JAPAN DISCOVERY
10 DAYS, 4 CITIES

Experience the many contrasts of Japan, from the modern metropolis of Tokyo to the breathtaking beauty of Mt. Fuji and enchanting Kyoto with its stunning temples and colourful Geisha district.

HIGHLIGHTS
SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

- Hakone
  View Mt. Fuji and Lake Ashi from the Komagatake Ropeway

- Himeji
  Visit Himeji Castle and a sake brewery en route to Osaka

- Hiroshima
  Visit Itsukushima Shrine, Peace Memorial Park and Museum and Miyajima island

- Kurashiki
  Sightseeing with a Local Specialist includes a visit to the Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter

- Kyoto
  Visit Kinkakuji Temple and the Heianjigu Shrine

- Mt. Fuji
  Drive up to 5th Station for panoramic views

- Tokyo
  Visit the Tokyo Metropolitan Observatory, Meiji Jingu Shinto Shrine and Nakamise shopping street
Welcome to Japan. On arrival at Tokyo Narita or Haneda International Airport transfer to your hotel by airport shuttle service. This evening, meet your Travel Director and fellow guests for an enjoyable dinner.

### Your Itinerary

**1. ARRIVE TOKYO (3 NIGHTS)**

Welcome to Tokyo. On arrival at Tokyo Narita or Haneda International Airport transfer to your hotel by airport shuttle service. This evening, meet your Travel Director and fellow guests for an enjoyable dinner.

**2. TOKYO SIGHTSEEING**

Following breakfast, your sightseeing starts with a visit to the Tokyo Metropolitan Observatory to enjoy great panoramic views of the city. Explore the Meiji Jingu Shinto Shrine which is surrounded by greenery and gives the shrine a rural feel in the middle of the bustling city. Later, travel to Asakusa and absorb the Edo period’s rich traditional atmosphere of an ancient town. Walk through the Nakamise Shopping Street and then visit the Sensoji Temple, one of Tokyo's most colorful temples. This afternoon enjoy some time at leisure or choose to take part in an optional trip to explore Tokyo further.

### Optional Experiences

**Izakaya Dining Experience**

Join your Travel Director for a different kind of Japanese dining experience at an ‘izakaya’. It is a type of informal Japanese pub where the food is shared by everyone at the table (similar to Spanish tapas). These are popular with the local office workers who tend to frequent them at the end of their working day. The menu changes according to the season but generally includes small Japanese appetizers, seasonal sashimi, tempura, grilled chicken, yaki soba, yakitori, boiled rice and dessert. Three drinks are also included with a choice of wine, beer or soft drinks. The price shown is in Japanese Yen.

**Tokyo National Museum, Ameyoko & Ginza**

Visit The Tokyo National Museum which displays the world’s largest collection of Japanese art, including ancient pottery, Buddhist sculptures, Samurai swords, colourful ukiyo-e (woodblock prints), gorgeous kimonos and much, much more. Continue with a visit to Ameyoko shopping street, once a black market built just after the World War II and selling American goods. Now it comprises of about 400 shops attracting thousands of shoppers every day. Then take a stroll around Ginza, Tokyo’s most famous upmarket shopping district featuring numerous department stores, boutiques, and restaurants. Afterwards choose to either remain in Ginza for some free time to explore further or return to the hotel by coach. The price shown is in Japanese Yen.
3. MT. FUJI AND HAKONE SIGHTSEEING

This morning drive up to the 5th station of Mt. Fuji and admire the magnificent views from this majestic mountain (weather permitting) at 2300 metres. After some free time for lunch take the Komagatake Ropeway for views of Mt. Fuji and Lake Ashi and later return to your hotel.

4. TOKYO - KYOTO (2 NIGHTS)

Depart Tokyo and travel to Kyoto by bullet train. This afternoon visit Kinkakuji; a Buddhist temple and a UNESCO World heritage site which is famous for its golden pavilion. Built between the 14th and 15th centuries, this temple was previously the residence of Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu before being converted into a Zen temple when he died. Later, visit the Heian-jingu shrine and admire the torii gate and the architecture. Afterwards, visit a handicraft centre to explore Japanese crafts and later check-in to your hotel. This evening dine in a local restaurant.

5. KYOTO

The day is yours to explore Kyoto at your own pace or perhaps choose to take an optional experience.

6. KYOTO - KURASHIKI - HIROSHIMA (2 NIGHTS)

Travel to Kurashiki and on arrival meet a Local Specialist for a walking tour of the Bikan Historical Quarter. See the many classic black and white walled warehouses which have now been converted to museums and the moats which were used for transportation. Continue on to Hiroshima and this evening enjoy okonomiyaki in a local restaurant. This is a kind of pancake made with egg, cabbage, soba noodles and meat or seafood and cooked in front of you.

7. HIROSHIMA SIGHTSEEING

This morning set off for Miyajima Island by ferry which is regarded as one of the most scenic areas in Japan. Upon arrival visit the Itsukushima Shrine and view the floating torii gate rising from the sea. Enjoy some free time at leisure and immerse yourself in the sights of this tranquil island. Later return to Hiroshima and visit the Peace Memorial Park and Museum. See the UNESCO listed Peace Memorial, the only structure which survived the first Atomic bomb in 1945. This afternoon, consider joining an optional experience to explore further.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Secrets of Hiroshima
Start with a delicious lunch of oysters, sashimi, miso soup and rice in a local restaurant followed by a visit to Shukkeien Japanese Garden. The name ‘Shukkeien' can be translated into English as ‘shrunken-scenery garden’ which is also a good description of the garden itself which features miniatures and forests. The entire garden is connected by a path which winds around the pond and passes through all the miniaturised sceneries. Later, visit Hiroshima Castle, built on a plain in the centre of the city, its main keep is five storeys high and its grounds are surrounded by a moat. It was built in 1589 and like the rest of the city; it was destroyed by the atomic bomb in 1945 and then rebuilt 13 years later. For the lunch vegetarian options are available. The price shown is in Japanese Yen. 
8. HIROSHIMA - HIMEJI
Travel to Himeji and have some free time for lunch before visiting Himeji Castle with a Local Specialist. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site and an iconic and historic building which has survived for around 400 years. Later check in to your hotel.

9. HIMEJI - OSAKA
On the way to Osaka, stop and make a visit to a sake brewery with a Local Specialist. Learn about the history of sake and the process of brewing it. Continue to Osaka and spend the afternoon at leisure or consider taking an optional experience to explore further.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Umeda Sky Building & Osaka Castle
Visit the Umeda Sky Building which is about 170m tall and one of the most famous landmarks of Osaka. Admire the panoramic views of the city from the Floating Garden Observatory – an open air viewing platform that straddles the two towers of the Umeda Sky Building. Enjoy some free time in Umeda before continuing to Osaka Castle, a striking historical landmark in the middle of the modern cityscapes which was built around 1585 by the warlord Toyotomi Hideyoshi. Admire the historical artefacts, samurai costumes, colourful paintings and a model village of a 16th century castle town before returning to the hotel. The price shown is in Japanese Yen.

Dinner in Dotonbori
Travel by coach to Namba; the dining and entertainment district of Osaka. At a local restaurant enjoy a dinner of traditional Osaka cuisine such as okonomiyaki, takoyaki, kushikatsu and fried meats followed by dessert. Also included are unlimited drinks for 90 minutes with a choice of beer, sake or soft drinks. The price shown is in Japanese Yen.

10. DEPART OSAKA
Take a transfer by airport shuttle service to Kansai International Airport or Osaka Itami Airport for your onward flight.
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Terms & Conditions Apply
Subject to date and price may vary