

Splendours of Japan



Day 1 | Konnichiwa Tokyo



Your in-depth exploration of Japan begins in Tokyo. On arrival at Narita or Haneda Airport, take a shuttle bus transfer to your centrally located hotel, where you'll join your Travel Director and fellow guests for a drink and local appetisers.

Hotel: New Otani Garden Tower

Day 2 | Explore Vibrant Tokyo



Begin your city tour in Asakusa, Tokyo's historic entertainment district, where you'll encounter the Sensoji Buddhist Temple, one of the city's most colourful and popular temples. Founded in 628 and rebuilt many times over the centuries, Sensoji is Tokyo's oldest temple site. Next, stroll down Nakamise Street and immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of Shitamachi (downtown Tokyo), admiring the wooden dolls, colourful chiyogami (origami paper) and traditional Japanese sweets. Ascend Tokyo Skytree, the world's tallest free-standing broadcasting tower, for panoramic views of the city skyline. End the day with a stroll around Ginza, Tokyo's famous shopping district.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: New Otani Garden Tower

Day 3 | Off to the Five Lakes District



Start your day at the Imperial Palace Plaza, where you'll view the two bridges leading to the palace's inner grounds. Walk through the East Gardens, a peaceful space once part of the original Edo Castle. At the Tokyo National Museum, take time to browse the country's oldest collection of Japanese art. Then, join a sushi chef to learn how to prepare this iconic dish.

Head into the Fuji Five Lakes District and look out for Mt. Fuji dominating the horizon. In the small village of Oshino Hakkai, discover eight clear spring-fed ponds—registered as a component of the Mount Fuji UNESCO World Heritage site—and see how snowmelt from Mt. Fuji supports rural life in this scenic part of Japan.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Hotel: Fuji Marriott Yamanakako

Day 4 | Majestic Mt. Fuji and Timeless Takayama



Journey up Mt. Fuji by road to the 5th Station, sitting 2,300 m (7,546 ft) above sea level. From here, take in sweeping views over Lake Kawaguchiko and the surrounding peaks before travelling through the scenic landscapes of the Japanese Alps to Takayama, a hillside town known for its traditional streets and mountain setting. Tonight, settle into your hotel where you'll sit down to dinner together.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Associa Takayama Resort

Day 5 | Experience Gokayama and on to Kanazawa



Immerse yourself in tradition as you walk through the Edo-style streets of Takayama's Old Town. Indulge a lunch of Japanese Hida-gyu – beef from a black-haired Japanese cattle breed, renowned as one of the finest quality varieties of beef. Journey back in time this afternoon during a visit to the peaceful UNESCO-listed Gokayama, a mountain village set amidst five valleys. Admire the unique construction of the local Gassho-zukuri wooden houses that have been built without the use of nails with steeply sloped thatched roofs to prevent snow from building up on them. Meet with a local family in one of these houses. Observe local artisans making washi paper and try your hand at making your own. Make a difference to the sustainability of this small business during MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Stay overnight in Kanazawa.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Kanazawa Tokyu

Day 6 | Traditional Kanazawa



Join a Local Specialist this morning to learn the secrets of painting gold leaf, a delicate craft the Japanese have been perfecting since the 16th century. Continue to the tranquil gardens of Kenroku-en, which took shape over a hundred years to emerge as one of Japan's most beautiful gardens. Connecting with your exquisite natural surrounds, you'll stroll through ornate landscapes and past ponds and temples. Take a short walk through the Omicho market next to see the local fish catch and enjoy an insider's view of everyday life in a busy coastal town. Then, visit the Nagamachi District with its beautifully preserved samurai houses that line the traditional stone streets. Here you will gain first-hand insights into samurai life during a visit to the Nomura house, an elegant samurai mansion.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Kanazawa Tokyu

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Shabu Shabu Dinner with Unlimited Drinks - Tonight you will enjoy typical washoku Japanese buffet meal with unlimited drinks. Dine on shabu shabu hot pot, a dish of thinly sliced meat and vegetables boiled in water and served with dipping sauces. This particular way of eating hot-pot dining originated in Osaka during the 1950s but has since spread all across Japan and even to other countries. The menu also includes sushi, tempuras, soba and Japanese typical appetizers which are a must to try! Vegetarian options are available. The price shown is in Japanese Yen.

Adult: 10,500.00 JPY

Day 7 | Onwards to Kyoto



Board an express train to Kyoto, where you'll visit the UNESCO-listed Kinkakuji Temple. Originally a 14th-century villa, this striking Zen temple is now best known for its Golden Pavilion, reflected in the surrounding pond and gardens. Later, connect with locals at a traditional restaurant during your Be My Guest experience. Learn about Japanese customs as your hosts share stories of everyday life and regional traditions over a shared meal.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Kyoto Tokyu

Day 8 | Discover Enchanting Kyoto



The blazing orange torii gates of Fushimi Inari Shrine guide your path through the forest, up into the mountains and to a sacred site that has heard prayers for prosperity and happiness since the 8th century. Continue to Sanjusangen-do Hall and admire the intricate detail of its 1,001 statues of the “thousand-handed” goddesses of mercy. Then, enjoy a walking tour through the Gion district, known for its traditional wooden machiya houses and geisha culture. This evening, indulge in dinner with your Travel Director and fellow travellers.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Kyoto Tokyu

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Japanese Tea Ceremony Experience - Experience the ambience of a traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony with a professional Tea Master who will have spent many years leaning his craft which is often presented in a ceremony influenced by Zen Buddhism. Learn about the history and culture of tea making in Japan and observe how the powdered green tea (matcha) is prepared by adding boiling water and mixing it with a bamboo whisk. There will also be an explanation on the Japanese way of making and drinking tea. Take the opportunity to try some Japanese sweets and afterwards, having observed the skill involved in making the tea, have a go at making your own! The price shown is in Japanese Yen.

Adult: 6,500.00 JPY

Day 9 | Departure from Kyoto



Your encounter with Japan's age-old traditions and modern cityscapes comes to an end, take a transfer by airport shuttle service to Kansai International Airport or Osaka Itami Airport for your onward flight.

Meals: Breakfast

This document was last updated 3 March 2026.

While all information is correct at the time of publication, occasionally details or timings may differ.

Please refer to our website or speak to your Travel Director for the latest updates.