



Essential Japan

9 Nights

01 May 2016 – 31 October 2016



Summary

Japan delights its visitors with artistic originality and effortless elegance. Rich illustrations set a veridical scene, before interwoven narratives take on surrealistic tones. It's all encased in a vibrant cover, compelling each visitor to turn the pages and explore Japan's sublime mix of ancient tradition and the ultra-modern

Overview

Dates: 01 May 2016 – 31 October 2016

Interest: Group – Family-Couples

Level of Comfort: 3

Minimum # of passengers: 2

Maximum # of passengers: 20

Wild Discovery Advantages

- A proven expertise in organizing successful
- Experienced and knowledgeable staff
- High quality service & strong commitment to customer satisfaction
- Permanent assistance from Wild Discovery Head Office at any moment
- Attention to details that make the difference

Information about the destination

- **Currency:** Yen
- **Language:** Japanese
- **Dialing Code:** 81
- **Recommended vaccines:** none
- **Banks & currency exchange:** Currency can be exchanged at major banks, exchange offices or authorized hotels

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Day 1: Kansai Airport - Kyoto

Upon your arrival at Kansai Airport, one of our representatives will meet you and assist you with boarding Private Transportation to your hotel
The rest of the day is at leisure
Overnight in Kyoto

Day 2: Kyoto

Today you explore the former imperial capital with a knowledgeable local guide
Start your day with a visit to Nijo Castle
Continue on to Ryoan-ji Temple, the site of Japan's most famous rock garden
You will also visit Kinkaku-ji, or the Golden Pavilion, which was originally built as a retirement villa for the Shogun
Before the tour ends, stroll through the atmospheric Higashiyama district, where busy lanes lead up to Kyomizu and are filled with quaint shops selling souvenirs such as Kyomizu-yaki pottery, sweets, and pickles

Day 3: Kyoto – Day Trip to Nara

This morning your guide will come and pick you up at your hotel to take you by train to Nara, Japan's capital for 74 years during the 8th century
Upon arriving at the station, you will first head to Todai-ji Temple, the landmark of Nara that was built in the 8th century
Next you will go to Kasuga Taisha, the most celebrated Shinto shrine in Nara, famous for its bronze and stone lanterns. The bronze ones, which can be seen hanging from the buildings, have been donated to the shrine by its worshippers
From Todai-ji, the best route to the shrine is via the backstreets, passing by some local shops and houses and walking through a small forest
Later on, return to Kyoto to visit Kyomizu-dera, the temple situated on Mt. Otowa

Day 4: Kyoto – Day Trip to Arashiyama

This morning, you will head to the northwestern part of Kyoto with a local guide to visit the stunning Arashiyama area, one of Kyoto's main sightseeing spots
Before proceeding to the next destination, walk through the Bamboo Groves, a walking path that cut through the tall bamboos used in making handicrafts such as baskets and mats
The second stop for today is Nonomiya Shrine
This is followed by a visit to one of Kyoto's UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the Tenryuji Temple
The final stop for today is the Togetsukyo Bridge that crosses Oi River. The name of the bridge literally means "the moon crossing over the bridge," a description written by Emperor Kameyama in the 14th century
Afterward, you will visit Kyoto Imperial Palace
End of the tour guide escort you back to hotel

Day 5: Kyoto - Hiroshima

This early morning, transfer to Hiroshima and meet your guide
You can start with a visit to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park in central
Afterwards, you can stroll through the memorial park
You can also take a closer look at Genbaku Dome (A-Bomb Dome), the ruins of the former Industrial Promotion Hall of Hiroshima and one of the very few World Heritage Sites that remind us of the negative effects of war
After lunch, you can go to Hiroshima Castle, which is also called "Carp Castle" by the locals
Before heading back to your hotel, you can visit Shukkei Garden

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Day 6: Hiroshima - Hakone

Today is a self-guided day.

Make an early start today and leave Hiroshima behind to get on the journey to Hakone, the gateway to Mt. Fuji and its surrounding national park. This small town is famous for its onsen (natural hot springs), and has natural beauty in abundance

Day 7: Hakone

This morning your guide will pick you up from your ryokan to take you to a full day of sightseeing around Hakone. Your first stop will be at Togendai, where you will climb aboard a replica of a pirate ship that will take you across Ashinoko, a lake that was formed after a volcanic eruption that took place more than 3,000 years ago. After the cruise, get off at Hakone-machi port and walk towards Hakone Shrine, passing by Hakone Checkpoint and the cedar avenue.

From the shrine, you will continue your trek along the Preserved Old Tokaido Walking Trail, of which the most popular track stretches around 8km long. The next 40 minutes or so will take you to Amazake Chaya, a traditional house serving Japanese style snacks accompanied by sweet rice wine.

Day 8: Hakone - Tokyo

This Morning you will head to Tokyo with your included private Transportation and your Guide. Your first visit will be Meiji Shrine to avoid the crowds.

Outside of Meiji Shrine you will find Harajuku, the shopping haven for all fashionistas and the popular meeting place for teenagers who are usually in eccentric clothing.

Neighboring Harajuku is Omotesando, commonly referred to as Tokyo's Champs-Elysee. This broad, tree-lined avenue features a number of fashion flagship stores designed by internationally renowned architects like TOD's Omotesando, designed by Toyo Ito.

Your last stop will be at Tokyo National Museum.

After the tour, you have the option to be escorted back to your hotel or to disband at Ueno.

Day 9: Tokyo

Early in the morning your guide will come and pick you up at your hotel to take you to Tsukiji Fish Market, one of the largest markets in the world. After exploring the outer markets, you will stop by one of the nearby local restaurants for a sushi breakfast.

From the market you will head to Hama-Rikyu Teien, the former private garden of an Edo Period lord.

After strolling around the garden, you will take a break in the tea house known as 'Nakajima No Chaya' which stands elegantly in the park's lake.

Afterwards, it's time to see Tokyo from a different angle aboard the boat cruise along Sumida River.

You will take the one heading for Asakusa, a part of Tokyo's shitamachi or old town.

Asakusa is the city's oldest Geisha district and also the home to Senso-ji Temple, Tokyo's oldest Buddhist temple.

The streets around Senso-ji feature many traditional shops that sell Japanese crafts and souvenirs and are a delight to wander through.

Your last stop will be at Imperial Palace, the Imperial Palace, home to the Imperial Family, and surrounding gardens, followed by a stroll through Ginza, Tokyo's high-end shopping and entertainment district.

After the tour, you have the option to be escorted back to your hotel or to disband at Ginza.

Day 10: Tokyo

Today is free at leisure.

Transfer to the airport for departure flight.

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Selected hotels

Nights

2
3
2
2

Regions

Kyoto
Hiroshima
Hakone
Tokyo

5* Deluxe

Nikko Princess Kyoto
Sheraton Hiroshima
Hyatt Regency Hakone
Conrad Tokyo

Prices Include

Round trip ticket to Kyoto return from Tokyo (economy class)
Round trip transfer: airport – hotel – train station – airport
Round trip train ticket: Kyoto - Hiroshima
Round trip train ticket : Hiroshima - Odawara
9-night accommodation at hotel
Meal: daily breakfast & 1 dinner
English speaking local guide
All transfers in private cars
3 half day tour of: Kyoto – Hakone & Tokyo
6 full day tour of Kyoto – Nara – Arashiyama – Hiroshima
Hakone & Tokyo
Entrance fees at sites mentioned in the above program
Assistance of our representative in Japan

Prices Exclude

Airport taxes
Fuel surcharge
Visa charge
Travel insurance
Transfer to hotel on day 3 & day 4
Optional tours
DIP surcharge \$5/ticket
Any other expenses

Starting price per person in US\$

Hotel

Deluxe 5*

Double

9950

- Prices may change without prior notice and subject to availability at time of booking

Flight Schedule

| From | To | Flight No | Departure | Arrival |
|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Beirut | Dubai | EK 954 | 19:40 | 00:55 |
| Dubai | Kyoto | EK 316 | 03:00 | 17:10 |
| Tokyo | Dubai | EK 319 | 21:20 | 03:00 |
| Dubai | Beirut | EK 957 | 07:20 | 10:30 |

Payment facilities available with CFC

This is a product sheet elaborated in order to give you a quick overview of our package with details pertaining to hotels, flights and proposed tours. This is not a tailor made quotation and should you wish to have specific details reviewed to better suits your need please do not hesitate to contact one of our travel consultants or visit one of our branches.

CODE: JP-SUM16-ESSENTIAL JAPAN

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