



# **SAMURAI TOURS**

*Adventures in Discovering Traditional Japan*

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[www.samuraitours.com](http://www.samuraitours.com)

## **Best of Japan in 22 Days**



22 Days / 21 Nights

# Best of Japan in 22 Days

## Tour Overview

If you don't want to miss anything in Japan, then this is the tour for you. From Sapporo to Nagasaki, you will enjoy the best Japan has to offer including some of Japan's best onsens, gardens, castles, natural scenic areas, historical districts, temples and shrines, cultural activities and much, much more in a tour that will create travel memories to last a lifetime.

### Destinations

*Tokyo, Hakone, Takayama, Kyoto, Koya-san, Himeji, Takamatsu, Kotohira, Matsuyama, Dogo Onsen, Miyajima Island, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Sapporo, Noboribestu Onsen, Hakodate, Sendai, Matsushima, Nikko*

### Tour Factors



Cultural Immersion



Pace



Physical Activity



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## Tour Details

You'll stay overnight at a mountaintop Buddhist temple where Buddhist monks will serve you meals of shojin ryori (the traditional Buddhist vegetarian cuisine) and attend prayer services at the temple early the next morning, climb to the top of a samurai castle, stroll through farmer's markets, meet a "maiko" (geisha-in-training) face-to-face, see where the geisha live and work, stay overnight on beautiful and quiet Miyajima Island, soak in the thermally-heated mineral waters at some of Japan's best onsens and admire sacred Mt. Fuji (weather permitting), the icon of Japan.

You'll enjoy Tokyo where the sheer energy level will sweep you away, and Sapporo, host to the 1972 Winter Olympics with its many, fine restaurants, explore the morning market of Hakodate, where you can have the local specialties of crab, sea urchin or squid prepared for you for breakfast. You will enjoy Matsushima, considered to be one of three most scenic places in Japan, visit the sobering testament to peace of Hiroshima and the ostentatious over-the-top shrines and temples of Nikko. The rural, mountainous island of Shikoku will charm you with its natural beauty, and the island of Kyushu with the history-filled city of Nagasaki will surprise you with its diversity.

### Tour Highlights

- ✓ Travel from northern-most tip of Japan to the southern-most tip of Japan
- ✓ Overnight at Buddhist temple and morning prayer service
- ✓ "Meet a Maiko" session (a Maiko is a Geisha in training)
- ✓ Overnight on Miyajima Island
- ✓ Overnight at several Onsen with naturally heated mineral waters
- ✓ Three "Kaiseki" style dinners
- ✓ 3 Shojin-ryori meals (Buddhist vegetarian)
- ✓ Nine separate rides on a Shinkansen (bullet train)
- ✓ Five overnights at a Japanese-style ryokan

### Tour Inclusions

- ✓ Travel Guard Gold Policy (for American tour members only)
- ✓ 21 Day JR Rail Pass
- ✓ Meeting service at the arrival airport
- ✓ Sending service to the appropriate train station
- ✓ Baggage transfer from city to city
- ✓ Electronic version of Tour Handbook and Japanese History
- ✓ Domestic airfare from Nagasaki to Sapporo during the tour

### Tour Exclusions

- ✗ International airfare is NOT included.
- ✗ A printed itinerary is not included
- ✗ Alcoholic beverages, soft drinks and desserts are NOT included

# Map



## Tour Destinations

- 📍 Tokyo
- 📍 Hakone
- 📍 Takayama
- 📍 Kyoto
- 📍 Koya-san
- 📍 Himeji
- 📍 Takamatsu
- 📍 Kotohira
- 📍 Matsuyama
- 📍 Dogo Onsen
- 📍 Miyajima Island
- 📍 Hiroshima
- 📍 Nagasaki
- 📍 Sapporo
- 📍 Noboribetsu Onsen
- 📍 Hakodate
- 📍 Sendai
- 📍 Matsushima
- 📍 Nikko

# Itinerary

## **Day 1 Arrive in Tokyo**

After clearing customs and immigration, you will be met at Tokyo's Narita Airport by a Samurai Tours meeting staff member. They will then purchase a limousine bus ticket for you and help you board the bus to the hotel. After checking in, the evening is free. No meals are included.

**Travel: 1-1/2 Hours; Walking: Light**

## **Day 2 Tokyo - Tokyo Tower, Ginza, Asakusa**

After breakfast, you will start the day with a Welcome/Orientation meeting. Next, the licensed, English-speaking guide will escort you to the Tokyo Tower. The Tokyo Tower is a communications and observation tower in the center of Tokyo. At 332.9 metres (1,092 ft), it is the second-tallest structure in Japan. The structure is an Eiffel Tower-inspired lattice tower, with a main observatory at 150 meters that is reached via elevator. Thanks to the tower's central location, the observatory offers an interesting view of the city despite being only at a relatively moderate height. Afterwards, we will travel to the famous Ginza district. The Ginza is one of the most upmarket shopping, dining and entertainment districts in Japan, attracting visitors and regulars alike from across the globe. Before continuing we will stop for a lunch of Kushiage (fried meat and vegetables on skewers). Next we will travel to the nearby Asakusa area. Here we will tour the Nakamise-dori, Senso-ji Buddhist Temple and the Asakusa Shrine where you will learn about Buddhist and Shinto Japanese religious practices. We will return to the hotel, where you will receive the train tickets for the entire tour. Breakfast at the hotel and lunch at a local restaurant included.

**Travel: 1 Hours; Walking: Heavy**

## **Day 3 Free Morning in Tokyo; Travel to Hakone Yumoto Onsen; Optional Morning Market Tour**

Before leaving for the morning, you will prepare your luggage to be transferred to Takayama and will be traveling to Hakone and Takayama with an overnight bag only. You should prepare your overnight bag with enough items for 2 days and 1 night. This morning is a free morning to enjoy the world-class city of Tokyo. Go shopping for that perfect souvenir, visit the Meiji Shrine dedicated to the Japanese emperor of the 19th century, or wander through the trendy Shibuya or Harajuku districts where you will more than likely see interesting and far-out fashions. You will meet back at a predetermined time and location to travel to Hakone Yumoto Onsen, where we will stay overnight. Here you can enjoy the thermally-heated mineral baths at the ryokan. Breakfast and dinner at the ryokan are included.

**Travel: 1 1/2 Hours; Walking: Light**

## **Day 4 Tour Hakone - Hakone Ropeway, Hakone Lake Ashi Sightseeing Boats; Travel to Takayama**

After checking out of the ryokan, we will tour Hakone. Hakone is famous for its natural beauty and the view of nearby Mt. Fuji (weather permitting). We will be taking many different forms of transportation (electric train, funicular, gondola and bus) around Hakone including the Hakone Sightseeing Boats on Lake Ashi. In good weather, a fine view of Mount Fuji, and enjoy Hakone's rich scenery reflected on the lake's calm surface. After returning to Hakone Yumoto and picking up

our overnight bags, we will continue on to Takayama. Takayama, in the middle of the Japan Alps, with its traditional inns, shops, and sake breweries, has managed to retain its traditional charm. We will have dinner at the ryokan upon arrival in Takayama. Breakfast at the ryokan, bento box lunch and dinner at the ryokan is included.

(PLEASE NOTE: High winds and/or heavy rain can, and will often cause cessation of services on the Sightseeing Boat cruise. Should this occur, we will not be able to operate the itinerary as listed above, and will replace it with the best possible alternative given the weather conditions. Also, in the case of bad weather, even if the boats are still operating, we may alter the itinerary for your comfort and safety as Mt. Fuji will not be visible anyway.)

**Travel: 5 Hours; Walking: Medium**

### **Day 5 Takayama - Miyagawa Morning Market, Jinyamae Morning Market, Takayama Jinya, San-machi-suji District, Free Afternoon**

This morning we stroll through the farmer's market, sampling the numerous options from vegetable stands and stalls selling herbs, pickles, and souvenirs. After that, we tour the Takayama-jinya, the governing office of Takayama and the surrounding area since the early 17th century. After lunch, the guide will escort you to the San-machi-suji district, consisting of merchant homes dating back to the 16th century. From here the rest of the day is free to roam and explore Takayama including the San-machi-suji. Visit the many temples, shrines and museums, rummage through antique shops, or relax at one of the sake breweries. The evening is free to enjoy one of the many nearby Hida Beef restaurants. (Hida Beef is the same thing as the more famous Kobe Beef.) Breakfast at the ryokan and lunch at a local restaurant is included.

**Travel: N/A; Walking: Medium**

### **Day 6 Travel to Kyoto; Kyoto - Nijo Castle, Kinkakuji (Golden Pavilion)**

Before leaving Takayama, you will prepare your luggage to be transferred to Kyoto, and will be traveling with an overnight bag only. You should prepare your overnight bag with enough items for 2 days and 1 night. In the morning, we will travel by express train and Shinkansen (bullet train) to Kyoto. For many, just the name of Kyoto conjures up the classic images of Japan: streets of traditional wooden houses, the click-clack of geta (wooden sandals) on the paving stones, geisha in a flourish of brightly colored silks, and a tea master deliberately warming water and making tea. Steeped in history and tradition, Kyoto has in many ways been the cradle of Japanese culture. A stroll through Kyoto today is a walk through 11 centuries of Japanese history. After lunch we will visit Nijo Castle. Built in 1603, it was the Kyoto home of Tokugawa Ieyasu, the first Tokugawa Shogun. The ostentatious style of construction was intended as a demonstration of Ieyasu's prestige, and to signal the demise of the emperor's power. The finest artists of the day filled the castle with delicate transom woodcarvings and paintings by the Kano School on sliding doors. One of the castle's most intriguing features is the so-called "nightingale" floors. To protect the Shogun from real or imagined enemies, these floorboards creak when stepped on. Finally, we will visit Kinkaku-ji. Kinkaku-ji, also known as the Golden Pavilion, is one of Kyoto's, as well as Japan's, most recognizable attractions. The gleaming building covered in gold leaf seems to float on the aptly named Mirror Pond, especially on a sunny day. Breakfast at the ryokan and lunch at a local restaurant is included.

**Travel: 3 1/2 Hours; Walking: Medium**

### **Day 7 Fushimi - Fushimi Inari Shrine; Kyoto - Higashiyama District, Yasaka Shrine, Gion Geisha District, Meet a Maiko Session**

After breakfast, we are off by train to the nearby city of Fushimi, one of the largest sake producing regions of Japan. Here we will visit the Fushimi Inari shrine. This Shinto Shrine, established in the

8th century, is famous for the long tunnels of vermilion torii gates straddling a network of trails leading to the top of the heavily forested Mt. Inari. We will then travel to the Higashiyama District. This area of narrow, cobblestone alleys with its temples, shrines, numerous shops and restaurants is truly enjoyable and relaxing. We will stop for lunch in the Higashiyama District. We will then visit the Yasaka Shrine, also known as the Gion Shrine. This shrine, built over 1350 years ago, is one of the most famous shrines in Kyoto. Next, we will walk to the famous Gion Geisha District. Here, you will see where the Geiko (in Kyoto they call themselves Geiko, not Geisha) and Maiko live and work. We will have the opportunity to meet a Maiko (a Maiko is a Geiko in training), and eat dinner at a local restaurant. Breakfast at the ryokan and lunch and dinner at a local Japanese restaurant are included.

**Travel: 1 1/2 Hours; Walking: Heavy**

## **Day 8 Travel to Koya-san; Koya-san - Okunoin Cemetery and Temple, Garan Temple Complex, Overnight at a Buddhist Temple**

Before leaving Kyoto, you will prepare your luggage to be transferred to Takamatsu, and will be traveling with an overnight bag only. You should prepare your overnight bag with enough items for 2 days and 1 night. We will board an express train to Osaka, and then continue to Koya-san by train and funicular. Koya-san, the world headquarters of the Shingon School of Esoteric Buddhism, was established in the year 816 by Kobo Daishi, considered by many to be the most influential religious person in Japanese history. After dropping off the luggage at the temple, we will enjoy a vegetarian lunch. After lunch, we will wander through the huge cemetery leading up to the Okunoin temple. Kobo Daishi is buried at this temple, and many Japanese still believe that he is not dead, but merely in a very advanced state of meditation, waiting to awaken at the appropriate time. After touring the Garan Temple complex and checking into our shukubo (Buddhist temple lodging), you are free to roam and visit one of the 110 temples in the area or just rest in the garden at the shukubo. Your dinner of shojin-ryori (traditional Buddhist vegetarian cuisine - no meat, fish, onions or garlic) will be served by the Buddhist Monks from the temple. Breakfast at the ryokan, Shojin-ryori (Buddhist vegetarian cuisine) lunch at a local restaurant and Shojin-ryori dinner at the temple is included.

**Travel: 3 Hours; Walking: Heavy**

## **Day 9 Koya-san - Morning Prayer Service, Travel to Himeji; Himeji - Himeji Castle; Travel to Takamatsu**

Early in the morning, we will attend a Buddhist prayer service held at the temple. After a vegetarian breakfast, we will travel back to Osaka, and continue by Shinkansen to Himeji where we will tour Himeji Castle. Built about 400 years ago, it is only one of four castles in Japan that has been designated as a national treasure and has also been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After touring the castle, we will continue to Takamatsu by Shinkansen and express train. The sprawling city of Takamatsu is located on the northern shore of Shikoku, the smallest, islands of Japan. Despite a relaxed atmosphere, Takamatsu hums with an urban energy. Walking down the city's wide, sunlit boulevards or numerous covered shopping arcades you will find funky shops, artsy cafes and exciting nightlife. Shojin-ryori breakfast at the temple, lunch and dinner at local restaurants are included.

**Travel: 4 Hours; Walking: Medium**

## **Day 10 Takamatsu - Ritsurin Garden; Travel to Kotohira; Kotohira - Konpira Shrine, Kanamaruza Kabuki Theater**

Before leaving for the day you will prepare your luggage to be transferred to Matsuyama, and will be traveling with an overnight bag only. You should prepare your overnight bag with enough items

for 2 days and 1 night. We will start the day at Ritsurin Garden, thought by many to be one of best gardens in Japan. This garden was designed by the local feudal lord family and took over 100 years to create. The more than 1,400 twisted and contorted pines set this garden apart from other gardens. We will also stop for tea and sweets in a tea house overlooking a beautiful koi-filled pond. Next we travel by street car to the nearby city of Kotohira, where we will visit Kompira Shrine. Kompira Shrine is the main shrine of multiple Kompira shrines found around Japan that are dedicated to sailors and seafaring. Located on the wooded slope of Mount Zozu in Kotohira, the approach to Kompirasan is an arduous series of 785 stone steps. Before returning to Takamatsu, we will tour the Kanamaruza Kabuki Theater. Built in 1835, the Kanamaruza Theater is Japan's oldest surviving, complete kabuki theater. Breakfast at the hotel and lunch at a local restaurant included.

**Travel: 1 Hour; Walking: Heavy**

### **Day 11 Travel to Matsuyama; Matsuyama - Matsuyama Castle, Dogo Onsen**

In the morning, we will travel by express train to the city of Matsuyama. We will start the afternoon at Matsuyama Castle. Matsuyama Castle is one of Japan's most beautiful original castles. It is located on Mt. Katsu, a steep hill in the city center providing visitors to the castle with a bird's eye view of Matsuyama and the Seto Inland Sea. The castle was constructed between 1602 and 1628. The current three storied castle tower was constructed in 1820 after the original five storied one was destroyed by lightning. In the evening, you will visit the famous Dogo Onsen. It is thought this was the first onsen in Japan, and the history of the onsen goes back 1,000 years. The current main onsen building was built in 1894, and includes a bath reserved exclusively for visiting Emperors. Breakfast at the hotel is included.

**Travel: 3 Hours; Walking: Medium**

### **Day 12 Matsuyama - Ishiteji Temple; Travel by ferries to Miyajima Island; Overnight on Miyajima Island**

Before leaving the hotel in the morning, we will transfer the luggage to Nagasaki. You will need enough items for three days/two nights. In the morning, we will tour the nearby temple of Ishiteji. This temple is one of the 88 temples (#51) on the Shikoku Pilgrimage. Ishiteji is known for its Niomon Gate, a designated national treasure. The main hall and pagoda are also designated important cultural properties, and all of the structures exhibit the typical architecture style of the Kamakura Period (1192-1333). In the afternoon, we will travel by high-speed ferries to Miyajima Island. The Japanese proclaim Miyajima Island to be one of the top three scenic sights in Japan. The evening is free to enjoy the solitude and ambiance of the island after all of the day-trippers head back to the mainland. Breakfast at the hotel and Kaiseki-style dinner at the ryokan is included.

**Travel: 3 1/2 Hours; Walking: Medium**

### **Day 13 Miyajima Island - Free Day**

The entire day is free to enjoy and relax in the beauty and ambiance of Miyajima Island: ride the cable car to the top of the mountain on Miyajima Island, or visit the Itsukushima-jinja shrine which was built in its present form in 1168. Or just stroll around the island while enjoying grilled oysters and momiji manju (a popular Japanese confection), the island's specialty. Breakfast and kaiseki dinner at the ryokan included.

**Travel: TBD; Walking: TBD**

### **Day 14 Travel to Hiroshima; Hiroshima - Peace Park and Museum; Travel to Nagasaki**



We will travel by ferry and train to the city of Hiroshima. Here we will visit the Hiroshima Peace Park and Museum, both sobering monuments to the tragic event on August 6, 1945. Late in the afternoon, we will travel to Nagasaki on the island of Kyushu. Breakfast at the ryokan and bento box lunch included.

**Travel: 6 1/2 Hours; Walking: Heavy**

### **Day 15 Nagasaki - Dejima, Glover Garden, Free Afternoon**

We will start the day by visiting Dejima. Dejima was a man-made island in the port of Nagasaki constructed in 1636. A few years later, the Dutch trading factory was moved to Dejima. The Dutch workers, the only remaining Westerners allowed in the country, were restricted to Dejima during Japan's two centuries of isolation. Today, Dejima is no longer an island, as the surrounding area has been reclaimed during the 20th century. However, a number of Dejima's historical structures have been reconstructed, including various residences, warehouses, walls and gates. There are many displays in these buildings documenting the daily life of the Dutch residents. Next, we will tour Glover Garden. Glover Garden is an open air museum, exhibiting mansions of former western residents of Nagasaki. It is located on the hill where western merchants settled down after the end of Japan's era of seclusion in the second half of the 19th century. You can also enjoy a panorama of the city from the garden. The rest of the day will be free. Breakfast at the ryokan and lunch at a local restaurant included.

**Travel: 1 Hours; Walking: TBD**

### **Day 16 Travel to Sapporo; Sapporo - JR Sapporo Tower, Sapporo Beer Garden**

Before leaving Nagasaki we will transfer our luggage to Hakodate. You will need enough items for three days/two nights. The entire day is a travel day. We will be traveling by air to Sapporo, Hokkaido's largest city and host of the 1972 Winter Olympics. After arriving, we will visit the JR Sapporo Tower where you will be able to get a bird's eye view of Sapporo. In the evening, we will enjoy dinner at the Sapporo Beer Garden, located in the original Sapporo Beer Brewery, where you can try the local specialty of grilled lamb, cooked yourself at the table. Breakfast at the hotel and dinner at a local restaurant included.

**Travel: 8 Hours; Walking: Light**

### **Day 17 Sapporo - Old Government Building, Clock Tower; Travel to Noboribetsu Onsen**

After breakfast, we will next visit the Old Hokkaido Government Building. Affectionately known by the locals as "Red Bricks" (akarenga in Japanese), it was built in 1911 and has been designated as an important cultural asset. Next, we will visit the Clock Tower, the symbol of Sapporo. The building was constructed in 1878 as a drill hall of the Sapporo Agricultural College. The American-made clock was added in 1881. In the afternoon you will have some free time in Sapporo before we will travel to Noboribetsu Onsen, one of the most popular and famous hot spring resorts in Japan. Breakfast at the hotel and dinner at the ryokan included.

**Travel: 1 1/2 Hours; Walking: Medium**

### **Day 18 Noboribetsu Onsen - Free morning; Travel to Hakodate; Hakodate - Hakodate Ropeway**

The morning is free to explore Noboribetsu Onsen, including the Jigoku-dani (Hell Valley) and the other geothermal activity in the area. In the afternoon, we will travel to the city of Hakodate. Hakodate was one of the first cities open to the west after the Meiji Restoration. In the evening, we take a cable car to the top of Mt. Hakodate, where we will enjoy a panoramic view of Hakodate's night lights. Breakfast at the ryokan is included.

**Travel: 3 Hours; Walking: Light**

### **Day 19 Hakodate - Hakodate Morning Market, Goryokaku Fort, Motomachi; Travel to Sendai**

Before leaving, we will transfer our luggage to Tokyo. (You will need enough items for three days/two nights.) Early in the morning, we will visit the Hakodate Morning Market, where the sellers can prepare the specialties of Hakodate (crab, sea urchin and squid) fresh from their stalls for breakfast. Next we will visit the Goryo-Kaku, Japan's first western-style fort. Built in 1864 by the Tokugawa Shogunate in the shape of a five-pointed star, it was designed to trap attackers in a deadly crossfire. We will go to top of the Goryo-kaku tower next to the fort, providing a view of the fort and the surrounding city. We will then tour the Motomachi historic area. This is where many of the westerners who lived in Hakodate lived at the end of the 19th century. Overlooking the western bay at the foot of Mount Hakodate, there are numerous sloping streets lined with 19th century churches, consulates, shops and homes of the foreigners who first opened this area of Japan to commerce. In the afternoon, we will travel to Sendai. Breakfast at the hotel is included.

**Travel: 4 Hours; Walking: Medium**

### **Day 20 Travel to Matsushima; Matsushima - Matsushima Bay Cruise, Entsuin Temple, Zuiganji Temple; Travel to Sendai**

Today we will tour Matsushima. Matsushima, near Sendai, is known as one of Japan's three most scenic areas, and has been visited by numerous dignitaries over the years including the famous haiku poet Basho who wrote a very famous poem about Matsushima published in the late 17th century. First, we will take a sightseeing boat that will navigate between the 260 small islands sculpted by the waves and covered with pine trees. During the cruise, you will see how Matsushima got its name (Matsu means pine and shima means island). After the cruise, we will visit the Entsuin Temple and the temple's beautiful gardens. This temple was built in 1646 to house the mausoleum of Date Mitsumune. Of the two gardens that are near the main hall, the first is a Japanese style moss and maple garden with a heart shaped pond, while the second is a Western-style rose garden that was influenced by painting from inside the mausoleum. After completing a tour of Entsuin Temple and gardens we will continue on with a visit to Zuiganji Temple. Originally founded by the Tendai Buddhism sect in 828, the current buildings were built by the Date feudal lord family in 1606. Here, along the entrance to the temple, we will find the numerous Buddha statues carved by hand into the rocky-cliff face by buddhist monks to show their dedication. Breakfast at the hotel and lunch at a local restaurant are included.

**Travel: 1 1/2 Hours; Walking: Medium**

### **Day 21 Travel to Nikko; Nikko - Rinno-ji, Toshogu Shrine, Taiyuan; Travel to Tokyo**

We board a Shinkansen (bullet train) and local train to Nikko, where the Toshogu Shrine is located. This shrine, built by Tokugawa Iemitsu, is a dedication to his grandfather, Shogun Tokugawa Iyasu. (James Clavell's fictional Shogun in his novel Shogun was based on this person.) One of the most elaborate monuments in Japan, no expense was spared in this shrine's construction. After touring Nikko, we will travel by local train and Shinkansen to Tokyo. In the evening, we will enjoy

our Sayonara dinner. Breakfast at the hotel and lunch and dinner at a local restaurant is included.

**Travel: 5 Hours; Walking: Heavy**

## **Day 22 Return Home**

You will travel to the airport by express train to catch your flight home. Breakfast at the hotel is included.

**Travel: 1 1/2 Hours; Walking: Light**

Walking level descriptions:

Light - 0 to 2 miles on level ground

Medium - 2 to 4 miles on level ground or 0 to 2 miles on hilly ground

Heavy - 4 to 6 miles on level ground or 2 to 4 miles on hilly ground

## 📅 Dates & Pricing

Dates	Price (land only) / Single Supplement (All prices are per Person)	Status
Mar 22, 2020 - Apr 12, 2020 Early Cherry Blossom	\$7,494.00/ \$794.00	Full
Mar 29, 2020 - Apr 19, 2020 Late Cherry Blossom	\$7,494.00/ \$794.00	Full
May 10, 2020 - May 31, 2020	\$5,795.00/ \$794.00	Flash Sale! Only 6 seats left
May 17, 2020 - Jun 7, 2020	\$7,244.00/ \$794.00	Closed
Jun 14, 2020 - Jul 5, 2020 Early Summer	\$6,994.00/ \$794.00	Closed
Oct 4, 2020 - Oct 25, 2020 Fall	\$7,244.00/ \$794.00	Available
Nov 1, 2020 - Nov 22, 2020 Fall Foliage	\$7,494.00/ \$894.00	Available
Mar 28, 2021 - Apr 18, 2021 Cherry Blossom	\$7,494.00/ \$894.00	Available
May 9, 2021 - May 30, 2021	\$7,244.00/ \$894.00	Available
May 16, 2021 - Jun 6, 2021	\$7,244.00/ \$894.00	Available
Jun 13, 2021 - Jul 4, 2021 Summer	\$6,994.00/ \$894.00	Available
Oct 3, 2021 - Oct 24, 2021 Fall Foliage	\$7,244.00/ \$894.00	Available
Oct 3, 2021 - Oct 24, 2021 Fall Foliage	\$7,244.00/ \$894.00	Available
Oct 31, 2021 - Nov 21, 2021 Fall Foliage	\$7,494.00/ \$894.00	Available

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## Inclusions

- Local, licensed, English-speaking, Japanese guides
- **Travel insurance from Travel Guard**, one of the world's largest travel insurance providers, will be provided to everyone from the United States. All others will receive a \$100 per person credit and will be responsible for obtaining their own travel insurance in their own home country. (The insurance provided by Samurai Tours will cover the land portion only. Insurance to cover airfare and other additional expenses is the tour member's responsibility.)
  - Exact coverage dependent on state
    - For residents of the following states please click here for your available plan. CO, FL, IN, KS, MN, MO, MT, NY, and WA
    - For all other states and the District of Columbia click here
  - **Travel Insurance Surcharge:** Depending on your age at the time the travel insurance is purchased, you may be subject to the following surcharge for your travel insurance. Travel insurance surcharges will be due at the same time as your tour deposits. (the surcharge itself is not insured)
    - Up to 69 - \$0
    - 70-74 - \$200
    - 75-79 - \$400
    - 80-84 - \$700
    - 85+ - \$1125
  - **Travel Insurance Opt-Out:** If you would prefer to opt out of the travel insurance, please note this at the time of registration. You will receive a \$100 credit per person, which will be reflected on your invoice. In the event that you would need to cancel your tour, cancellation penalties may apply. See the Terms and Conditions page for the Cancellation Fees Schedule.
- Meeting service at Tokyo's Narita Airport or Tokyo's Haneda Airport and transfer to the ryokan in Tokyo
  - The meeting service will meet you at the airport and provide you a transfer to the ryokan in Tokyo
  - Meeting service can only be provided between 6am and 9pm. If you arrive at a time outside of these hours, we will need to provide alternative directions for you to get to the ryokan on your own.
- Sending service to the closest train station in Tokyo and transfer to Tokyo's Narita Airport or Tokyo's Haneda Airport
  - The sending service will escort you to the train station and make sure you board the correct train. The sending service will not accompany you to the airport.

*For those requiring meeting or sending services on other than the scheduled arrival/departure dates, there will be a \$100 fee for the meeting service from the airport into Tokyo or the sending service to the Tokyo train station.*

- Lodging for 21 nights in Japanese-style ryokans or western-style hotels
- Meals
  - Japanese-style or Western-style breakfast every morning (Please Note: Some ryokans offer Japanese breakfasts only.)
  - 12 Japanese-style or western-style lunches
  - 10 Japanese-style or western-style dinners (including 2 gourmet kaiseki dinners, a Shojin-Ryori (traditional Buddhist vegetarian cuisine) dinner at the Buddhist temple and All-You-Can-Eat Grilled Lamb Dinner at the Sapporo Beer Garden)
- 21-day Japan Rail Pass (allows unlimited train travel.)
- Use of audio tour guide system (must provide own headphones)

- An electronic version of the itinerary
- The appropriate amount of free time to allow you to explore and discover your own personal Japan.
- All transportation costs when traveling with the group. (Transportation costs during scheduled free times are the tour member's responsibility.)
- Admission fees to the destinations and activities listed in the Tour Highlights column on the right. (Itinerary specifics subject to change.)
- Sayonara dinner at the end of the tour
- Baggage transfer from Tokyo to Takayama (one bag only)
- Baggage transfer from Takayama to Kyoto (one bag only)
- Baggage transfer from Kyoto to Takamatsu (one bag only)
- Baggage transfer from Takamatsu to Matsuyama (one bag only)
- Baggage transfer from Matsuyama to Nagasaki (one bag only)
- Baggage transfer from Nagasaki to Hakodate (one bag only)
- Baggage transfer from Hakodate to Tokyo (one bag only)

Each tour member receives an electronic copy of our tour handbook. This handbook is full of tips and suggestions taken from our Japan travel experiences that allow you to better plan and prepare for your trip, and therefore enjoy your trip even more. The tips and suggestions included cover everything from how to save while exchanging money, what to pack, some basic Japanese-language tips, general etiquette dos-and-don'ts, ryokan customs, etc.

## Exclusions

- Airfare to and from Japan is NOT included
- A printed itinerary is NOT included
- Alcoholic beverages, soft drinks and desserts are NOT included

Thank you for downloading this PDF version of our tour. Please visit our website at [www.samuraitours.com/tours](http://www.samuraitours.com/tours) for the most current dates, prices and information.

## Contact Samurai Tours

### WEBSITE/EMAIL

[www.samuraitours.com](http://www.samuraitours.com)  
[info@samuraitours.com](mailto:info@samuraitours.com)

### USA CONTACT INFO

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