

Beauty Of Japan

2018-2019

ビューティーオブジャパン

BEAUTY OF JAPAN



TABLE OF CONTENT

About Us	03
Our Guides	04
Why Travel With Us?	05
Strategic Partnership With Tobu	06
Our Destinations Overview	07
Tour Package	08 - 21
Community Program	22 - 23
Signature Excursion	24 - 27
Preferred Hotels & Ryokans	28 - 30

About Us

We are proud to be a Japan- specialist travel company with the head office in Tokyo and branches offices in Kyoto, Kyushu and Matsumoto and Europe contact office in Germany. Offshore office in Hanoi, Vietnam services as a support office in undertaking efficient business operations in Marketing, IT and FIT enquiry. Our company is headed by 2 young, dynamic industry experts with true passion for Japan, who genuinely believes in cultivating sustainable business practice. We are passionate about what we do and our mission is to spread the "Beauty of Japan" to the world and bring an extraordinary experience of Japanese culture in a responsible way.

We hope to share our genuine local experience, and our everyday inspiration to live and breathe Japan by crafting a rewarding journey for you. Flawless nationwide network with local stakeholders, enthusiastic and knowledgeable guides, coupled with a passionate internal team, we believe you'll have a unforgettable travel experience while traveling with Beauty of Japan Tours.

We look forward to making your trip very personal and truly inspirational!



Pankaj Pradhan
Co-Founder/Executive Director

&



Takahiro Noguchi
Co-Founder/Executive Director









Our Guides

Tokyo Guide: Ryoko Aosaki
Age: 44

Ryoko has been working in the industry for 24 years with 20 years in outbound and 4 years in inbound segment. Being an enthusiastic person, Ryoko is the expert in adventure and nature excursions, such as trekking, hiking and cycling, in addition to regular city tours nationwide.

Tokyo Guide: Ayako Furuya
Age: 39

With 5 years of experience, Ayako has been guiding our city tours nationwide. Passion for Japanese culture enables this woman to develop an in-depth knowledge of Japanese tradition, history, art, architecture, authentic cuisine and many more.

Hiroshima Guide: Misako Hinada
Age: 44

Misako is our dedicated local guide in Hiroshima. This city is also her place of origin. Being the daughter of two parents who survived the 1945 Atomic Bombings, this 3-year-experience woman will inspire travellers with her real and untold stories of the incident.

Kyoto Guide: Akimune Kiku
Age: 49

Having lived in Kyoto for 17 years, Kiku is our dedicated guide in Kyoto. Kiku herself has immersed in Kyoto's tradition through observing her mother tea ceremony, flower arrangement classes and had certifications in these areas. Kiku will assist you in discovering spiritual and historical Kyoto. She loves the distinctive of four seasons, and catches up with best seasonality delicacies.

Nagano, Nikko, Tohoku Guide: Sam Yokobori
Age: 39

Isamu (Sam) Yokobori is our Mountain Guide and a Wilderness Medical Associates' Instructor. He is currently living Azumino, Nagano Prefecture, which is surrounded by rice paddy fields with North Alps mountain range as its backdrop. Sam will be guiding you in Nagano, Nikko area, and unbeaten paths of Tohoku area.

Osaka Guide: Yoshiro Miichi
Age: 63

He is our Osaka-based guide who is experienced in guiding individuals, groups of travellers and incentives through Western part of Japan. His broad knowledge and methodical characteristic, together with 4 years of experience, has made him an outstanding local guide of our agency.

Why Travel With Us?

Choose your ideal types of travelling!

When looking for Japan holidays, it is certain that most travellers have come across the question "How expensive is Japan?" The rumor of Japan being an expensive destination is not definitely true. Due to the depreciation of Japanese currency few years ago, the place has become more or less affordable. In addition with that, we are here to offer you three types of experiences which guarantee to suit your particular needs.

We Live And Breathe Japan!



- **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.



The **Client Experience Officer** is a unique service offered by Beauty of Japan. 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.



1



2



2



3



4



4

Strategic Partnership With Tobu

BEAUTY OF JAPAN and Tobu Railway have concluded a capital and business alliance agreement, aiming to strengthen experience programs and activities.

We are proud to announced that this is the first time that Tobu Railway has formed a capital and business alliance for initiatives targeting inbound tourists. This alliance grants us the access to Tobu Group's facilities, including transportation, hotels, and leisure facilities.

ABOUT TOBU

Tobu Railway Co., Ltd. is a private railway company with the longest route network in Tokyo and the Kanto Area. With 463.3 kilometers of operating track, Tobu is Kanto's largest private railway and is used by commuters, students, business travelers, and tourists.

Tobu Railway Group is composed by around 90 of subsidiaries and 13 affiliated companies with 4 major realms; transportation, real estate, leisure, and retail distribution.

TOBU PRODUCTS

1 JR PASS

Tobu is one of the six companies comprising the Japan Railways Group (JR Group), and provide JR Pass. The JR Pass is the ideal travel solution and the best way to discover Japan by regular train. Beauty Of Japan is proud to be an official issuer of JR Pass from Tobu Railway.

2 TOBU LIMITED EXPRESS - SPACIA & REVATY

The "Limited Express SPACIA" connects Tokyo and Nikko/Kinugawa Onsen. All seats are spacious, especially Compartment No.6 is luxurious like a hotel room.

The latest model limited express train Revaty has commenced operation! It is a direct service to Aizu-Tajima!

3 634 MUSASHI SKY RESTAURANT

Enjoy "Tokyo Cuisine", a new Japanese cuisine inspired by the spirit and character of Shitamachi, while surrounded by Tokyo Skytree's magnificent view 345 m up in the sky.

4 KANAYA HOTEL

Nikko Kanaya Hotel and Chuzenji Kanaya Hotel are now part of the Tobu Group.

Established in 1893, Nikko Kanaya is the oldest Japanese resort hotel.

Situated near the shore of the Lake Chuzenjiko, Chuzenji Kanaya will impress you with its Milky Hot Springs



Inspirational Tours

Our Destinations

Overview



The Golden Route



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

08 Days

Classic

Day 1: Tokyo Arrival

Nihon e youkoso! Meet your assistant at Narita Airport and transfer your hotel. Relax at the hotel before walk out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area.



Day 2: Tokyo

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before beginning your adventure. Journey to Hamarikyu garden, 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 Sensoji! The colorful, popular temple was completed in 645, making it Tokyo's oldest temple.

In the afternoon, we will visit magnificent Meiji Shrine, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of hatsumode (first prayers). For the rest of the year, 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 view of the city if time permits.



Day 3: Tokyo – Explore your own way!

Let's make your own way exploring the metropolitan. Going back to visited fascinating valleys for an insight? Use our information packet to discover new places? A visit to Tsukiji Fish Market and surrounding restaurants in Tsukishima is strongly recommended.

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



Day 4: Tokyo – Hakone

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 Ashi 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 comfortable stay in hotel/ryokan.



Day 5: Hakone – Kyoto

Wake up to a hearty breakfast and head to train station for your bullet train to Kyoto. Upon arrival, join a tea ceremony at "machiya" - a restored traditional wooden house that 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.

Free evening to enjoy at your leisure to walk through Gion, where you may get a glimpse of Geisha, walking through the narrow alley.

Day 6: 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 outskirt of Kyoto for a gentle walk through Sagano lush bamboo groove. 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 7: Kyoto Free Day

Enjoy today at your 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 Todaiji Temple, Kasuga-Taisha Shrine is recommended.

Day 8: Kyoto Departure

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





Inclusion

Please be advised that this inclusions is just for reference. According to your choice of travelling (fully guided/semi guided/self-guided) your requested itinerary will have all the detailed information.

- 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 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.

Land Of Rising Sun

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

13 Days

Classic



Day 1: Tokyo Arrival

Nihon e youkoso! Meet your assistant at Narita Airport and transfer your hotel. Relax at the hotel before walk out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area.



Day 2: Tokyo (Asakusa & Harajuku)

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

After lunch, we will visit magnificent Meiji Shrine, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of hatsumode (first prayers). For the rest of the year, 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 view of the city if time permits.

Day 3: Tokyo – Nikko – Tokyo

Enjoy your 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 Toshogu Shrine, a 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 Chuzenji followed by the renowned Kegon Waterfall and then return to Tokyo.

Day 4: Hakone

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 Ashi 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 comfortable stay in hotel/ryokan.

Day 5: Takayama

After breakfast, embark on shinkansen bullet train and transfer to Hida Express train to arrive at Takayama. Takayama is renowned 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 Kaiseki dinner, with an overnight stay at a traditional Ryokan.



Day 6: Gokayama

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before beginning your journey to Miyagawa market. Immerse yourself in daily life of the market, 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 travel to the quiet and less touristy Gokayama, located along the Shogawa River Valley nestled in remote mountains. The picturesque Gokayama 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. An overnight stay at gassho-zukuri with hearty dinner from local family will be an unforgettable memory.



Day 7: Kanazawa

Enjoy a delicious breakfast and stroll around the village before heading to Kanazawa. The town used to serve as home of second most powerful clan, Maeda Clan, during the Edo Period. Thereupon, Kanazawa has become the town of great cultural achievements, rivalling Tokyo and Kyoto. 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 district. Chaya is 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 food.



Day 8: Kyoto

Prepare for your adventures to Kyoto with a hearty breakfast. Upon arrival, enjoy evening freely at your leisure to 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

Journey to Kiyomizudera, one of Japan's most sacred temple. Visit the temple's wooden stage, main hall and renowned Otowa Waterfall - where waters are divided into three streams with different benefits. On your way back to town, stroll through Higashiyama District, where invoke a feeling of ancient capital city. These quaint alleyways are lined with small shops, cafes and restaurants catered to tourists and pilgrims for centuries.

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: 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. The bright, red gate seems to float on the water during high tide, is also an attraction frequently featured on travel magazines.

Day 12: Osaka

We will begin the day with a visit the Mazda factory after booking in advance. Afterwards, continue your 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. Sayounara!



Inclusion

Please be advised that this inclusions is just for reference. According to your choice of travelling (fully guided/semi guided/self-guided) your requested itinerary will have all the detailed information.

- 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 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.

Shinkansen Express

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

15 Days

Classic



Day 1: Tokyo Arrival

Nihon e youkoso! Meet your assistant at Narita Airport and transfer your hotel. Relax at the hotel before walk 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 Hamarikyu garden, 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 Sensoji! The colorful, popular temple was completed in 645, making it Tokyo's oldest temple. Stroll along Nakamise shopping street nearby, where typical Japanese souvenir and various traditional snack are sold! Enjoy local sushi or ramen for lunch.

After lunch, we will visit magnificent Meiji Shrine, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of hatsumode (first prayers). For the rest of the year, 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 view of the city if time permits.

Day 3: Explore Tokyo your own way!

Let's make your own way exploring the metropolitan. Going back to visited fascinating valleys for an insight? Use our information packet to discover new places? A visit to Tsukiji Fish Market and surrounding restaurants in Tsukishima is strongly recommended.

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

Day 4: Nagano (Shibu Onsen)

Today we will 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.

Take a short bus ride to Shibu Onsen and spend the night at a traditional Ryokan. We encourage 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.

Day 5: Matsumoto

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



Day 6: Takayama

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before your adventure to Takayama. Takayama is renowned 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

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before beginning your journey to Miyagawa market. Immerse yourself in daily life of the market, 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 visit the local folk village, or travel to UNESCO World Heritage Shirakawago.

Day 8: Kanazawa

Enjoy a delicious breakfast before your journey to Kanazawa. The town used to serve as home of second most powerful clan, Maeda Clan, during the Edo Period. Thereupon, Kanazawa has become the town of great cultural achievements, rivalling Tokyo and Kyoto. 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 district. Chaya is 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 food.

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 - 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 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 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 12: Himeji – Kyoto

After breakfast, travel to train station for a bullet train to Kyoto. Enroute we will visit Himeji Castle. Our Client Experience Officer meets you at the train station and transfer to your hotel. Enjoy your leisure walk through Gion,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 13: 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.

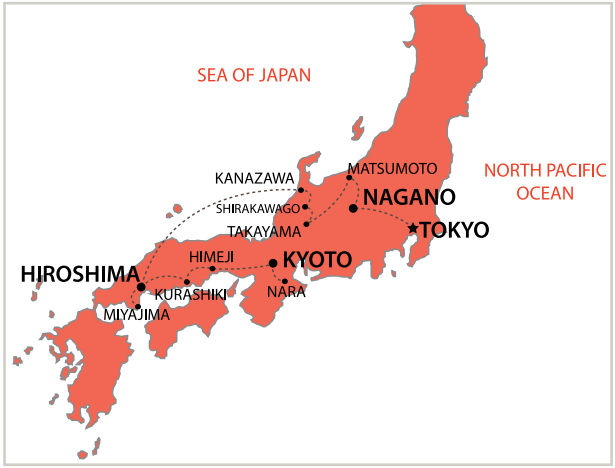
Transfer to the outskirt of Kyoto for a gentle walk through Sagano lush bamboo groove. The sunlight filters through the densely packed grove, projecting thin slashes of light onto this enchanting forest. Head to Tenryuji temple, which survived centuries maintaining its original design. Then continue 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 14: Kyoto – Nara

Today's morning, you will participate in a tea ceremony at the traditional Japanese house. 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 15: Kyoto Departure

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



Inclusion

Please be advised that this inclusions is just for reference. According to your choice of travelling (fully guided/semi guided/self-guided) your requested itinerary will have all the detailed information.

- 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 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.



Day 1: Tokyo Arrival

Nihon e youkoso! Meet your assistant at Narita Airport and transfer your hotel on a shared coach. Relax at the hotel before walk out for dinner at Japanese-style restaurants in the nearby area. Or perhaps you can choose our optional tour: Dinner on a cruise by Sumida river.

Day 2: Tokyo

Start off the day with visit to Tokyo sumo morning practice at a stable. We will then visit 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, We will visit magnificent Meiji Shrine, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of hatsumode (first prayers). For the rest of the year, 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 renowned 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: We will 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: We will journey 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. Thereupon, Kanazawa has become the town of great cultural achievements, rivalling Tokyo and Kyoto. 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. Chaya is 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 food.

Day 7: Kanazawa

Wake up to a yummy breakfast and join 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 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. 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, where you can observe the filming of period dramas (jidaigeki films). 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 free day

Enjoy today at your 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 Todaiji Temple, Kasuga-Taisha Shrine is recommended.

Day 11: Kyoto – Osaka

Embark on a bullet train to Osaka. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel and leave your luggages 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. Visitors are able to enjoy many amusement rides, ranging from child-friendly carousels to thrilling roller coasters and simulators based on blockbuster movies, namely Jurassic Park, Spiderman, Back to the Future and Terminator 2.



Day 13: Osaka

Today transfer to the Kansai airport for your flight back home. Sayounara!



Inclusion

Please be advised that this inclusions is just for reference. According to your choice of travelling (fully guided/semi guided/self-guided) your requested itinerary will have all the detailed information.

- 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 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.



Japan Highlights

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

18 Days

Classic

Day 1: Tokyo Arrival

Nihon e youkoso! Meet your assistant at Narita Airport and transfer your hotel. Relax at the hotel before walk 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 Hamarikyu garden, 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 Sensoji! Stroll along Nakamise shopping street nearby, where typical Japanese souvenir and various traditional snack are sold!

After lunch, we will visit magnificent Meiji Shrine, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. The shrine is crowded in the first day of the year because of hatsumode (first prayers). For the rest of the year, 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 panoramic view of the city if time permits.

Day 3: Explore Tokyo your own way

Let's make your own way exploring the metropolitan. Going back to visited fascinating valleys for an insight? Use our information packet to discover new places? A visit to Tsukiji Fish Market and surrounding restaurants in Tsukishima is strongly recommended.

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

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

Wake up to a tasty breakfast before beginning your visit to Miyagawa market on foot. Immerse yourself in daily life of the market, 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 used in Takayama festivals.

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.

Day 6: Kanazawa

Continue your journey to Kanazawa bright and early in the morning. 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 with be enjoyed freely, you may wish to travel to the largest one of three regional well preserved chaya districts - Higashi Chaya district. Chaya is an exclusive restaurant, where geishas perform song and dance to entertain patrons. Another signature of Kanazawa is gold leaf handicrafts.

Day 7: Kanazawa – Hiroshima

Next we head over to Hiroshima, a city made world-famous in the aftermath of the Second World War. However, what you'll find the most intriguing is the vibrancy and culture which has regrown itself from the ashes. With the tranquil Peace Park and Museum in the center of the city reminding

us of humanity's recent past, you'll find shopping centers, confectionary hubs, teahouses, museums and sports fields branching out all around. At your leisure, visit Prefectural Museum of Art, Shukkei-En Gardens, baseball stadium, and eat a style of okonomiyaki unique to the city!

Day 8: Hiroshima – 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. Wander the temples and hike (or take a cable car) to the top of Misen Mountain to experience the life of monk.

Day 9: Kyoto

Wake up to a hearty breakfast and head to train station for your bullet train to Kyoto. Upon arrival, join a tea ceremony at "machiya" - a restored traditional wooden house that 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.

Free evening to enjoy at your leisure to walk through Gion, where you may get a glimpse of Geisha, walking through the narrow alley.

Day 10: Kyoto

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 outskirt of Kyoto for a gentle walk through Sagano lush bamboo groove. 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 11: Kyoto

Enjoy today at your leisure. You can choose to explore Kyoto at your own pace, or visit Nara. The city is second only to Kyoto as the richest collection of cultural sites in Japan.

Day 12: 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 13: 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 Sofukuji 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 your 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. Sayounara!



Inclusion

Please be advised that this inclusions is just for reference. According to your choice of travelling (fully guided/semi guided/self-guided) your requested itinerary will have all the detailed information.

- 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 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.



Japan Express

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

20 Days

Classic

Day 1: Nagasaki Arrival

Nihon e youkoso! Meet your assistant at the airport and transfer your hotel on a shared coach. 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 Sofukuji 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 your 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. Besides, on a fine day, you will have the opportunity to see the live volcano. 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 Kurashi 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 this tour required medium level of fitness ability.

Day 11: Kyoto (Mount Atago)

Enjoy your 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 6 kms 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. The city 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 touristed 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, a 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 savour hearty meals cooked by the host family.



Day 14: Kiso Valley – Nagano

Wake up to a home-cooked breakfast and prepare for your travel 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 to choose.

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 Zenkoji 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 neighbourhood 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 specialities: sweet kawara senbei, and salty rice crackers. We'll then cross the street to a shamisen shop, and learn about this traditional Japanese musical string instrument. From there, we'll head to a local tenugui shop, where woven hand towels depicting Japanese scenes are sold. Journey to a local shrine, where 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 shrine, Harajuku and finish at Asakusa is recommended.

Day 18: Tokyo free day

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

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 Ashi 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 free day

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 Toshogu Shrine, a 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 Chuzenji 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. Sayounara!



Inclusion

Please be advised that this inclusions is just for reference. According to your choice of travelling (fully guided/semi guided/self-guided) your requested itinerary will have all the detailed information.

- 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 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.



Nikko & Natsu Hiking

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

07 Days

Hiking

Day 1: Nikko Arrival

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

Day 2: Lake Chuzenji

Today you will travel to Lake Chuzenji for a 5-hour hiking tour around this astonishing region. Lake Chuzenji was formed by the eruption of Mount Nantai, and used to be a training place for Japanese monk. Nowadays, the lake become of 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.

Inclusion

Please be advised that this inclusions is just for reference. According to your choice of travelling (fully guided/semi guided/self-guided) your requested itinerary will have all the detailed information.

- 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 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.

Community Program

Social Responsibility is business approach that contributes to sustainable development by delivering economic, social and environmental benefits for all stakeholders, as defined by Financial Times. Here in Beauty of Japan, 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, two 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. You can choose Matsushima & Ouchijuku and have your itinerary customized based on awesome things we listed!

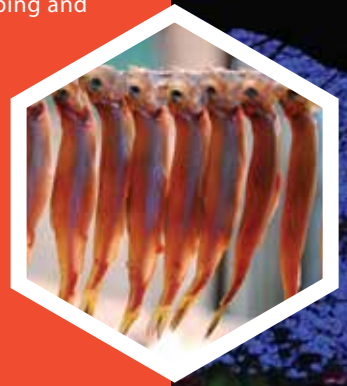


1. Ouchijuku



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 drastical drop of travellers here has made this town being left behind the times, which turns out to be a good thing. Its untouch, well-preserved streetscape, linear thatched roof buildings are designated as a Group of Traditional Buildings by the national government and attract millions of visitors every year. Check out the list of awesome things in Ouchijuku below:

- **Enjoy nostalgic scenery of thatched roof houses.** Thatched roofs are roofs made from dried straw, which can be seen on 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 used as shops, restaurants and minshuku so you can enjoy shopping and meals together with the scenery.
- **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.**





2. Matsushima

Matsushima, one of Japan's three most panoramic views, was unfortunately hit by the earthquake and tsunami of 2011. However, thanks to its geographical location, Matsushima managed to escape the severe destruction and most shops, hotels, tourist attractions reopened shortly after.

Engaging in this travel for a scenic view of the bay, which is dotted by many pine clad islets and has been ranked one of Japan's three most scenic views for centuries. Below list is several awesome things to do in Matsushima:

- **Visit to local famous green tea store for green tea tasting experience.** Sampling several kinds of high-graded green tea, as well as sake-based green tea cocktail. with the scenery.
- **Visit national famous sake brewery** and hear about their history, sake manufacturing process and sample some of their sake products.
- **Tea ceremony at historical teahouses.** Join unique tea ceremony at Kanrantei teahouse or Ungai.
- **Stroll around Matsushima** and visit our recommended tourist attractions: Zuiganji Temple, Godaido, Entsuin Temple, and Pine Tree of "Saigyo Modish".
- **Stay at Minshuku**, homestay run by local fisherman's family. A chance to sleep on tatami mats is waiting!
- **Observe life of local fishing village**. You will be amazed by the variety of fishing methods, including surf fishing, net fishing, basket fishing,etc.
- **Cycling tour in Oku-Matsushima area** to visit Jyomonmura village museum, Mt. Otakamori, Saga Valley and many more.



This Community Programs can be added with your Classic Program!

Contact us for quotation now!

Signature Excursion

Our mission is to spread the "Beauty of Japan" to the world, such as delightful Japanese culture, brilliant gourmet, beautiful nature, traditional local spots, as well as the latest culture and technology that still remain in each region, and offer an opportunity to experience the traditional Japanese life and interact with local people.



There are more to discover at our excursion website:
beauty-of-japan.com





Tuna Cutting Performance

Gain an insight into the culinary world of sushi and sashimi by witnessing this private tuna slicing demonstration in Tokyo. Observe the cutting performance of a whole tuna done by chef and experience sushi making with fresh tuna sashimi.You will taste different parts of tuna that are hardly available.



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 of this guided tour 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, which are famous for teahouses and high-class geisha. We bike by the river to the Imperial Palace Park. Stroll along the Kamo River lined with sakura cherry 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!



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 touristed areas and get closer to Osaka local life.

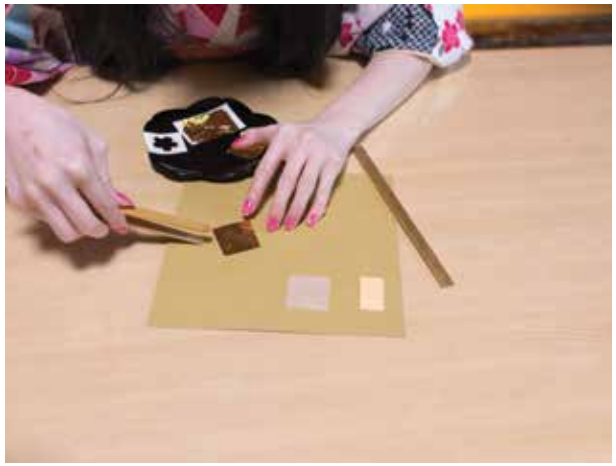




GOLD LEAF PAINTING

Kanazawa literally means stream of gold. Tourists can buy lots of golden handicrafts - from accessories to clothing and housewares. In this excursion, you will make your own chopsticks with gold leaf! An exclusive experience cannot be encountered at any other place on the planet out of Kanazawa!







ONSEN HOPPING

This experience offers an overnight stay at Shibu Onsen, a historic and alluring hot spring town in Yamanouchi, Nagano and visits to the town's public bathhouses. It is traditionally said that good fortune will come to those who visit all nine bathhouses. Why don't experience that yourself?









SAKE BREWERY VISIT

Sake, which embraced by Japanese rich soil, created from rice, grew up with tranquil underflow water, is indeed very delicate and tasteful. Sake varies by regions as well as how it's made, which results in a huge collection of sake varieties across Japan. Observe sake brewing process and maybe sample some?

Preferred Hotels & Ryokans!



Standard Accommodations



Hotel Villa Fontaine Ueno

TOKYO



Hotel Sunroute Shinagawa Seaside

TOKYO



Hotel Dormy Inn Premium

TOKYO



Ryokan Ichi no Yu Group

HAKONE



Hotel Sunroute Kyoto

KYOTO



Hotel Dormy Inn Premium

KYOTO



Ryokan Shimizu

KYOTO



EL INN Kyoto

KYOTO



Ryokan Hida Gassoen

TAKAYAMA



Hanshin Hotel

OSAKA



Hotel New Hiroden

HIROSHIMA



Hotel JAL City

HIROSHIMA

Superior Accommodations



Tobu Hotel Levant Tokyo

TOKYO



Hotel Niwa Tokyo

TOKYO



Park Hotel Tokyo

TOKYO



Nikko Kanaya Hotel

NIKKO



ANA Crowne Plaza Osaka

OSAKA



Sheraton Miyako Hotel Osaka

OSAKA



Ryokan Hatsuhana

HAKONE



Ryokan Rikyuan

HAKONE



Royal Park Hotel The Kyoto

KYOTO



New Miyako Hotel

KYOTO



Ryokan Gion Hatanaka

KYOTO



Hotel Kanra Kyoto

KYOTO



Oriental Hotel Hiroshima

HIROSHIMA



ANA Crowne Plaza Hiroshima

HIROSHIMA



Sainoniwa Hotel

KANAZAWA



Kanazawa Tokyu Hotel

KANAZAWA

Deluxe Accommodations



Hotel Hyatt Regency Shinjuku
TOKYO



The Capital Hotel Tokyu
TOKYO



Hotel Hoshinoya Tokyo
TOKYO



Chuzenji Kanaya Hotel
NIKKO



The Ritz-Carlton Osaka
OSAKA



Ryokan Kin-no-take
HAKONE



Ryokan Kinnotake Tonosawa
HAKONE



Ryokan Suiran Kyoto
KYOTO



Kyoto Hotel Okura
KYOTO



The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto
KYOTO



Ryokan Hiiragiya
KYOTO



Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel
HIROSHIMA



Ryokan Iwaso
MIYAJIMA



Hotel Nikko Kanazawa
KANAZAWA



ANA Crowne Plaza Kanazawa
KANAZAWA

CONTACT US

Japan Head Office

Our Company Address:
Shintomicho 1-chome bldg. 5F, 1-3-2
Shintomi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Phone: +81 3 6779 9659
Fax: +81 3 6740 1880
Website: beautyofjapantours.com

Vietnam Support Office

Our Office Address:
Floor 11, 169 Nguyen Ngoc Vu Str.,
Hanoi, Vietnam
Phone: +84 24 6027 8433
E-mail: inquiry@beautyofjapantours.com

Representation for Germany, Austria and Switzerland

STR Destination Handling GmbH & Co. KG
Industriestraße 38a, 63150 Heusenstamm, Germany
Phone: +49 6104 780480
Fax: +49 6104 7804899
Email: info@str-destination.de
germany@beautyofjapantours.com

BEAUTY OF JAPAN

ビューティーオブジャパン

BEAUTY OF JAPAN

ビューティーオブジャパン
INTRODUCING THE CULTURE



TCVB Tokyo Convention & Visitors Bureau

ASSOCIATE MEMBER USTOA United States Tour Operators Association

Japan. Endless Discovery.

JNTO Japan National Tourism Organization

Global Discovery