



Japan Holidays
EXCLUSIVE TOUR

CLASSIC AUTUMN TOUR 2024

Sun 17 November - Sat 30 November 2024

From \$10,800 Per Person Twin Share



TOUR DESCRIPTION



13 Nights / 14 Days

Begin: Sunday 17th November 2024 in Tokyo
End: Saturday 30th November 2024 in Kyoto



\$10,800pp - Twin Share
(Single Supplement - \$2,500)
*Subject to exchange rate

Inclusions



Daily Breakfast, 8 Lunches
& 4 Dinners



13 nights in
quality accommodations



Tour Leader / Local guides



Transfers, tours and entrance fees
listed on the tour



Forwarding of one
item of luggage on two occasions

Exclusions: International or domestic airfares / Entrance fees & Meals not shown in itinerary

Highlights

Highlight! Enjoy Tokyo's outstanding sites against a stunning backdrop of Mt. Fuji

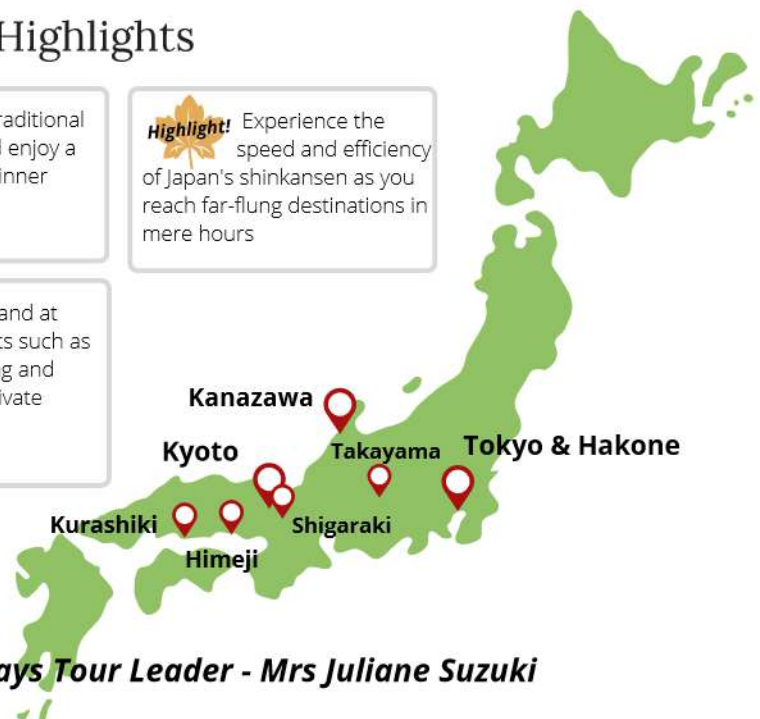
Highlight! Stay in a traditional Ryokan and enjoy a traditional kaiseki dinner

Highlight! Experience the speed and efficiency of Japan's shinkansen as you reach far-flung destinations in mere hours

Highlight! Spend a day in Kyoto - renowned for its market, temples and shrines.

Highlight! Try your hand at traditional arts such as Washi paper making and Gold Leaf in our private classes.

Highlight! Explore several UNESCO World Heritage sites



Your Japan Holidays Tour Leader - Mrs Juliane Suzuki

Juliane spent almost 20 years living and working in Japan as an interpreter before moving back to Australia in 2015 and joining the Japan Holidays team. Travelling extensively throughout Japan and living in different regions of the country with her Japanese husband and bi-cultural children has given Juliane a really unique insight into this culture and lifestyle that few foreigners get to experience. Juliane loves being able to utilise her language skills and share her knowledge of Japan with clients to ensure they have the best possible experience during their time in Japan.

ITINERARY

17th November 2024 - 30th November 2024

1 TOKYO Arrival

Arrive into either Narita or Haneda International Airport. After clearing Customs, you'll be met by an assistant who will escort you to your private transfer to the hotel.

Accommodation: Mercure Ginza, Tokyo (4 nights)

2 TOKYO DAY TOUR

Today we travel like locals on Tokyo's amazing network of subways & trains to visit the best sites in Tokyo, including the iconic **Sensoji Temple**, which was completed in 645 AD, and 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. Witness a unique fire ceremony at a local temple and other local hidden gems.

3 KAMAKURA DAY TOUR

We travel by chartered coach today to the seaside town of Kamakura. Its history dates back to the 12th Century, where the Kamakura Shogunate government thrived for nearly 150 years (1185 - 1333). We will enjoy the serenity of a quiet bamboo grove as we sip freshly made Matcha tea away from the crowds. We visit important temples and shrines, walk the backstreets like a local and enjoy a seaside stroll in Enoshima before making our way back to Tokyo.

4 MORNING TOUR TOKYO

Tokyo has so much to see and do, we have added a morning tour of Tokyo with one of our local expert guides to explore more of those hidden gems. The afternoon will be at your leisure to do some sight-seeing on your own or join Juliane for a special shopping like a local afternoon.

Note: Your suitcase will be forwarded to Kanazawa this evening.

5 TOKYO TO HAKONE

We travel by high-speed shinkansen to the hot-spring town of Hakone, where locals escape the hustle and bustle of Tokyo to relax and gaze upon majestic Mount Fuji. We arrive just after lunch and have the afternoon to explore Moto Hakone and relax in the outdoor hot spring baths which have a view of Mt Fuji. Our accommodation, Ryuguden, has hosted Japan's Royal Family and has arguably the best views of Mt Fuji in the area from a hotel. We enjoy a delicious kaiseki dinner tonight.

Accommodation: Ryuguden Ryokan, Lake Ashi Hakone (2 nights)

6 HAKONE DAY TOUR

Mount Fuji can be elusive and some people visit Japan many times without catching a glimpse of her beauty. Your room at Ryuguden has a lake view and on a good day, you can also see Mt Fuji from Ryuguden. Our chartered bus will take us up to Owakudani, which last erupted some 3,000 years ago. We will enjoy a cable car ride, walk in the footsteps of feudal lords along the old Cedar route with its massive oak trees and enjoy a demonstration from a master craftsman showing us how Hakone's famous 'wooden puzzle boxes' are made. Another wonderful opportunity to purchase some truly unique Japanese souvenirs (and yes, you can take them back into Australia).

7 HAKONE TO KANAZAWA

Today is a day of travel as we move from Hakone to Kanazawa on the West Coast via Tokyo. The bullet train from Tokyo to Kanazawa is extra special, as we ride in **Gran Class**, Japan's most luxurious class on the Hokuriku Shinkansen. Upon arrival in Kanazawa, you will have free time and dinner on your own at a local Izakaya.

Accommodation: MyStayPremier Kanazawa (3 nights)

Tokyo



Kamakura



A room with a view!!



8 KANAZAWA

Day tour of Kanazawa via chartered bus with our local expert guide. Enjoy a relaxing day exploring historical **Kanazawa Castle** and one of Japan's 3 best gardens, the enchanting **Kenrokuen Gardens**. The Edo-era castle was the seat of power second only to the Tokugawa in its day. We visit a samurai residence and the Geisha district before trying a **Gold Leaf experience** and some Gold Leaf ice cream!!

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Kenroku-en, one of the three most beautiful gardens in Japan and displays the six attributes of a perfect garden.

Kenrokuen Garden

**9 SHIRAKAWA-GO, GOKAYAMA & TAKAYAMA**

Today we travel via chartered bus to the 11th Century villages of Shirakawa-go & the less crowded Gokayama to see the Unesco World Heritage listed *Gassho-zukuri* thatched roofed houses. Meet locals whose families have lived in these villages for centuries and explore a home that dates back to the Edo period. We make our own Washi paper and explore Takayama before heading back to Kanazawa.

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-**10 KANAZAWA TO KYOTO**

We say goodbye to Kanazawa and take the **Thunderbird** to Kyoto. The afternoon will be free time to do some shopping and relax.

Accommodation: Hotel Intergate Kyoto Shijo Shinmachi (4 nights)

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-**11 KYOTO DAY TOUR**

We travel via chartered bus but do a fair amount of walking so wear comfortable shoes to explore Kyoto's most famous sites today. We visit the must see sites of **Nijojo Castle** - with its impressive palace architecture and singing "nightingale" floors; the shimmering **Golden Pavilion**, with its Zen temple and tranquil grounds; and **Kiyomizudera**, with its spectacular view of Kyoto and sacred water rituals for long life and love. There are also some areas we will keep as a surprise for you.

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-**12 KURASHIKI & HIMEJI DAY TOUR**

Today we travel via **bullet train** to the centuries old town of Kurashiki, known for its Historical quarter, museums, canals and preserved buildings. After lunch we make our way back up to visit the national treasure and World Heritage site of **Himeji Castle**, which to many is Japan's best castle because it's the finest surviving example of early 17th Century Japanese Castle architecture. We will also stop by for a little Sake sampling before making our way back to Kyoto on another bullet train.

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-**13 SHIGARAKI DAY TOUR**

Today we escape the crowds via chartered bus into the country side to Shigaraki, which is Japan's oldest pottery producing area and the birthplace of the tea ceremony. We will visit a tea plantation, sample some modern green-tea sweets, learn about the unique kilns, visit some galleries and the Miho Museum, which houses some incredible peaces. Lunch will be something to remember as your food is served in Shigaraki-yaki pottery pieces.

We return to Kyoto to enjoy a farewell dinner in Kyoto at a local Izakaya.

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D**14 KYOTO - Departure Day**

After breakfast, Juliane will assist you with your transfers for further travel in Japan or your flight home.

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End of Tour....

Sayonara!

Contact us

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