



# CHERRY BLOSSOM TRAIL & LAST SAMURAI TOUR KYUSHU 2026

Tuesday 24th March –31st March, 2026

From \$6100 Per Person Twin Share



## TOUR DESCRIPTION



## 8 Days / 7 Nights tour

Begin: Tuesday 24th March 2026 in Tokyo End: Tuesday 31st March 2026 in Takeo



### **Inclusions**



Daily Breakfast, Lunches & 7 Dinners



Private escort / guide in Japan



Transfers, tours and entrance fees listed on the tour



7 Nights accommodation Western & traditional Japanese Ryokans

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

Tour commences in Tokyo and finishes in Takeo City.

## Highlights

Japan's annual Cherry Blossom season attracts multitudes with its lacy, pastel beauty. On this unforgettable tour you'll enjoy the colours, culture and creative history of Japan. Scenic drives, historical landmarks, soothing spas and even a creative workshop will colour your senses in a way that no other country can offer.

**Highlight!** View spectacular cherry blossoms and picturesque waterfalls.

Highlight! Experience Heike clan samurai family life as their guest, enjoying intimate meals around an open fire-pit.

Highlight! Enjoy creating traditional handicrafts such as indigo dyeing and pottery making

**Highlight!** Feel the warmth of the local hospitality and cuisine unique to the Kyushu area.







Your Japan Holidays Escort - Mr Ken Takenaga

Born in Yatsushiro City, Kumamoto Prefecture, on the island of Kyushu in southern Japan, Ken moved to the USA as a teenager. He was immersed in American culture and language, which he combines with his deep understanding of Japan's colourful history in a way few tour guides accomplish. Ken's passion for and profound knowledge of southern Japan's history and key historical sites plus his fluency in English make him the perfect guide for English-speaking tourists here. He is a rare combination of military precision, comprehensive knowledge, and genuine connection, qualities invaluable as a tour guide for both large groups or smaller custom tours. Ken has more than a decade of experience guiding groups.

Japan Holidays

## ITINERARY

#### 24th March -31st March 2026

#### 1 Fly to FUKUOKA

Your English speaking guide for this trip, Ken Takenaga, will meet you at your hotel and travel with you from Tokyo Haneda Airport to Fukuoka, for a day of cultural immersion and uniquely Japanese entertainment

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Accommodation: Kumamoto Castle Hotel (2 nights)

#### KUMAMOTO

You are in for a full day of nature, culture, historical attractions and enjoyable shopping, including Suizenji Japanese Garden, the Jyosai En Cultural Centre and Kumamoto Castle.





## KUMAMOTO & Mt ASO

Today you will see first-hand why Kumamoto is referred to as The Land of Fire and Water - includes Daikanbou Observation Point & Aso Shrine. Accommodation: Chikurakutei Minami-Aso





## 4 GOKANOSHO

Today we travel into the past to Gokanosho, the very cauldron of conflict between warring samurai clans. Visit Sendan Totodo Waterfall and Suspension Bridges and a Kaiseki dinner feast in the evening. *Accommodation: Heiko-So Minshuku* 





#### 5 AMAKUSA

We leave Gokanosho after a traditional Japanese breakfast, before embarking on a beautiful drive to Japan's pearl enclave. We then visit a site rich with religious history and unspoken secrets, before ending the day with an amazing seafood dinner at our hotel.

Accommodation: Amakusa Santa Coming Hotel





#### ACCOMMODIALION. AMAKUSU

After breakfast, we take a short ferry to Shimabara, where you'll enjoy an exciting day of castles and conflict, tales of explosive volcanology, topped off with a good hot soak in a historic spa.



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Accommodation: OND Hotel (2 nights)

#### 7 TAKEO CITY

6 SHIMABARA

We combine a deep appreciation for nature with hands-on creativity today, as we wrap up a memorable tour with a genuine, hand-crafted article to remember the trip by. Includes Indigo Dyeing Workshop and kaiseki dinner in the evening.





#### TAKEO CITY

Japan's ceramics and pottery industries are legendary. Before leaving Japan, you'll tour one of the most renowned ceramic centers in the country - Kyushu Ceramics Museum, Arita, and have a last opportunity to buy that special gift or keepsake.





End of Tour....

Sayonava!

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