



Japan Holidays
EXCLUSIVE TOUR

CLASSIC AUTUMN TOUR

Sat 21st November - Wed 2nd December 2020

12 days from \$6,999 per person



TOUR DESCRIPTION

Introduction:

This is the ideal tour for travellers new to Japan, offering the perfect blend of "must-see" sites, stunning autumn leaves, traditional arts and crafts, and sumptuous local cuisine - all in the comfort of a fully-escorted tour with an English-speaking guide uniquely qualified to offer personal insights, traveller tips and extensive knowledge.

Dates: Saturday 21st November to Wednesday 2nd December - *Extension tours available*

**Price: \$6,999 per person
(Single supplement \$990)**

Based on a minimum of 8 travellers*

Inclusions:

- 11 nights in quality accommodations
- Private escort/guide in Japan
- Daily Breakfast, 4 Lunches & 3 Dinners (B/L/D)
- Transfers, tours and entrance fees listed on the tour
- Forwarding of one item of luggage on one occasion

Non Inclusions:

- International or domestic airfares
- Beverages with meals
- Entrance fees to any sites not listed on the itinerary

Highlights:

- Enjoy Tokyo's outstanding sites: the Imperial Palace, Asakusa shopping district, artisan foods, and renowned gardens - all against a stunning backdrop of Mt. Fuji
- Spend a day in incomparable Kyoto - renowned for its fabulous Nishiki food market, bustling malls and exquisite temples and shrines.
- Experience the speed and efficiency of Japan's *shinkansen* as you reach far-flung destinations in mere hours, enjoying the countryside and autumn foliage at its peak
- Explore several UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Hiroshima's Peace Park, the folk village of Shirakawa-go, and fabulous temples, shrines & castle in Kyoto
- Visit enchanting Miyajima Island, with its ethereal *torii* gate that appears to float at high or low tide
- Immerse yourself in utter luxury and traditional *kaiseki* dining at a 150-year-old *ryokan*
- Soak up the splendour of autumn season at its peak in the deer-filled parks of Nara



ITINERARY

Day 1

Saturday, 21st November (B)

Arrive at Tokyo's Narita International Airport. After clearing Customs, you'll be met by a guide who will escort you to a shared shuttle bus to your hotel.

Accommodation: Tokyu Stay Ginza, Tokyo (4 nights)



Day 2

Sunday, 22nd November (B/L/D)

Full day tour of Tokyo - You'll be met at the hotel by a Japan Holidays tour guide who will show you some of Tokyo's top sites. The **Metropolitan Government Building** offers stunning aerial views of the city, including Mt. Fuji, Tokyo Tower and Meiji Shrine. **Sensoji Temple**, completed in 645 AD, is Tokyo's oldest and most colourful Buddhist temple in the vibrant Asakusa shopping district. Shop for local crafts and delicious food items on **Nakamise-dori**, where generations of artisans have sold their wares. Stroll the timeless **Imperial Gardens**; then enjoy the juxtaposition of skyscrapers that encircle the tranquil **Hamarikyu Garden**. We'll end the day with a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.



Day 3

Monday, 23rd November (B/L)

Mt Fuji/Hakone day tour - Your guide will meet you at the hotel for another full day of site-seeing. Relax on a scenic **Romance Car** train ride to **Hakone**, a lovely town renowned for its hot springs and postcard views of soaring Mt. Fuji. You'll hop on a cable car through town, skim above the trees on the ropeway, and enjoy a cruise on the sapphire blue caldera of **Lake Ashi**.



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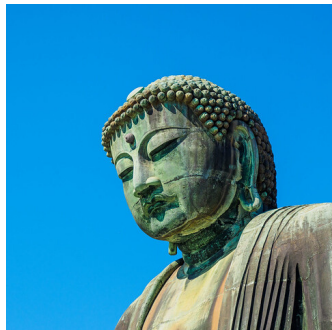
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Day 4

Tuesday, 24th November (B/L)

Kamakura Full Day Tour - Your guide takes you to the scenic south coast by train. Use your day pass to hop on and off along the way to lovely **Enoshima Island**. Enjoy a walk here in the hilly forest, or visit one of many shrines dedicated to Benten, goddess of wealth and knowledge. The final stop is at **Kamakura**, where the towering Buddha - Daibatsu - gazes over the city's temples and traditional gardens. Dinner is on your own, with recommendations upon your request.

Note: Your suitcase will be forwarded to Kyoto this evening, so pack some essentials for the next few days.



Day 5

Wednesday, 25th November (B/D)

We travel by high-speed shinkansen to the timeless mountain town of **Hida-Takayama**. Renowned for its timber that was widely used in feudal times, Takayama is a rare treasure with a preserved old town. Explore the museums, scenic castle and temple walks, and the open-air folk village. We'll be staying at a 150-year-old traditional *ryokan* tonight, where you'll enjoy a sumptuous, multi-course *kaiseki* dinner.

Accommodation: Ryokan Tanabe, Takayama



Day 6

Thursday, 26th November (B)

Today, you travel back in time - a few thousand years! - to the ancient, isolated village of **Shirakawa-go**. Nestled in steep, thick forest, this UNESCO Heritage site features unique, "gassho zukuri"-roofed houses, which resemble hands joined in prayer. Nearby, historic hot-springs in **Hirase** offer a postcard-perfect setting for the spring waters renowned for promoting beautiful skin. We continue on to Kanazawa after exploring this picturesque area.

Accommodation: Kanazawa Intergate Hotel, Kanazawa (2 nights)



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Day 7

Friday, 27th November (B)

Day tour of Kanazawa - Enjoy a relaxing day exploring historical **Kanazawa Castle** and the enchanting **Kenrokuen Garden** nearby. The Edo-era castle was the seat of power second only to the Tokugawa in its day. Several museums, crafts and gardens surround the castle, and you can also stroll the adjacent renowned Kenrokuen Garden. One of the finest landscape gardens in Japan, Kenrokuen will be the perfect spot with the autumn foliage for spectacular photos!



Day 8

Saturday, 28th November (B)

After a buffet breakfast, we'll take a bullet train to Kyoto and check in to our accommodation. You'll have the rest of the day to explore this fascinating city. Your guide can provide recommendations, or you can check out several options: you can spend hours in the sprawling **Nishiki Food Market** with several blocks of tempting stalls selling exotic foods, textiles, housewares and unique gift items; take an evening stroll in the romantic **Gion Geisha District**; or perhaps you'd enjoy **Kyoto Station's** bustling, multi-story mall with endless opportunities for gift shopping and food courts.

Accommodation: Intergate Shijo Shinmachi Hotel, Kyoto (4 nights)



Day 9

Sunday 29th November (B)

Private Day Tour of Kyoto - Wear comfortable shoes to explore Kyoto's most famous sites today. Your English-speaking guide will take you on a full day's tour of: the UNESCO site - **Nijo Castle** - with its impressive palace architecture and singing "nightingale" floors; the shimmering **Golden Pavilion**, with its Zen temple and tranquil grounds; **Kyoto's Imperial Palace** and gardens, which used to house the Imperial Family; **Heian Jingu Shrine**, dedicated to Kyoto's first and last emperors; and finishing off the day of history and culture at **Kiyomizudera**, with its spectacular view of Kyoto and sacred water rituals for long life and love.



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Day 10

Monday 30th November (B/L)

Miyajima & Hiroshima Day Tour - You'll take a scenic ferry to Miyajima Island, with its iconic, "floating" torii gate of **Itsukushima Shrine**. You'll also view the stunning, vermillion **Five Storey Pagoda** and lovely foliage at the **Daishoin Temple**. We then head over to Hiroshima's world-renowned **Peace Memorial Park** and visit to Ground Zero. The museum here explores the advent of the nuclear bomb and its explosive impact.



Day 11

Tuesday 1st December (B/D)

Half Day Tour of Nara - Nara was established in the 8th century, when powerful Buddhists challenged the government's control. The city brims with historical treasures, temples, and parks. You'll tour **Todaji Temple** with its imposing architecture and enormous bronze Buddha, the celebrated **Shinto Kasuga Shrine**, dedicated to the deity who protects the city, and **Nara Park**, filled with wild deer, which are revered in Nara.

Tonight, we return to Kyoto to enjoy a farewell dinner in Pontocho - one of the city's most atmospheric dining areas and a well-known *geisha* district.



Day 12

Wednesday, 2nd December (B)

Departure day - After breakfast, your guide will assist you with your transfers for further travel in Japan or your flight home.

End of Tour - Sayonara!



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About Adelaide Japan Desk

Adelaide Japan Desk is South Australia's leading specialist in travel to Japan. Our company has been providing personalised travel services for travellers to Japan for over 20 years.

Our travel experts will assist you in ensuring your visit delivers the best experience you can imagine.

Contact us and benefit from our expert knowledge and experience. We look forward to assisting you with your travel arrangements.



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