

CHOOSE

JAPAN DISCOVERY

...

10 DAYS • 9 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION • 1 COUNTRY • 13 MEALS

ESSENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Experience the many contrasts of Japan, from the modern metropolis of Tokyo to the spectacular beauty of Mt. Fuji and magical Kyoto with its stunning temples and colourful Geisha district. From travelling by bullet train and seeing the cherry blossoms bloom in the springtime, on this 10-day trip you'll gain an understanding of what makes Japan such an unmissable travel destination.



Tokyo Visit the Tokyo Metropolitan Observatory, Sensoji Buddhist Temple and Nakamise shopping street at Asakusa and the Meiji Jingu Shinto Shrine

Hakone View Mt. Fuji and Lake Ashi from the Komagatake Ropeway

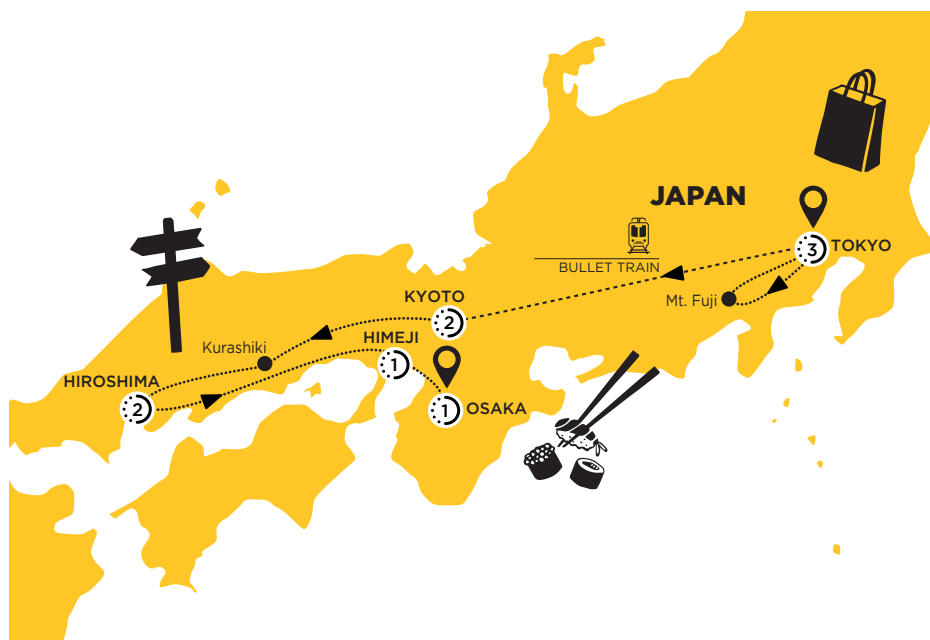
Mt. Fuji Drive up to the 5th Station for panoramic views

Kyoto Visit Kinkakuji Temple, Heian-jingu shrine and a traditional Japanese handicraft centre

Kurashiki Visit the Bikan Historical Quarter

Hiroshima Visit Itsukushima Shrine on Miyajima island, and the Peace Memorial Park and Museum

Himeji Visit Himeji Castle and a sake brewery en route to Osaka



Choose easy

We offer great value pre & post-trip accommodation with our trusted hotel partners. Book at the same time as your trip.

Day 1, Arrive Tokyo

Welcome to dazzling, futuristic Tokyo, Japan's incredible capital city. One of the most culturally rich cities on earth, Tokyo is the kind of place where every day is a new adventure, and where no two neighbourhoods are the same. Arriving today board your shuttle bus transfer from Tokyo Narita or Haneda Airport. This evening meet up with your Travel Director and fellow explorers for your first taste of Japanese cuisine. **D Hotel: Sunshine City Prince**

Day 2, Tokyo Sightseeing

Today's sightseeing tour will kick off 243 metres above ground at the Tokyo Metropolitan Observatory. Step inside a forested inner-city oasis at the Meiji Jingu Shinto Shrine and then visit Asakusa for a glimpse of Old Tokyo. Browse the craft shops along Nakamise Street and visit the Sensoji Buddhist

Temple which has been rebuilt countless times since it was founded in the 7th century. This afternoon and evening it's all about tailoring your trip your way. Perhaps take advantage of our New Hankyu Osaka visit to the Tokyo National Museum and this evening, you could choose to dine local style with dinner at a traditional *izakaya* (Japanese pub). **B**

Day 3, Mt. Fuji and Hakone Sightseeing

You may have seen glimpses of its snowcapped peaks but today you'll get up close to iconic Mt. Fuji. Driving up to the 5th Station (weather permitting), catch your breath as you take it all in from 2300 metres above sea level, then travel along the Komagatake Ropeway for incredible views of Lake Ashi. Driving back through Hakone, enjoy the incomparable mountain views before heading back to the city for your last night in Tokyo. **B**

Day 4, Tokyo - Kyoto

You'll board the bullet train this morning and travel towards Kyoto at speeds of up to 320 kilometres per hour. Starting your sightseeing tour at the Golden Pavilion of Kinkaku-ji, you'll then visit the stunning

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 Start/end  Overnights  Sightseeing stops

B Breakfast **L** Lunch **D** Dinner



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Heian-jingu shrine together with its 25 metre high *torii* gate. From here it will be on to a traditional handicraft centre to browse the Japanese crafts, then dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant. **B, D Hotel: Kyoto Tower**

Day 5, Kyoto Free Day

Today is yours to explore your way, and in beautiful Kyoto there is no shortage of choice. Maybe start your day at the lush green Ginkaku-ji shrine, or head over to the Gion district to catch a glimpse of a geisha. This morning opt to join our optional trip to Nara to learn about the art of *bokusho* (ink making), then head on to Todaji Temple and Nara Park, an area taken over by hundreds of free roaming deer. Keen to

see a Kyoto icon? Join our optional trip to the Fushimi Inari Shrine, where thousands of orange vermillion *torii* gates stretch up the thickly wooded mountain. **B**

Day 6, Kyoto - Kurashiki - Hiroshima

Your first stop today will be Kurashiki, where you'll meet up with a Local Specialist for a tour around the black and white warehouses of the historic Bikan Quarter before heading on to Hiroshima. Respectfully remembering its catastrophic past whilst looking to the future with optimism, Hiroshima today is a thriving cosmopolitan city with a lot to offer. Tonight, tuck in to *okonomiyaki*, a type of Japanese savoury pancake and a Hiroshima speciality. **B, D Hotel: Oriental**

Day 7, Hiroshima Sightseeing

Today's sightseeing will begin with a ferry ride to the gorgeous island of Miyajima, where you'll visit the 12th century Itsukushima Shrine and see the famous orange *torii* which appears to be floating above the sea. Back in Hiroshima, wander through the quiet, leafy space of the Peace Memorial Park, followed by the sobering Memorial Museum. Your tour will end at the UNESCO listed Peace Memorial, then this afternoon perhaps opt to join our 'Secrets of Hiroshima' **Optional Experience. B**

Day 8, Hiroshima - Himeji

Heading on from Hiroshima, this morning you'll journey on to Himeji. After some free time for lunch, this afternoon you'll then meet up with a Local Specialist to visit the UNESCO listed 400-year-old Himeji Castle. Known as the White Heron Castle, this site is widely considered Japan's most spectacular castle and looking up at its vast size, beauty and immaculate gardens, it won't be hard to see why. **B, D Hotel: Nikko Himeji**

Day 9, Himeji - Osaka

Start as you mean to go on today with a visit to a sake brewery accompanied by a Local Specialist. Learn about the history and brewing process of Japan's national drink before heading on to Osaka, a spirited and liberal city. With an afternoon free, perhaps take advantage of our optional trip to the Umeda Sky Building and Osaka Castle. This evening and to see out your trip in style, perhaps opt to join our foodie inspired trip to Namba, for a final feast of local delights. **B Hotel: New Hankyu Osaka**

Day 10, Depart Osaka

Culturally satisfied, today your trip will come to an end. As you head for the airport for your onward flight, we hope you're leaving with big smiles courtesy of Japan's faultless hospitality. Bon voyage! **B**

CHOOSE YOUR DEPARTURE

2023			
Feb	Sa11	Jul	Sa08
Mar	Sa11 Sa18 Sa25	Aug	Sa19
	We29	Sep	Sa09 Sa23
Apr	Sa01 Sa08 Sa15	Oct	Sa07 Sa21
	Sa22	Nov	Sa11
May	Sa06 Sa20	Dec	Mo18
Jun	Sa03 Sa17		
2024			
Feb	Sa10	Apr	We03 Sa06 Sa13
Mar	Sa09 Sa16 Sa23		
	We27 Sa30		

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TAILORED
BY YOU

Life is about the choices we make. Choose how to enhance your trip, your way. Here are just a few of our favourites.

TOKYO NATIONAL MUSEUM AND SHOPPING

Browse collections of Japanese art and archaeological objects before browsing the shops in Ameyoko and Ginza.

NARA VISIT AND INK MAKING

Known as a place that specialises in the art of *bokusho* (ink making), watch talented artisans create beautiful masterpieces before heading on to Nara Park.

SECRETS OF HIROSHIMA

Start off with oysters for lunch and then visit Shukkeien Japanese Garden and Hiroshima Castle.

DINNER IN DOTONBORI

Visit Osaka's dining and entertainment hub for a feast of local delights.



Trip code: **JPDI**