRAFTING EXPERIENCE IN HIGASHI CHAYA DISTRICT

FROM \$60 per person

Kanazawa is Japan's premier destination for arts, crafts and gold leaf – and there's no better place to experience this than in the historic Higashi Chaya district. In this workshop you will get the chance to create your own gold leaf masterpiece to bring home as a souvenir!

ACCOMMODATION



DAIWA ROYNET HOTEL KANAZAWA MIYABI

FROM \$140 per person twin share, room only

Beginning with interior designs that incorporate Kanazawa's traditional culture, this hotel has prepared rooms where you can be comfortable, offering free Wi-Fi (wireless LAN) service in all rooms, Imabari towel amenities and so on. In addition, the inside of the building is equipped with security that uses the room key, allowing you to stay safely and with peace of mind.

+++13.5 STAR

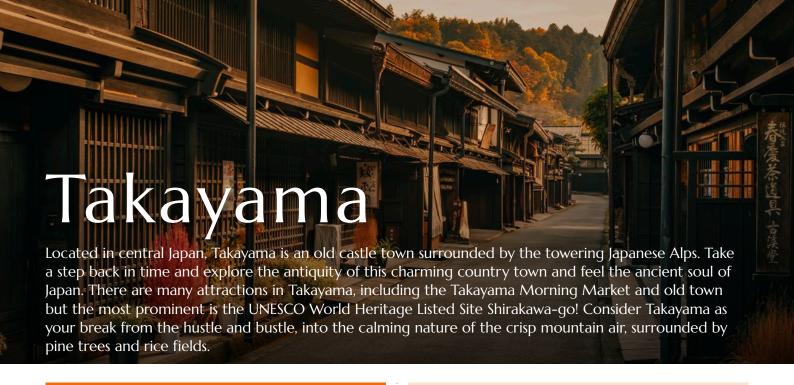


UAN KANAZAWA

FROM \$170 per person twin share, room only

Located in the heart of Kanazawa, UAN Kanazawa is the perfect base for exploring the city with Kanazawa Castle Park 2 minutes walk away. The property features modern decor and spacious rooms, including some with a private terrace.

++++ 4 STAR



TOURS



PRIVATE TAKAYAMA HALF DAY WALKING TOUR

FROM \$248 per person (Minimum 2 people)

Discover Japan's most beautiful alpine town. A half day guided tour of Takayama will allow you to explore this picturesque mountain town. Your private guide will collect you from your hotel (or agreed location) and take you on a interactive tour of Takayama's most unique sites. This tour is fully adaptable to your needs.



SHIRAKAWA-GO BUS TOUR FROM TAKAYAMA

Adult FROM \$115 per person

Child FROM (6-12yrs) \$88 per person

Explore the famous UNESCO World Heritage Listed farming villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokoyama from Takayama. See the beauty of the traditional thatched roof houses up close – some over 250 years old – and soak in the natural beauty of their surroundings in this beautiful hidden valley.

ACCOMMODATION



HONJIN HIRANOYA BEKKAN RYOKAN

The historic area of Takayama is a convenient 1 minute walk from your door, perfect for sightseeing! This traditional Japanese inn prides itself on impeccable service, exquisite food and friendly staff.

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$320 per person twin share, including dinner and breakfast



RESIDENCE HOTEL TAKAYAMA STATION

Conveniently located next to Takayama Station, this property is the perfect base for exploring Takayama and the Japanese alps. The spacious western style rooms are decorated in traditional decor and include access to local hot springs and fitness facilities.

+++ 3 STAR

FROM \$80 per person twin share, room only



NAGANO

Located in the heart of the Japanese Alps, Nagano prefecture is best known for its fantastic skiing (see page 38) but is worth visiting in any season! Home to hidden hiking trails, quaint hotspring towns, original castles, mystical shrines and temples – Nagano is your next destination to get away from the city!

TOURS



1-DAY TOUR KAMIKOCHI & MATSUMOTO CASTLE – FROM NAGANO STATION OR MATSUMOTO STATION

FROM \$310 per person

Visit one of Japan's few remaining original castles, the black Matsumoto Castle which provides great vistas of the surrounding mountain range that surrounds the city. Then head deep into the alpine mountains to Kamikochi located in the Chubu Sangaku National Park – one of Japan's finest! Explore Kamikochi's famous trails, lakes and bridges – or just sit and take in the aweinspiring beauty!

 ${\sf Please\ note:}\ {\sf This\ tour\ only\ operates\ between\ April\ to\ November.}$

YUDANAKA

Known worldwide for the famous hot-spring bathing snow monkeys – Yudanaka can offer travellers so much more. Nestled in a valley, Yudanaka and nearby Shibu Onsen town host many ryokan – all with hot-springs. Yudanaka comes alive at night with many locals and visitors walking around in Yukata whilst experiencing other local onsen.

TOURS



1 DAY SNOW MONKEY, ZENKOJI TEMPLE AND SAKE TASTING – FROM NAGANO STATION

FROM \$263 per person

Take in some of the highlights of Nagano on this engaging tour starting with a visit to Zenko-ji – one of the oldest and most important Buddhist temples in Japan – followed by sake-tasting and lunch at a nearby restaurant. It's then time to head to the Snow Monkey Park and its world-famous hot springbathing monkeys! Led by a locally-based English-speaking guide, this tour is a great way to see the best that Nagano has to offer.

ACCOMMODATION



BIYU NO YADO - RYOKAN

With free pick up from Yudanaka Station, privately rentable roof top hot spring bath, as well as free transfers to the snow monkey park, this property is an excellent option for you to see the wild Snow Monkeys in an onsen and enjoy a traditional Japanese stay!

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$238 per person twin share, including dinner & breakfast



HOTEL TSUBAKINO - RYOKAN

Located in the heart of Yudanaka, Hotel Tsubakino offers incredible hot spring experiences with views spanning across the valley. Western-style and Japanesestyle room options are available.

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$285 per person twin share, including dinner & breakfast

Hiroshima

Hiroshima is an unmissable destination for anyone visiting Japan – thanks to its storied history, fantastic food and beautiful surroundings. Known globally for the devastation caused in World War II, Hiroshima has rebuilt itself into a beautiful modern city that promotes a message of world peace. Hiroshima epitomises Japan's desire for peace, with the Peace Memorial Museum and Peace Memorial Park serving as a sombre but important reflection of Japan's history. At night, the downtown comes alive around Hondori Street, where you can try Hiroshima's famous style of Okonomiyaki. If you want to escape the city, board the ferry to vibrant Miyajima Island known for its floating red torii gate.



TOURS



HIROSHIMA AND MIYAJIMA TOUR

Adult FROM \$336 per person, Child (4-11yrs) FROM \$306 per person

Miyajima Island is home to one of Japan's most beautiful sights, Itsukushima Shrine. During high tide it appears to be floating, making for a magical photo opportunity. After you have enjoyed your time on Miyajima Island, you will walk through the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, dedicated to promoting peace around the world.



HIROSHIMA PEACE (HEIWA) WALKING TOUR AT WORLD HERITAGE SITES

FROM \$166 per person

Hear insights into the history of Hiroshima, from past to present, your local guide will show you how life was like after the atomic bomb impact compared to Hiroshima today.

Experience a breathtaking view of Hiroshima as you indulge in lunch, allowing you to reflect on the city's rich history and vibrant present!

ACCOMMODATION



THE ROYAL PARK HOTEL HIROSHIMA RIVERSIDE

This exceedingly affordable, clean and comfortable hotel is located merely 8mins on foot from Hiroshima Station, perfect as a base to explore the city.

+++ 3 STAR

FROM \$76 per person twin share, room only



SHERATON GRAND HIROSHIMA

Conveniently located across from JR Hiroshima station, you are in prime position to access sights such as the A-Bomb Dome, Peace Park and Miyajima. Guestrooms come with complimentary Wi-Fi.

++++ 4.5 STAR

FROM \$180 per person twin share, room only

Food

TOURS



TSUKIJI FISH MARKET WALKING FOOD TOUR IN TOKYO

FROM \$142 per person

Explore Tokyo's biggest fish market, Tsukiji and try street foods with your guide. Taste some deliciously fresh sashimi at a hidden restaurant within Tsukiji Fish Market for lunch. Go up to an observatory deck and view Tsukiji Fish Market from above!



HALF DAY SUSHI MAKING CLASS IN TOKYO

FROM \$133 per person

Sushi has become a global Japanese dish. However, there are many types of sushi. Nigiri sushi, rolled sushi, chirashi sushi, pressed sushi, and many more. There are countless types of ingredients to put in each. In this lesson, you can make representative sushi such as nigiri sushi, inari sushi, California roll, tekka roll, and kappamaki.



HALF DAY BENTO COOKING CLASS IN KYOTO

FROM \$133 per person

The morning Bento Class is a great way to learn about typical Japanese dishes such as sushi, tempura and miso soup. In addition, you will learn the cultural background of the well-known Japanese 'Bento'. During the 2.5-3 hour class, we will demonstrate and explain the tricks to making these beautiful dishes and then you will give it a try. After you finish cooking, you will enjoy the bento lunch you just made!



BEST OF KOBE - PRIVATE 5 HOUR WALKING TOUR IN KOBE

FROM \$421 per group (up to 5)

Ever wanted to try the most sought after beef in the world, Kobe beef? Our local tour guide can meet you in Kyoto, Osaka, or Kobe; and take you to a hidden spot known to locals, to experience Kobe beef affordably. Choose in advance between 10,000JPY or 20,000JPY courses (payable on the spot), and we'll make sure you get your money's worth! Our local guide will also take you to sightsee the remarkable city of Kobe, with its many sake brewery districts!



HIGHLIGHTS

WANDER THROUGH SOME OF JAPAN'S FINEST LANDSCAPE GARDENS

HIROSHIMA PEACE PARK AND MIYAJIMA ISLAND

EXPLORE OFF-THE-BEATEN PATHON THE SEA OF JAPAN COAST

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE HIMEJI CASTLE

INCLUSIONS

6 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION ◆ ◆ ◆

MEALS AS SPECIFIED

JR WEST 7-DAY SANYO SANIN AREA PASS

DAY 1: HIMEJI

Begin your journey from Kyoto or Osaka, and exchange your JR West 7-Day Sanyo Sanin Area Pass before boarding a train for Himeji. Explore the UNESCO Heritage Himeji Castle, arguably Japan's finest and the nearby Kokoen Garden at the base of the castle.

DAY 2: OKAYAMA

Travel by bullet train to Okayama, home to Korakuen traditional Japanese landscape garden – viewed as one of Japan's top three great gardens. Head up to Okayama Castle (also known as Crow Castle for its black exterior)

for a great view of the garden and Okayama city over the river. In the evening, head by train to Kurashiki, known as the Venice of Japan thanks to its picturesque canals and restored storehouse district.

DAY 3: OKAYAMA

Okayama is a perfect base for many day trips to the region depending on your interests. Visit the world-renowned Naoshima Art Island, home to Benesse House Art Museum or the Art House Project. Hire a bike and cycle across the Kibi Plain, a charming cycling route through rural Okayama stopping by many temples and shrines. Or head into the mountains and visit the secluded Bitchu-Takahashi castle town with its beautifully restored old town and crisp mountain air.

DAY 4: MATSUE

Catch a morning train through the hinterland of Chugoku to Matsue on the Sea of Japan Coast, a quaint lakeside city often skipped over by travellers. Be sure to visit nearby Izumo Shrine, one of Japan's oldest and most sacred shrines before catching the sunset over Lake Shinji.

DAY 5: HIROSHIMA

Start your morning early and head to the spectacular Adachi Museum of Art, an art museum surrounded

by a serene landscape garden often heralded as Japan's best. Continue via train to Hiroshima in time for dinner and explore Hiroshima's bustling downtown stopping in at Okonomimura – a collection of restaurants specialising in Hiroshima's famous Okonomiyaki dish (Japanese Pancake).

DAY 6: HIROSHIMA

Known worldwide for the unfortunate events on August 6th 1945, Hiroshima and its Peace Memorial Park and Museum are unmissable for any journey to the city. After paying your respects, head to Miyajima – an island 45mins out of the city. Miyajima is home to UNESCO Heritage Itsukushima Shrine, known for its floating torii gate and local friendly deer which roam the island.

DAY 7: RETURN TO OSAKA VIA KOBE

It is time to head back towards Kyoto or Osaka but first stop over in the port city of Kobe to try the world-famous Kobe Beef at a Teppanyaki restaurant. Kobe is also home to a large Chinatown district – the city is one of Japan's best culinary destinations! Consider exploring the historic district of Kitano, at the foot of Mount Rokko where foreign merchants settled in the 19th century before catching a train back to Kyoto or Osaka to end your trip.



GETTING TO OITA



Catch the bullet train to Hakata Station. Fukuoka then ride the scenic Yufuin no Mori train



Sail overnight from Osaka to Beppu on the Sunflower Ferry, with sea views and a range of cabins



Fly into Oita Airport from Tokyo (14 flights daily), Osaka, or Nagoya

STAYING IN OITA

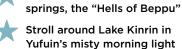


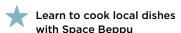
Choose modern or traditional accommodation - from sleek city hotels with rooftop pools, to a ryokan where guests sleep on tatami mats, wear the traditional yukata and unwind in a private hot spring bath.

HIGHLIGHTS



Visit the otherworldly hot





Try Oita's signature crispy tempura-style chicken

Unwind in one of 2,000 natural hot springs - or try a sand, steam, or mud bath



DISCOVER MORE



(f) (@tourismoita



w oita-tourism.com/





MULTI-NIGHT CULTURAL IMMERSION

4 DAY / 3 NIGHT package from \$1,500 per person twin share

Experience the essence of Japanese living by immersing yourself into the local culture of Beppu – Japan's premier hot spring town. Chat with locals and try your hand at workshops of various local arts and crafts like calligraphy, bamboo lantern making, cooking classes, experience a geisha show and tea ceremony.

ACCOMMODATION



AMANEK YULA-RE BEPPU

Located in the heart of downtown Beppu, Amanek Yula-re is the perfect base to explore the city and Oita prefecture as it's only a short walk from Beppu Station. Don't miss the incredible view of Beppu Bay at sunset from the rooftop pool.

++++ 4 STAR

FROM \$155 per person twin share

SAGA

Little known Saga is one of Kyushu's best kept secrets, home to porcelain, time-honoured craftsmanship and captivating history. Ureshino Onsen's water is so rich in minerals it's used as beauty treatment – you can even bathe in tea water here! Take a day trip to serene seaside Karatsu, famous for the Karatsu Kunchi Festival where they exhibit their masterfully handcrafted traditional floats.



TOURS

ARITA POTTERY AND PORCELAIN CRAFT 2HR WALKING TOUR

FROM \$76 per group (up to 5)

Dive into the world of Arita porcelain and pottery in the quaint town of Arita in Saga prefecture – the birthplace of porcelain in Japan. Your local guide will show you the unique sights of the town including a torii gate made of porcelain, National Historical Site Izumiyama Quarry and numerous local vendors!.

ACCOMMODATION



WARAKUEN RYOKAN

This unique traditional property nestled by the river combines the two things Ureshino Onsen is most famous for – fantastic onsen and green tea. At Warakuen the food, drinks and even hot-spring baths all make use of locally grown green tea.

♦♦♦♦ 4 STAR

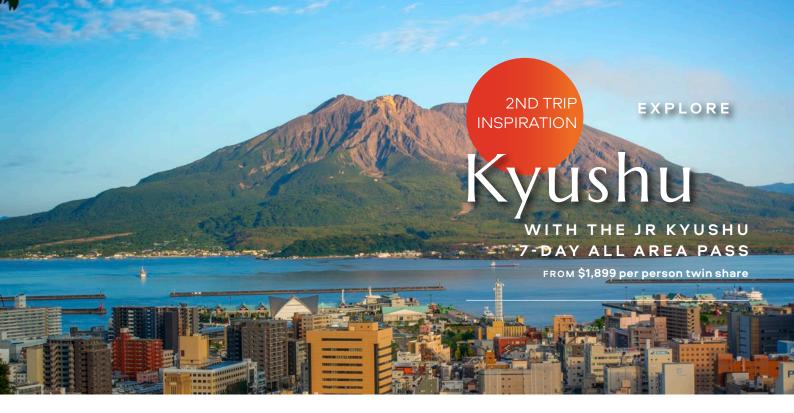
FROM \$400 per person twin share with half board



HOTEL SAKURA URESHINO

Soak in the breathtaking scenery from the top floor outdoor hot-spring bath or admire the detailed mosaic art in the indoor hot-spring bath. Sakura Hotel hosts a range of Japanese and Western style rooms.

FROM \$210 per person twin share with half board



Fast becoming the next frontier for travellers to Japan, Kyushu offers accessible vibrant cities, extraordinary volcanic sites, delicious food and a connection to the rest of Asia unlike anywhere else in Japan.

HIGHLIGHTS

NAGASAKI PEACE PARK AND MEMORIAL MUSEUM

EAT SOME OF KYUSHU'S INCREDIBLE REGIONAL DISHES INCLUDING TONKOTSU RAMEN & SATSUMA CUISINE

EXPERIENCE THE GEOTHERMAL WONDERS OF KYUSHU AT SAKURAJIMA AND BEPPU

INCLUSIONS

7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION ◆ ◆ ◆

MEALS AS SPECIFIED

JR KYUSHU 7-DAY ALL AREA PASS

DAY 1: FUKUOKA

Start your Kyushu journey in Fukuoka, Kyushu's largest city popular with travellers worldwide thanks to its sensational food scene. Consider visiting Dazaifu Temple complex just outside of the city, before returning downtown for a bowl of Fukuoka's specialty – Hakata Tonkotsu Ramen (Pork broth ramen). The Fukuoka Yatai (outdoor dining stalls) along the river serve delicious local cuisine well into the night and are popular with locals and travellers every night.

DAY 2: NAGASAKI

Start your day by exchanging your JR Kyushu 7-Day All Area Pass and take the train to the port city of Nagasaki, known worldwide for the unfortunate events of August 9th 1945. A visit to Nagasaki Peace Park and Memorial Museum is a must for all travellers and stop by Nagasaki's bustling Chinatown district before heading up to Glover Garden, home to mansions of western merchants with scenic views of the valley Nagasaki sits within. For a higher view, consider visiting Mount Inasayama for one of Japan's best night views.

DAY 3: KAGOSHIMA

Nagasaki's history goes further than the 20th century as the city was a hub for trade in Japan throughout the countries over 200-year isolation period from the rest of the world. Visit a reconstruction of Dejima, the only point of contact for Portuguese and Dutch traders during this time before catching a bullet train to Kagoshima in southern Kyushu. Roam around Senganen Japanese landscape garden before heading to Shiroyama Park for a mountaintop view over the city and towards Sakurajima.

DAY 4: KAGOSHIMA

Kagoshima is nicknamed 'The Naples of Japan' for its neighbouring active volcano, Sakurajima. Consider a day trip onto the island and explore its geothermal activity for yourself in one of the island's many natural hot spring baths. Alternatively visit Ibusuki on the Satsuma Peninsula, a famous hot spring resort famous for sand bathing (buried under naturally heated sand at the beach).

DAY 5: KUMAMOTO

Begin your day early by catching the train to Kumamoto, a beautiful castle city in central Kyushu. Take your time to explore the beautiful Kumamoto Castle before heading to Suizenji Garden, which is especially beautiful in the springtime.

DAY 6: BEPPU (D)

Head to Beppu, one of Japan's most famous hot spring resort towns which offers an incredible range of baths and experiences including mud baths, sand baths and more. Spend the afternoon relaxing in one of Beppu's many hot springs, either at your hotel, ryokan or one of the many public hot springs around town.

DAY 7: BEPPU (D, B)

Take a day trip to one of Oita prefecture's charming towns! Yufuin is a small town growing in popularity for its quaint main street and peaceful surroundings. Consider hiring bikes in Yufuin to visit Lake Kinrinko or the many cafes and onsen within the township. For those looking for somewhere off the beaten path consider visiting the quaint castle towns of Kitsuki or Usuki.

DAY 8: FUKUOKA (B)

Spend the morning exploring the Beppu Hells (Jigoku), seven pools of bubbling thermal activity too hot to swim in. Visit the Beppu Jigoku Museum before visiting the pools to best understand the wonder of Beppu and why all of Japan has fallen in love with onsen culture. Wrap up your journey to Kyushu by catching an express train back to Fukuoka.



Looking to get the most out of your next Japan trip but want to avoid the crowds? Matsuyama and Beppu offers travellers an insight into the real Japan free from endless lines so you can spend your time diving deeper into the cultural and historical wonders that Japan can offer.

DAY 1: MATSUYAMA

Begin your journey from Kyoto or Osaka and take the train to Shikoku across the stunning Seto Inland Sea to Matsuyama in Ehime Prefecture. Matsuyama is home to one of Japan's remaining original castles located in the heart of the city – walk up or chairlift to the peak and take in the beautiful view of the city from above. The castle grounds are also a popular spot to admire cherry blossoms during spring.

DAY 2: MATSUYAMA

A short tram ride from the center of town is the famous Dogo Onsen, which is Japan's oldest hot spring resort with a history over 3,000 years. Explore the Dogo Onsen district with your own private guide who can help to give greater context for this historical site, including the nearby Ishiteji Temple (a temple in the Buddhist Shikoku 88 Temple Pilgrimage). After admiring the beautiful Dogo Onsen building (an inspiration for the Studio Ghibli movie Spirited Away), consider taking a soak inside and admire the beautiful public baths.

DAY 3: MATSUYAMA

Take a short day trip to one of the beautiful destinations that Ehime has to offer. History lovers will love Ozu, a small riverside township with a beautiful villa, reconstructed castle overlooking the township and nostalgic old town district. Outdoor enthusiasts should

HIGHLIGHTS

VISIT ONE OF JAPAN'S ORIGINAL CASTLES OVERLOOKING MATSUYAMA

STAY IN A TRADITIONAL RYOKAN AND EXPERIENCE JAPANESE HOT SPRINGS IN BEPPU

EXPLORE OFF THE TOURIST TRAIL

consider cycling the Shimanami Kaido – a cycling route through the Seto Inland Sea from Imabari. If arts and crafts are more of your style, consider exploring Uchiko – a small town with a preserved historical district, Kabuki theatre and wax production museum – here you can even see local traditional candle makers at work.

DAY 4: BEPPU

Today it is time to cross the Seto Inland Sea to Beppu on the Island of Kyushu. Take the train to the port town of Yawatahama to catch a short ferry ride across to Beppu - admire the panorama of green islands spanning the sea as you cut across to Beppu. Be sure to take in the beautiful landscape as the ferry pulls into Beppu Bay! Spend the rest of the afternoon at your leisure; consider exploring downtown Beppu on foot, take in the surroundings from Beppu Ropeway or soak in a nearby hot spring. Spend the night at a hotel in downtown Beppu, home to hidden alleyways and nostalgic charm.

DAY 5: BEPPU

Start the morning with a small group walking tour of downtown Beppu and see what local life is like in Japan's hot spring capital including a visit to a bamboo craft factory. The afternoon is free to explore Beppu at your leisure or consider a side trip to one of the many beautiful towns easily accessed by train from Beppu Station including Yufuin –

INCLUSIONS

6 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION ◆ ◆ ◆

MEALS AS SPECIFIED

HALF-DAY TOURS IN MATSUYAMA

FERRY TICKETS FROM YAWATAHAMA (EHIME) TO BEPPU

SECTOR TRAIN TICKETS TO AND FROM MATSUYAMA & BEPPU

an artesian hillside town with a beautiful lake that is growing in popularity. Instead consider visiting the quaint castle towns of Kitsuki or Usuki and step back in time to escape the crowds as the only tourist in town.

DAY 6: BEPPU (RYOKAN EXPERIENCE) (D)

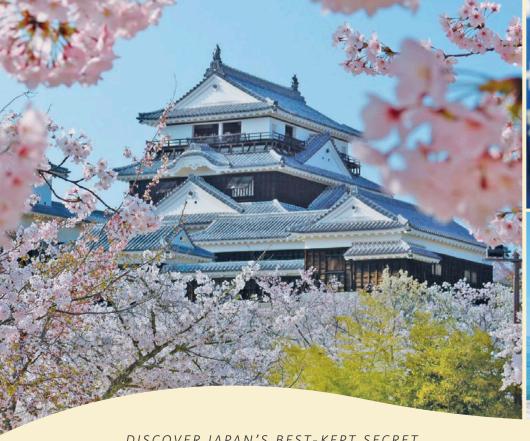
Beppu is the onsen capital of Japan, home to more geothermal activity than anywhere else in the country and that means hot springs! Visit the Beppu Jigoku Onsen Museum for an interactive experience that teaches you about the wonders of the hot springs before exploring the famous Beppu Jigoku "Hells" - a collection of spectacularly coloured hot spring ponds. This evening, spend the night at a traditional Japanese ryokan in the Kannawa Onsen district of Beppu city, to fully enjoy the hot spring experience - including a traditional dinner and breakfast to end out the trip (option to remain at previous accommodation in downtown Beppu).

DAY 7: END OF PACKAGE (B)

After a traditional breakfast at your accommodation, sadly it's time to leave Beppu behind via train back to Osaka/Kyoto or your next destination.

B = Breakfast provided, D = Dinner provided

Please note: alternative routes from other destinations such as Hiroshima, Kyoto or Fukuoka are also available from a separate price.







Sapporo

DISCOVER JAPAN'S BEST-KEPT SECRET

EHIME JAPAN

Tucked away on the island of Shikoku, Ehime is a soulful escape where tradition meets natural beauty.

Beloved by artists and writers, this under-the-radar gem is known for its hot springs, fresh seafood, citrus orchards, and rich cultural heritage.

HIGHLIGHTS

- O Cycle across the spectacular Shimanami Kaidō, a breathtaking route that connects six islands over the sparkling Seto Inland Sea
- O In capital city, Matsuyama, soak in the history and healing waters of Dōgo Onsen - Japan's oldest hot spring and the inspiration for the animated film Spirited Away
- O Step back in time at two of Japan's original castles, and walk in the footsteps of pilgrims on the sacred 88-temple Shikoku Pilgrimage
- O Uchiko and Ozu towns offer a glimpse into the past, with traditional architecture and cultural attractions like the Uchiko-za 'kabuki' theatre



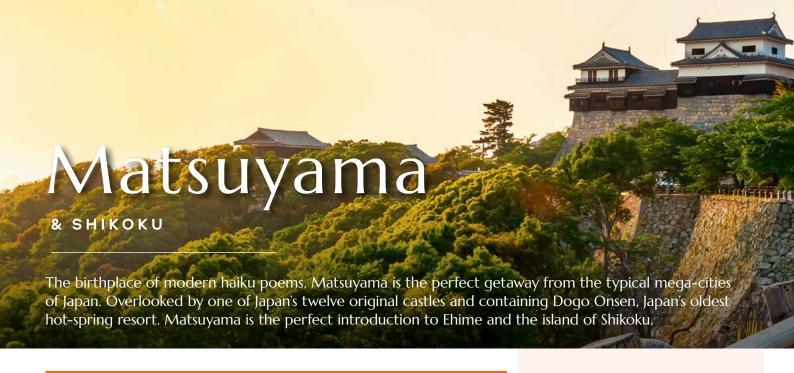
GETTING THERE

- Fly direct from Tokyo, Osaka, or Fukuoka
- Arrive by ferry from Hiroshima, Osaka or Oita
- Enjoy a scenic train ride, or cycle the bridges across the Seto Inland Sea



Hiroshima

Fukuoka



TOURS



MATSUYAMA FULL-DAY PRIVATE WALKING TOUR

FROM \$275 per person (2pax minimum)

Explore the best of Matsuyama with your own private guide. This flexible tour visits the highlights of Matsuyama such as Matsuyama Castle, the famous Dogo Onsen, Ishiteji Temple of the 88 Temple Pilgrimage and the famous miniature Botchan train.

ACCOMMODATION



TOKYU REI MATSUYAMA

Located in downtown Matsuyama – a short walk from shopping, dining and Matsuyama Castle. This property also features recently renovated rooms.

+++ 3 STAR

FROM \$110 per person twin share



DOGO ONSEN FUNAYA

Established in the Edo Period, you can feel the history of Dogo Onsen in the maple garden. Of course, there are many hot-spring bathing options and Japanese-style rooms including a luxury art gallery room.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ 4 STAR

FROM \$385 per person twin share including half board

SETO INLAND SEA



TOURS

NAOSHIMA FULL-DAY PRIVATE WALKING TOUR

FROM \$380 per person (2pax minimum)

Discover the wonders of world renowned Naoshima Art Island in the beautiful Seto Inland Sea with your own private guide. Visit the various art museums and installations around the island in this customisable tour.

Entry to various art museums not included / tour commences from Takamatsu City.



HIGHLIGHTS

DISCOVER THE NATURAL BEAUTY

AND CULTURE IN JAPAN'S LEAST EXPLORED REGION

VISIT SITES ALONGSIDE PILGRIMS FROM THE 88 TEMPLE PILGRIMAGE

BATHE AT DOGO ONSEN, THE BATHHOUSE THAT INSPIRED THE GHIBLI MOVIE 'SPIRITED AWAY'

INCLUSIONS

8 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION ♦ ♦ ♦

MEALS AS SPECIFIED

HALF-DAY TOURS IN MATSUYAMA AND BEPPU

JR SHIKOKU 7-DAY ALL SHIKOKU

SECTOR TRAIN TICKETS TO AND FROM SHIKOKU

DAY 1: TAKAMATSU

Begin your journey from Kyoto or Osaka and take a train to Shikoku's northernmost city, Takamatsu. Takamatsu is home to Ritsurin, one of Japan's best landscape gardens – a must see when visiting Takamatsu. Afterwards visit Shikokumura, an open-air museum exhibiting traditional buildings from the island before heading up to Yashima Shrine for a panoramic view of the city and Seto Inland Sea.

DAY 2: TOKUSHIMA

Today is the day to commence your JR Kyushu Pass, so start your morning with a side trip to Kotohira Mountain Temple or Shodoshima Island for a slice of the Mediterranean in Japan – an island filled with olive groves. Before leaving Takamatsu, be sure to grab a bowl of the famous Sanuki udon noodles. Next catch a train to nearby Tokushima City and stop by the Awa Odori Museum,

a museum dedicated to the popular summer festival. On most days visitors can catch a performance of the traditional dances performed at the festival here at the museum.

DAY 3: TOKUSHIMA

Shikoku is known nationwide for its 88-Temple Pilgrimage, so be sure to visit one of the many temples in Tokushima – Ryozenji Temple No.1 and Gokurakuji Temple No.2 are the first stops for most pilgrims completing the multiweek walk. After visiting the temples, continue to Naruto and see the natural wonders of the Naruto Whirlpools. Visitors can even take a boat ride over these whirlpools to see them up close.

DAY 4: IYA VALLEY (D)

Head into the unexplored wilderness of the Iya Valley, deep in the mountains of Shikoku. Hike to one of the Iya Valley's many vine-rope bridges, take a boat ride down the Monobe River and unwind and enjoy the serenity off the tourist trail at a ryokan with your own onsen overlooking the river and forest.

DAY 5: KOCHI (B)

Travel by express train to the seaside city of Kochi, before catching a bus to Mount Godaisan, a mountain with the charming Chikurinji Temple No.31 and Makino Botanical Garden to learn about the native flora of Shikoku with great views of the city. Continue onwards to Katsurahama Beach, a scenic beach abundant with Japanese pine-trees perfect for an afternoon stroll. Try some Katsuo-no-tataki (sliced skipjack tuna), Kochi's most famous dish at a nearby restaurant.

DAY 6: KOCHI

Start your day early and head to the Kochi Morning Market (Sundays only) for fresh produce and dishes from local farmers and vendors. Kochi provides a great base for day trips to southern Shikoku including the Monet Garden, inspired by the gardens painted by the famous French painter, or head eastwards to the freshwater Niyodo River where you can ride bikes over the submersible bridges that cross the river or try your hand at making your own traditional Washi paper. Return to Kochi City for sunset at Kochi Castle and dine at Hirome Market Hall, a hawker-like food hall with various local cuisines.

DAY 7: MATSUYAMA

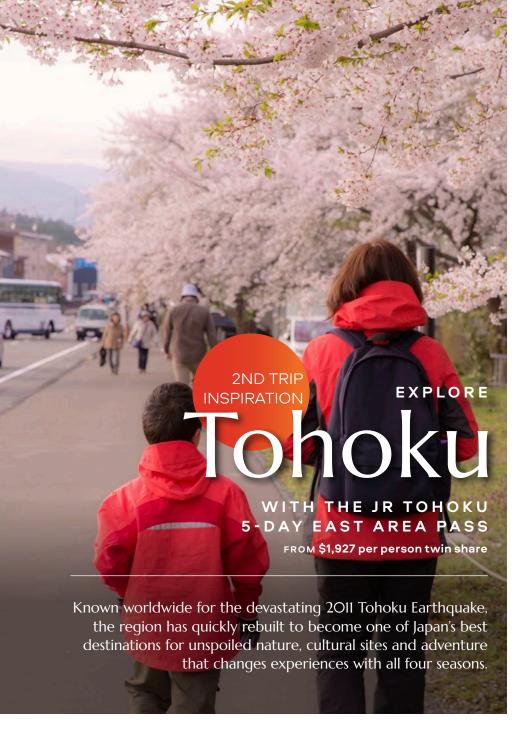
Catch a morning train to Matsuyama, famous for its beautiful onsen Dogo Onsen, which was an inspiration for Studio Ghibli movie 'Spirited Away'. Be sure to catch the chairlift up to the top of Matsuyama Castle, located in the center of the city for a fantastic view or stop by one of Matsuyama's many art museums.

DAY 8: MATSUYAMA

Take a short day trip by train to the small town of Iyo-Ozu and visit the beautiful riverside villa Garyu Sanso. The preserved old town connects Garyu Sanso with the nearby Ozu Castle perched above the river. When returning to Matsuyama, consider stopping by Shimonada Station – another inspiration for 'Spirited Away' overlooking the ocean.

DAY 9: RETURN TO OSAKA/ HIROSHIMA

Unfortunately, it's time to leave Shikoku. Take a train to Kyoto or Osaka or consider taking a short ferry ride to Hiroshima to continue your journey.



HIGHLIGHTS

SPEND THE NIGHT IN SAMURAI TOWN IN THE MOUNTAINS

WORLD HERITAGE SHRINES IN NIKKO

UNSPOILED NATURE OFF THE BEATEN PATH

INCLUSIONS

6 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION ◆ ◆ ◆

MEALS AS SPECIFIED

5-DAY TOHOKU JR EAST AREA PASS

TRAIN TICKET FROM NIKKO TO TOKYO

DAY 1: KAKUNODATE

Start your journey from Tokyo Station and exchange your JR East 5-Day East Area Pass before boarding the Akita Shinkansen to the small rural town of Kakunodate, hidden in northern Tohoku. Kakunodate is a former castle town famous for its well-kept Samurai House district, with some of the best cherry blossoms nationwide in the spring. Spend the night at a refurbished traditional accommodation here to soak up the feudal atmosphere the town holds.

DAY 2: SENDAI (B)

Catch a bullet train to Tohoku's largest city Sendai and explore the major sights of the city including Aoba Castle Ruins for a fantastic view of the city. Nearby Zuihoden Mausoleum is surrounded by giant cedar trees symbolising the long history of the former ruling clan that is enshrined here.

DAY 3: SENDAI

Stop by the Sendai morning market to taste some delicious local cuisine before heading out of the city for a day trip. Matsushima Bay is heralded as one of Japan's most beautiful landscapes thanks to its pine tree covered islands that protected the region from the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami. Alternatively, Yamadera mountainside temple offers incredible views of the neighbouring valley, perfect for a rural escape.

DAY 4: AIZUWAKAMATSU (D,B)

Hop on the train to Aizuwakamatsu, a small city nestled in a valley with a storied history. Commonly referred to as Aizu, the city has many historical sites including Tsuruga Castle, Aizu Bukeyashiki – a reconstructed samurai mansion and limoriyama where Sazaedo Pagoda stands, unique for its spiraling staircase. End the day by staying in a ryokan in Higashiyama Onsen, just outside of downtown.

DAY 5: NIKKO

Take a side trip to Ouchijuku, a former postal town with beautiful straw thatched roof houses in a quaint valley. Be sure to try some soba noodles served in the small restaurants here, eaten with a stick of leek instead of utensils. In the afternoon consider a side trip to the small town of Kitakata, Japan's ramen capital – with more ramen stores per capita than anywhere else in the country. Catch an evening train to Nikko so that you can make an early start tomorrow to avoid the crowds.

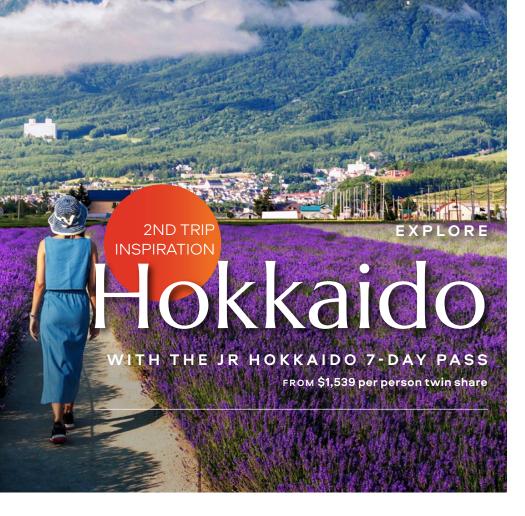
DAY 6: NIKKO (B)

Home to multiple UNESCO World Heritage sites including Toshogu Shrine, Nikko is a must see on any trip north of Tokyo. Spend the day roaming central Nikko and consider a stroll through the gorge at Kanmangafuchi Abyss or a side trip to Edo Wonderland, a recreation of ancient Tokyo.

DAY 7: RETURN TO TOKYO (B)

Take the bus from Central Nikko up to Okunikko, home to Lake Chuzenji and Kegon Falls – best seen during autumn for the incredible autumn colours the area is renowned for. Hikers can enjoy one of the many hiking trails in the region or for those looking for an easier way to take in the beautiful vistas, consider visiting the Akechidaira Plateau ropeway or boardwalk on the Senjogahara Marshland.

End your journey by catching a train back to central Tokyo.



Japan's north island is home to world-class skiing and incredibly beautiful natural vistas. Hokkaido is the perfect destination for those who love the outdoors, with unspoiled nature and picturesque rural landscapes for hikers in the warmer months, and arguably the best snow in the world for skiers and snowboarders in the colder months.

HIGHLIGHTS

AN OVERNIGHT STAY IN NOBORIBETSU ONSEN

EXPLORING HOKKAIDO'S HIDDEN WILDERNESS AND BEAUTIFUL NATURE

LEARN ABOUT THE STORIED HISTORY OF HOKKAIDO

EXPLORE THE COLOURFUL BIEI AND FURANO FLOWER FIELDS (SUMMER ONLY)

INCLUSIONS

6 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION ◆ ◆ ◆

MEALS AS SPECIFIED

7-DAY HOKKAIDO JR PASS

DAY 1: HAKODATE

After arriving at New Chitose Airport, exchange your JR Hokkaido 7-Day Pass and take the train to the port town of Hakodate via the coast. Hakodate played an important role in the re-opening of Japan after 200-years of isolation and is filled with many beautiful buildings from this era. Explore Goryokaku, the star shaped fort famous for its moat and Sakura trees in the spring. Take the ropeway up Mount Hakodate to take in one of Japan's top night views over the city and Hakodate Harbour.

DAY 2: HAKODATE

Start the day by trying some of Hokkaido's famous seafood at the Hakodate Morning Seafood Market. Take a short train ride to Onuma Quasi National Park and explore the stunning natural beauty that Hokkaido has to offer. End the day back in Hakodate and visit the Hakodate Brick Warehouse District and Motomachi, home to many historic foreign residences from the 1800's.

DAY 3: NOBORIBETSU (D)

Travel to Noboribetsu, one of Hokkaido's most popular traditional onsen resort towns via train and a short local bus ride. The highlight of Noboribetsu is Hell Valley (Jigokudani) where you can see sulphur rich pools and volcanic activity. Noboribetsu also has many pleasant walking trails and natural foot baths. Spend the night in one of the townships many ryokans and experience some of Japan's finest onsens with a traditional kaiseki dinner.

DAY 4: FURANO (B)

Travel by train into the heart of Hokkaido, through the picturesque rural landscape to Furano. Try some of Hokkaido's delicious dairy products at Furano Cheese Factory or treat your palette at Furano Winery. End the day by strolling around the Ningle Terrace and Forest Boardwalk with its many illuminated craft shops.

DAY 5: FURANO (B)

Depending on the season, Furano has many unique sights worth visiting! In Winter, hit the slopes and experience some of Japan's finest Ja-powder in the Furano Ski Fields. In spring and summer, Furano is home to an amazing floral display where the rolling hills are covered in a rainbow of flowers. In Autumn, head to Mount Asahidake, Hokkaido's tallest peak, to see the autumn colours before they reach anywhere else in the country.

DAY 6: SAPPORO (B)

Hop on the train to Asahikawa for a bowl of the famous Asahikawa Ramen, before continuing onto Hokkaido's capital Sapporo. In Sapporo head to the Ainu Historical Village to uncover the history of Hokkaido's native peoples before visiting the Sapporo Brewery for dinner, be sure to try the Japanese BBQ dish Ghengis Khan!

DAY 7: SAPPORO

End your trip with a short day trip by train to Otaru, a quaint harbour town with a beautiful canal. Be sure to stop at one of Otaru's many museums before heading back to Sapporo. Have one final bowl of delicious Hokkaido Ramen in Sapporo's ramen alley and walk off the calories at Odori Park, a central park cutting through downtown Sapporo. For those with extra time, head up to Mount Moiwa for another stunning night view of Sapporo and its surroundings.



Super Sugoi!

Sugoi means "amazing" or "unbelievable". Let Japan exceed your expectations and bring home the memories of a lifetime!

Japan is a unique destination, most unlike any country in the world. Geisha, samurai, temples, shrines and ramen are culturally unique experiences that immediately come to mind when dreaming about travelling to the land of the rising sun. Japan is also home to a plethora of weird & wonderful experiences such as maid cafes, capsule hotels and the famed Teamlab Digital Art Museums. The contrast of Japan's ancient and modern has created an incredible travel experience that is not to be missed.

A few suggestions for your quirky bucket list include animal cafes, rabbit and cat islands and new-age hotels where robots check you in. You can dive into the electronic wonderland that is Akihabara, experience first-hand the Harajuku fashion district, marvel at Dotonbori's neon lights, immerse yourself in art on Naoshima island and party in Kabukicho, Shinjuku's entertainment district.



HARAJUKU KAWAII FASHION AND POP CULTURE TOUR

FROM \$139 per person

Get insights into Harajuku pop-culture and fashion from your guide! Explore the latest photo hotspot after strolling down Takeshita Street! Cook Okonomiyaki or Monja-yaki on our own in a place adorned with various Japanese local arts!

GHIBLI MUSEUM AND GHIBLI FILM APPRECIATION TOUR

FROM \$322 per person

This tour offers a guaranteed entry into the famed Tokyo Ghibli Museum, along with visits to curated spots around Tokyo city that have contributed inspiration to the works of Hayao Miyazaki!



TOKYO SUMO TOUR (B-GRADE ARENA SEATS) – JANUARY, MAY, AND SEPTEMBER TOURNAMENTS

FROM \$203 per person

Experience the atmosphere of Japan's national sport, with guaranteed reserved seat tickets and a tour guide to explain everything there is to know about sumo!



SANRIO PUROLAND ADMISSION TICKETS

FROM \$48 per person

A short train commute away from the major train station of Shinjuku in Tokyo city, is a home dedicated to the numerous popular characters of Sanrio, the most famous being Hello Kitty. Almost singlehandedly symbolic of Japanese pop culture, this theme park is a must-see for families and lovers of Hello Kitty and friends!

© 2024 SANRIO CO., LTD. APPROVAL No.P1607053



OSAKA POP CULTURE – PRIVATE 5 HOUR WALKING TOUR

FROM \$421 per group (up to 5 guests)

While this is a totally customisable tour, our very personable tour guide recommends that you let her take you to make takoyaki, visit a Mameshiba (Miniature, or "Bean" Shiba) Café, and melt at a headspa experience. Admission costs are to be paid on the spot.

Free yourself from the everyday in a park full of amazing thrills and excitement!

From incredible rides and attractions based on some of Hollywood's most famous film and TV franchises to popular Japanese animation and video games, here you can experience it all in one place! Both kids and adults can let loose and revel in exciting and exhilarating entertainment!

One of Japan's leading theme parks, highly praised by visitors to Japan! A super-exciting experience that will unleash your emotions is here! No. 1 in TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Best of the Best in the Japanese theme park category for four consecutive years (2017-2020). A thrilling experience where you can become a character in a realistic game or animation world! Universal Studios is just 11 minutes by train from Osaka on the JR Yumesaki line!

All Entry 1 Day Pass

ADULT FROM \$131 per person CHILD (4-11yrs) FROM \$83 per person

All Entry Pass includes admission to all areas except for Super Nintendo World. To enter Super Nintendo World, an area timed entry ticket: advance booking or an area timed entry ticket/standby entry ticket is required.

Please refer to https://www.usj.co.jp/web/en/us/areas/super-nintendo-world for more information.

Some of the express passes would include Super Nintendo World timed entry, so please enquire about this before purchase.





TEAMLAB PLANETS ADMISSION TICKETS

FROM \$73 per person

One of Tokyo city's most extraordinary and mind-blowing digital art exhibits, Teamlab has rapidly cemented itself as the #1 highlight of any trip to Tokyo. Creations and art in a wholly original style that must be seen to be believed.



DAIKOKU JDM CAR CULTURE EXPERIENCE

FROM \$254 per person (maximum group size 5 guests)

See a diverse collection of futuristic, modern and classic Japanese cars at Daikoku car meet in Yokohama. This is a must-see for all car enthusiasts wanting to see Japan's unique car culture!

Terms & Conditions Please read the booking conditions carefully as they incorporate the basis upon which bookings are accepted by JTB Australia Pty Ltd. ("JTB")

Brochure Validity

The brochure is valid from 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

Changes in Prices and Itineraries

Prices in this brochure are based on tariffs and airfares current as of 01 July 2025. In this time of escalating prices and economic instability, it is impossible to predict accurately fluctuations in exchange rates or increases to the cost elements of tours. JTB does not have control of airfares, fuel, airport and airlines taxes and surcharges, hotel rates and other service provider's tariffs. In the event of such fluctuations or increases affecting the prices which JTB pay for transportation, hotel accommodation and other services, we reserve the right to adjust our prices as may be necessary at any time up to and including the day that final payment is made.

If we are forced to change your booking or part of your booking for any reason beyond our control, we reserve the right to vary your itinerary and will endeavour to give you notice thereof. In the event that any one change or series of changes to your itinerary demonstrates that your tour has thereby become materially different from the contemplated prior to the changes being effected and in respect of, we have accepted your deposit or full payment, you have the right to ask for a rearrangement or to withdraw from the tour and all monies will be refunded less any charges levied by suppliers.

It is essential you check with your booking agent whether any such changes have occurred in your tour before you complete your final payment. In the unlikely event that we have to cancel your tour because of events outside our control, we will, if we are able to, offer you an alternative tour of similar standard. If you do not accept this alternative tour, we will refund in full any monies already paid.

Deposit Payments

A non-refundable 20% deposit is payable up front to secure arrangements (30% for ski). The balance must reach JTB no later than 30 days prior to departure (90 days for ski). If for any reason the deposit or the final balance is not received by us on the due date, we reserve the right to treat your booking as cancelled and apply the appropriate cancellation charges. The deposit will be forfeited.

Cancellation

Should you or a member of your party cancel your booking or any part of your booking, you must advise your booking agent in writing. The letter must be signed by the person who made the original booking. Cancellations by phone will not be accepted. Cancellations are subject to a charge to cover estimated costs. The non refundable deposit may be kept for future travel for up to 12 months.

Land arrangements: After confirmation 10% plus any charges levied by hoteliers and/or land operators.

Air arrangements: Any time after full payment and prior to departure 10% plus any charges as required by the Airline Tariff Regulations. In certain circumstances cancellation fees may be subject to GST and will therefore be charged to you.

Amendments and Re-bookings Fees

After deposit has been received, amendment fees of A\$60.00 per file per amendment shall apply. In addition airlines or our service providers may also charge a fee. Amendment fees apply to name changes only; any date changes, or any other changes of any kind that require cancellation and rebooking, will be treated as cancellations and cancellation fees as stipulated above, will be applicable.

Late Bookings

A late booking fee of \$55.00 per file will apply to package bookings requested within 7 days of departure.

Refunds

To the full extent permitted by law, no refund is available after the travel has commenced, in respect of any tours, accommodation, meals or any services not utilised.

Travel insurance

We strongly recommend that at the time of booking you purchase travel insurance.

Health and Immigration

Passengers should familiarise themselves with any health or visa requirements that may apply to the areas they intend visiting. Passengers shall be responsible for all entry, exit, health and other documents required by law, regulations, orders, demands or requirements of countries being visited or transited. Each passenger shall carry a valid passport at all times. Visas are the responsibility of the passenger and JTB is not liable for any loss or expense due to a passenger's failure to comply with the above.

Baggage

The free baggage allowance for the international travel varies with airlines. Excess baggage charges are the responsibility of the passenger.

Pre-departure Contact

It is essential to ensure that you advise your booking agent of a 24 hour contact number.

Travel and Accommodation

It is important to note that all bookings with JTB are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by airlines, coach operators, hoteliers, and other service providers, including but not limited to shipping, rail,

car hire and restaurants, whose services we utilise. Some of which limit or exclude liability in respect to death, personal injury, delay and loss or damage to baggage and JTB's liability is excluded or limited accordingly.

Not Included in the Tour Price

Interstate and intrastate passengers are responsible for the cost of their own travel arrangements from their hometown to and from their choice of the international departure city. The price of any accommodation in Australia, passport, and visa costs where applicable, are not included in the tour price, nor are items of a personal nature such as laundry, taxis, telephone calls, excess baggage charges, insurance, porterage, drinks, meals and room service, unless specified.

Airfare Conditions

Airfare conditions vary with airlines. Some fares have special requirements and payment deadlines. Please check these with your booking agent.

Booking Arrangements

All booking arrangements must be made through JTB or your local AFTA or licensed travel agent. The person affecting the booking shall be deemed to have accepted the booking conditions on behalf of all persons named in the booking. The contract will be governed by and subject to the booking conditions and to the general information unless stated otherwise in writing and with the authority of JTB all communications will be sent to your agent. Your agent upon receipt of any tour monies shall hold such monies for each and every person named in the booking until the booking is confirmed. At which time those monies shall be paid to JTB within 7 days as a deposit.

Liability of JTB

JTB shall assume liability incurred by the client due to wilful or negligent acts on the part of JTB or its agent in charge of the tour arrangements during the course of the travel. Subject to the matters set out below, all warranties and conditions or modify the application of the Act or its liability for breach of those warranties or conditions, JTB's liability for breach of any such condition or warranty will be limited, if such a limitation is permitted under Section 68A at JTB's option to:

- Supply the services again or
- Pay for the cost of having the services supplied again. JTB shall not be liable for damages incurred by the client owing to the reasons listed herein under and those similar thereto
- Natural disaster, war disturbances, acts of terror, uprisings and alternation or cancellation of the tour itinerary due to such causes:
- Accidents of fire related to transportation, accommodation facilities, and alteration or cancellation of the tour itinerary due to such causes;

- Orders of either Japanese or foreign government officials, immigration regulations, isolation as the result of infectious disease and alteration or cancellation of the tour itinerary due to such causes;
- Accidents occurring during the passengers free activities;
- Food poisoning;
- Theft;
- Delays and stoppages, alterations
 of schedule on route in relation to
 transportation facilities, and alterations
 or cancellation of the tour itinerary due
 to such causes;
- Any liability will be reduced proportionately by the extent to which the willful or negligent act or omission on the part of the client caused or contributed to the liability, loss, expense or other similar cost; and
- Any case that is beyond the control of JTB and/or the agent in charge of the arrangements;

Law of Contract

The contract is governed in all respects by the law of the state of NSW and any legal action arising under the contract shall be litigated in the appropriate court, having jurisdiction in that state. By making any payment towards a booking, the passenger has agreed to the conditions set out in this brochure. JTB has the right to change or cancel the programme if necessary.

WWW.JTBTRAVEL.COM.AU

JTB Australia Pty Ltd

JTB are members of AFTA, IATA and ATAS.

ABN 99 003 218 728

Sydney ATAS 10896

Level 18, Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Phone: 1300 739 330 Fax: (02) 9510-0497 Email: sydres.au@jtbap.com

Melbourne (Travel Agent Enquiries only – No walk-ins accepted)

Level 5, 607 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC 3000

Phone: 1300 739 330 Email: melres.au@jtbap.com