

Splendours of Japan

Tokyo, Kanazawa, Kyoto, Okayama, Osaka

13 days / 12 nights

From
\$7,399

Per person/Double occupancy/Land package
October 6, 2024 departure

Relax in Hamarikyū Garden as you sample matcha (green tea) and enjoy a Japanese sweet.

Wander through the Omiya Bonsai Village and see the art of bonsai at the multiple nurseries and private gardens.

Visit Daitokuji Temple complex to experience the Zen culture and architecture.

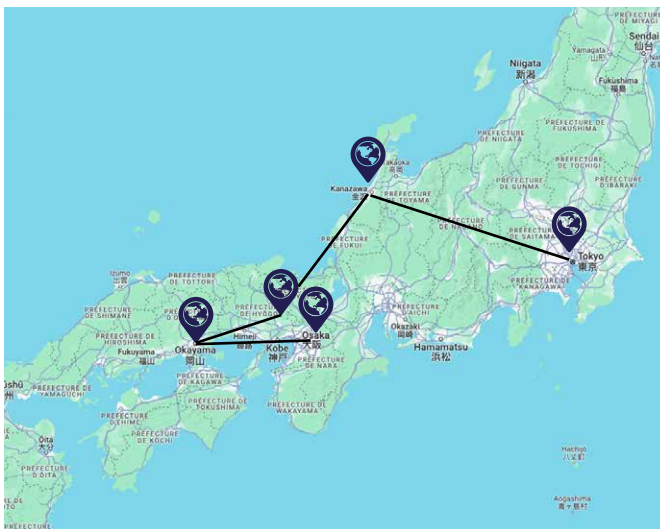
Explore Kurashiki to see the storehouses which once stored rice and have now been converted into museums and cafés.



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



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Day 2: Tokyo

Using Tokyo's efficient public transportation, spend the day discovering the city's highlights. Visit one of Tokyo's liveliest districts, Asakusa and discover colourful Sensoji Temple. Board a boat to cruise on Tokyo's Sumida River past the headquarters of some famous Japanese companies. Stroll through Hamarikyu Garden and sample matcha (green tea) accompanied by a Japanese sweet in the Floating Garden Pavilion. (B)

Day 3 : Tokyo – Omiya Bonsai Village

Take a short train ride to Omiya Bonsai Village, home to multiple bonsai nurseries and gardens. Learn the art of bonsai and view 1,000-year-old bonsai trees at the Bonsai Art Museum. Dedicated to the Shinto god of the sea and storms, visit Hikawa Shrine rumoured to be over 2,000 years old. Return to visit Tokyo's most famous Shinto shrine, Meiji Jingu before wandering the tree-lined avenue of Omotesando. (B)



Day 4 : Tokyo to Kanazawa

Travel by train to Kanazawa. On the way, enjoy a bento box lunch. See Tersahima Kurando House, home of a middle-rank samurai during the Edo period. Stroll through Kenrokuen Garden, the most famous landscaped garden in the city. Visit DT Suzuki Museum with its buildings and gardens based on Zen philosophy. Return for an evening at leisure. (B-L)

Stay two nights at Kanazawa Manten Hotel 3* (or similar)

Day 5 : Kanazawa

Enjoy a day at leisure to further explore Kanazawa. Or choose to join a day tour to Shirakawago with its unique 'gassho' style buildings, and Takayama's quiet streets and old-world ambience. (B)

Day 6 : Kanazawa to Kyoto

Board the train to Kyoto. In the afternoon, visit the mountain complex of Fushimi Inari Shrine. Walk through the thousands of vermilion coloured torii which line kilometres of mountain paths. (B)

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

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Day 7 : Kyoto

Discover Kyoto's highlights on a walking tour. Begin at Kyoto's oldest Zen temple, Kenninji Temple then continue to Yasaka Shrine, one of the most famous in Kyoto. Enjoy a traditional tea ceremony and learn about the philosophy and art of serving tea. Wander the shophouses Ninenzaka before visiting Kodaiji Temple with its lavish buildings and beautiful gardens. (B)

Day 8 : Kyoto

In the morning visit Kyoto's lesser-known temples and Zen gardens at Daitokuji Temple complex. Visit atmospheric Koto-in known for its maple trees, Ryogen-in with the world's smallest Zen Garden and Zuiho-in's dry landscapes. Afternoon at leisure to explore the city. (B)

Day 9 : Kyoto to Okayama

Take the train to Okayama. Visit Korakuen, one of Japan's best landscaped gardens, featuring streams, paths and spacious lawns which are a unique feature. Located across the river from the gardens, continue to the six storey Okayama Castle or 'Crow Castle' for its black exterior. Remainder of the day at leisure. (B)

Stay two nights at Mitsui Garden Hotel Okayama 3* (or similar)

Day 10 : Okayama

Visit Kurashiki, a preserved canal town. Enjoy strolling along the historic tree-lined streets or spend some time in the many art museums. You may choose to take an optional boat ride along the canals before returning to Okayama for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 11 : Okayama to Osaka

From Okayama, travel by train to Osaka and enjoy free time on arrival. In the afternoon, visit Osaka Castle to learn about its turbulent history. Board the Aqualiner and cruise along Okawa River to see the city from a unique perspective. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B)

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



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Day 12 : Osaka

Enjoy a free day in Osaka. Visit the fascinating Osaka Museum of Housing & Living or perhaps see the city from above at the 173-metre Umeda Sky Building. Enjoy a farewell group dinner in the Dotonbori Area. (B-D)

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

Day 13 : Osaka

It's time to say goodbye, but just think of all the wonderful stories you will take home.

Make your own way to the airport or next destination. (B)



The Package Includes:

- Transfer from Narita or Haneda airport to your hotel by airport bus (join in basis)
- 12 nights hotel accommodation
- 14 Day Rail Pass in ordinary class to use for all the trains journeys required on the tour
- 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

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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Departure dates (Guaranteed with minimum 4 passengers)

Sunday, 2 June 2024	Sunday, 6 October 2024	Sunday, 23 March 2025
Monday, 1 July 2024	Sunday, 3 November 2024	Sunday, 6 April 2025 Friday
Sunday, 15 September 2024	Sunday, 16 February 2025	Sunday, 27 April 2025

Land package 13 days / 12 nights, price per person (Guaranteed with minimum 4 passengers)

Departure Dates 2024-2025	Double occupancy	Single occupancy
June 2, 2024	\$ 7,299	\$ 8,349
July 1, 2024	\$ 7,299	\$ 8,349
September 15, 2024	\$ 7,899	\$ 8,949
October 6, 2024	\$ 7,399	\$ 8,449
November 3, 2024	\$ 7,899	\$ 8,949
February 16, 2025	\$ 7,399	\$ 8,449
March 23, 2025	\$ 8,199	\$ 9,249
April 6, 2025	\$ 8,199	\$ 9,249
April 27, 2025	\$ 8,199	\$ 9,249

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