

# Japan Small Group Fall Tour 2024



**11 days / 10 nights**

November 12 – 22, 2024

**\$3179.00** (per person double occupancy)

## Day 1 - Arrive Tokyo

Tue, 12 Nov 2024

Welcome to Japan! Upon arrival in Tokyo International Airport, you will be met by our friendly Tour guide. From there you will be transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is free to relax after a long flight.

Standard Hotel Check-in time 3PM

Overnight in Tokyo

## **Day 2 - TOKYO AUTUMN TOUR (B)**

**Wed, 13 Nov 2024**

"Experience the vibrant energy and rich history of Japan's capital with a full-day city tour of Tokyo. Start your day with a nourishing breakfast, fueling up for an exciting exploration ahead. Your first stop is the Asakusa Sensoji Kanon Temple, one of Tokyo's most colorful and popular temples. Wander through Nakamise Street, a bustling shopping lane leading to the temple, where you can find traditional Japanese crafts and snacks.

Continue your tour with a photo stop at the majestic Imperial Palace, the primary residence of the Emperor of Japan, set in beautiful, expansive parklands. Next, ascend to the observation deck of the iconic Tokyo Tower, standing at 150 meters, for breathtaking panoramic views of the city. Drive by the National Diet Building, the center of Japan's government, and witness the impressive architecture of this important political landmark.

Relax and embrace nature at Shinjuku Gyoen Park, a serene oasis amidst the city's hustle and bustle. Conclude your day with a visit to Odaiba, a popular shopping and entertainment district on a man-made island in Tokyo Bay. After a day filled with sightseeing, shopping, and cultural immersion, transfer back to your hotel to unwind and spend another night in the dynamic city of Tokyo."

## **Day 3 - Day Tour To Mt.Fuji from Tokyo ( B)**

**Thu, 14 Nov 2024**

Embark on a breathtaking adventure to Japan's iconic Mt. Fuji on this full-day tour from Tokyo. Begin your day with a hearty breakfast before departing for the majestic Mt. Fuji, a symbol of Japan and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your first stop is Oshino Hakkai, a set of eight picturesque ponds fed by snowmelt from the slopes of Mt. Fuji. Perhaps, try a drink of spring water filtered through the lava from Mt Fuji. These crystal-clear springs offer a unique view of the natural beauty surrounding Japan's highest mountain.

Next, enjoy a serene Lake Kawaguchiko Cruise, providing stunning views of Mt. Fuji and the surrounding landscape from the water. The tranquillity of the lake and the panoramic vistas create a perfect photo opportunity. Continue your exploration with the Mt. Fuji Panoramic Ropeway, offering spectacular aerial views of the mountain and the surrounding area (weather permitting). This cable car ride is an exhilarating way to experience the beauty of Japan's natural landscape.

After a day filled with awe-inspiring sights and natural wonders, depart back to Tokyo. Upon arrival, you'll be transferred to your hotel for a restful night, reminiscing about the unforgettable experiences and scenic beauty of Mt. Fuji."

## **Day 4 - Full Day Yokohama and Kamakura from Tokyo (B)**

**Fri, 15 Nov 2024**

Breakfast

Day 4 - Full Day Yokohama and Kamakura Tour from Tokyo (B)

Friday, 15 November 2024

Prepare for a day of historical and cultural discovery with a full-day tour of Yokohama and Kamakura, starting with a delightful breakfast in Tokyo. Your journey begins with a visit to the ancient city of Kamakura. Sometimes called the Kyoto of Eastern Japan, Kamakura was once the political center of medieval Japan. Here, marvel at the iconic Kamakura Buddha statue, a colossal bronze representation of Amida Buddha, which stands as a serene testament to the city's rich Buddhist history. This bronze statue is over 13 metres tall, and is the second largest statue of its kind in Japan. Explore the tranquil surroundings of Kotoku-in Temple, the proud home of this monumental statue.

Next, the tour heads to Yokohama, Japan's vibrant port city known for its stunning waterfront and cosmopolitan flair. Embark on an orientation tour of Yokohama, including a visit to Minato Mirai, a modern seaside urban area filled with shopping centers, hotels, a convention center, an amusement park, and more, all beautifully set against the backdrop of the city's historic port.

A highlight of your Yokohama visit is the lively Chinatown, one of the largest in the world, where you can immerse yourself in the colorful streets, taste exotic cuisine, and experience the rich cultural heritage.

After a day of exploration and discovery, depart back to Tokyo for a transfer to your hotel, where you can unwind and reflect on the day's adventures before another night in the bustling capital city."

## **Day 5 - Tokyo - Hiroshima (B) (bullet train)**

**Sat, 16 Nov 2024**

Begin your day with an energizing breakfast in Tokyo before embarking on a thrilling journey to Hiroshima aboard Japan's famed Shinkansen, the bullet train. This high-speed train ride is not just a mode of transportation but an experience in itself, offering a unique and efficient way to traverse the country while enjoying scenic views.

Upon arrival in Hiroshima, a city known both for its tragic history and its inspiring message of peace, you will be transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is yours to freely explore Hiroshima at your own pace. You have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the city's rich history, visit poignant landmarks, indulge in local cuisine, and experience the resilient spirit and culture of this remarkable city.

After a day of personal exploration and discovery, return to your hotel in Hiroshima for an overnight stay, allowing you to rest and reflect on the experiences of the day in this historically significant city.

## **Day 6 - Full day Hiroshima City tour with Miyajima (B)**

**Sun, 17 Nov 2024**

Embark on a poignant and enriching full-day tour of Hiroshima, beginning with a wholesome breakfast. Your first stop is the Hiroshima Peace Park, a symbol of peace and a poignant reminder of the events of

August 1945. Wander through the park and see the iconic Hiroshima Peace Memorial (also known as Genbaku Dome or Atomic Bomb Dome). The Atomic Bomb Dome, was one of the few structures left standing near the bomb's hypocenter. Next, visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, which offers a deep and moving insight into the tragic impact of the atomic bomb on the city and its people.

In the afternoon, take a ferry ride to the serene Miyajima Island, a sacred site in Shinto belief. Often characterized as the island where God lives, Miyajima Island has a long history as a holy site of Shinto. Here, you'll be greeted by the breathtaking view of the iconic floating torii gate of Itsukushima Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site set against the backdrop of the Seto Inland Sea. The shrine complex, notable for its unique construction over water, is a sight to behold and offers a tranquil and spiritual experience.

After a day filled with historical reflection and natural beauty, return to Hiroshima by ferry and transfer back to your hotel. Spend another night in Hiroshima, allowing time to absorb the profound experiences of the day."

## **Day 7 - Hiroshima- Kyoto(B)**

**Mon, 18 Nov 2024**

Breakfast

Begin your morning with a delightful breakfast before embarking on a journey from Hiroshima to the cultural heart of Japan, Kyoto. Upon arrival in Kyoto, immerse yourself in the city's rich heritage with a visit to the iconic Fushimi Inari Shrine, famous for its thousands of vermilion torii gates that create an enchanting path up the mountain. Afterward, delve into the flavors of Japan with a stroll through the Fushimi Sake District, a historic area known for its centuries-old sake breweries. You can sample some of the finest Japanese rice wines and learn about the traditional brewing process. The day concludes with a transfer to your hotel in Kyoto, where you will spend a restful night, gearing up for more adventures in this beautiful city.

## **Day 8 - Kyoto Full day Tour (B)**

**Tue, 19 Nov 2024**

Experience the essence of Japanese culture and beauty on this full-day tour in Kyoto. Your journey begins with a tranquil morning walk through the enchanting Arashiyama Bamboo Grove, a natural wonder that offers a serene and photogenic escape. Next, marvel at the Kinkaku-Ji Golden Pavilion, a historic Zen Buddhist temple adorned with gold leaf, reflecting shimmering beauty onto its surrounding pond.

Embrace traditional Japanese customs with an authentic tea ceremony, where you'll learn the art and significance of this cherished ritual. The cultural immersion continues with a captivating Geisha show, offering a glimpse into the fascinating world of these iconic Japanese entertainers. Engage your creative side with origami classes, learning the delicate art of Japanese paper folding from skilled artisans.

Conclude this unforgettable day with a transfer back to your hotel in Kyoto, where you can reflect on the day's experiences and rest before another day of exploration.

## **Day 9 - Kyoto – Nara - Osaka**

**Wednesday, 20 November 2024**

Embark on a captivating journey from Kyoto to Nara, then conclude your day in the bustling city of Osaka. Depart by private coach for a scenic drive to Nara, Japan's ancient capital, known for its historic temples and friendly deer. Your first stop is the majestic Todai-ji Temple, an architectural marvel housing a giant Buddha statue, set amidst the charming Nara Deer Park where friendly deer roam freely.

After exploring Nara's rich history, proceed to Osaka, Japan's vibrant culinary and entertainment hub. Capture a memorable moment with a photostop at the iconic Osaka Castle, a symbol of Japan's historical legacy. Then, dive into the heart of Osaka's urban life with a shopping excursion in Umeda, a bustling district filled with a plethora of shops and eateries.

Conclude your day with a transfer to your hotel in Osaka, where you can unwind and spend the night, preparing for more adventures in this lively city.

## **Day 10 - Himeji and Kobe City Tour from Osaka (B)**

**Thursday, 21 November 2024**

Begin your day with a delightful breakfast in Osaka before setting off on an exciting day trip to Himeji and Kobe. Your first destination is Himeji, home to the magnificent Himeji Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site and a classic example of Japanese castle architecture. Explore the elegant white exteriors and intricate defenses of this historic fortress, often referred to as the White Heron Castle due to its brilliant white facade and graceful appearance.

Next, embark on an orientation tour of Kobe, a city known for its unique blend of modernity and tradition. Discover the diverse cultural landmarks and vibrant urban life that make Kobe a fascinating place to visit. Highlight your tour in Kobe with a visit to the impressive Akashi Kaikyo Bridge, the longest suspension bridge in the world, and stroll along the Maiko Marine Promenade to enjoy spectacular views of the bridge and the sea.

After a day filled with architectural marvels and cultural insights, return to Osaka. Transfer to your hotel to relax and spend another night in the lively atmosphere of Osaka, reflecting on the rich experiences of the day.

## **Day 11 - Depart To Tokyo Airport(B)**

**Fri, 22 Nov 2024**

Breakfast

Check-out of the Hotel

Depart to Airport

OR Ask us about adding a post tour night to relax and explore Osaka on your own.

<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	<b>4 STAR ACCOMMODATIONS</b>
<b>TOKYO</b>	Hotel East 21 Tokyo or Similar
<b>HIROSHIMA</b>	Grand Prince Hiroshima or Similar
<b>KYOTO</b>	ANA Crowne Plaza or Similar
<b>OSAKA</b>	Art Hotel Osaka Bay Tower or Similar

- **Hotels may change. If this occurs another hotel in the equivalent category will be provided.**
- **Luggage transfer (1 Bag per person) as mentioned in itinerary**
- **Rate is \$3179.00 per person double occupancy**
- **All children pay full rate of \$3179 per person.**
- **Add \$899 to per person rate to stay in a Single Room**
- **Trip tour guide tips are included in price. Hotel and local service tipping is at your discretion.**
- **Triple rooms subject to availability.**

#### **INCLUSIONS:**

- **Meals: 10 - Breakfasts at Hotel.**
- **10 Nights' Accommodations**
- **Tours with Coach and English-speaking guide**
- **Bullet train ticket (Reserved Seat) as mentioned in itinerary**
- **Entrance Fees**
- **Guide Tips**
- **1 X 500 ml Water Bottle each Day**

#### **EXCLUSION:**

- **Flights**
- **Travel Insurance**
- **Visa fee**
- **Anything not mentioned in the inclusion**