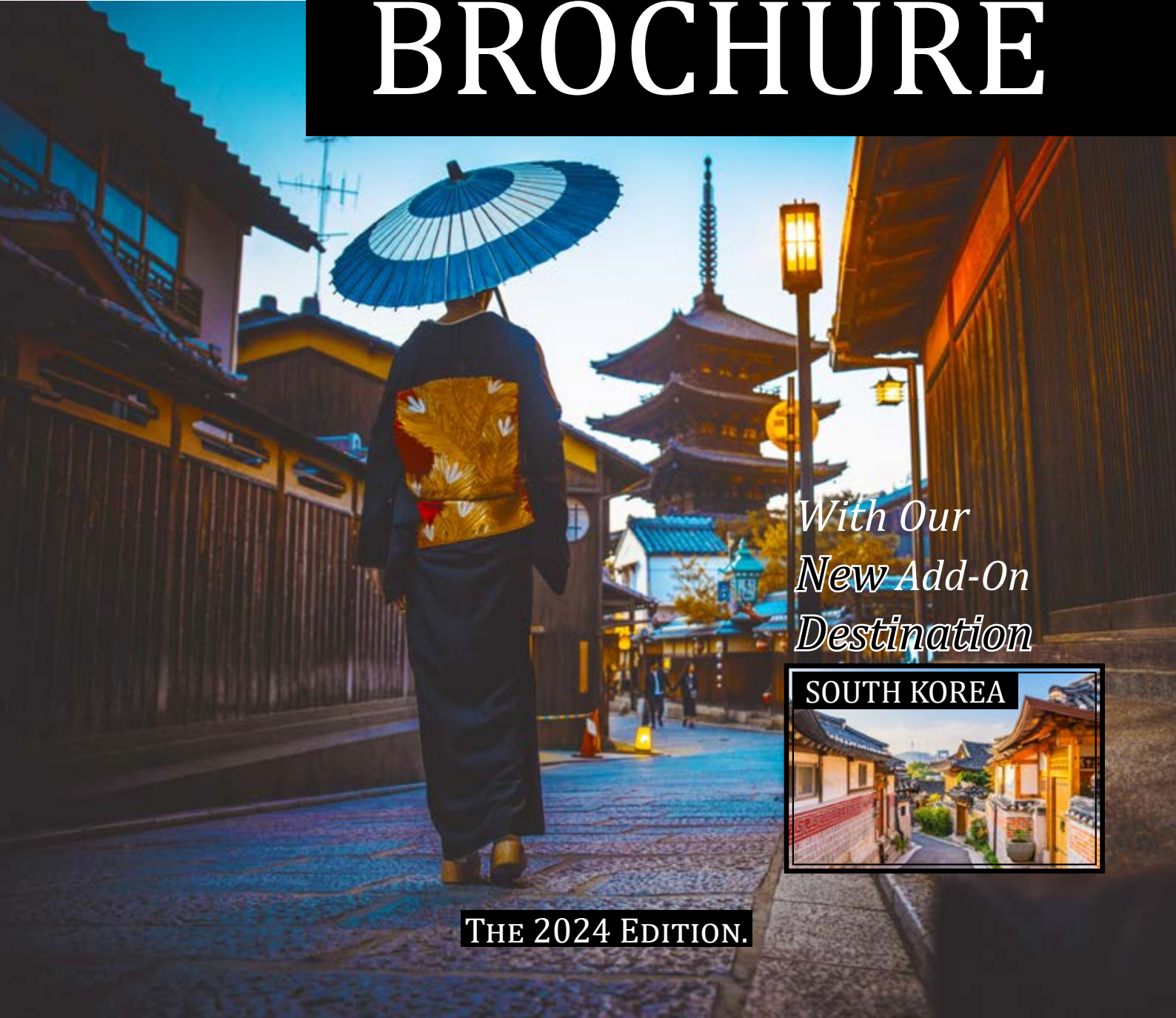


# JAPAN TRAVEL BROCHURE



*With Our  
New Add-On  
Destination*

**SOUTH KOREA**



**THE 2024 EDITION.**

# CONTENTS

## TABLE OF



<b>ABOUT US</b>	<b>03</b>
<b>OUR VISION, MISSION &amp; ACHIEVEMENTS</b>	<b>04</b>
<b>WHY TRAVEL WITH US?</b>	<b>05</b>
<b>OUR GUIDES</b>	<b>06</b>
<b>DESTINATION - JAPAN</b>	<b>07</b>
Destination Overview	08
Tour Inclusions & Exclusions	09
Tour Itineraries	10-28
Social Responsible Programs	29-35
Signature Excursions	36-38
Accommodations	39-41
<b>DESTINATION - KOREA</b>	<b>42</b>
Tour Itineraries	43-45
Signature Excursions	46
Accommodations	47



## PANKAJ PRADHAN

### CEO & FOUNDER

**B** Japan Tours is a dynamic company dedicated to exceptional customer satisfaction through experiential products and valuable services. Our passionate team collaborates closely with Trade Partners to find small improvements that create a competitive edge. We emphasize continuous improvement, product and service differentiation, and high-quality operations, even in a disaster-prone country like Japan.

**W**e prioritize responsible and sustainable travel practices, integrating these principles from product creation to final execution. Working closely with local enterprises, we add value to the supply chain, which has earned us the honor of being recognized as Japan's Leading Destination Management Company five times.

**W**hat sets B Japan Tours apart is our unique approach, blending an international and local diverse team. We have successfully partnered with prestigious international tour operators and wholesalers, serving discerning travelers with warm hospitality and flexibility through all weather conditions.

**W**e extend our heartfelt thanks to our partners and clients for their trust and support as we strive to be a Different, Dynamic, Innovative, and Responsible Experience Management Company.



## OUR VISION

We aim to introduce both the well-known and hidden beauties of Japan, focusing on destinations off the beaten path and outside the popular Golden Triangle. Our goal is to directly benefit local people in Japan's villages and rural areas. Over the past two years, we have handled 5,000 tourists, primarily from Australia, Europe, and North America, in collaboration with leading and renowned international tour operators.

## OUR MISSION

Our goal is to bring over 50,000 quality clients from Europe, North America, and Australia by 2025. We will train and develop a strong local team with an international mindset and continue to strengthen our sales network, focusing on the European, Australian, and North American markets.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Recognized five times as Japan's Leading Destination Management Company by the World Travel Awards.



**Japan's Leading Destination  
Management Company Winner of  
2018, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023**



## CHOOSE YOUR IDEAL TYPES OF TRAVELLING!

**J**apan has gained significant popularity as a travel destination in recent years. The depreciation of the Japanese currency has made Japan more affordable, transforming it from a previously expensive destination to a more budget-friendly option. Moreover, we are here to provide you with three types of experiences tailored to suit your specific needs.

### Fully Guided.

Discover the local sights with assistance of our Expert Guide and support from Client Experience Officer.

### Semi Guided.

Discover various local sights with our Expert Guide and the remaining on your own following the advice from our Client Experience Officer.

### Self-Guided.

Discover the local sights on your own with instructions from our Client Experience Officer and the written guided information.

**T**he Client Experience Officer is a unique service offered by B Japan Tours. Our officer is a local who would greet clients at either the hotels, train stations or the airport and provide them with Information Pack and verbal instruction. In addition, the person is more than happy to give advice on any questions clients might have regarding the trip.

# OUR GUIDES



**Miho Agatsuma**

She is our mid-30s English speaking guide/ Tour Leader who has five years of experience in guiding individuals, groups of travelers and incentives through many regions of Japan.



**Kiyoshi Jinno**

Kiyoshi Jinno is our guide in Kyoto, Fukuoka and other surrounding cities. Jinno is eager to discover clients' interests and customize the tour as flexible as possible within the original itinerary.



**Asako Onishi**

Asako Onishi is our guide in Kyoto. Onishi is proud to show you her unique country with beautiful nature, history, ancient tradition fused with modern life, with a wide variety of delicious food.



**Yuichiro Nakano**

Yuichiro Nakano is a national licensed tour guide assisting our clients from Europe and United States. Nakano is delighted to be not a tour guide, but a reliable friend of your during your time in Japan.



**Emiko Kamoshita**

She has been working as a tour guide for 8 years. Since she is Tokyo resident, she is our guide for Tokyo and the surrounding areas. Kamoshita is passionate to keep clients interest by being informative through good conversation.



**Tadashi Miyamoto**

He our guide in Chugoku District and Shikoku Island. He is based in Hiroshima, the city famous for being largely destroyed by an atomic bomb during World War II. Miyamoto strong points are historical heritages in this area, such as castles, feudal lord gardens, shrines, temples.



**Chieko Horiuchi**

Chieko Horiuchi is the guide in Tokyo. She also enjoy special tours like mountain walking in Nakasendo and Hakone. Once lived in Fukuoka, Kyushu, Horiuchi recommends Kyushu to the visitors to go hiking, and submerge at a healthy onsen bath.

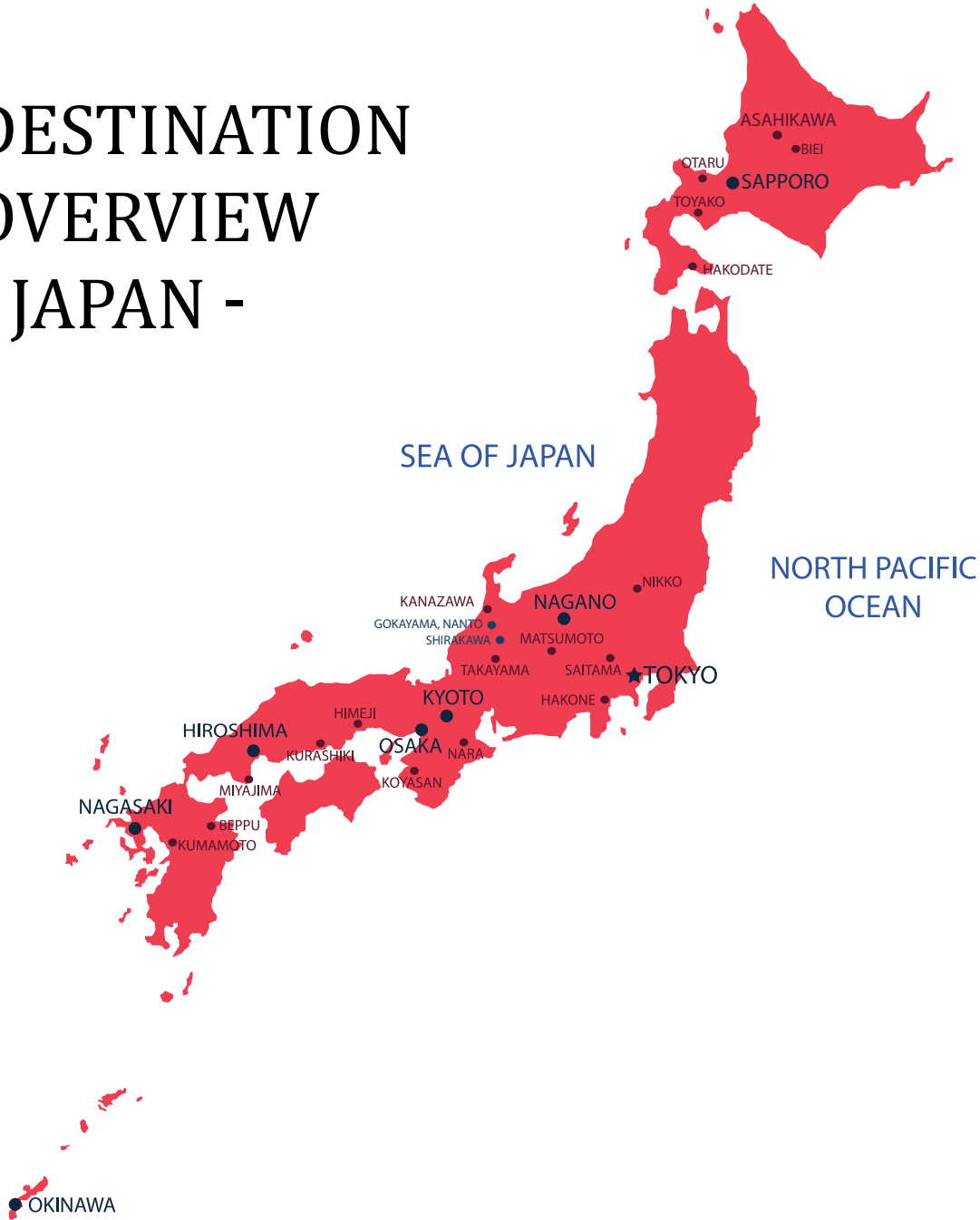




# JAPAN

“Where traditional values co-exist with modern life” usually comes up in people’s mind when they think about Japan. On the surface, Japan appears exceedingly contemporary with high technology, amazing inventions and dazzling events. However, travelling around the country offers a wide variety of opportunities to observe and experience its traditional culture. From neo-lit Tokyo and nostalgic Kyoto all the way to laid-back Okinawa and wintery Hokkaido, Japan is a high-tech world mixed with the politeness and respect of their past.

# DESTINATION OVERVIEW - JAPAN -





# TOUR INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

## INCLUSIONS

- ✓ Accommodation at hotels/ryokans/minshuku.
- ✓ Check-in time is 3.00PM and check-out time is 10.00AM. Early or late service is subject to availability with surcharge.
- ✓ Free pass ticket(s), bus ticket(s) if mentioned in final itinerary.
- ✓ Tours and transfers as mentioned in final itinerary.
- ✓ English/German/French/Italian speaking guide as mentioned in final itinerary.
- ✓ Meals as mentioned in final itinerary.
- ✓ Sightseeing fees and permits during guided time.
- ✓ Service charge and current government VAT tax.

## EXCLUSIONS

- ✗ VISA
- ✗ Optional tours
- ✗ Baggage handling service
- ✗ Please make sure you have 6 months passport validity.
- ✗ Early/late check in/out service at hotels (surcharge if request)
- ✗ Tips and gratuities
- ✗ Services and meals if not mentioned in itinerary
- ✗ All drinks, including water, soft drink and alcohol on all included or optional excursion
- ✗ Laundry, telephone calls and expenditure of a personal nature
- ✗ Travel Insurance (Compulsory)



## THE GOLDEN ROUTE

Stand astounded by the beautiful Tokyo, the scenic Hakone and the spiritual Kyoto with vibrant Sagano bamboo grove.



### DAY 1: TOKYO ARRIVAL

Meet your assistant at Narita Airport for hotel transfer. Relax at the hotel before walking out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area.

### DAY 2: TOKYO

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before your adventure. Journey to **Hama Rikyū**, the former private garden of an Edo Period Lord. Stopover for sampling Japanese green tea, followed by a **short cruise along Sumida River**. Later on, travel to Asakusa for a visit to **Sensōji**! The colorful, popular temple was completed in 645, making it Tokyo's oldest temple.

In the afternoon, visit magnificent **Meiji Jingū**, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of hatsumode (first prayers). In the other times, you may witness solemn procession of Shinto weddings here if in luck. Continue the journey to **Harajuku** and **Omotesando**. This tree-lined avenue features a multitude of dazzling architecturally ambitious buildings of global haute

couture brands. Finish the day with **Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building** in Shinjuku, one of Tokyo's tallest and most distinctive skyscrapers for a panoramic city view if time permits.

### DAY 3: TOKYO

**Let's make your own way exploring the metropolitan.** Going back to visited fascinating alleys for an insight? Use our information packet to discover new places? In case you Interest in Japanese technology, then Odaiba - a unique island of gaming and multimedia - is perfect for you! Akihabara is recommended for electronic gadgets' lovers. If traditional art is your interest, come to the Kabukiza Theatre in Ginza for a performance.

Travel to the Tokyo outskirts? An optional one day trip to Nikko to visit UNESCO World Heritage Toshogu Shrine, or to Kamakura to admire the giant Buddha statue is available.

**DAY 4: TOKYO – HAKONE**

Prepare for an adventure day to **Hakone National Park**. Travel to **Mount Fuji** - the symbol of Japan all around the world in the masterpiece of Hokusai. Enroute visit the **Fuji Subaru Line 5th Station**, where offers a striking view of the Fuji Five Lakes. Cruise on **Lake Ashinoko** with a replica pirate ship. Embark on a **ropeway ride** to enjoy the sight of active sulfuric hot springs and many other scenic landscapes. Tonight, enjoy comfortable stay in hotel/ryokan.

**DAY 5: HAKONE - KYOTO**

Wake up to a hearty breakfast and head to train station for bullet train to Kyoto. Upon arrival, **join a tea ceremony** at “machiya” - a restored traditional wooden house that is typical to Kyoto and other traditional towns of Japan. This experience can be combined with **kimono fitting!** Kimono comes with many colors, ranging from colorful style to quite plain and simple.

Free evening to enjoy at leisure for **walking through Gion**, where you may get a glimpse of Geisha, strolling around the region's narrow alley.

**DAY 6: KYOTO - SAGANO & ARASHIYAMA**

Today starts with the sprawling, breath-taking **Nijō Castle**, followed by **Ryōanji** - the UNESCO World Heritage Zen temple

with famous rock garden. This unique garden has no plant, apart from little patches of moss around the stones. Afterward, visit **Kinkakuji**, the shining pavilion completely covered by gold leaf that was originally built as a shogun's summer house. Transfer to the outskirts of Kyoto for a gentle walk through **Sagano lush bamboo grove**. The sunlight filters through the densely packed grove, projecting thin slashes of light onto this enchanting forest. Head to **Tenryūji Temple**, which survived centuries maintaining its original design. Then continue to **Jojakkōji** – the temple nestled in the quiet and understated wooded hill. Crossing over the iconic landmark **Togetsukyo Bridge** for stunning views of adjacent cherry forest.

**DAY 7: KYOTO**

Enjoy today at your leisure or choose to visit the neighboring city, **Nara**. The city is second only to Kyoto as the richest collection of cultural sites in Japan. Meet the semi-wild deer at **Nara Park**, sightseeing at **Tōdaiji Temple**, **Kasuga Taisha Shrine** are recommended activities.

**DAY 8: KYOTO DEPARTURE**

Spend the final day exploring several sights which you hadn't had chances to peek into during the tour. Perhaps shopping for souvenirs and local snacks before you head off to Kansai Airport.







# THE LAND OF RISING SUN

Indulge into Japan's past to witness the events and eras that forged this nation's landscapes and history.

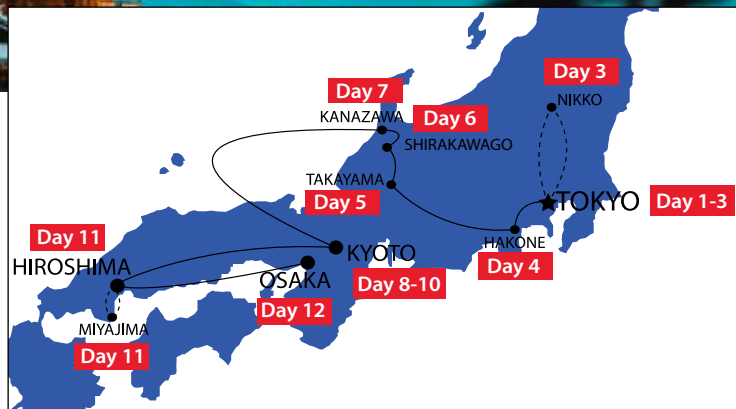
## DAY 1: TOKYO ARRIVAL

Meet your assistant at Narita Airport for hotel transfer. Relax at the hotel before walking out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area.

## DAY 2: TOKYO (ASAKUSA & HARAJUKU)

Start off the day with a visit to sumo morning practice at a stable. Afterwards, travel to Asakusa for **Sensōji!** The colorful, popular temple was completed in 645, making it Tokyo's oldest temple. Stroll around **Nakamise shopping street** nearby, where typical Japanese souvenirs and various traditional snacks are sold. Enjoy sushi or ramen for lunch.

After lunch, visit the magnificent **Meiji Jingū**, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. Continue the journey to **Harajuku** and **Omotesando**. This tree-lined avenue features a multitude of dazzling architecturally ambitious buildings of global haute couture brands. Finish the day with **Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building** in Shinjuku, one of Tokyo's tallest and most distinctive skyscrapers for a panoramic city view if time permits.



## DAY 3: TOKYO - NIKKO - TOKYO

**Enjoy a free day or join in optional excursion: Nikko day tour.** Embark on a bullet train to Nikko, Tokugawa Shogunate's sacred town. The town is home to UNESCO World Heritage Tōshōgū Shrine, an extravagant mausoleum of Tokugawa Ieyasu - the first shogun of the Edo Shogunate. Wander around Japan's most opulent complex before lunch. In the afternoon, journey to the scenic Lake Chūzenji followed by the renowned Kegon Waterfall and then return to Tokyo.

## DAY 4: HAKONE

Prepare for an adventure day to **Hakone National Park**. Travel to **Mount Fuji** - the symbol of Japan as shown in the masterpiece of Hokusai. Enroute visit the **Fuji Subaru Line 5th Station**, where offers a striking view of the Fuji Five Lakes. Cruise on **Lake Ashinoko** with a replica pirate ship. Embark on a **ropeway ride** to enjoy the sight of active sulfuric hot springs and many other scenic landscapes. Tonight, enjoy comfortable stay in hotel/ryokan.

## DAY 5: TAKAYAMA

After breakfast, embark on shinkansen bullet train and transfer to Hida Express to arrive at Takayama. Stroll the nostalgic streets, visit a **local brewery** to experience fresh-tasting of pure sake! Enjoy a sumptuous **Kaiseki dinner**, with an overnight stay at a traditional ryokan.

## DAY 6: TAKAYAMA - SHIRAKAWAGO - KANAZAWA

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before journey to **Miyagawa market**, where vegetables and fruits unique to Japan are on display. Enjoy a short walk to **Takayama Jinya**, the only surviving government office building headed by the officials dispatched from Edo. Embark on a bus ride to visit **Yatai Kaikan**, which displays an array of exotic and flamboyant floats used in Takayama festivals.

In the afternoon, we will travel to **Shirakawago**, a captivating mountain village nestled in the heart of Japan's Gifu Prefecture. The picturesque village is renowned for its distinctive gassho-zukuri farmhouses. Designed to look like hands in prayer, these farmhouses can withstand heavy snowfalls in the winter and have spacious attics for cultivating silkworms. Heading to Kanazawa for the overnight stay.

## DAY 7: KANAZAWA

Enjoy a delicious breakfast strolling around Kanazawa. Kanazawa used to serve as home of second most powerful clan, Maeda Clan, during the Edo Period. In the afternoon, journey to nation's most celebrated garden **Kenrokuen**, followed by the slowly restored **Kanazawa Castle**.

Later on, travel to the largest one of three regional well preserved Chaya districts - **Higashi Chaya**. The word 'Chaya' means an exclusive restaurant, where geishas perform song and dance to entertain patrons.

## DAY 8: KYOTO

Prepare for your adventure to Kyoto with a hearty breakfast. Upon arrival, enjoy evening freely at leisure to wander around **Gion District**, where you may catch a glimpse of Geisha and admire beautifully preserved machiya houses along the side

alleys. **Dinner with Maiko** is offered as an optional experience here.

## DAY 9: KYOTO

We start with the sprawling, breath-taking **Nijo Castle**, followed by **Ryoanji** - the UNESCO World Heritage zen temple with famous rock garden. Afterward, visit **Kinkakuji**, the shining pavilion completely covered by gold leaf that was originally built as a shogun's summer house.

Transfer to the outskirts of Kyoto for a gentle walk through **Sagano** lush bamboo grove. Head to **Tenryuji Temple**, which survived centuries maintaining its original design. Then continue to **Jojakkoji Temple** nestled in the quiet and understated wooded hill. Crossing over the iconic landmark **Togetsukyo Bridge** for stunning views of adjacent cherry forest.

## DAY 10: KYOTO

**Today will be a free day to enjoy this beautiful town at your own pace.** Tea Ceremony Experience & Calligraphy Experience are offered as optional excursions. Japanese Food Cooking is also on the table if you're interested.

## DAY 11: KYOTO - HIROSHIMA - MIYAJIMA

Fuel up with a good breakfast before heading to Hiroshima, a city recover itself from Atomic Bombing aftermath. Admire stunning vibrancy and splendid culture which has regrown itself from the ashes. **Peace Memorial Park and Museum** inside the park are major attractions of the city. Embark on a ferry ride to **Miyajima** - home to the giant torii-gate.

## DAY 12: OSAKA

Begin the day with a visit the **Mazda factory** after booking in advance. Afterwards, continue journey to Japan's second largest metropolitan area - Osaka! Upon arrival, stroll along the city's bustling streets and sample **Osaka cuisine**.

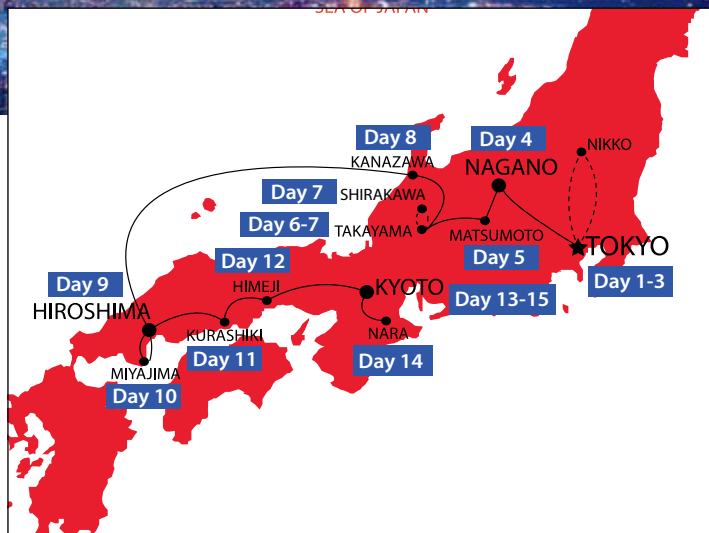
## DAY 13: OSAKA DEPARTURE

Today you will transfer to the Kansai airport.



# SHINKANSEN EXPRESS

Embark on this shinkansen express journey for experiencing Japan's unique tradition and picturesque landscapes.



## DAY 1: TOKYO ARRIVAL

Meet your assistant at Narita Airport for hotel transfer. Relax at the hotel before walking out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area.

## DAY 2: TOKYO (HARAJUKU & ASAKUSA)

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before today's adventure. Journey to **Hama Rikyū**, the former private garden of an Edo Period Lord. Stopover for sampling Japanese green tea, followed by a short cruise along **Sumida River**. Later on, travel to Asakusa for a visit to the renowned **Sensōji**! The colorful, popular temple was completed in 645, making it Tokyo's oldest temple. Stroll along **Nakamise shopping street** nearby, where typical Japanese souvenirs and various traditional snacks are sold! Enjoy sushi or ramen for lunch.

After lunch, visit magnificent **Meiji Jingū**, a Shinto shrine

dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of **hatsumode** (first prayers). In other times, if in luck, you may witness solemn procession of Shinto weddings. Continue the journey to **Harajuku** and **Omotesando**. This tree-lined avenue features a multitude of dazzling architecturally ambitious buildings of global haute couture brands. Finish the day with **Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building** in Shinjuku, one of Tokyo's tallest and most distinctive skyscrapers for a panoramic city view if time permits.

## DAY 3: EXPLORE TOKYO YOUR OWN WAY!

Let's enjoy free day exploring the metropolitan. Going back to visited fascinating alleys for an insight? Use our information packet to discover new places? Interested in Japanese technology? Odaiba - a unique island of gaming



and multimedia - is perfect for you! If traditional art is your interest, come to the Kabukiza Theatre in Ginza and watch a performance. Akihabara is recommended for electronic gadgets' lovers.

Travel to the outskirts of Tokyo? An optional one day trip to nearby Nikko to visit UNESCO World Heritage Tōshōgū Shrine, or to Kamakura to admire the giant Buddha statue is available. Tell us what's your plan?

#### DAY 4: NAGANO (SHIBU ONSEN)

Today will begin with a travel to Nagano Station. Upon arrival, take a public bus, which takes about 45 mins followed by a gentle walk of 30 mins to arrive at **Jigokudani Monkey Park**. Enjoy exclusive experience of seeing wild monkeys bathing in the park's natural hot spring. They are Japanese Macaques, commonly known as Snow Monkeys.

Embark on a short bus ride to **Shibu Onsen** and spend the night here. We suggest you to wander the town and visit local nine public bath houses. Most public baths are locked and only accessible to locals and overnight guests, who are provided with a master key by their ryokan. One bathhouse is open to all guests, making it the only exception. The bath houses are numbered and have special names to indicate they cure different ailments. **Traditional Kaiseki meal** will be served to you for dinner at your ryokan.

#### DAY 5: SHIBU ONSEN - MATSUMOTO

Wake up to a hearty breakfast, then transfer to Nagano station to visit **Zenkōji Temple**. It is believed that visit there once in a lifetime will ensure your passage into the Land of Happiness. Afterwards, discover the impressive **Matsumoto Castle** at your own pace. If the time permits, visit regional **wasabi farm** and learn about the growth of this renowned Japanese spicy paste.

#### DAY 6: TAKAYAMA

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before your adventure to Takayama. Takayama is famous for its beautiful old town,

where traditional touch is preserved. Stroll the beautiful old streets, and visit a **local brewery** to experience fresh-tasting of pure sake! Enjoy a sumptuous dinner, with an overnight stay at a traditional Ryokan.

#### DAY 7: TAKAYAMA - SHIRAKAWAGO - KANAZAWA

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before the journey to **Miyagawa market**. Immerse in the market's atmosphere, where vegetables and fruits unique to Japan are on display. Take a short walk to **Takayama Jinya**, the only surviving government office building headed by the officials dispatched from Edo. Take a short bus ride to visit **Yatai Kaikan**, which displays an array of exotic and flamboyant floats used in Takayama festivals.

In the afternoon, we will wander around the local folk village, or travel to UNESCO World Heritage **Shirakawago**. Travel to Kanazawa for an overnight stay.

#### DAY 8: KANAZAWA

Enjoy a delicious breakfast before heading out to explore Kanazawa. Kanazawa used to serve as home of second most powerful clan, Maeda Clan, during the Edo Period. Thereupon, the town has become the place of great cultural achievements, rivalling Tokyo and Kyoto. In the afternoon, journey to nation's most celebrated garden **Kenrokuen**, followed by the slowly restored **Kanazawa Castle**.

Afterward, travel to the largest one of three regional well preserved Chaya districts - **Higashi Chaya**. The word 'Chaya' means an exclusive restaurant, where geishas perform song and dance to entertain patrons. Another signature of Kanazawa is gold leaf handicrafts - from accessories to clothing, housewares and even cuisine.

#### DAY 9: KANAZAWA - HIROSHIMA

Fuel up with a good breakfast before heading to Hiroshima, a city recovered itself from Atomic Bombing aftermath. Admire stunning vibrancy and splendid culture which has regrown itself from the ashes. **Peace Memorial Park and Museum**

inside the park are major attractions of the city. **Prefectural Museum of Art, Shukkei-En Gardens, Baseball Stadium,** restaurants selling **unique okonomiyaki** is recommended attractions for your leisure time!

### DAY 10: MIYAJIMA

We will begin the day with a visit the **Mazda factory** after booking in advance. Then travel to **Miyajima** - one of the "Three Great Views of Japan" popularized in the Edo Period. The bright, floating red gate is a signature spot of this island. Miyajima is also populated by the friendly deer. Wander the temples and hike (or take a cable car) to the top of **Misen Mountain** to experience the life of monk.

### DAY 11: KURASHIKI

Embark on a bullet train to Kurashiki. The city is renowned for its preserved canal area, which were built to allow boats and barges to navigate between the city's storehouses and the nearby port when Kurashiki was still a vital rice trading center. Enjoy the afternoon wandering around this canal town. **Ohara museum, Ohashi house, Ivy Square** and buy yourself Japanese jeans made at a local factory is recommended.

### DAY 12: HIMEJI - KYOTO

After breakfast, travel to train station for a bullet train to Kyoto. Enroute visit **Himeji Castle**. Our Client Experience Officer meets you at the train station and transfer you to your hotel. Enjoy your leisure walk through **Gion**, where you may get a glimpse of Geisha, admire beautifully preserved machiya houses along side alleys. **Dinner with Maiko** is offered as an

optional experience here.

### DAY 13: KYOTO - SAGANO & ARASHIYAMA

We start with the sprawling, breath-taking **Nijō Castle**, followed by **Ryōanji** - the UNESCO World Heritage Zen temple with famous rock garden. This unique garden has no plant, apart from little patches of moss around the stones. Afterward, visit **Kinkakuji**, the shining pavilion completely covered by gold leaf that was originally built as a shogun's summer house. Transfer to the outskirts of Kyoto for a gentle walk through **Sagano lush bamboo grove**. The sunlight filters through the densely packed grove, projecting thin slashes of light onto this enchanting forest. Head to **Tenryūji Temple**, which survived centuries maintaining its original design. Then continue to **Jokakkoji Temple** nestled in the quiet and understated wooded hill. Crossing over the iconic landmark **Togetsukyo Bridge** for stunning views of adjacent cherry forest.

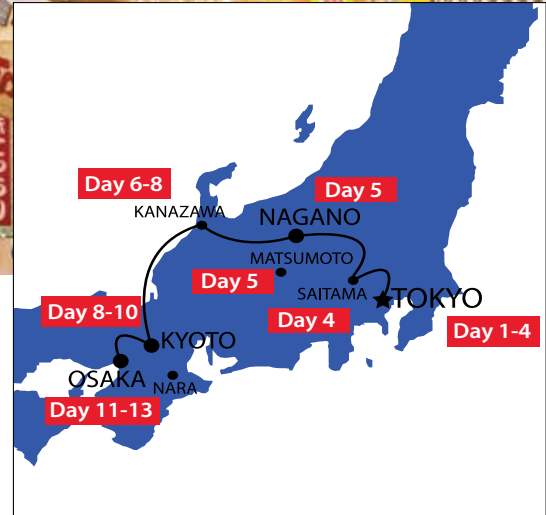
### DAY 14: KYOTO - NARA

Today's morning, you will **join in a tea ceremony** at the traditional Japanese house. Then travel to **Nara** for your free afternoon here. The city is second only to Kyoto as the richest collection of cultural sites in Japan. Meet the semi-wild deer at **Nara Park**, admire the structure of **Tōdaiji Temple, Kasuga Taisha Shrine** is recommended.

### DAY 15: KYOTO DEPARTURE

Spend the final day exploring several sights which you hadn't had chances to peek into during the tour. Perhaps shopping for souvenirs? Or enjoy some local snacks before heading off to Kansai Airport.





## FAMILY ADVENTURE

Experience a one-of-a-kind adventure into Japan's pop culture and the nation's art of animation. Encounter Japan's beauties in an uncommon way.

### DAY 1: TOKYO ARRIVAL

Meet your assistant at Narita Airport for hotel transfer. Relax at the hotel before walking out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area.

You can choose our optional tour: Dinner on a cruise by Sumida River.

### DAY 2: TOKYO

Start off the day with a visit to **sumo morning practice at the stable**. Followed by sightseeing at **Sumo Museum**, where a wide range of materials relating to the history of sumo wrestling are preserved. Journey to **Tokyo Skytree** for the city panoramic view and stop by a nearby Hello Kitty Store if time permits.

In the afternoon, travel to magnificent **Meiji Jingū**, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of hatsumode (first prayers). In other times, if in luck, you may witness solemn procession of Shinto weddings. Continue the journey to **Harajuku** and **Omotesando**. Omotesando tree-lined avenue features a multitude of dazzling architecturally ambitious buildings. Visit

the **Kawaii Monster café** to embrace the famous Harajuku atmosphere.

### DAY 3: TOKYO (DISNEYLAND)

The very first Disney theme park outside of United States - **Tokyo Disneyland** consists of seven themed lands, featuring seasonal adornments and flamboyant parades. We will organize you a Disneyland day pass and transportation. Welcome to Disney World!

### DAY 4: TOKYO - SAITAMA

Today, we will organize you a ticket to **Ghibli Museum**. This museum showcases the work of the world-famous Japanese animation studio - Studio Ghibli. Discover the magical world of My Neighbor Totoro, Princess Mononoke, Spirited Away and Ponyo on the Cliff by the Sea, etc.

Afternoon, take a train to visit **Railway Museum** at Saitama. The museum exhibits and researches the wide range of materials relating to railways both inside and outside Japan. Large collection of formerly used train cars guarantee to satisfy visitors, from children to railway geeks.



**DAY 5: NAGANO/MATSUMOTO**

November to March: Travel to Nagano Station. Upon arrival, take a public bus, which takes about 45 mins followed by a gentle walk of 30 mins to arrive at **Jigokudani Monkey Park**. Enjoy exclusive experience of seeing snow monkeys bathing in the park's natural hot spring.

April to October: The journey changes to Matsumoto and discover the imposing **Matsumoto castle**. The castle is one of four castles designated as 'National Treasures of Japan' and the oldest castle donjon remaining in Japan. If time permits, you will join in soba making experience.

**DAY 6: NAGANO/MATSUMOTO - KANAZAWA**

Enjoy a delicious breakfast and head to Kanazawa. The town used to serve as home of second most powerful clan, Maeda Clan, during the Edo Period. In the afternoon, journey to nation's most celebrated garden **Kenrokuen**, followed by the the slowly restored **Kanazawa Castle**. Afterward, travel to the largest one of three regional well preserved Chaya districts - **Higashi Chaya**. The word 'Chaya' means an exclusive restaurant, where geishas perform song and dance to entertain patrons.

**DAY 7: KANAZAWA**

Enjoy breakfast and you can choose to join an optional: a craftsmanship experience: **Make chopsticks with gold leaf**. The remaining of the day is for sightseeing at **Nagamachi**, former living district of samurai. The district exhibits a historic atmosphere with remaining samurai residences, earthen walls, entrance gates, narrow lanes and water canals. Visit **Nomura-ke**, a samurai residence restored to golden era of samurai precedence. There are few other museums and restored structures that might interest you if time permits.

**DAY 8: KANAZAWA - KYOTO**

Prepare for your adventures to Kyoto with a hearty breakfast. Upon arrival, participate in **calligraphy lesson** for an insight into Japanese artistic writing. Later on, wander around **Gion District**, where you may get a glimpse of Geisha, admire

beautifully preserved machiya houses along its side alleys. **Dinner with Maiko** is offered as an optional experience here.

**DAY 9: KYOTO**

Today starts with the sprawling, breath-taking **Nijō Castle**, followed by **Ryōanji** - the UNESCO World Heritage Zen temple with famous rock garden. This unique garden has no plant, apart from little patches of moss around the stones. Afterward, visit **Kinkakuji**, the shining pavilion completely covered by gold leaf that was originally built as a shogun's summer house. Enjoy this afternoon by join in **Kyoto bike tour** or participate in our **cooking class**.

Later on, travel to **Toei Kyoto Studio Park** - the theme park and film set modeled after the Edo Period. The Park as well has several other amusements for guests to experience including ninja performances, dress up and get photographed in samurai, geisha and ninja attires.

**DAY 10: KYOTO**

Enjoy today at leisure. You can choose to visit the neighboring city, **Nara**. The city is second only to Kyoto as the richest collection of cultural sites in Japan. Meet the semi-wild deer at **Nara Park**, admire the structure of **Tōdaiji Temple**, **Kasuga Taisha Shrine** is recommended.

**DAY 11: KYOTO - OSAKA**

Embark on a bullet train to Osaka. Upon arrival, transfer to hotel and leave your luggage before heading out for lunch. In the afternoon, participate in **Ninja/Samurai experience** - where martial art, technique that has been private for a decades are taught.

**DAY 12: OSAKA**

We will organize you a day pass to the **Universal Studios Japan**, the most visited amusement park in Japan.

**DAY 13: OSAKA**

Transfer to the Kansai airport for your flight back home.



# JAPAN - PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Glimpse into various different aspects of Japan. From scenic heritages, traditional culture to everyday life of Japanese.

## DAY 1: TOKYO ARRIVAL

Meet your assistant at Narita Airport for hotel transfer. Relax at the hotel before walking out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area.

## DAY 2: TOKYO (HARAJUKU & ASAKUSA)

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before beginning your adventure. Journey to **Hama Rikyū**, the former private garden of an Edo Period Lord. Stopover for sampling Japanese green tea, followed by a short cruise along **Sumida River**. Later on, travel to Asakusa for a visit to the renowned **Sensōji!** Stroll along **Nakamise shopping street** nearby, where typical Japanese souvenirs and various traditional snacks are sold!

After lunch, we will visit magnificent **Meiji Jingū**, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of hatsumode (first prayers). In other times, if in luck, you may witness solemn procession of Shinto weddings. Continue the journey to **Harajuku** and **Omotesando**. This tree-lined avenue features a multitude of



dazzling architecturally ambitious buildings of global haute couture brands. Finish the day with **Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building** in Shinjuku for a city panoramic view if time permits.

## DAY 3: EXPLORE TOKYO YOUR OWN WAY

**Let's self-exploring the metropolitan.** Going back to visited fascinating alleys for an insight? Use our information packet to discover new places? Interested in Japanese technology? Odaiba - a unique island of gaming and multimedia - is perfect for you! Akihabara is also recommended for electronic gadgets' lovers. If traditional art is your interest, come to the Kabukiza Theatre in Ginza and watch a performance.

Travel to the outskirts of Tokyo? An optional one day trip to Nikko to visit UNESCO World Heritage Toshogu Shrine, or to Kamakura to admire the giant Buddha statue is available.

## DAY 4: TAKAYAMA

After breakfast, embark on bullet train to Nagoya and transfer

to Hida Express train to arrive at Takayama. Takayama is renowned for its beautiful old town, where traditional touch is preserved. In the afternoon, head out on a walk of the town visiting the old town and **sake brewery**. The freshest sake is the best - find out for yourself how it's made!

### DAY 5: TAKAYAMA - SHIRAKAWAGO - KANAZAWA

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before your visit to **Miyagawa market**. Immerse in market's atmosphere, where vegetables and fruits unique to Japan are on display. Later on, journey to **Yatai Kaikan**, which displays an array of exotic and flamboyant floats. In the afternoon, we will travel to **Shirakawago**. Shirakawago region lines the Shogawa River Valley in the remote mountains that span from Gifu to Toyama. Declared as UNESCO world heritage site in 1995, the place is famous for their traditional gassho-zukuri farmhouses, some of which are more than 250 years old. Continue your journey to Kanazawa for the overnight stay.

### DAY 6: KANAZAWA

Wake up to a hearty breakfast before heading out to explore Kanazawa. Kanazawa is the town of great cultural achievements, rivalling Tokyo and Kyoto. In the afternoon, journey to nation's most celebrated garden **Kenrokuen**, and perhaps visit the slowly restored Kanazawa Castle if time permits.

The evening will be enjoyed freely, you may wish to travel to the largest one of three regional well preserved Chaya districts - **Higashi Chaya** district. The word 'Chaya' means an exclusive restaurant, where geishas perform song and dance to entertain patrons. Another signature of Kanazawa is gold leaf handicrafts.

### DAY 7: KANAZAWA - KYOTO

Prepare for your adventures to Kyoto with a hearty breakfast. Upon arrival, enjoy the evening freely at your leisure to wander around **Gion** District, where you may get a glimpse of Geisha, and admire beautifully preserved machiya houses along

its side alleys. **Dinner with Maiko** is offered as an optional experience here.

### DAY 8: KYOTO - SAGANO & ARASHIYAMA

We start with the sprawling, breath-taking **Nijo Castle**, followed by **Ryoanji** - the UNESCO World Heritage zen temple with famous rock garden. This unique garden has no plant, apart from little patches of moss around the stones. Afterward, visit **Kinkakuji**, the shining pavilion completely covered by gold leaf that was originally built as a shogun's summer house. Transfer to the outskirts of Kyoto for a gentle walk through **Sagano** lush bamboo grove. The sunlight filters through the densely packed grove, projecting thin slashes of light onto this enchanting forest. Head to **Tenryuji Temple**, which survived centuries maintaining its original design. Then continue to **Jojakkoji Temple** nestled in the quiet and understated wooded hill. Crossing over the iconic landmark **Togetsukyo Bridge** for stunning views of adjacent cherry forest.

### DAY 9: KYOTO - NARA (OPTIONAL)

Today's morning, you will participate in a **tea ceremony** at the traditional Japanese house, which is typical to Kyoto and many parts of Japan. If you wish, combine this experience with kimono fitting! The traditional dress comes with many colors, ranging from colorful style to quite plain and simple. We will then travel to **Nara** for your free afternoon here. The city is second only to Kyoto as the richest collection of cultural sites in Japan. Meet the semi-wild deer at **Nara Park**, admire the structure of **Todaiji Temple**, **Kasuga-Taisha Shrine** is recommended.

### DAY 10: KYOTO - KURASHIKI

Embark on a bullet train to Kurashiki. The city is renowned for its preserved canal area, which were built to allow boats and barges to navigate between the city's storehouses and the nearby port when Kurashi was still a vital rice trading center. Enjoy the afternoon wandering around this canal town. **Ohara museum**, **Ohashi house**, **Ivy Square** and buy yourself

Japanese jeans made at a local factory is recommended.

### DAY 11: KURASHIKI- HIROSHIMA

Fuel up with a good breakfast before heading to Hiroshima, a city recovered itself from Atomic Bombing aftermath. Admire stunning vibrancy and splendid culture which has regrown itself from the ashes. **Peace Memorial Park and Museum** inside the park are major attractions of the city. **Prefectural Museum of Art, Shukkei-En Gardens, Baseball Stadium**, restaurants selling unique **okonomiyaki** is recommended attractions for your leisure time!

### DAY 12: HIROSHIMA - MIYAJIMA

We will travel to Miyajima - one of the “Three Great Views of Japan” popularized in the Edo Period. You will certainly feel a sense of nostalgia from seeing the famous “floating” red gate – Torii – a famous symbol of Japanese shrine entrance.

Miyajima is also populated by the friendly deer - they will eat from your hand and follow you around! Wander the temples and hike (or take a cable car) to the top of Misen Mountain to experience the life of monk.

### DAY 13: HIROSHIMA - NAGASAKI

After breakfast, take a bullet train to Nagasaki. Nagasaki is a town of churches - that is, churches, temples, pagodas, shrines and mosques! This multi-cultural city has created a delightful mish-mash of color, culture and design. Sample **kappo-ryori** at a Kappo restaurant, where you can watch the chef cooking right in front of you! Option to take a cruise to Gunkanjima (Battleship Island).The small, deserted island that used to serve as coal mine until 1974, located about 20 kilometers from Nagasaki.

### DAY 14: NAGASAKI

Today, embrace an insight into Nagasaki on foot and by the trams - the iconic transportation of the city. Journey along **Teramachi-dori** where many old temples lined up, followed by **Sōfukuji Temple** and **Urakami Cathedral**. Nagasaki has

always had a bonding relationship with Christianity - glimpses of Christian influence can be seen in the city’s every breath. We also take you to another dark stone in this grand city’s history - **Nagasaki Peace Park**. See how the city resurrect like a phoenix throughout history. Journey to **Glover Garden** and **Dejima** - another multi-cultural asset in this city’s many facets.

### DAY 15: BEPPU

Fuel up yourself with a good breakfast before your journey by bullet train to Beppu. Beppu is a city by the seashore on Kyushu Island. The region is an abundant source of hot spring, making it home to over 2,000 onsens. **Immerse yourself in unmatched range** of baths, from ordinary hot water baths, mud baths, sand baths to even steam baths during your stay here.

### DAY 16: BEPPU

Today will be a free day to enjoy Beppu. Journey to **Jigoku** - the Hells of Beppu to admire the view of the dangerous hot springs, namely **Umi Jigoku, Oniishibozu Jigoku, Shiraike Jigoku, Kamado Jigoku** and many more! Savour local delicacies uniquely cooked by natural hot spring steam.

### DAY 17: BEPPU - FUKUOKA/OSAKA

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before your bullet train journey to either Fukuoka or Osaka for the last night in Japan.

### DAY 18: DEPARTURE

Today you will transfer to Narita airport and board your flight home.







# JAPAN DISCOVERY ODYSSEY

Ever-welcoming and always fascinating, Japan is a land of ancient cultures, austere traditions and groundbreaking technology.

## DAY 1: NAGASAKI ARRIVAL

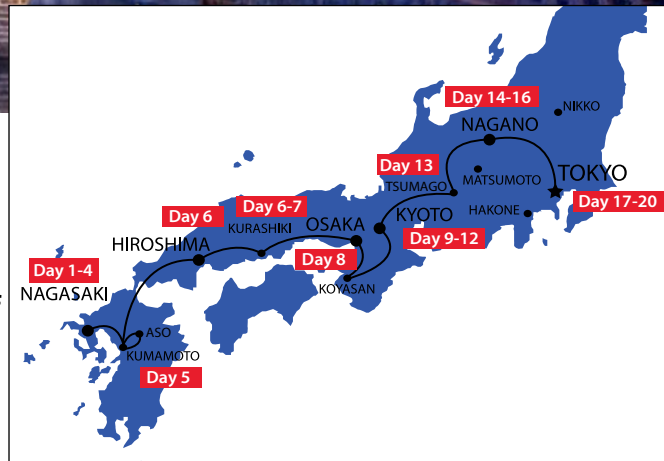
Meet your assistant at the airport and transfer your hotel. Relax at the hotel before walk out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area.

## DAY 2: NAGASAKI

Today, embrace an insight into Nagasaki on foot and by the trams - the iconic transportation of the city. Journey along **Teramachi-dori** where many old temples lined up, followed by **Sōfukuji Temple** and **Urakami Cathedral**. Nagasaki has always had a bonding relationship with Christianity - glimpses of Christian influence can be seen in the city's every breath. We also take you to another dark stone in this grand city's history - **Nagasaki Peace Park**. See how the city resurrect like a phoenix throughout history. Journey to **Glover Garden** and **Dejima** - another multi-cultural asset in this city's many facets.

## DAY 3: NAGASAKI

Today will be your free day to discover Nagasaki. Nagasaki is a town of churches - that is, churches, temples, pagodas, shrines



and mosques! This multi-cultural city has created a delightful mish-mash of color, culture and design. Sample **kappo-ryori** at a Kappo restaurant, where you can watch the chef cooking right in front of you!

Option to take a cruise to Gunkanjima ( Battleship Island).The small, deserted island that used to serve as coal mine until 1974, located about 20 kilometers from Nagasaki.

## DAY 4: NAGASAKI - KUMAMOTO

Start your day with a tasty breakfast before heading to Kumamoto. Upon arrival, settle into hotel before heading out for a local lunch. Enjoy a peaceful orientation walk around the town afterwards. Visit the renowned **Kumamoto Castle**. Because the disastrous earthquake destroyed the castle in 2016, it is not permitted to visit the inside but it is still possible to witness massive fortress from the outside. You can also visit the **Suizenji garden** and **Hearn Residence** on your own.

### DAY 5: KUMAMOTO - MOUNT ASO - KUMAMOTO

In the morning take a train to Higo Ozu station and continue by a public bus to the **Mt. Aso** area. During this day tour, you will be making a stop for a great views of the valley from the highest point. Along the way, there is a possibility to see the picturesque horses and cattle grazing in the mountains. Today will be active day with some soft hiking along the way, so it is recommended to pack a day pack bag and a good walking shoes. In the late afternoon return back to Kumamoto and relax for a last night after a long day.

### DAY 6: KUMAMOTO - HIROSHIMA - KURASHIKI

Fuel up with a good breakfast before embarking on a bullet train to Kurashiki. Enroute stop at Hiroshima, a city recover itself from Atomic Bombing aftermath. Embark on the local tram in Hiroshima to visit the **Peace Park and Museum**. Afterwards continue by bullet train to Venice of Japan - Kurashiki. The city is renowned for its preserved canal area, which were built to allow boats and barges to navigate between the city's storehouses and the nearby port when Kurashiki was still a vital rice trading center. Enjoy your oriental walk along the town.

### DAY 7: KURASHIKI

Wander around the town and visit **Ohara museum, Japanese jeans factory** to order your own customized jeans or stroll along the back street of this small town.

Alternatively, you can join in **bike ride in Kibi Plain** from Bijen Ichinomiya station to Soja station. This is 17kms ride and bikes are available for rent for this day. Kibi Plain is a charming, rural flatland covered in sprawling fields and dotted with shrines, temples and small clusters of farmhouses. After the biking, you can make a brief visit to Okayama famous garden '**Korakuen Garden**' before returning back to Kurashiki in a local express train.

### DAY 8: KURASHIKI - OSAKA - KOYASAN

Enjoy a tasty breakfast before heading to Osaka. Upon arrival,

hop on an express train to Koyasan. This scenic journey is not to be missed as the train ascends uphill towards the base of Koyasan. Short cable car journey takes you to Koyasan bus station, from here take a regular city bus to your shukubo (temple lodging). Koyasan is the center of Shingon Buddhism, an important Buddhist sect which was introduced to Japan in 805 by Kobo Daishi - one of Japan's most significant religious figures. **Experience your overnight stay at a shukubo**, where you can get a taste of a monk's lifestyle, eating vegetarian monk's cuisine (shojin ryori) and attending the morning prayers.

### DAY 9: KYOTO

Attend the morning prayer at your shukubo, and have a vegetarian breakfast afterwards. Enjoy orientation walk of this peaceful area before heading down the mountain and travel to Kyoto. Upon arrival, you might enjoy walking around the **Geisha district**, and get a glimpse of the elegant Geishas.

### DAY 10: KYOTO

Wake up to a hearty breakfast before joining in your **Kyoto cycling tour**. Begin cycling along **Kamo River** and admire the exquisiteness of city's downtown while passing riverside restaurants. Visit the vast **Heian-jingu Shrine** and admire the elegant, richly-colored buildings and its large gardens surrounded.

Continue along canals to reach the picturesque **Nanzenji Temple**. Admire the scenic Higashiyama mountains backdrop and be amazed by the unique brick aqueduct passing through the temple grounds. Soak up the Zen feeling before continuing down the **Path of Philosophy**. This national popular walking path is shaded by hundreds of cherry trees that erupt into bloom every plum blossom season. Pedaling back towards **Kyoto Station**, along beautiful canal passing by ancient teahouses and traditional bathhouses. Back at the city's buzzing station. Rest of the afternoon is free at leisure.

*\*Please note that Kyoto cycling tour requires medium level of fitness ability.\**

### DAY 11: KYOTO (MOUNT ATAGO)

Enjoy a tasty breakfast before the journey to Takao. Upon arrival start the hike trail in the foothills of Mt. Atago. Enroute passing by **Ninnaji Temple**, then stroll down shortly to the **Kiyotaki River**. Continue hike up to the esoteric **Jingoji Temple**, located up a long flight of steps.

Follow the trail crossing at a bridge and see the region's "living fossil": Japanese giant salamanders. They are the world's largest amphibian that inhabits these pristine waters, and can reach up to 1.5 meters in length.

The trail continues to the village of **Kiyotaki**, which is 5 to 6kms away. Then return back to Kyoto. For those who wish to continue to **Arashiyama**, we offer the option to continue to further visit at your own pace before the return to Kyoto.

### DAY 12: KYOTO FREE DAY

Enjoy this free day to visit **Nara**. Nara is second only to Kyoto as the richest collection of cultural sites in Japan. You can either wander around the back-street of Kyoto in the less touristy sites.

### DAY 13: KYOTO - KISO VALLEY (TSUMAGO)

Fuel up with a good breakfast and embark on a bullet train to Nagoya, transfer on a local express train to Nakatsugawa afterwards. Upon arrival, a short bus ride will take you to Magome, the gateway to Kiso Valley. Stroll along the scenic landscape to **Tsumago** - a post town on the Nakasendo route. Running alongside the mountains of the Central Alps, Kiso Valley has been a vital path of Japan's commerce for centuries. The Valley became even more vital from the beginning of the Edo Period, when it was amalgamated with other routes in the formation of the 500 km long Nakasendo. The Nakasendo (literally translated as "path through mountains") was one out of only two modes of transportation between Edo and Kyoto. Enjoy your **overnight stay at minshuku (the local homestay)** and savor **hearty meals** cooked by the host family.

### DAY 14: KISO VALLEY - NAGANO

Wake up to a home-cooked breakfast and prepare for the trip to Nagano. Upon arrival, hop on a local train for a short ride to **Togura Kamiyamada Onsen** (Japanese hot spring town). Settle your stay at a local ryokan before heading out to explore the surrounding in the afternoon. We offer unique experience of visiting **Jigokudani Monkey Park** as an option for you.

In the evening, you can wander this Japanese onsen town to discover the backstreet and perhaps sample some local Japanese cuisine in one of the local Izakayas (restaurant).

### DAY 15: NAGANO

Today will be your free day. You can choose to head back to Nagano for a visit to **Zenkōji Temple**, travel to Matsumoto for the imposing castle or enjoy an orientation walk in **Obuse town**. We can arrange one option based on your preference. Enjoy your last evening here before going back to Tokyo.

### DAY 16: NAGANO - TOKYO

Depart by bus in the morning to the capital and arrive in the afternoon. Start off the Tokyo tour in the neighborhood of **Ningyocho**, a sophisticated district of old downtown Edo. Along the way, pass by Japanese sweets shop, incense store that dates back to 1705. Visit a little gift shop that carries various traditional Japanese items, from calligraphy tools to decorative wares.

We'll stop at a snack shop from the Showa Era that carries treats popular in the early 20th century, including candies, caramels, Ramune soda, fish jerky, and bean paste snacks. Sample Japanese specialties: sweet kawara senbei and salty rice crackers. We'll then cross the street to a shamisen shop to learn about this traditional Japanese musical string instrument. From there, head to a local tenugui shop, where woven hand towels depicting Japanese scenes are sold. Journey to a local shrine, so that you can offer a prayer and wash a coin to ensure a prosperous life. Finish the journey with neo-lit streets of Shibuya.

**DAY 17: TOKYO**

After breakfast, visit a **Buddhist temple** founded in 1703, in an old part of Tokyo. Explore the inside of the temple before getting up-close views of a dramatic **purification ceremony**.

The ceremony features powerful drumming, chanting, and even a bonfire - where you can have your bag blessed over the healing smoke!

Enjoy this afternoon freely to explore the city at your own pace. Sightseeing at **Meiji Jingū**, **Harajuku** and finish at **Asakusa** is recommended.

**DAY 18: TOKYO**

**Today can be enjoyed at your own pace.** Or you can choose the Hakone optional tour and visit the iconic Mount Fuji!

Hakone optional tour: Wake up early and prepare for an adventure day to Hakone National Park. Travel to Mount Fuji - the symbol of Japan all around the world in the masterpiece of Hokusai. Enroute visit the Fuji Subaru Line 5th Station, where offers a commanding view of the Fuji Five Lakes. Cruise on

Lake Ashinoko with a replica pirate ship. Embark on a ropeway ride to enjoy the view of active sulfuric hot springs and many other scenic landscape. Tonight, enjoy comfortable stay in hotel/ryokan.

**DAY 19: TOKYO**

**Enjoy your last free day or participate in our optional excursion:** Nikko Day tour.

Embark on a bullet train to Nikko, Tokugawa Shogunate's sacred town. The town is home to UNESCO World Heritage Tōshōgū Shrine, an extravagant mausoleum of Tokugawa Ieyasu - the first shogun of the Edo Shogunate. Wander around Japan's most opulent complex before having a local lunch. In the afternoon, journey to the scenic Lake Chūzenji followed by the renowned Kegon Waterfall and then return to Tokyo.

**DAY 20: TOKYO DEPARTURE**

Today you will transfer to Narita airport and board your flight home.







# NIKKO & NATSU HIKING

The Japan you want to experience in an active way! Hike through the tranquil Nikko area and immerse in peaceful atmosphere.

## DAY 1: NIKKO ARRIVAL

The exciting hiking tour starts at Asakusa Station. Embark on a bullet train to Nikko. Upon arrival, leave your luggage at the accommodation before heading out to explore the UNESCO World Heritage **Tōshōgū Shrine** and Nikko's most important temple - **Rinnōji**. Immerse in the sights and sounds of this amazing town.

## DAY 2: LAKE CHUZENJI

Today you will travel to **Lake Chūzenji** for a 5-hour hiking tour around this astonishing region. Lake Chūzenji was formed by the eruption of Mount Nantai, and used to be a training place for Japanese monk. Nowadays, the lake become one of the most famous sightseeing spot in Japan. There will be lunch break for you to enjoy the picturesque landscapes before finishing the tour. Enjoy your stay at the accommodation with spectacular view of Nikko.

## DAY 3: OKU-NIKKO

Fuel up with a good breakfast and prepare for the hiking experience ahead. Discover **Oku-Nikko** region on foot. This region is located in the northwestern part of Nikko in western Tochigi, and it is a part of Nikko National Park. Visit a local hot spring area for your lunch. Explore beautiful vast wetlands, stand astounded by a picturesque waterfall, the scenic lake before going back.

## DAY 4: NIKKO - UTSUNOMIYA

Wake up to a tasty breakfast and embark on a private vehicle to travel to Utsunomiya city. Upon arrival, visit a **long-established tatami store** with a history of over 100 years to observe the tatami making process. In the afternoon, enjoy **soba making experience** or **Ayu fishing experience**, depending on the season. Finish the tour with a visit to a local quarry ruins.

## DAY 5: MOUNT NASU

Enjoy your delicious breakfast and prepare for an adventure ahead. Today we will hike Mount Nasu, follow hiking trails in the forests further up the mountain that offers nice views out over the trees. During your journey in Nasu, visit a secret hot spring bath. Then continue trekking to the mountain hut.

## DAY 6: MOUNT NASU

Wake up to a hearty breakfast. Today we will go **hiking towards Sanbonyari Peak and Asahi Peak**, two out of five Nasu major peaks. Continue your trekking experience until we reach **Shika no Yu** - a beautiful, traditional bath house with gender segregated, wooden indoor baths.

## DAY 7: NIKKO DEPARTURE

After having a wonderful time in Nikko historical nature, we will head back to Tokyo - the modern side of Japan. The tour ends at Tokyo Station.



# COLORFUL HOKKAIDO

The northernmost island of Japan is famous for its wild nature, fresh seafood and great skiing. All seasons have things to offer!

## DAY 1: SAPPORO ARRIVAL

Meet your assistant at New Chitose Airport and transfer to Sapporo city, travelling time is approximately 40 minutes by train.

## DAY 2: SAPPORO FREE DAY

Enjoy one day sightseeing in Sapporo. Sapporo is never to be missed for visitors to Hokkaido.

## DAY 3: SAPPORO - BIEI - FURANO

Today, embark on a two-hour train ride to Biei for a half-day sightseeing. Biei is surrounded by a scenic landscape of softly rolling hills and immense fields. The utmost pleasant way to enjoy the charm of this town is by cycling through the hills and perhaps visiting some local farms along the way. Later on, travel to Furano.

## DAY 4: FURANO - SAPPORO IN THE AFTERNOON

Let's enjoy a full day sightseeing in Furano. The town is most famous for its lavender fields and the expansive purple fields "colorize" Furano in summer. During winter, Furano is one of the most famous ski resort with well-developed amenities and services. Travel back to Sapporo in the afternoon.

## DAY 5: SAPPORO TOYA & SHIKOTSU DAY TRIP BY CAR

Private car trip to Lake Toya. The lake is part of the Shikotsu-Toya National Park. Besides the beautiful lake, the Toyako region features hot springs and an active volcano, Mount Usu.

The train ride to Toya is around 5 to 6 hours. Return back to Sapporo for an overnight stay.

## DAY 6: SAPPORO - OTARU

Otaru is a trivial harbor city about half an hour northwest of Sapporo by train. Visit Otaru Music Box Museum, a small museum with a variety of antique music boxes & souvenirs. The next destination is local glassware shops and the beautiful historical canal area.

## DAY 7: HAKODATE

Embark on a two-hour train ride to Hakodate. Half day sightseeing in Hakodate. Hakodate was Japan's first city which port was opened to foreign trade in 1854, and used to be the most vital port in northern Japan. Visit **Fort Goryokaku** – a star-shaped Western style citadel and Mount Hakodate – mountain with outstanding view of the city.

## DAY 8: HAKODATE - TOKYO

The **Hakodate Morning Market** is held daily from 5am (from 6am during winter) to noon. The market area spans about four city blocks and sells a variety of fresh seafood, fruits. Enjoy the scenic Hakodate before returning to Tokyo tomorrow.

## DAY 9: HAKODATE - TOKYO

Today, travel to Tokyo by plane or train.



# HOKKAIDO'S TREASURES

Japan's gorgeous wild northern island is a vast and rich area filled with scenic landscape, incredible food and friendly people.

## DAY 1: HAKODATE ARRIVAL

Arrive in Hakodate by either plane or train. Upon arrival, visit **Fort Goryokaku** – a star-shaped Western style citadel and **Mount Hakodate** – mountain with outstanding view of the city. Overnight stay in Hakodate.

## DAY 2: HAKODATE

Let's enjoy this day sightseeing around Hakodate. Hakodate was Japan's first city which port was opened to foreign trade in 1854, as a result of Kanagawa Convention, and used to be the most vital port in northern Japan.

Overnight stay in Hakodate.

## DAY 3: HAKODATE - SAPPORO

Today, embark on a four-hour train ride to Sapporo - capital of the mountainous northern Japanese island Hokkaido. Sapporo is never to be missed for visitors of Hokkaido. The most common attractions are: **Odori Park, Sapporo TV Tower, Sapporo Clock Tower, Sapporo Beer Museum, Hokkaido University Botanical Garden, Nakajima Park and Tanukikoji Shopping Arcade**. Overnight stay in Sapporo.

## DAY 4: SAPPORO - OTARU

Enjoy one day sightseeing in Sapporo and Otaru. Otaru is a trivial harbor city about half an hour northwest of Sapporo by train. The region's exquisitely preserved canal area and fascinating herring mansions make Otaru a pleasant day trip.

Return to Sapporo for the overnight stay.

## DAY 5: SAPPORO - ASAHIKAWA

Today, leave Sapporo for Asahikawa on one and a half hour train ride. Asahikawa is the capital of Kamikawa prefecture, and the second largest city in Hokkaido, after Sapporo. The city is not a popular touristic destination, however the **Asahiyama Zoo** is among Japan's best and most popular zoo.

Overnight stay in Asahikawa.

## DAY 6: ASAHIKAWA

Today will be a one-day hiking trip to Asahi-dake. The mountain located in the town of Higashikawa, Hokkaido is the tallest mountain in Hokkaido. Overnight stay in Asahikawa and may be enjoy the local noodle dish, Asahikawa Ramen before leaving for Furano tomorrow.

## DAY 7: ASAHIKAWA - FURANO

Embark on a one-hour train ride to Furano for the half day sightseeing. Furano is a picturesque town in the center of Hokkaido, known for the pleasant rural landscape.

## DAY 8: FURANO - SAPPORO

The final day begin with a two-hour train ride to Sapporo. Then leave Sapporo for home by either plane or train.







## SOCIAL RESPONSIBLE PROGRAMS

Social Responsibility is business approach that contributes to sustainable development by delivering economic, social and environmental benefits for all stakeholders.

As a social responsible DMC, we believe we play a part in driving a more sustainable growth of Japanese travel industry and the local society at large. Therefore, at present, three community programs have been offered, where we focus on working with local communities to preserve the environment, retain local culture and create the opportunity to generate additional source of incoming for living.



# COMMUNITY PROGRAM OUCHIJUKU

## About Ouchijuku

Ouchijuku is prospered greatly as **post station connected Aizu with Nikko** during the Edo Period. The town used to be crowded with people and goods going to and from until a new national route was opened in the Meiji Period. The drastically drop of travelers here has made **this town being left behind the times**, which turns out to be a good thing. Its untouched, well-preserved streetscape, linear thatched roof buildings are designated as a Group of Traditional Buildings by the national government and attract millions of visitors. Check out the list of awesome things in Ouchijuku next page.





## Activities of Ouchijuku

**E**njoy nostalgic scenery of thatched roof houses. Thatched roofs are made from dried straw, which can be seen on traditional houses all over Japan. They are, however, often used in post towns in the Tohoku region. These houses, which lined up neatly along the road, are now served as shops, restaurants and minshuku so visitors can enjoy shopping, eating and drinking in the old atmosphere.

**Stay at local inns in Ouchijuku.** Local cuisine cooked on a sunken hearth is a must-try experience. You will be surrounded by warm-hearted Ouchijuku villagers with their stories about the Edo period.

**Sightseeing at Honjin.** This local museum is renovated from a private inn of high ranked government officials. This place offers visitors an example of elegant, traditional housing interior from the Edo Period with collections of dishes, clothing and other artifacts on display.

**Enjoy local delicacy Soba noodles and locally caught char fish.**



# OFF THE BEATEN TRACK NANTO CITY

## About Nanto

Situated in the Southern area of Toyama Prefecture, Nanto is a lesser touristic place close to the center of Japan. Approximately **80% of the area is woodland**, Nanto is blessed with an abundance of charming natural scenery & highly skilled carpenters. Nanto scenic remote mountainous area locate the **Gokayama Gassho-zukuri villages**, where houses are built with steep, thatched rafter roofs. **Inami Town** is home to the exceptional woodcarving skills producing three-dimensional works filled with life and movement.

## Inami Woodcarving Village

Constructed around Zuisenji Temple 600 years ago, Inami is where 200 of Japan's finest carpenters reside. Roads line with all sort of interesting sites – temples, woodcarving workshops, traditional wooden toy shops, and lattice-door houses. Even local phone booths and bus stops feature the renowned woodcarvings. You might enjoy dressing in Japanese traditional kimono, strolling through the unique townscape and taking memorable photographs of Inami.

Embark on the Shogawa Gorge to admire the dazzling beauty of nature of Shogawa River and savor the flavor of local specialty food in traditional Japanese restaurant in **Nanto Kimono Tour**. Another exciting experience is **carving guinomi sake cup**, where you can follow an easy woodcarving plan, then take a stroll to a close sake brewery for free-sampling sake in your newly carved cup. **Joining in Inami carving course** to unfold the history of Inami, from visiting ancient temples, wood carving studio to exploring Inami Carving & Sculpting Center.







## Gokayama Historical Village

The nature-rich area in the southernmost region of Toyama - Gokayama is home to 40 small villages. Among the villages, **Ainokura and Suganuma were designated National Historical Landmark** & included in the catalog of World Heritage Sites under the name of 'Traditional Houses in the Gassho Style'. Ainokura Village is largely made up of traditional gassho style houses, of which there are 20. Most were built between the closing years of the Edo period and the opening years of the Meiji period. Suganuma Village's traditional architecture is largely dominated by the traditional gassho style houses, of which there are 9. Of these, 2 were built towards the end of the Edo period (early to middle 19th century) and 6 were built during the Meiji Period.

Beside the scenic beauty of Gassho-zukuri, **Gokayama Washi Paper** is also designated as the national important traditional craft. Gokayama washi paper has been used for repairing important cultural properties of the Imperial Household Agency and many other things, including the shoji-paper of Katsura-Rikyū. Made from mixture of Kozo (paper mulberry) fiber and Tororo Aoi (hollyhock), washi paper achieve excellent quality and wonderful durability. We can arrange you a **Gokayama - Washi experience** in a workshop in Nanto city so that you could learn more about the traditional handcraft.



# KYOTO MOUNTAIN RETREAT MIYAMA

## About Miyama

A remote area in the mountains to the north of central Kyoto, Miyama is home to the traditional thatched roof (kayabuki) farmhouses of which over 200 can be seen here. Unlike those found in many other historic landmarks, the majority of Miyama's old houses survive as residential dwellings until today. The villages embrace the nostalgic, authentic feel of rural Japan.

The main attraction in Miyama is **Kayabuki no Sato**, which features nearly 40 kayabuki farmhouses. Visitors can stroll around and learn more about the history of the village with local guide. Most buildings are privately owned and not open to the public, and one of the exceptions is the **Kayabuki no Sato Folk Museum** – where traditional tools and daily household items from past decades are displayed. Another place is **Little Indigo Museum**, a thatched roof building which has been converted into an indigo dyeing studio and gallery. The remaining open-to-public places are local minshuku, café and souvenir shops.





## Outdoor Activities Of Miyama

We believe the best way to submerge in Miyama's atmosphere is to stay in a thatched roof house. An overnight affords visitors the chance to **experience a traditional Japanese style home** as a local family member. These old wooden homes convey a pleasant, rustic atmosphere, yet at the same time typically equipped with simple, modern amenities for guest comfort.

The mountain retreat of Kyoto is also renowned for the abundance of **outdoor activities**, including Ayu fishing, rafting, trekking along the waterfall or the forest, and many more. If you are feeling adventurous, there are some serious trekking trails for you to enjoy. Follow a hidden forest trekking course for admiration of **Otodani Waterfall's beauty** or follow trails through the mountainous **Ashiu Forest** to immerse in the nature landscape of Miyama.



# SIGNATURE EXCURSIONS

Japan's beauty is expressed in many ways, from delightful Japanese culture, brilliant gourmet, beautiful nature, traditional local spots, as well as the latest culture and technology that still remain in each region. We guarantee to offer clients an opportunity to experience the traditional Japanese life and interact with local people.



## Akihabara Exploration

Tokyo's top tourist destination, Akihabara is known as a buzzing center of Otaku Culture worldwide! Headquarter of manga, anime, games, and various appealing spots, Akihabara attracts thousands of visitors every day. For this experience, our kawaii guide will show you the latest trend and culture here in just two hours.

## Blessing Ceremony

A dramatic purification ceremony with authentic and traditional drumming and a bonfire at Meiji shrine, the most popular shrine in Tokyo - Japan's capital.



## Sumo Practice Watch

Peak into an exclusive sumo world! Watching sumo morning practice at a stable and tasting a chanko-nabe hotpot, interacting with real sumo wrestlers, or walking tour with sumo wrestler? Definitely memorable experiences in Tokyo!



## City Cycling

[Tokyo] Explore the backstreet, sample local food and immerse into the local atmosphere. The best part is that you will visit places where you cannot reach on your own and usage of electric assisted bicycle.

[Kyoto] Embark on your bicycle to Miyagawa-cho and Gion. We bike by the river to the Imperial Palace Park. Stroll along the Kamo River lined with sakura trees in the spring and lit with outdoor balcony restaurants in the summer.



## Cooking Experience

Lesson of traditional Japanese food hosted in Tokyo called "Ichiju-sansai", literally means "One soup, three dishes". Rice and pickles are always served, but the soup and other dishes vary depending upon the season.

## Taiko Drumming

Fetch the rhythm of traditional Japanese culture through the practical introduction to this traditional musical art in Tokyo. A unique opportunity to learn proper technique to play the drum Japanese way!





# SIGNATURE EXCURSIONS



## Ninja/Samurai Experience

How about samurai/ninja experience at National important property "Kyu-Butokuden" hall, which was built in 1899 in Kyoto? This is Beauty of Japan special program! This program will make your dream come true. "I like to play the role of Samurai and Ninja, I want to cut the enemy down!"

## Tea Ceremony

Learn and experience an authentic tea ceremony from a master at world heritage temple in Kyoto. Upon request, wear traditional kimono and try in genuine way.



## Foodie Tour

**[Tokyo]** How about exploring traditional Izakaya in Tokyo district, where you can feel Japanese local life? Bar Hopping Master will take you to places where local people usually gather where no foreigners are seen.

A tour to satisfy both your eyes and your belly!

**[Osaka]** A guided tour around the popular areas of Dotonbori for you to sample some tasty local delicacies. Stop by the famous "Glico" sign or other huge billboard for a photogenic experience. After enjoying your wander around Dotonbori, the guide will take you to less touristy areas and get closer to Osaka local life.



# STANDARD ACCOMMODATIONS



**Hotel Shinjuku Washington**  
Tokyo



**The B Akasaka Hotel**  
Tokyo



**Villa Fontaine Grand Tokyo - Tamachi**  
Tokyo



**Hotel Kagetsuen**  
Hakone



**Agora Kyoto Shijo**  
Kyoto



**Urban Hotel Kyoto-Nijo Premium**  
Kyoto



**Hotel Elcient Kyoto**  
Kyoto



**Vessel Campana Kyoto Gojo**  
Kyoto



**Mystays Kanazawa Castle**  
Kanazawa



**Tabino Hotel Hida Takayama**  
Takayama



**Hotel Takayama Ouan**  
Takayama



**Dormy Inn Nagano**  
Nagano



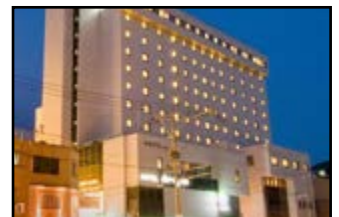
**Yumoto Ryokan**  
Shibu Onsen



**Alpico Plaza Hotel**  
Matsumoto



**Sotetsu Fresa Inn Hiroshima**  
Hiroshima



**Dormy Inn Nagasaki**  
Nagasaki



# DELUXE ACCOMMODATIONS



**Tobu Hotel Levant Tokyo**  
Tokyo



**Hotel Metropolitan Ikebukuro**  
Tokyo



**Hotel Gracery Shinjuku**  
Tokyo



**Kinnotake Tonosawa**  
Hakone



**Fujiya Hotel**  
Hakone



**Hotel Monterey Kyoto**  
Kyoto



**Noku Kyoto**  
Kyoto



**On-Yado NONO Kyoto Shichijo**  
Kyoto



**Kanazawa Tokyu Hotel**  
Kanazawa



**TOKYU STAY Hida-Takayama**  
Takayama



**Yudanaka Biyunoyado**  
Nagano



**Hotel Buena Vista**  
Matsumoto



**Noku Osaka**  
Osaka



**Hotel Monterey Osaka**  
Osaka



**Oriental Hotel Hiroshima**  
Hiroshima



**ANA Crowne Plaza Hiroshima**  
Hiroshima

# LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS



**Hotel Hyatt Regency Shinjuku**  
Tokyo



**The Capitol Hotel Tokyu**  
Tokyo



**Hotel Hoshinoya Tokyo**  
Tokyo



**Chuzenji Kanaya Hotel**  
Nikko



**Kin-no-take Sengokuhara**  
Hakone



**Kinnotake Tonosawa**  
Hakone



**Ryokan Suiran Kyoto**  
Kyoto



**Four Seasons Hotel Kyoto**  
Kyoto



**The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto**  
Kyoto



**Ryokan Hiiragiya**  
Kyoto



**Dusit Thani Kyoto**  
Kyoto



**Hotel Nikko Kanazawa**  
Kanazawa



**The Ritz-Carlton Osaka**  
Osaka



**InterContinental Osaka**  
Osaka



**Sheraton Grand Hiroshima**  
Hiroshima



**Ryokan Iwaso**  
Miyajima





# SOUTH KOREA

Often referred as “Land of Morning Calm”, but dive into its capital Seoul, serenity may be the last thing you’ll perceive. This bustling, multifaceted metropolis is where meticulously reconstructed palaces rub shoulders with teeming night markets and dramatically modern architecture. The compact size and superb transport infrastructure mean that tranquility is always within easy reach of urban sprawl. Get further off the beaten path than you thought possible by sailing to remote islands or less touristic white sand beaches.

With its increasingly prominent presence on the world stage, and the country’s convenient location – neighboring Japan, we believe that choosing South Korea as our first foreign destination is the right first step to reach our ultimate goal as the best DMC in Asia.



# JEJU ISLAND VACATION

## DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN SEOUL, KOREA

Meet your local guide at Incheon Airport and transfer to Seoul, the bustling capital city of Korea. Enjoy welcome dinner at a local Korean restaurant.

## DAY 2: SEOUL CITY TOUR

Wake up to a hearty breakfast and prepare for your full-day city tour. Travel to **Gyeongbokgung Palace**, one of the most iconic sights of South Korea. Visit the **National Folk Museum**. Enjoy Palace Guard Changing Ceremony before journey to **Bukchon Hanok Village**. Visit **Insadong** - a popular neighborhood. Travel to **N Seoul Tower**, an iconic Seoul landmark that provides bird's-eye views of the city. Lunch is included.

## DAY 3: SEOUL UNIQUE DMZ

Fuel up with a good breakfast and meet our guide at the hotel lobby for your DMZ tour. Enjoy your time at **DMZ Theater & Exhibition hall**, where you can watch a video that explains about the history of the division of Korea. Visit the **Dora Observatory, Bridge of Freedom, The Third Tunnel of Aggression**. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant near DMZ. Return to Seoul city center, The remaining of the day is for shopping and savor street food at **Gwangjang Market**.

## DAY 4: SEOUL

After breakfast, enjoy your last day in Seoul with visit the UNESCO Heritage **Suwon Hwaseong Fortress**, a fortified wall surrounding the center of Suwon to honor Prince Sado, the father of King Jeongjo. Travel to **Samsung Innovation**

**Museum**, the place allows visitors to experience the history of electronics in Korea, from the earliest electrical creations to the current and future innovations. Later on, we will move to **Korean Folk Village** and enjoy a tour of Village.

## DAY 5: SEOUL – JEJU

Fuel up with a good breakfast, meet our driver at the hotel lobby for your transfer to Gimpo airport for your flight to Jeju. Upon arrival, we will visit **Haenyeo Museum, Seongsan Ilchulbong, Manjanggul Cave** and **Stone Culture Park**. Overnight stay at Jeju.

## DAY 6: JEJU

Enjoy your breakfast and prepare for the renowned island tour ahead. Meet our guide at the hotel lobby for your transfer. Visit **Jusangjeolli Cliff, Cheonjiyeon Waterfall, Saeyeongyo Bridge, Jeongbang Waterfall, Sangumburi Crater** before going back to the hotel. Overnight stay at Jeju.

## DAY 7: JEJU

Fuel up with a good breakfast. Meet our guide at the hotel lobby. Journey to Hallim Park, then visit **O'sulloc Tea Museum**. Later on, embark on **Sanbangsan Cruise** to enjoy the picturesque view of Jeju Global Geopark Sanbangsan. Sightseeing at the scenic **Yongmeori Coast** before traveling back to your hotel.

## DAY 8: DEPARTURE

After breakfast, you will transfer to Jeju airport for your flight to Seoul Gimpo airport. Upon arrival, transfer to Incheon airport for your flight home.



# LEGACIES OF THE EAST

**Discover the two vastly different nations - South Korea & Japan. Each steeped in rich heritage and tradition. Each poised on the cutting edge of tomorrow's cultural and technological horizons.**

## DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN SEOUL, KOREA

Meet your local guide at Incheon Airport and transfer to Seoul, the bustling capital city of Korea. Enjoy welcome dinner at a local Korean restaurant.

## DAY 2: SEOUL

Wake up to a hearty breakfast and prepare for your full-day city tour. Travel to **Gyeongbokgung Palace**, one of the most iconic sights of South Korea. Visit the **National Folk Museum** where replicas of historical objects are used to illustrate the history. Enjoy Palace Guard Changing Ceremony before the journey to **Bukchon Hanok Village**. Visit **Insadong** - a popular neighborhood where old but precious and traditional goods are on display. Travel to **N Seoul Tower**, an iconic Seoul landmark that provides bird's-eye views of the city. Lunch is included.

## DAY 3: SEOUL UNIQUE DMZ

Fuel up with a good breakfast and meet our guide at the hotel lobby for your DMZ tour. Enjoy your time at **DMZ Theater & Exhibition Hal**. Visit the **Dora Observatory**, **Bridge of Freedom**, and **The Third Tunnel of Aggression**. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant near DMZ. Return to Seoul city center, The remaining of the day is for shopping and savor street food at

**Gwangjang Market.**

## DAY 4: SEOUL - GYEONGJU - BUSAN

Enjoy a tasty breakfast at the hotel before the journey to Busan. Check out the hotel and meet our guide for your transfer to Seoul Station where you take a Train to Sin-Gyeongju. Upon arrival, we will embark on a Gyeongju city tour, travel to **Daereungwon Royal King's Tomb Complex**. Next destination is **Cheomseongdae Observatory Tower**, the oldest observatory in the East. Visit **Donggung Palace** and **Wolji Pond**, the secondary palace site used by the crown prince of the Silla Kingdom. Enjoy sightseeing at **Bulguksa Temple**, the representative temple of Buddhism in Korea. Lunch is included. Transfer to Busan for the overnight stay.

## DAY 5: BUSAN

Upon arrival, travel to **Huinyeoul Culture Village**. Sightseeing at **Songdo Yonggung Bridge**, before enjoying your shopping at **Jagalchi Fish Market**. Visit **Busan Tower** and **Dongbaeksum** with **APEC Nurimaru** before returning to your stay-in hotel.

## DAY 6: BUSAN (KOREA) - FUKUOKA (JAPAN)

After breakfast, meet our guide at the hotel lobby for your transfer to the Ferry Terminal. Embark on JR Beetle Ferry to

Fukuoka, Japan. Upon arrival, transfer to your Fukuoka hotel for an overnight stay.

### DAY 7: FUKUOKA - HIROSHIMA

Fuel up with a good breakfast before heading to Hiroshima, a city that recovered from the **Atomic Bombing** aftermath. **Peace Memorial Park and Museum** inside the park are major attractions of the city. **Prefectural Museum of Art, ShukkeiEn Gardens, Baseball Stadium**, and restaurants selling **unique okonomiyaki** are recommended attractions for your leisure time!

### DAY 8: HIROSHIMA - KYOTO

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and travel to Kyoto for a full day of sightseeing. We start with the sprawling, breath-taking **Nijo Castle**, followed by **Ryoanji** - the UNESCO World Heritage Zen temple with a famous rock garden. Afterward, visit **Kinkakuji**. Enjoy the evening freely at leisure to wander around **Gion District**, where you may catch a glimpse of the Geisha and admire beautifully preserved machiya houses along the side alleys.

### DAY 9: KYOTO - SAGANO & ARASHIYAMA

After breakfast at the hotel, Transfer to the outskirts of Kyoto for a gentle walk through **Sagano's lush bamboo groove**. Head to **Tenryuji Temple**, which survived centuries maintaining its original design. Then continue to **Jojakkoji Temple** nestled in the quiet and understated wooded hill. Crossing over the iconic landmark **Togetsukyo Bridge** for stunning views of the adjacent cherry forest. Return to Kyoto and enjoy the remaining day at leisure.

### DAY 10: KYOTO - NARA

Today's morning, you will join in a tea ceremony at the traditional Japanese house. Then travel to Nara for your free afternoon here. The city is second only to Kyoto as the richest collection of cultural sites in Japan. Meet the semi-wild deer at **Nara Park**, and admire the structure of **Todaiji Temple, Kasuga**

**Taisha Shrine** is recommended.

### DAY 11: KYOTO - NAGOYA

Embark on a bullet train to Nagoya. Sightseeing at the impressive **Toyota Museum of Industry and Technology, Nagoya Castle** - once one of the most important objects of this type in the whole country (rebuilt after the war) and the **SCMAGLEV Museum**, which presents the development of high-speed railways, including the famous Japanese Shinkansen and "flying train", or magnetic turn.

### DAY 12: NAGOYA - TOKYO

After breakfast, we will travel to Tokyo. Sightseeing courtyard in front of the **Imperial Palace**, the seat of the ruler of Japan. The palace complex was once known as Edo Castle and was a shogun's residence. Transfer to the **Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building** in Shinjuku, one of Tokyo's tallest and most distinctive skyscrapers. After sightseeing, **join a cooking class** and prepare sushi yourself. In the afternoon we will visit the **Asakusa temple** from the Edo period, one of the most important Shinto facilities, and the **Nakamise shopping arcade**, where you can shop for souvenirs and enjoy local specialties.

### DAY 13: TOKYO - MT. FUJI

Today will be a full-day discovery of the iconic Mount Fuji! Wake up early and prepare for an adventure day at **Hakone National Park**. Travel to **Mount Fuji** - the symbol of Japan all around the world in the masterpiece of Hokusai. En route visit the **Fuji Subaru Line 5th Station**, which offers a commanding view of the Fuji Five Lakes. Cruise on **Lake Ashinoko** with a replica pirate ship. Embark on a **ropeway ride** to enjoy the view of active sulfuric hot springs and many other scenic landscapes. Tonight, enjoy a comfortable stay in the hotel/ryokan.

### DAY 14: TOKYO DEPARTURE

Today you will transfer to Narita airport and board your flight home.



# SIGNATURE EXCURSIONS

One of Asia's finest destinations, South Korea presents a remarkable range of experiences. Replete with natural, cultural experiences, and dazzling marketplaces, South Korea is also known for its warm hospitality. South Korea presents some of the finest travel experiences, and below is just a glimpse of them.



## Seoul Foodie Tour

One of the oldest surviving markets in Seoul, Gwangjang Market is renowned for serving up the very best of Korean street food. Sample such delicacies as soondae sausage, mayak gimbap rice rolls, bindaetteok mung bean pancakes and steaming plates of tteokbokki rice rolls served with hot fiery chilli sauce. A culinary feast!

## Makgeolli Making in Busan

Makgeolli, a fermented rice wine, is a part of Busan's history and recipes for this slightly milky, fizzy, alcoholic drink have been handed down for generations. Learn how to make this traditional drink at the Makgeolli School. Find out what ingredients are used and how to make it and enjoy the sampling session after the lesson.



## Korean Folk Village in Seoul

Be transported back to the Joseon dynasty as you stroll through this 245-acre themed experience filled with traditional thatched and tiled buildings relocated from all over Korea. Performers in traditional dress will craft pots and hand make paper or tend to their vegetable plots and livestock, just as in a traditional village of this era. Watch live shows with traditional musicians, dancers, acrobats and tightrope walkers. Enjoy this amazing snapshot of 19th century Korean life.

# RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATIONS



**Best Western Premier Kukdo Hotel (4\*)**  
Seoul



**Lotte Hotel Seoul (5\*)**  
Seoul



**Signiel Seoul (5\*)**  
Seoul



**Andong Richell Hotel (4\*)**  
Andong



**Commodore Hotel Gyeongju (4\*)**  
Gyeongju



**Gyeongju Hilton Hotel (4\*)**  
Gyeongju



**Ramada Encore Haeundae (4\*)**  
Busan



**Park Hyatt Busan (5\*)**  
Busan



**Best Western Jeju (4\*)**  
Jeju



**Lotte Hotel Resort (5\*)**  
Jeju



**Lotte City Jeju (4\*)**  
Jeju





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