



Japan Highlights

8 days

Tour Description

Experience both the old and new Japan in this tour of the country's highlights. Admire the technology behind Japan's super-fast bullet trains and the bright lights and attractions of modern Tokyo's Ginza district. Beautiful vistas wait in Hakone, while Kyoto's traditional temples and castles provide glimpses into old Japan with its traditional ways. The Hiroshima Peace Museum and Park provide a bridge between old and new Japan.

Highlights

- ❖ Visit two imperial palaces, four Shinto shrines, four Buddhist temples
- ❖ Experience Japan's Shinkansen, or bullet trains
- ❖ Panoramic views from Tokyo Tower
- ❖ Photo opportunities at iconic Mt Fuji
- ❖ Contemplate the solemn Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Park

Sample Tour Itinerary

Tokyo – 3 nights

Day 1: Arrive Tokyo

Upon arrival at Tokyo's Narita airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Your group reconvenes this evening for a welcome dinner.

Day 2:

After breakfast, enjoy a full day private tour of Tokyo. Highlights include the Imperial Palace Plaza, Meiji Shrine, Asakusa Kannon Temple, the famous Ginza shopping district, and a visit to Tokyo Tower. Lunch will be included at a local restaurant.

Day 3:

Today is free to explore Tokyo at leisure. There are many optional tours that can be arranged to customize your experience.

Hakone – 1 night

Day 4:

This morning, after breakfast depart by private coach to beautiful and iconic Mt. Fuji. Visit the Fuji Visitor Center and drive up to Mt Fuji's 5th station. You will then head to Hakone for a typical Japanese-style lunch. Following lunch ride the Hakone Ropeway with opportunities to take in spectacular views on your way to visit the volcanic valley of Owakudani. Take a short cruise on beautiful Lake Ashi.



Kyoto – 3 nights

Day 5:

Today begins with a 3-hour super-fast bullet train ride to Kyoto. After arriving in Kyoto enjoy a buffet lunch before boarding your private coach for an afternoon of touring. Highlights will include Kiyomizu Temple, Sanjusangendo Temple, and Heian Jingu Shrine. Heian Jingu's tori gate, traditionally symbolizing the entrance into a shrine, is one of the largest in Japan.

Day 6:

After breakfast today's tour starts with a visit to Nijo Castle. You will also visit the Golden Pavilion (Kinkakuji) and Kyoto Imperial Palace with its beautiful roof details. After lunch head to Nara where you will visit Todaiji Temple, known for its immense bronze Buddha, and the Kasuga Grand Shrine. At the end of the tour you will be returned to your Kyoto hotel.

Day 7:

Another bullet train awaits you as you travel to Hiroshima for the day. Upon arrival in Hiroshima visit the sobering Peace Memorial Park and Museum and view the Atomic Bomb Dome. Later you will head to Miyajima Island to view the red tori gates at Itsukushima Jinja Shrine. Reboard the Shinkansen late this afternoon for the return trip to Kyoto.

A farewell dinner will be enjoyed this evening.

Day 8:

Transfer to the Kansai International airport to catch your flight home.

INCLUSIONS

- Accommodations: Tokyo 3 nights, Hakone 1 night, Kyoto 3 nights
- Meals: Continental breakfast daily, lunch and dinner as noted in itinerary
- Ground transportation via air conditioned luxury coach or high speed train
- English speaking assistants and guides
- Admission tickets as outlined in the itinerary