

Secrets of Japan

Tokyo, Hakone, Takayama, Osaka, Hiroshima, Kyoto

14 days / 13 nights

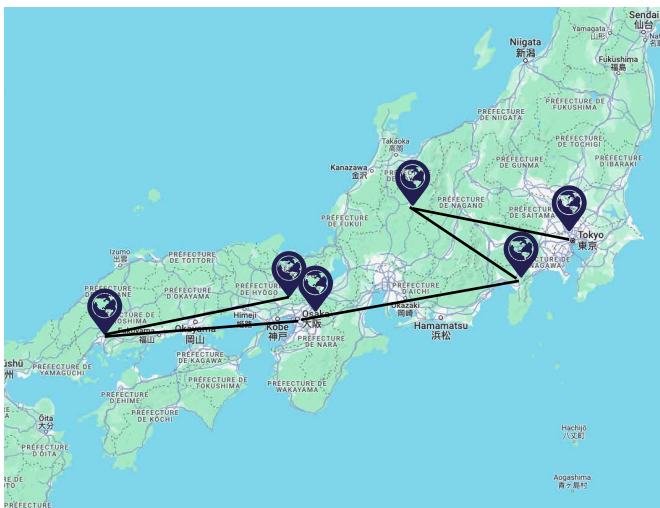
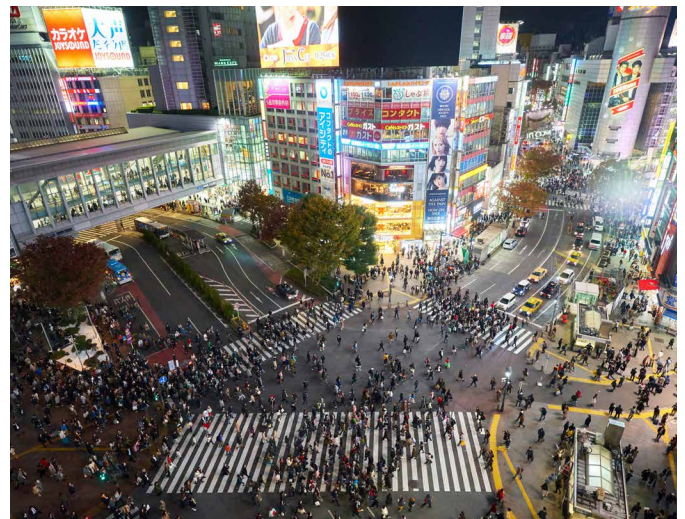
From
\$7,999

Per person/Double occupancy/Land package
September 29, 2024 departure

Wander through Yanaka Old Town and take in the 'shitamachi' or 'downtown' character of the area, a stark difference to the modernity of Tokyo.

Lose yourself in the abundance of fabric stores in Tokyo's Nippori Fabric Town where you'll find everything from traditional silks to modern print cotton fabric.

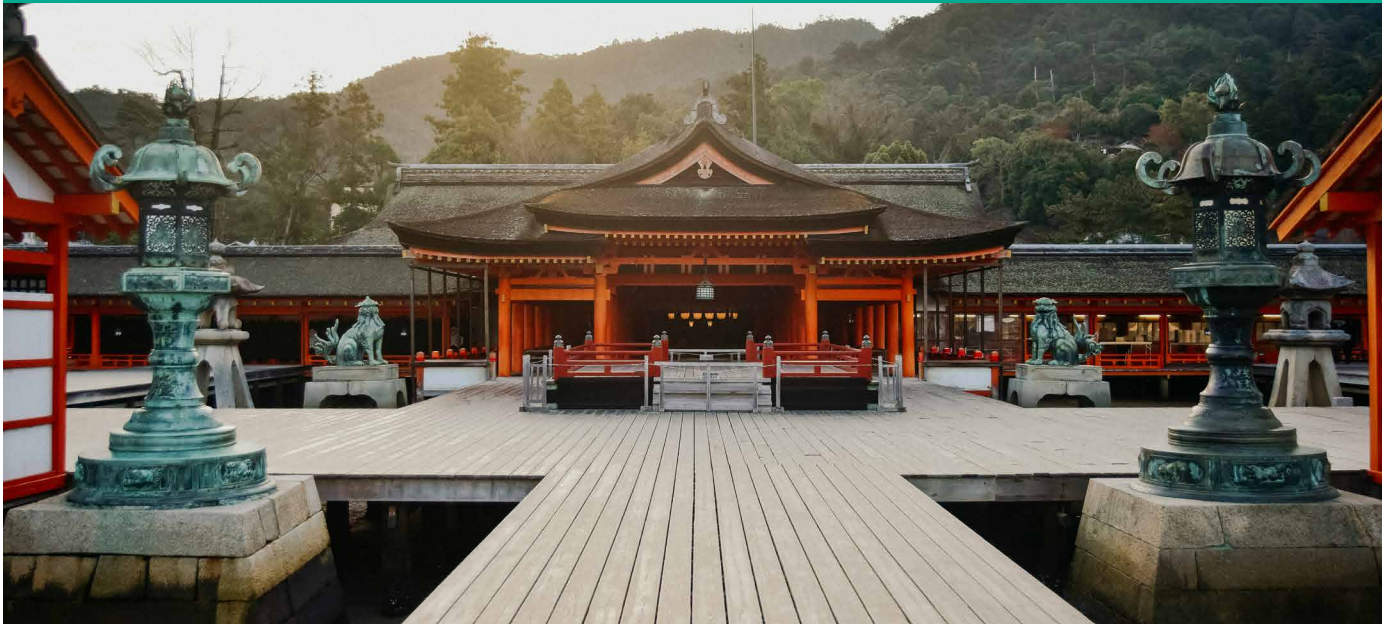
Discover Kappabashi Dori with its endless supply of stores selling everything from pots and pans to cooking utensils and chairs to restaurant operators. Some stores even sell plastic and wax food samples for window displays!



Day 1: Tokyo

Upon arrival at Narita or Haneda Airport, you will meet an English-speaking assistant at the arrival lobby. A join-in transfer takes you to your hotel. Your welcome briefing will be on the morning of Day 2.

Stay the next three nights at Shinjuku Washington Hotel 3*(or similar)



Day 2: Tokyo

Spend the morning discovering Tokyo on a walking tour. Visit the city's most famous Shinto shrine – Meiji Jingu. Walk to nearby Harajuku which showcases the Cosplay (costume play) subculture. Take the train to Shibuya and see the iconic pedestrian crossing in front of Shibuya train station. Sample some delicious food as you wander through the Tokyu Food Hall. Enjoy free time to explore. (B)

Day 3: Tokyo

Discover the oldest and most revered temple in Tokyo, Asakusa Temple. Stroll along Kappabashi Dori to see the endless array of specialised stores. Visit Yanaka Cemetery, one of Tokyo's most famous graveyards which feels more like a park than a cemetery. Wander through Yanaka Old Town where the older buildings are re-purposed. (B)

Day 4: Tokyo to Hakone

Take the train to Hakone. Enjoy a short boat cruise on peaceful Lake Ashi and ride the ropeway for views of Mt Fuji. This evening, enjoy a delicious meal and some free time to soak in the onsen at your traditional Japanese hotel. (B-D)

Overnight at Susukinohara Ichinoyu 3*- Japanese style room with beds (or similar)

Day 5: Hakone to Takayama

Travel by train to Takayama. Visit a historic, former government building, Takayama Jinya. Discover the beautifully preserved wooden houses as you wander along Kami Sannomachi Street. (B-L)

Stay the next two nights at Takayama Ouan 3* (or similar)

Day 6: Takayama

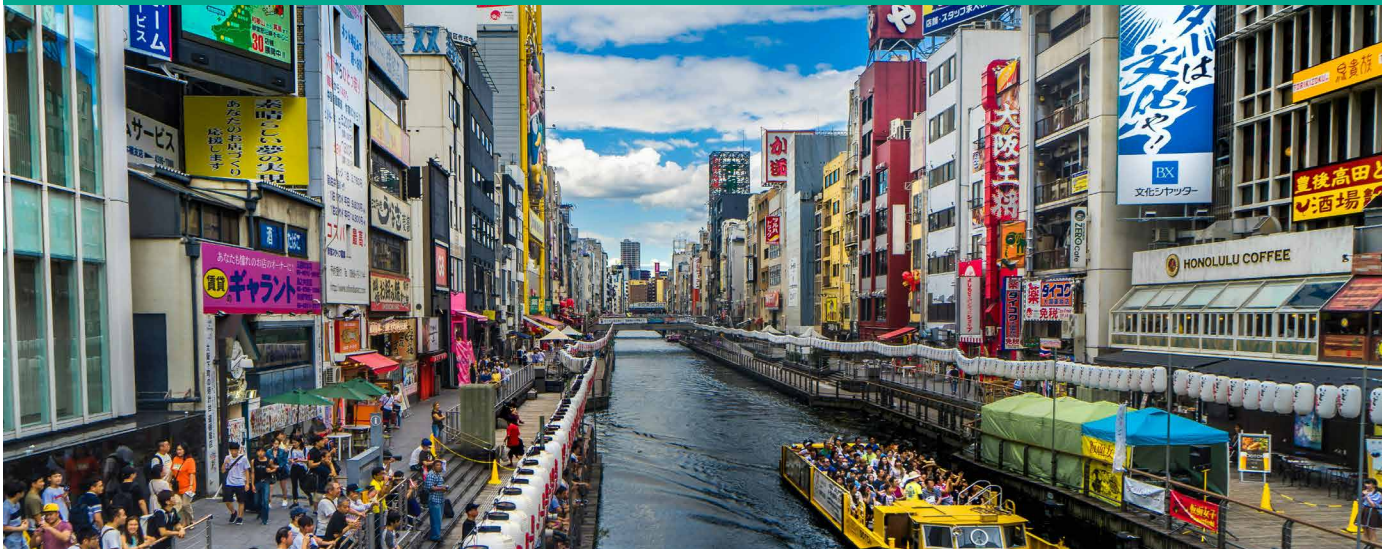
Today is a free day without a guide. It's a great opportunity to relax and take it easy. However, for those who wish to explore, we suggest visiting Festival Floats Exhibition Hall, home to colourful floats which come out bi-annually during two of Japan's most famous festivals. Later, enjoy a leisurely afternoon or visit the serene area of Hidano-Sato. Please feel free to ask your guide about how to get there and what to see. (B)

Day 7: Takayama to Osaka

From Takayama, travel by train to vibrant Osaka. Drop your bags at the hotel, take a walking tour of the Dotonbori area known for its bright neon, street food and shopping. (B)

Stay two nights at the Sheraton Miyako Hotel Osaka 4* (or similar)

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Day 8: Osaka

Head to Umeda Sky Garden with views of Osaka before walking through Kuromon Ichiba Market, also known as “Osaka’s Kitchen.” In the afternoon, explore the city at your own pace. (B)

Day 9: Osaka to Hiroshima

Travel by train to Hiroshima and visit the Peace Memorial Museum, dedicated to the events of 1945 before seeing the sobering cenotaph of the Hiroshima bomb at Peace Memorial Park. (B)

Stay two nights at Hotel Granvia Hiroshima 4* (or similar)

Day 10: Hiroshima

Venture by ferry to peaceful Miyajima Island, home to Itsukushima Shrine. Hike or travel by ropeway to the summit of Mt Misen for spectacular views. Maybe try a traditional okonomiyaki pancake before returning by ferry to the mainland. Spend the evening at leisure. (B)

Day 11: Hiroshima to Kyoto

Travel by train to Himeji famous for its imposing hilltop castle before continuing to Kyoto. Take an evening walking tour along Ponto-cho and Hanami-koji Lane in

the Gion district where you may see a Geisha walking between appointments. (B)

Stay three nights at Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo 4* (or similar)

Day 12: Kyoto

Discover Kyoto’s highlights on a walking tour. Begin at Kiyomizudera Temple, in the hills of east Kyoto. Wander along the shophouses of Ninenzaka Street before visiting Kyoto’s oldest Zen temple, Kenninji Temple. Learn the philosophy and art of serving tea at a traditional tea ceremony and finish the day with the golden pavillion at Kinkakuji, Kyoto’s most famous building. (B)



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Day 13: Kyoto

Start the day with a visit to the one of Kyoto's most iconic sights, Fushimi Inari, with its tunnels of vermilion torii gates. You have free time to further explore Kyoto or take an optional afternoon excursion to the bamboo forest at Arahiyama. End your tour with a farewell dinner where you will be entertained by a genuine Maiko or apprentice Geisha. (B-D)

Day 14: Kyoto

It's time to say goodbye, but just think of all the wonderful stories you will take home. Walk to Kyoto Train Station where your rail pass can still be used for travel on the JR Rail Network. (B)

The Package Includes:

- Transfer from Narita or Haneda airport to your hotel by airport bus (join in basis)
- 14 Day Rail Pass to use for all the trains journeys required on the tour
- 12 nights hotel accommodation
- 1 night Ryokan accommodation
- Small group touring (minimum 4, maximum 18 passengers) with an English-speaking local guide in each city. Guide will not be on train from city to city.
- Entrance fees
- Luggage transport
- Meals as indicated (B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner)

The package does not include:

- Any flights
- Meals not included, beverages
- Optional excursions
- Personal expenses
- Transfers not mentioned

This is a join-in tour departure. Departure is guaranteed if minimum 4 passengers are booked on the tour. It is locally guided in each city. Travel is mostly done by train using a Japan Rail Pass.

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Land package 14 days / 13 nights, price per person (Guaranteed with minimum 4 passengers)

Departure Dates 2024-2025	Double occupancy	Single occupancy
June 16, 2024	\$ 7,999	\$ 9,149
September 1, 2024	\$ 7,999	\$ 9,149
September 29, 2024	\$ 7,999	\$ 9,149
October 6, 2024	\$ 7,999	\$ 9,149
October 20, 2024	\$ 8,699	\$ 9,849
November 3, 17, 2024	\$ 8,699	\$ 9,849
March 2, 2025	\$ 8,699	\$ 9,849
March 23, 2025	\$ 8,999	\$ 9,999
March 30, 2025	\$ 8,699	\$ 9,999
April 6, 2025	\$ 8,699	\$ 9,999
April 20, 2025	\$ 8,699	\$ 9,999

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