

Essential Japan

Itinerary 9 Days / 8 Nights

1 Arrival in Tokyo

- 2 Tokyo3 Tokyo
 - Tokyo Tokyo to Hakone
- 4 Tokyo to Hakone5 Hakone to Kyoto
- 6 Kyoto
 - Nara

7

- 8 Kyoto
- 9 Departure from Kyoto or Tokyo

TOKYO

Suggested Accommodations in Tokyo

The Capitol Hotel Tokyu 3 nights



Nestled between the Imperial Palace and the official residence of Japan's Prime Minister, The Capitol Hotel Tokyu is regarded as a quiet and exclusive haven for escaping the hustle and bustle of the city and its many local attractions within walking distance.

The Ritz Carlton Tokyo 3 nights



Occupying the top 9 floors of the towering 53-story Midtown Tower in Tokyo's design and entertainment hub of Roppongi, this hotel is home to some of Tokyo's most impressive views.



Day 1

The Journey Begins

Welcome to Tokyo, the world's largest city and your personal playground for the next three days. With plenty of art, history, food, pop culture, architecture, and fashion to explore, this lively metropolis is truly a feast for the senses. Enjoy private transport from the airport to your hotel and take this first day to relax and get adjusted to your new surroundings.

Day 2

City Highlights

For your first full day in Japan's capital, you will explore world-famous sights with a personal guide at your side. This is a day of must-see spots, including the peaceful Meiji Shrine, bustling Harajuku fashion district, and the famous Shibuya scramble crossing. We recommend finishing the day by sampling local sake in a traditional shop.

Day 3

A Deeper Look

In a city this large, there are many layers to be uncovered. You will head out today to take in the cultural contrasts that make up Tokyo. With an experienced private guide to point out all the details, you will experience Tsukuji Fish Market, the glitzy Ginza shopping district, a retro neighborhood of artists, and Tokyo's most iconic temple and pagoda.



HAKONE

Day 4 - Tokyo to Hakone

Rural Retreat

After three days in the city, it's time to head into the countryside to unwind in Hakone. This natural retreat hidden away from the outside world sits in the shadow of Mt. Fuji. After a half-day of touring the area, you will check in to your ryokan accommodation to enjoy Japan's famous hot springs and a luxurious kaiseki multicourse dinner.

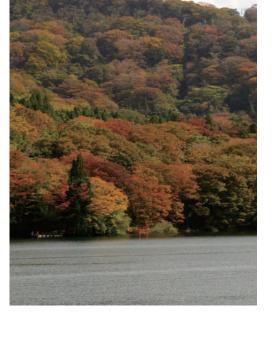
Suggested Accommodations in Hakone

Gora Byakudan Ryokan 1 night

This modern ryokan is a delightful oasis nestled between Hakone's lush forest and mountains. Featuring private outdoor hot spring baths in each room, it is the perfect place to relax after a busy day of sightseeing.







КҮОТО

Day 5 - Hakone to Kyoto

Journey to the Capital

After breakfast, it's off to Kyoto, the third key destination of your trip, via bullet train. Enjoy a free afternoon to venture through the ancient capital's traditional streets, discover hidden shrines and temples, and absorb the local ambiance.

Day 6

Culture in a Teacup

This is your chance to take a deep look into the culture of Japan's most celebrated city with a knowledgeable private guide at your side. From Zen gardens to lavish palaces, Kyoto's 1,200-year-old history will be yours to explore and enjoy. The day will finish with a special experience: an authentic tea ritual with a tea practitioner.

NARA

Suggested Accommodations in Kyoto

The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto 4 nights



Indulge in opulence fit for an emperor in Japan's former imperial capital turned luxury urban resort, nestled on the banks of the Kamogawa River.

Hotel The Mitsui 4 nights



Located in the heart of Kyoto on the land that once belonged to the Mitsui Family, where many relics still remain, such as the impressive main gate that stands at the hotel's entrance.

Day 7 - Nara

A Delightful Side Trip

No visit to the region is complete without a trip to Nara, an hour south of Kyoto. Here you will expore the famous Nara Deer Park, with thousands of tame deer roaming the landscape. You will then visit the Daibutsu, the world's largest bronze Buddha statue. After visiting a charming shrine and stopping for lunch in a historical district, head back to a Kyoto to visit the iconic Fushimi Inari Shrine with its thousands of vermillion torii gates.

Day 8

The Grand Finale

Your time in Kyoto should end with a bang, and we have some wonderful surprises in store. Must-see spots like the Silver Pavilion and the Philosopher's Path are of course on the schedule, but these are complemented with lesser-known gems including a picturesque temple with amazing rock gardens. Cap off your visit to Kyoto with a trip to the Gion district for a private audience with a maiko, one of the city's few remaining geisha-in-training.

Day 9

So Long... For Now

Use the remainder of your time in Kyoto to do any last-minute shopping or sightseeing. We will arrange your transportation back to Tokyo for a seamless departure. It is also possible to alter the itinerary if you wish to fly from Kansai International Airport.



Insider Activities

All of our Insider Itineraries feature a selection of activities chosen by our luxury consultants to align with the trip theme. They are described below. You may add more activities to your itinerary, or substitute existing ones, using our Japan Experience Menu. Please note that we recommend a maximum of 2 to 3 activities per destination.

Sake Tasting in Tokyo

In the past decade, sake has enjoyed a wave of renewed popularity both in Japan and overseas. A tasting experience is one of our most requested activities for travelers, allowing visitors to learn about this famous alcoholic beverage that has been a part of Japanese culture for millennia. Dive into the liquid landscape of Japan under the care of a knowledgeable expert and discover how the locals prefer their sake.



Tea Ritual in Kyoto

There's no better city than Kyoto to explore the world of tea. This was the spot where the craze for refined matcha tea exploded in the 16th century, and it remains just as popular today. Step into the traditional home of a tea practitioner for a private ceremony that will demystify the Way of Tea. Take a moment to relax and learn how this simple ceremony connects to Japanese everyday life in surprising ways.



Meeting with Maiko in Kyoto

One of the most sought-after bookings in Kyoto is a private audience with a maiko, a young geisha-in-training that is still mastering the art of refined performance and gentle hospitality. This is a rare chance to see the maiko kimono and makeup up close and discover why only a few young women each year choose to enter this difficult life. Enjoy tea while asking questions about her life and finish with an elegant dance performance.



Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- Those who want to discover the essence of Japan in a short time.
- Travelers who want a deep dive into Japanese culture while exploring all the must-see spots.



Seasonal Information

This trip can be enjoyed in all seasons.

Pricing for the Insider Itineraries varies based on a number of factors, including availability of services, events and holidays within Japan, and seasonality. We indicate a range of pricing from Low Season (lowest estimated price) to Peak Season (highest estimated price) to provide an idea of potential trip costs.

Middle Season and High Season prices fall within the Low to Peak range. Please refer to the calendar below to see what price range your intended travel dates fall within.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Week 1			Middle	Peak							Low	
Week 2	Low Season		Season Season							High Season	Season	
Week 3			Peak	High	Middle Season		Low Season		Middle		Peak Season High	High
Week 4			Season Season						Season	Peak Season	Middle Season	Season

Insider Itineraries are not available throughout the New Year and Obon (approx. Aug 11-16) periods and during special events.

Pricing Information

Estimated price per traveler:

	Essentials	Premium
Low Season	USD 10 000	USD 15 000
Peak Season	USD 15 000	USD 20 000

Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

The accommodation, transportation, and activities in our Insider Itineraries are customizable, so all itineraries and price quotes are uniquely tailored to our guests.

The only exact price will be the one you receive in your personalized quotation.





KANAZAWA TAKAYAMA

Fall in Japan: *Autumn Colors*

ltinerary

12 days / 11 nights

- 1 Arrival in Tokyo
- Tokyo

2

3

AWAGUCHIKO

- Tokyo
- Tokyo to Takayama
- Takayama
- 6 Takayama to Kanazawa
 - Kanazawa to Kyoto
- 8 Kyoto
- Kyoto
- 10 Kyoto to Kawaguchiko
- 11 Kawaguchiko
- 12 Departure from Tokyo

TOKYO

Accommodation in Tokyo



Premium Category

Palace Hotel Tokyo, 3 nights

This newly renovated historic Japanese hotel boasts the city's best views of the Imperial Palace. Rooms feature impressive outdoor balconies and an array of luxury amenities. With a wide choice of restaurants, as well as an Evian spa, fitness center and pool, Palace Hotel offers an elegant Tokyo experience.



Essentials Category

Keio Plaza Hotel, 3 nights

Located among the soaring towers of Shinjuku, this modern hotel is perfect for travelers who want to be right in the center of modern Tokyo. All rooms offer spectacular views of the cityscape. Opportunities for nightlife and dining abound, with lively neighborhoods like Kabukicho and major department stores within walking distance.

Day 1 - Tokyo

Arrival in Tokyo

This lively metropolis is truly a feast for the senses, and offers a variety of ways to explore art, history, food, pop culture, architecture, fashion, and the unique Japanese sense of modernity. Enjoy private transport from the airport to your hotel, with the afternoon and evening at your leisure.

Day 2 - Tokyo

Falling into Autumn

Fall is in the air as Tokyo's famous ginkgo trees turn bright yellow and the leaves begin to blanket the ground. Enjoy a visit to the famed Meiji Shrine, as well as stops in Harajuku and the upscale Omotesando district. Finish the day atop an observation deck in Roppongi to enjoy majestic views of the entire city.

Day 3 - Tokyo

Dynamic Tokyo

Enjoy a full day of Tokyo culture with a stop at the world famous Tsukiji Market, a visit through the invigorating bustle of Sensoji Temple in Asakusa, and a stroll through a charming artsy district. Appreciate the season's beauty at a traditional pond garden and then get ready to witness something spectacular: a Buddhist fire ritual complete with chanting priests and thunderous taiko drumming.



TAKAYAMA

Day 4 - Tokyo to Takayama

A Rural Retreat

After three days in the city, it's time to head into the countryside to unwind in Takayama, a beloved rural setting in the mountains. Spend a half-day touring with a guide and private vehicle, exploring the preserved wooden buildings of Old Town and sampling sake at a local brewery. Retire to a relaxing hot spring bath at tonight's rustic ryokan lodging.

Day 5 - Takayama to Kanazawa

Stepping Back in Time

Savor a traditional Japanese breakfast before venturing deeper into the mountains to visit one of Japan's most unique sites. The village of Shirakawa-go is a time capsule of the old ways, with wooden houses topped with steep thatched roofs gathered in a natural setting. After lunch, bid farewell to the countryside and journey to Kanazawa, a city on the Sea of Japan coast. The afternoon and evening are left at leisure for you to explore the city.



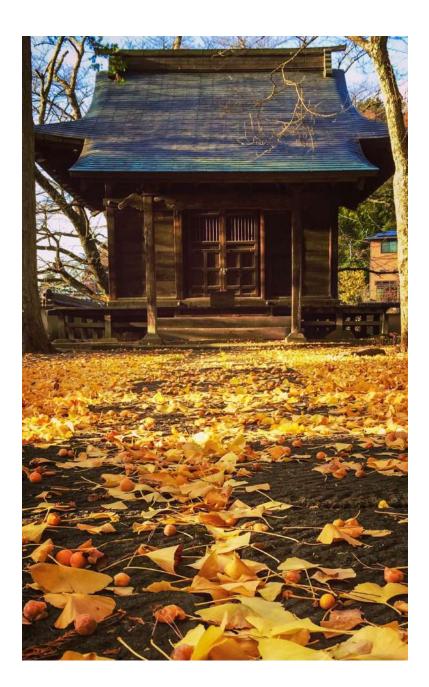
Accommodation in Takayama

Premium and Essentials Categories

Hidatei Hanaougi Ryokan 1 night1



Elegant hospitality and countryside charm await at this luxury ryokan. Relax in hot spring baths and savor the famous local Hida beef in a lavish kaiseki dinner.



Accommodation in Kanazawa

Premium and Essentials Categories Hotel Nikko Kanazawa, 2 nights



With 30 floors of luxury rooms, the tallest hotel in the Hokuriku region also happens to be one of the finest. Located directly across the street from Kanazawa Station, Hotel Nikko ensures a comfortable and convenient stay with excellent views that stretch to the ocean from the top floors.



Day 6 - Takayama to Kanazawa

Culture on the Coast

Kanazawa is a gem of a city, bursting with interesting sites and a rich history. With a full day of touring, you'll discover the beauty of Kenrokuen Garden and the charm of the teahouses that dot the lanes of the traditional Higashichayagai district. Lunch is the fresh catch of the famous Omicho seafood market. An exclusive visit to the studio of a local artisan is also included to showcase the long history of traditional arts in the region.

Day 7 - Kanazawa to Kyoto

Zen and Beyond

Quiet your mind and enter the Zen monastery at Eiheiji, a historic Buddhist compound in the hills of Fukui Prefecture. The atmosphere here in Fall is perfect: red and orange autumn leaves stand in magnificent contrast to the green moss covering the rocks and wooden structures left damp from the morning dew. This is sure to be a standout moment of the trip. Board an express train and head south to Kyoto, arriving in late afternoon.

KYOTO

Day 8 - Kyoto

Sublime Colors

From the orange lacquered gates of Fushimi Inari shrine to the vibrant red leaves at Eikando Temple, this day focuses on the stunning colors of East Kyoto at some of its top religious sites. Stop at several smaller temples off the beaten path to escape the crowds and experience something truly special. The day ends with a walk through the classic Gion neighborhood, where you'll be treated to a private meeting with a maiko, a young geisha-in-training. Learn about the lifestyle of this traditional entertainer over a cup of tea and enjoy a short performance.

Accommodation in Kyoto

Premium Category



The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto

4 nights

Indulge in luxury fit for an emperor in Japan's former imperial capital. The Ritz Carlton Kyoto combines a perfect location and world-class in-house restaurants.

Essentials Category



Deep Kyoto Culture

The western edge of the city holds some of its greatest treasures, including the famed Arashiyama bamboo grove, where deep greens stretch upward next to bright autumn colors. Other hidden gems include a lush moss garden and a temple with a breathtaking display of 1200 stone Buddhas. Visit the glittering Golden Pavilion before meeting our in-house tea expert for a private tea ceremony in his traditional home; a perfect moment to reflect upon your journey and experiences until now.



Hyatt Regency Kyoto

4 nights

The Hyatt will immediately impress you with its attentive staff, stylish lobby, and variety of dining options. The location on the eastern side of the city puts you in close proximity to sightseeing spots and walking paths along the Kamogawa River.





KAWAGUCHIKO

Day 10 - Kyoto to Kawaguchiko

Onward to Mt. Fuji

Today is a travel day, allowing you to enjoy the scenery from first class seats on the bullet train. Arrive at your luxury accommodations in the afternoon and relax in a private hot spring bath with a view of Mt. Fuji.

Day 11 - Kawaguchiko

The Grand Finale

Your final full day in Japan includes the view of a lifetime: Mt. Fuji surrounded by the bright colors of fall. Enjoy a visit to a delightfully eclectic and whimsical art museum featuring extensive gardens afire with the season's colors. The afternoon is yours for relaxation and reflection.

Day 12 - Departure from Tokyo

Departure

Time to say goodbye to the unforgettable autumn charms of Japan. We provide private vehicle transportation directly to the airport as you prepare to depart.

Accommodation in Kawaguchiko

Premium and Essentials Categories

Bessho Sasa 1 night



Luxurious suites in this hot spring resort include private open-air baths and views of Mt. Fuji. A spectacular accommodation to end your journey through Japan.

Insider Activities

All of our Japan Insider Collection itineraries feature a selection of activities chosen by our luxury consultants to align with the trip theme. They are described below. You may add more activities to your itinerary, or substitute existing ones, using our Insider Activity Menu. Please note that we recommend a maximum of 2 to 3 activities per destination.

Meeting with Maiko in Kyoto

One of the most sought-after bookings in Kyoto is a private audience with a maiko, a young geisha-in-training that is still mastering the art of refined performance and gentle hospitality. This is a rare chance to see the maiko kimono and makeup up close and discover why only a few young women each year choose to enter this difficult life. Enjoy tea while asking questions about her life and finish with an elegant dance performance.



Tea Ritual in Kyoto

There's no better city than Kyoto to explore the world of tea. This was the spot where the craze for refined matcha tea exploded in the 16th century, and it remains popular to this day. Step into the traditional home of a tea practitioner for a private ceremony that will demystify the Way of Tea. Take this moment to relax and learn how this simple ceremony connects to Japanese everyday life in surprising ways.



Lacquerware Artisan Studio Visit in Kanazawa

One of Kanazawa's most celebrated crafts is urushi lacquerware, a process which takes years to learn and a lifetime to master. Explore this artform with one of the region's most talented masters and witness the creation of beautiful lacquered works in his studio. Learn not only about the creation of the lacquered items but also about how they change in color and tone over the years, just like the owners who use and treasure the pieces.



Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- Travelers excited to experience fall in Japan and enjoy the autumn leaves as they change color.
- First-time visitors to Japan.
- Those who want to discover the essence of Japan in a short time.

Seasonal Information

This limited time trip is designed for travelers arriving in Japan between late October and mid November. For earlier or later arrivals, please contact us.



Pricing Information

Estimated price per person

Essentials	Premium
USD 9 000	USD 13 500

Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

The accommodations, transportation, and activites in our Japan Insider Collection trips are customizable, so all itineraries and price quotes are uniquely tailored to our guests.

The only exact price will be the one you receive in your personalized quotation.





Family Adventure in Japan



Itinerary

13 Days / 12 Nights

- Arrival in Tokyo 1 2
- Tokyo Tokyo
- 3 Nikko 4
- Tokyo to Kyoto 5
- 6 Kyoto 7
 - Kyoto Kyoto to Osaka (stop in Nara)
- 8 9 Osaka
- 10 Osaka to Fuji Five Lakes
- 11 Fuji Five Lakes
- 12 Fuji Five Lakes to Tokyo
- 13 Departure from Tokyo

TOKYO

Accommodation Suggestions in Tokyo

The Capitol Hotel Tokyu 4 nights



Nestled between the Imperial Palace and the official residence of Japan's Prime Minister, The Captiol Hotel Tokyu is regarded as a quiet and exclusive haven for escaping the hustlbe and bustle of the city and its many local attractions within walking distance.

The Ritz Carlton Tokyo 4 nights



Occupying the top 9 floors of the towering 53-story Midtown Tower in Tokyo's design and entertainment hub of Roppongi, this hotel is home to some of Tokyo's most impressive views. Day 1

Ready for Adventure

Arrive in Tokyo, the world's largest city and global trendsetter for fashion, art, and architecture. This arrival day is all about relaxation and recovering from jet lag. After your private vehicle picks you up from the airport, you can start exploring the city or simply rest and enjoy the comfort of your luxury hotel.

Day 2

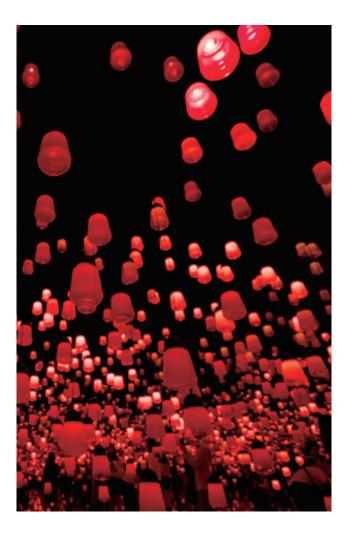
Hands On and Eyes Open

For your first full day in Japan's capital, look forward to a thrilling lineup of hands-on activities and sightseeing under the expert care of your guide. Ancient traditions and pop culture are both on the menu today. Learn to make your own sushi before stopping at the lively Sensoji Temple. Enjoy a visit to the Akihabara Electric Town, Tokyo's hotspot for anime, games, and themed cafes where you might just meet some feline friends.

Day 3

A Deeper Look

On another fully guided day, delve deeper into Japanese culture with visits to Tokyo's famous Meiji Shrine followed by a stroll in Harajuku, the street fashion capital of the nation. Explore more modern marvels and finish the day with a visit to teamLab Planets, an art space filled with interactive installations and highly Instagrammable scenery.



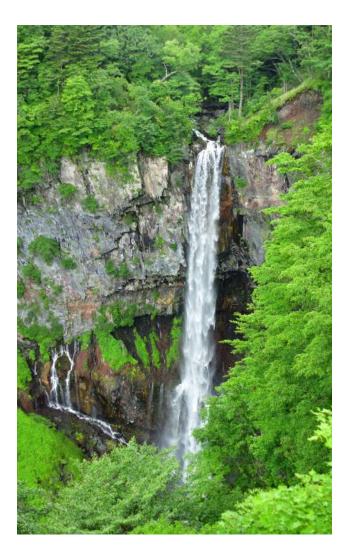
NIKKO

Day 4 - Nikko

Chasing Waterfalls

After the urban chaos of Tokyo, it's time to see a different side of Japan. Take a guided day trip to Nikko, a city with lush natural landscapes and a rich history, just two hours north of Tokyo. Visit the famous Toshogu Shrine, one of the most lavish shrines in all of Japan, and recharge amid Nikko's forested hills and towering waterfalls.





Day 5 - Tokyo to Kyoto

Westward

Board a futuristic bullet train and travel from the modern capital of Tokyo to the ancient capital of Kyoto. Seated comfortably in first class, you'll fly through the countryside past picturesque ricefields, coastlines, and even the iconic Mt. Fuji before pulling into Kyoto Station.

КҮОТО

Day 6

The Ancient Capital

Accompanied by an expert guide, set out for a day of cultural and scenic highlights in Kyoto. Start with a visit of the famous bamboo forest then climb the nearby hill to a monkey park with sweeping city views. Marvel at the gilded facade of Kinkakuji Golden Pavilion before finishing the day with one of Kyoto's oldest and most refined expressions of hospitality and grace - a private tea ceremony performed in a traditional home.



NARA

Suggested Accommodations in Kyoto

The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto 3 nights



Indulge in opulence fit for an emperor in Japan's former imperial capital turned luxury urban resort, nestled on the banks of the Kamogawa River.





Located in the heart of Kyoto on the land that once belogned to the Mitsui Family, where many relics still remain, such as the impressive main gate that stands at the hotel's entrance.



Suggested Accommodations in Osaka

Conrad Osaka 2 nights



With excellent skyscraper views from all rooms, stay in comfort and style at one of the city's premier modern luxury hotels.



Day 7

Two-Wheeled Fun

With its cobblestone streets lined with wooden teahouses, Kyoto's eastern side is imbued with the atmosphere of old-world Japan. Be sure to give your legs a good stretch before meeting your experienced cycling guide for a fun and invigorating ride through this fascinating historical district. Stops include Nijo Castle to see (or hear) its ingenious anti-ninja warning system, Kiyomizudera Temple with its shapely pagoda and sweeping views, and other sights that are sure to delight both kids and parents alike.

Day 8 - Nara to Osaka

From Deer to Downtown

Osaka awaits but first, no visit to the region is complete without a trip to Nara, one hour south of Kyoto. Explore Nara Park where thousands of tame deer roam the landscape, and see the Daibutsu, the world's largest ancient bronze Buddha statue. After exploring these classic, must-see sights, your private driver will drive you westward to Osaka, Japan's second largest city and your home for the next two nights.

Day 9

Taste of the City

Enjoy a relaxed morning at your hotel before meeting your guide for an afternoon tour of this colorful metropolis. At Osaka Castle, learn about the mighty samurai warriors that once manned this impregnable fortress. In the ironically named Shinsekai (lit. "New World") neighborhood, roam the decidedly retro streets for a glimpse of Osaka from days gone by. The day's highlight is saved for last as you join a knowledgable local to eat your way through some of the city's most beloved dishes, from ramen noodles to 'takoyaki' octopus dumplings. Bon appetit!





FUJI FIVE LAKES

Suggested Accommodations in Fuji Five

Hoshinoya Fuji 2 nights



Perfect for families that love the outdoors, this hotel offers a blend of rustic nature and modern luxury in a peaceful forest setting.

Day 10 - Osaka to Fuji Five Lakes

Rooms With a View

In the morning, depart Osaka and head by bullet train to the Fuji Five Lakes region. This luxury resort area sets the stage for the final leg of your family adventure. Choose from a range of outdoor activities or simply relax by your campfire while admiring Fuji's towering silhouette in the distance.

Day 11

In Fuji's Shadow

Today's adventure takes place in the shadow of Mt. Fuji, with ample opportunities for spectacular views of the picturesque peak. From the depths of Fuji's frozen caves to the top of the Kachi Kachi Ropeway, you will discover why this area is so well-loved by locals as an ideal spot for outdoor activities and stunning scenery.



Day 12 - Fuji Five Lakes to Tokyo

Tokyo Labyrinth

Journey back to Tokyo and spend your final afternoon in Japan exploring the capital at your own speed. This is the perfect time for last-minute shopping, sightseeing, or simply relaxing.

Day 13

So Long, Japan

Time to say goodbye to Japan! A private car will drop you off at the airport for your departure flight.

Accommodation in Tokyo

Palace Hotel Tokyo or Keio Plaza Hotel 1 night



Insider Activities

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Tsukiji Market Tour and Cooking Class in Tokyo

Explore Tsukiji Market, a collection of bustling food shops and stalls that have been providing fresh ingredients to the city of Tokyo for centuries. Later, head back to the studio where you will cook a meal with fresh ingredients purchased at the market. During the cooking class, you will learn how to make Japanese dishes from an expert. Finally, enjoy a lunch of all the delicious food you prepared!

Tea Ritual in Kyoto

There's no better city than Kyoto to explore the world of tea. This was the spot where the craze for refined matcha tea exploded in the 16th century, and it remains just as popular today. Step into the traditional home of a tea practitioner for a private ceremony that will demystify the Way of Tea. Take a moment to relax and learn how this simple ceremony connects to Japanese everyday life in surprising ways.

Backstreets Cycling Tour in Kyoto

Breeze through the backstreets of the ancient capital and experience the city from a new perspective. Kyoto is a mostly flat city, making it the ideal spot to hop on a bike and cover a large chunk of ground in one afternoon. Along the way, you'll visit temples, shrines, quiet neighborhoods, and some wonderful locals-only spots that still have that old school charm (route varies by season).

Evening Food Tour in Osaka

Get ready to eat your way through the city that natives like to call 'Japan's Kitchen'. Osaka is home to some incredible dishes, and your private foodie guide knows all the top spots to eat in the busy Namba and Dotombori districts, including some insider gems. The ever-evolving menu might include takoyaki, okonomiyaki, sashimi, tempura, yakitori, as well as some cold sake and beer to wash it all down.









Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- Families visiting Japan for the first time.
- Parents looking to expose their children to new cultures and spend quality time together.



Seasonal Information

Any season is perfect for a family adventure in Japan. The school summer holidays are an ideal time to travel as it is Low Season for this itinerary.

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Middle Season and High Season prices fall within the Low to Peak range. Please refer to the calendar below to see what price range your intended travel dates fall within.



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Pricing Information

Estimated price per person

	Essentials	Premium
Low Season	USD 13 000	\$USD 18 000
Peak Season	USD 18 500	USD 26 000

Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

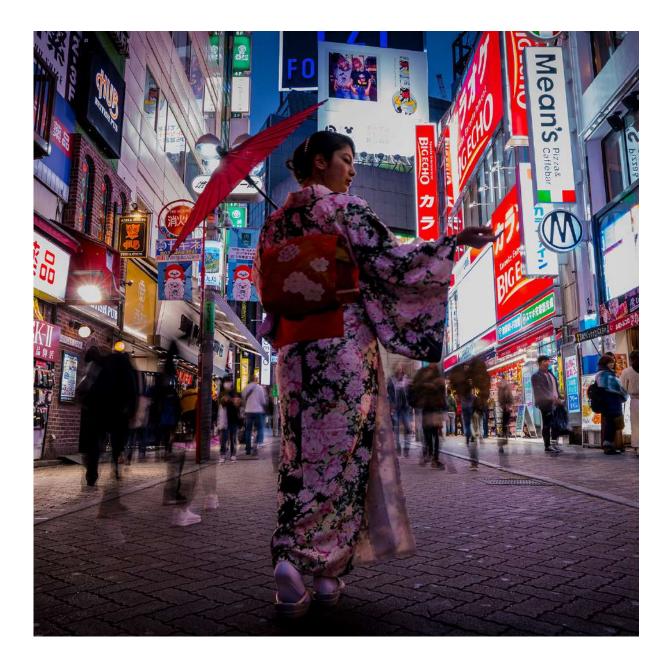
- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

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Impressions of Japan

HIROSHIM

Itinerary

12 Days / 11 Nights

- Arrival in Tokyo 1
- Tokyo 2 3
 - Tokyo
- 4 Tokyo to Kanazawa (stop in Takaoka) 5
 - Kanazawa
- Kanazawa to Miyajima 6
- Miyajima and Hiroshima 7 8
- Miyajima to Kyoto
- 9 Kyoto
- Kyoto 10
- 11 Kyoto to Tokyo (stop in Osaka)
- 12 Departure from Tokyo

TOKYO

Suggested Accommodations in Tokyo

The Capitol Hotel Tokyu 3 nights



Nestled between the Imperial Palace and the official residence of Japan's Prime Minister, The Capitol Hotel Tokyu is regarded as a quiet and exclusive haven for escaping the hustle and bustle of the city and its many local attractions within walking distance.

The Ritz Carlton Tokyo 3 nights



Occupying the top 9 floors of the towering 53-story Midtown Tower in Tokyo's design and entertainment hub of Roppongi, this hotel is home to Tokyo's most impressive views. Day 1

Welcome to Japan

Arrive in Tokyo, the futuristic heart of modern Japan and your home for the next few days. Your private vehicle will pick you up from the airport and drop you off at your luxury accommodation. Spend this arrival day relaxing and recovering from jet lag by exploring the city at your own pace or simply resting at your hotel.

Day 2

Historical Tokyo

Today, you'll venture to the East of the city with an experienced guide to discover Tokyo's traditional side. Experience the classic Tsukiji Fish Market for some sampling and shopping. Dive deeper into Japanese culture with a visit to Sensoji Temple in bustling Asakusa and tour Tokyo's famous Kappabashi 'kitchen town' area for some cooking essentials like Japanese knives or ceramics. Finish the day with an architecture tour of the high-end Ginza area.

Day 3

Taking It All In

Spend the day in western Tokyo, marveling at the clash of eras in this exciting part of town. Solemn Meiji Jingu Shrine, a peaceful Shinto location, stands opposite Harajuku, a fast-paced youth district focused on fashion and food. Visit the bustling Shibuya area, with its famous multiway crossing and modern architecture, then round out the day with a sake tasting to learn more about this popular Japanese alcohol.



TAKAOKA & KANAZAWA



Suggested Accommodations in Kanazawa



Hyatt Centric Kanazawa 2 nights

Centrally located in Kanazawa, just seconds from Kanazawa station, this upscale lifestyle hotel celebrates the culture of its historic city, famous for its unique cuisine and geisha samurai heritage.

Day 4 - Tokyo to Kanazawa

Ancient Craft Traditions

Board the bullet train to the Sea of Japan coast, stopping first in the picturesque craft city of Takaoka. After an elaborate traditional lunch in Takaoka's old town, visit the studios of two master artisans, a singing bowl maker and a woodcarver, to learn more about the impressive skills and techniques required in their crafts. A private vehicle will then drive you to Kanazawa to check in to your accommodation.

Day 5

Looking to the Past

Explore Kanazawa, a charming city with a long history of art, samurai, and refined culture. Head to the bustling Omicho Market, stroll around the traditional teahouse district of Higashichaya, stop at the ancient Kanazawa Castle, and roam the famous Kenrokuen Garden, thought to be one of the top three most beautiful gardens in Japan. End the day delving into Kanazawa's rich craft heritage with visits to a traditional umbrella shop and a lacquerware artist's studio.



Suggested Accommodations in Miyajima



Iwaso Ryokan 2 nights

Since 1854, this traditional inn has served tourists and pilgrims visiting the island. Enjoy beautiful forest views from your room and – if you get lucky – catch a glimpse of the famous wild deer of Miyajima as you relax in the public hot springs bath.

MIYAJIMA



Going South

Travel to the Hiroshima region and head straight to the picturesque Miyajima Island in the Hiroshima bay. Spend the rest of the day exploring this pleasant island and stay overnight in a charming ryokan inn overlooking the coast.





HIROSHIMA



Day 7 - Miyajima and Hiroshima

Chasing Peace

Spend the morning on Miyajima Island, where you'll visit the famous floating shrine of Itsukushima Jinja and ascend the ropeway up Mt. Misen. In the afternoon, cross the bay to Hiroshima. This city saw unspeakable tragedy at the end of World War 2, and you'll learn of the promise to ensure it never happens again in the stirring Peace Memorial Park and Museum.

Day 8 - Miyajima to Kyoto

Your Own Adventure

Make your way from Miyajima to Kyoto on the bullet train. The rest of the day is free for you to explore the ancient capital as you see fit. Walk through the winding streets of the traditional districts, explore famous temples and shrines, or eat and drink your way through the atmospheric Pontocho dining area - the possibilities are endless!

Day 9

Classic Kyoto

The morning's focus is on visiting classic Kyoto highlights like the Golden Pavilion and the Arashiyama bamboo forest. After a well-deserved lunch of *shojin ryori*, the traditional dining style of Japanese Buddhist monks, explore a Zen temple complex with a local cultural expert and tea practitioner. After examining the temple's gardens and architecture, you'll be treated to a private tea ceremony at the practitioner's traditional home.





KYOTO

Day 10

A City of Geisha

Start your day off right with some food from the vibrant Nishiki Market - your expert guide will be able to provide all the recommendations you need to find the tastiest snacks! From there, head to the famous Ginkakuji Silver Pavilion and meander down the picturesque Philosopher's Path. Spend the afternoon exploring the elegant world of Japan's elusive and tantalizing geisha women. Discover the Gion district lined with wooden homes and high-end tea houses where these women live and work. We've arranged a special event to end the day: a private meeting with a young geisha-in-training for tea, conversation, and a short performance.



Suggested Accommodations in Kyoto

The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto 3 nights



Indulge in opulence fit for an emperor in Japan's former imperial captial turned luxury urban resort, nestled on the banks of the Kamogawa River.

Hotel The Mitsui 3 nights



Located in the heart of Kyoto on the land that once belonged to the prominent Mitsui Family, where many relics remain to this day, such as the impressive main gate that stands at the hotel's entrance.

Day 11 - Kyoto to Tokyo

Kitchen of Japan

Today, you'll be heading back to Tokyo, your final destination on this trip. But the adventure doesn't end quite yet! Make a stop in the colorful city of Osaka, often referred to as Japan's kitchen, for an afternoon food tour. Uncover the city's vibrant street food culture with a local expert. Discover all the best places to get Osaka's tastiest dishes like deepfried kushikatsu skewers and takoyaki octopus dumplings.

Day 12

Final Goodbyes

Spend the day however you want, perhaps with some lastminute shopping or sightseeing, before your flight departs. Come back and visit soon!

TOKYO

OSAKA



Insider Activities

All of our Insider Itineraries feature a selection of activities chosen by our luxury consultants to align with the trip theme. They are described below. You may add more activities to your itinerary, or substitute existing ones, using our Japan Experience Menu. Please note that we recommend a maximum of 2 to 3 activities per destination.

Architecture Tour in Tokyo

To the untrained eye, Tokyo's ritzy Ginza area may seem like a pleasant shopping district and nothing more. However, beneath this glamorous facade lies a wealth of architectural history, secret passageways, and buildings with great cultural significance. Embark on an architecture tour of the area with a professional guide to discover the stories behind Tokyo's seamless blend of traditional and modern architecture in the heart of one of the city's busiest districts.



Lacquerware Artist Studio Visit

One of Kanazawa's most celebrated crafts is urushi lacquerware, a process which takes years to learn and a lifetime to master. Explore this artform with one of the region's most talented masters and witness the creation of beautiful lacquered works in his studio. Learn not only about the creation of the lacquered items but also about how they change in color and tone over the years, just like the owners who use and treasure the pieces.



Meeting with Maiko in Kyoto

One of the most sought-after bookings in Kyoto is a private audience with a maiko, a young geisha-in-training that is still mastering the art of refined performance and gentle hospitality. This is a rare chance to see the maiko kimono and makeup up close and discover why only a few young women each year choose to enter this difficult life. Enjoy tea while asking questions about her life and finish with an elegant dance performance.



Tea Ritual in Kyoto

There's no better city than Kyoto to explore the world of tea. This was the spot where the craze for refined matcha tea exploded in the 16th century, and it remains just as popular today. Step into the traditional home of a tea practitioner for a private ceremony that will demystify the Way of Tea. Take a moment to relax and learn how this simple ceremony connects to Japanese everyday life in surprising ways.



Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- First-time visitors to Japan who want to get an impression of the country's history and identity.
- Travelers who want a deep dive into Japanese culture while exploring all the must-see spots.



Seasonal Information

This trip can be enjoyed in all seasons.

Pricing for the Insider Itineraries varies based on a number of factors, including availability of services, events and holidays within Japan, and seasonality. We indicate a range of pricing from Low Season (lowest estimated price) to Peak Season (highest estimated price) to provide an idea of potential trip costs.

Middle Season and High Season prices fall within the Low to Peak range. Please refer to the calendar below to see what price range your intended travel dates fall within.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Week1	Low Season		Middle Peak							High Season		Low Season
Week 2			Season	Season	Middle Season							
Week 3			Peak	Peak High Season Season				Middle		Peak Season	High Season	
Week 4								Season	Peak Season	Middle Season		

Insider Itineraries are not available throughout the New Year and Obon (approx. Aug 11-16) periods and during special events.

Pricing Information

Estimated price per person

	Essentials	Premium
Low Season	USD 12 000	USD 19 000
Peak Season	USD 18 000	USD 25 000

Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

The accommodation, transportation, and activites in our Insider Itineraries are customizable, so all itineraries and price quotes are uniquely tailored to our guests.

The only exact price will be the one you receive in your personalized quotation.





A Japanese Path to Wellness

KANAZAV

Itinerary

12 Days / 11 Nights

- 1 Arrival in Tokyo
- Tokyo 2
- Tokyo 3
- Tokyo to Kaga Onsen (stop in Kanazawa)
- Kaga Onsen
 - Kaga Onsen to Kyoto (stop at Eiheiji Temple)
- 7 Kyoto 8

6

- Kyoto
- 9 Kyoto to Ise
- 10 Ise 11 Ise to Tokyo
- 12 Departure from Tokyo

TOKYO

Suggested Accommodations in Tokyo

The Ritz Carlton Tokyo 3 nights



Occupying the top 9 floors of the towering 53-story Midtown Tower in Tokyo's design and entertainment hub of Roppingi, this hotel is home to some of Tokyo's most impressive views.

The Capitol Hotel Tokyu 3 nights

Sillynts



Nestled between the Imperial Palace and the official residence of Japan's Prime Minister, The Capitol Hotel Tokyu is regarded as a quiet and exclusive haven for escaping the hustle and bustle of the city and its many local attractions within walking distance.

Day 1

Welcome to Japan

After landing at one of Tokyo's two international airports, your private driver will transport you into the heart of the city to give you a first glimpse into the maze of modernity that is Japan's capital. This is the staging ground for the first step on your path towards inner peace. After all, how can you appreciate the silence if you don't understand the noise?

Day 2

A City of Contrasts

Secreted away behind the towering skyscrapers and bustling train stations, Tokyo is filled with hidden oases of calm and spirituality. Your journey begins with a morning visit to the peaceful grounds of Nezu Shrine, where a Shinto priest will bless your travels to come. From there, stroll the picturesque pathways of a nearby Japanese garden before diving headfirst into the lights, sounds, and colors of Harajuku and Shibuya.



TOKYO







Day 3

Into the Metropolis

Your third day in Japan is left entirely open, an opportunity to explore Tokyo on your own and find inspiration in this dynamic city. Visit the famous Tsukiji fish market to sample local flavors, lose yourself amongst the glitz and glamor of Ginza, or marvel at a powerful Buddhist fire ceremony complete with a towering bonfire and thunderous taiko drumming. Whatever your interests, Tokyo will meet your expectations and then exceed them.

KANAZAWA & KAGA

Day 4 - Tokyo to Kaga Onsen

To the Northern Coast

Spend the day exploring Kanazawa, the crown jewel of the Hokuriku region. After arriving by bullet train from Tokyo, delve into the history of this charming city with a private guide. Explore bustling markets, geisha districts, and one of Japan's most celebrated landscape gardens before traveling on to the forested village of Kaga Onsen. Hot spring baths, sumptuous meals, and uninterrupted relaxation await as you check in to a luxurious 'ryokan' inn - this is the ultimate expression of Japanese hospitality and your home for the next 2 nights.

Day 5 - Kaga Onsen

Soaking Up the Local Culture

Express your creativity with a relaxed morning visit to a local 'washi' paper maker. At her countryside home, she'll guide you through the surprisingly soothing, almost meditative process of turning simple wood fibers into sheets of rustic and versatile paper. The afternoon is yours to spend as you see fit, exploring nearby river gorges and pottery museums, or luxuriating in one of the area's many natural hot spring baths.





Suggested Accommodations in Kaga Onsen

Beniya Mukayu 2 nights



Perched on a hill overlooking Yamashiro Onsen town, Beniya Mukayu's ethos is one that perfectly blends friendly and attentive service with the tranquility and harmony of nature.





Suggested Accommodations in Kyoto



The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto

3 nights

Indulge in opulence fit for an emperor in Japan's former imperial capital turned luxury resort, nestled on the banks of the Kamogawa River.



Hotel The Mitsui

3 nights

Located in the heart of Kyoto on the land that once belonged to the Mitsui Family, where many relics still remain, such as the impressive main gate that stands at the hotel's entrance. Day 6 - Kaga to Kyoto

Finding Your Zen

Explore the region's treasured Zen temple, Eiheiji. Step back in time as you walk along ancient covered walkways, and find beauty in the simplicity of the monks' humble living quarters. After lunch, board an express train to Kyoto and enjoy views of the pastoral countryside scenery and of Biwako, Japan's largest lake. Arrive in Kyoto and use your free afternoon to start exploring the winding paths of the ancient capital.

Day 7 - Kyoto

The Cultural Capital

Kyoto is the cultural and spiritual heart of Japan, and today you'll delve into its history and traditions with a knowledgeable local guide. Walk through the iconic bamboo grove in Arashiyama before escaping to the tranquility of a nearby moss garden. At the famed Golden Pavilion of Kinkakuji, bask in the light that seems to emanate from its gilt façade while learning about the fascinating history of a monk driven to madness by its beauty. As dusk falls, enter the traditional home of a tea master for a private tea ceremony lit only by candlelight.

Day 8

Into the Mystic

In ancient times, the Japanese believed that one's spirit would sometimes 'dry up' and require restoration. If your own spirit requires a little restoration, today's private meditation session at a Zen temple should be just what you need. Under a priest's careful tutelage, you'll learn proper breathing techniques and how to look inward to still your thoughts. With your mind and body refreshed, the afternoon is left open for you to explore Kyoto at your own pace.





ISE & TOKYO

Suggested Accommodations in Ise

Amanemu Resort and Spa 2 nights



Amanemu prides itself on privacy, over-thetop spa services, and a spectacular natural setting. The very finest in coastal luxury.

Suggested Accommodations in Tokyo

The Ritz Carlton Tokyo 1 night



Occupying the top 9 floors of the towering 53-story Midtown Tower in Tokyo's design and entertainment hub of Roppongi, this hotel is home to some of Tokyo's most impressive views. Day 9 - Kyoto to Ise

The Land of the Gods

In Shinto mythology, the Ise Peninsula is the earthly home of the gods. They chose this region for its natural beauty, isolation, and healing power. You'll be visiting for the same reasons. Enjoy two nights at Amanemu, Japan's premier luxury spa resort, located on a beautiful strip of coastal paradise.

Day 10

Just Relax

Today is just for relaxing at Amanemu in whatever way you choose. Explore the grounds, indulge in a decadent spa treatment, or simply relax in your suite room overlooking the peaceful bay. The goal is relaxation, pure and simple.

Day 11 - Ise to Tokyo

Returning to the Capital

Return to Tokyo by train and use your final evening in Japan for last-minute shopping, sightseeing, or one more sushi dinner. For those who prefer to depart from Osaka's Kansai International Airport, alternative arrangements are possible.

Day 12

Departure

With you journey completed and your heart full, gather the meaningful lessons you've uncovered in Japan and build upon these going forward in life. Private transportation to the airport for your return home is included.

Insider Activities

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Blessing at a Shinto Shrine

Receive the favor of the gods in this authentic blessing ceremony conducted by a Shinto priest in a local Tokyo shrine. Restore your inner peace with this highly enjoyable and interesting ceremony that allows you to experience the shamanistic healing power of Shinto chanting.





Washi-Making Experience in Kaga

Meet a local artisan and discover the creative process of transforming plant pulp into delicate 'washi' paper. Your host is a local photographer who makes her own paper to print her pictures on. You'll create your own sheet of washi under her excellent English instruction. Consider it a meditation, as you gently coax organic fibers to coalesce into an object of simplicity and beauty.



Candle-lit Tea Ritual in Kyoto

There's no better city than Kyoto to explore the world of tea. This was the spot where the craze for refined matcha tea exploded in the 16th century, and it remains popular to this day. Step into the traditional home of a tea practitioner for a private ceremony that will demystify the Way of Tea. Take this moment to relax and learn how this simple ceremony connects to Japanese everyday life in surprising ways. Taking part in this ceremony by candlelight adds a mystical and wonderfully atmospheric dimension to the ritual.



Zen Meditation Session

Need a break from the hustle and bustle of sightseeing? Zen Buddhism seeks to help you find your true self through peaceful meditation. Take the first step on the road to enlightenment with a private meditation session with a Buddhist priest in a beautiful historic temple. You'll learn the secrets of posture, breathing, and mindfulness that make up 'zazen' meditation, opening up possibilities for inner discovery.



Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- Solo travelers, friends or families looking for a change in perspective or simply to get away from it all.
- Couples seeking a relaxing break from home life.



Seasonal Information

This trip can be enjoyed in all seasons but the Ise Coast may get cold in Winter. We recommend late Spring (May) or early Autumn (September).

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Pricing Information

Estimated price per person

	Essentials	Premium
Low Season	USD 12 000	USD 19 000
Peak Season	USD 18 000	USD 25 000

Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

The accommodation, transportation, and activities in our Insider Itineraries are customizable, so all itineraries and price quotes are uniquely tailored to our guests.

The only exact price will be the one you receive in your personalized quotation.





Luxury Honeymoon in Japan

Itinerary 10 Days / 9 Nights

- Arrival in Tokyo
- 2 Tokyo3 Tokyo
- 4 Tokyo to Kyoto
- 5 Kyoto
- 6 Kyoto
- 7 Kyoto to Ise8 Ise
- 9 Ise to Tokyo
- 10 Departure from Tokyo

Suggested Accommodations in Tokyo

The Ritz Carlton Tokyo 3 nights



Occupying the top 9 floors of the towering 53-story Midtown Tower in Tokyo's design and entertainment hub of Roppongi, this hotel is home to Tokyo's most impressive views.

The Capitol Hotel Tokyu 3 nights



Nestled between the Imperial Palace and the official residence of Japan's Prime Minister, The Captiol Hotel Tokyu is regarded as a quiet and exclusive haven for escaping the hustle and bustle of the city and its many local attractions within walking distance.



Day 1

Welcome to Japan

Your honeymoon begins in the vibrant, bustling metropolis of Tokyo. You will be transported into the city via private car to check into your accommodation. The rest of the afternoon and evening are free for you to relax and explore your surroundings.

Day 2

The Celebration Begins

Your first full day in Japan starts with a visit to a kimono studio where you'll be dressed in the finest traditional garments for a photoshoot at Tokyo's important Meiji Shrine. After lunch, stroll through the trendy Harajuku and Omotesando districts for a taste of the city at its most fashionable. We suggest exploring the lively western part of Tokyo this evening.

Day 3

Deep Tokyo Culture

Explore Tokyo's culinary scene with a morning visit to the famous Tsukiji Fish Market. After seeing where the city's sushi masters source their ingredients, a professional chef will show you how to transform fresh fish, shrimp, sea urchins and more into mouthwatering delicacies during a private lesson. Finish the day with a visit to a Tokyo classic - the iconic Sensoji Temple.





KYOTO

Suggested Accommodations in Kyoto

The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto 3 nights



Indulge in opulence fit for an emperor in Japan's former imperial capital turned luxury urban resort, nestled on the banks of the Kamogawa River.

Hotel The Mitsui 3 nights



Located in the heart of Kyoto on the land that once belonged to the prominent Mitsui Family, where many relics remain to this day, such as the impressive main gate that stands at the hotel's entrance. Day 4 - Tokyo to Kyoto

Journey to the West

Start the day with a transfer to Tokyo Station to board the bullet train to Kyoto. Enjoy a free afternoon in Kyoto to explore the vibrant neighborhoods surrounding your luxury accommodation.

Day 5

Western Kyoto

Famed for its picture-perfect bamboo grove, the area of Arashiyama in Kyoto's western foothills is also home to a number of more secretive temples and shrines, waiting to delight inquisitive travelers with carefully manicured gardens, moss covered 'jizo' statues, and more. After a special lunch of vegetarian Zen cuisine, head over to Kinkakuji Temple - its glittering golden pavilion is a timeless Kyoto must-see. As dusk descends, step inside a traditional residence to enjoy a private tea ceremony lit only by flickering candlelight.

Day 6

The Cultural Capital

In the morning, head to the sprawling Nishiki Market, where Kyoto's residents rub elbows with restaurateurs as they all vie for the region's freshest fish and most vibrant vegetables. After that, celebrate your special occasion the way the Japanese do, with a private Shinto wedding blessing at a beloved local shrine.

Spend the rest of the day exploring the iconic Ginkakuji Temple before taking a stroll down the Philosopher's Path, a scenic walkway that meanders past sakura trees and traditional residences. The day crescendos with a dinner at one of our favorite restaurants. Here you'll enjoy a private performance by a geisha while dining on 'kaiseki' style cuisine – the ultimate expression of Kyoto's refined culture of hospitality.



ISE



Suggested Accommodations in Ise

Amanemu Resort and Spa 2 nights



Amanemu prides itself on privacy, over-the-top spa services, and a spectacular natural setting. The very finest in coastal luxury.



Suggested Accommodations in

The Capitol Hotel Tokyu 1 night



Nestled between the Imperial Palace and the official residence of Japan's Prime Minister, The Captitol Hotel Tokyu is regarded as a quiet and exclusive haven for escaping the hustle and bustle of the city and its many local attractions within walking distance.



Day 7 - Kyoto to Ise

To the Coast

Bid farewell to Kyoto as you board a scenic train to lse, passing through the idyllic countryside of the Kii Peninsula before arriving at the coast. Your destination is Amanemu, where blissful relaxation, rejuvenation, and privacy await. This is one of Japan's most upscale private resorts, and your home for the next two nights. Drop your bags, put on a comfortable 'yukata' robe, and sink into a world of unparalleled luxury.

Day 8

Paradise

They say the greatest luxury is time, and today you have all the time in the world. Soak in one of the resort's many hotspring baths, take in the ocean vistas as you stroll around the expansive grounds, or indulge in a couple's massage session. Millennia ago, the gods chose this region as their earthly home and after today, you too may feel that you've found heaven on earth.

TOKYO

Day 9 - Ise to Tokyo

Back to the City

Wake up and watch the sun rise over the sea from your villa's floor-toceiling windows, or sleep in and take full advantage of the plush bedding – the choice is yours! After a leisurely morning, say farewell to Ise and begin your journey back to Tokyo.

Day 10

Departure

Your morning is free for some early sightseeing, last-minute gift shopping, or indulging in one last culinary delight. When the time comes, your private driver will whisk you from your hotel to the airport for departure to your next destination. We hope you enjoyed your trip!

Insider Activities

All of our Insider Itineraries feature a selection of activities chosen by our luxury consultants to align with the trip theme. They are described below. You may add more activities to your itinerary, or substitute existing ones, using our Japan Experience Menu. Please note that we recommend a maximum of 2 to 3 activities per destination.

Private Sushi Class with Professional Chef

Get an exclusive look inside the world of high-end Japanese restaurants and try your hand at preparing dishes with a professional chef. All instructions will be translated into English, and the seasonal menu will keep you on your toes as you learn professional cooking techniques using the freshest ingredients. At the end of your private class, enjoy the fruits of your labor with a sumptuous meal. This is a one-of-a-kind experience for food lovers, or anyone interested in learning the mysteries of a professional Japanese kitchen.

Japanese Kimono Experience In Tokyo

Records show that people began wearing kimonos over 1000 years ago during the Heian Period. Although no longer worn daily, kimonos remain a quintessential part of Japan's image and culture, and they continue to be worn for special occasions and events. After selecting your kimono style and getting fully dressed up, you can go to a local shrine and capture some memorable photographs.

Candlelit Tea Ritual in Kyoto

There's no better city than Kyoto to explore the world of tea. This was the spot where the craze for refined matcha tea exploded in the 16th century, and it remains just as popular today. Step into the traditional home of a tea practitioner for a private candlelit ceremony that will demystify the Way of Tea. Take a moment to relax and learn how this simple ceremony connects to Japanese everyday life in surprising ways.

Wedding Blessing at a Shinto Shrine

Announce your wedding to the Japanese gods and receive their blessing in this authentic ceremony conducted by a Shinto priest in a beloved local Kyoto shrine. This simple 15-minute ceremony of chanting and offerings is a highly enjoyable and interesting ritual that allows you to be recognized as newlyweds in the eyes of the gods, just like local Japanese couples. Afterward, receive a set of newlywed gifts from the priest.

Private Geisha Dinner

Experience the finest form of Japanese entertainment at a dinner with a private geisha. For centuries, these refined women have danced for the highest levels of Japanese society, and only a select number are still practicing today. Not only will you witness their dance and musical performance up close, but you'll enjoy their company through enlightening conversation, fun traditional banguet games, and local food and drink.











Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- Honeymooners and couples of all ages
- Couples who wish to experience Japan as part of a multidestination Asian honeymoon



Seasonal Information

Any season is perfect for a honeymoon in Japan, but warmer months will ensure your stay on the coast is all the more enjoyable.

Pricing for the Insider Itineraries varies based on a number of factors, including availability of services, events and holidays within Japan, and seasonality. We indicate a range of pricing from Low Season (lowest estimated price) to Peak Season (highest estimated price) to provide an idea of potential trip costs.

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	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Week 1			Middle	Peak								Low
Week 2	Low Season		Season	Season	Middle Season					High		Season
Week 3			Peak Season	High Season		Low Season		Middle		Peak Season	High	
Week 4									Season	Peak Season	Middle Season	Season

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Pricing Information

Estimated price per person

	Essentials	Premium
Low Season	USD 10 000	USD 15 000
Peak Season	USD 15 000	USD 20 000

Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

The accommodation, transportation, and activities in our Insider Itineraries are customizable, so all itineraries and price quotes are uniquely tailored to our guests.

The only exact price will be the one you receive in your personalized quotation.





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Ski Japan: Hakuba Valley, Nagano

Itinerary

11 days / 10 nights

- Arrival in Tokyo
- Tokyo
- Tokyo to Hakuba Hakuba
- Hakuba
- Hakuba
- 7 Hakuba to Matsumoto and Kawaguchiko
- 8 Kawaguchiko
- Kawaguchiko to Tokyo
- 10 Tokyo
- 11 Departure from Tokyo

Day 1 - Tokyo

Arrival in Tokyo

This lively metropolis is truly a feast for the senses, and offers a variety of ways to explore art, history, food, pop culture, architecture, fashion, and the unique Japanese sense of modernity. Enjoy private transport from the airport to their hotel, with the afternoon and evening at your leisure.

Day 2 - Tokyo

A Modern Marvel

Prepare for a day filled with some of Tokyo's best sightseeing. Your private guide will escort you through the famous Tsukiji Market, where you can sample the freshest ingredients in a lively atmosphere. Visit the district of Asakusa, with bustling Nakamisedori shopping street and the impressive Sensoji Temple. Finish the day with a taiko drum lesson taught by professional musicians.



Accommodation in Tokyo

Premium Category

Palace Hotel Tokyo, 2 nights



This newly renovated historic Japanese hotel boasts the city's best views of the Imperial Palace. Rooms feature impressive outdoor balconies and an array of luxury amenities. With a wide choice of restaurants, as well as an Evian spa, fitness center and pool, Palace Hotel offers an elegant Tokyo experience.

Essentials Category

Keio Plaza Hotel, 2 nights



Located among the soaring towers of Shinjuku, this modern hotel is perfect for travelers who want to be right in the center of modern Tokyo.

All rooms offer spectacular views of the cityscape. Opportunities for nightlife and dining abound, with lively neighborhoods like Kabukicho and major department stores within walking distance.

HAKUBA VALLEY

Day 3 - Tokyo to Hakuba

Into the Alps

Ascend into the Japanese Alps via bullet train and marvel at the snow-covered landscape. Check in to your luxury accommodations and enjoy an afternoon at leisure exploring the town and preparing for your ski adventure.



Day 4-6 - Hakuba

Hitting the Slopes

Welcome to one of the best winter destinations in Japan. You'll enjoy three days of skiing and boarding with a lift pass granting you access to the slopes at multiple resorts. When the sun sets, retire to your luxury accommodation and treat yourself to fine dining options and a soak in hot spring waters.

Your ski trip includes ski and boots rental. Additional equipment/ clothing rental and activities like ski lessons, hiking, and back country access are available (extra charges apply).







Accommodation in Hakuba



Premium Category

Phoenix Hotel & Chalets

4 nights

Enjoy a private luxury Cocoon Chalet ideal for a family featuring multiple bedrooms, a full kitchen, breakfast service, and a 4WD vehicle. The ultimate snow retreat.

Essentials Category

Courtyard by Marriott

4 nights

Considered one of Marriott's finest Japanese properties, this modern hotel in central Hakuba showcases the perfect harmony of western comfort and Japanese hospitality.

Day 7 - Hakuba to Matsumoto and Kawaguchiko

Black Castle; White Snow

Depart Hakuba via private car to Kawaguchiko, driving past picturesque winter scenery and mountain views. Along the way, stop in Matsumoto to visit the famous Crow Castle, named for its jet-black main tower. This is one of only a handful of original castles that remain in the country and makes for a spectacular sight when blanketed with fresh snow.

Arrive at your ryokan accommodation ready for a traditional meal with Mt. Fuji at twilight in the background.

MATSUMOTO





KAWAGUCHIKO



Day 8 - Kawaguchiko

In the Shadow of the Mountain

Take an early dip in the hot springs to appreciate Mt. Fuji at sunrise and enjoy a guided afternoon trip to the beloved Chureito Pagoda. This is perhaps the most-captured view of Mt. Fuji, and you'll soon see why. Witness the beauty of nature as you ascend the Kachi Kachi ropeway up Mt. Tenjo overlooking Lake Kawaguchi in the late afternoon.

Accommodation in Kawaguchiko

Premium Category



Fufu Kawaguchiko

2 nights



Essentials Category

Kozantei Ubuya

2 nights

A charming boutique ryokan perched on a forested slope facing Mt. Fuji. Suite décor is inspired by nature with all rooms featuring open-air terraces and marvelous views.

Elegantly modern with a traditional flavor, this ryokan is notable for its position right on the waters of Lake Kawaguchi. A wonderful spot to see Mt. Fuji reflected at sunrise.



Day 9 - Kawaguchiko to Tokyo

Return to the Capital

Complete the circle by returning to Tokyo and enjoying the afternoon at leisure. When the sun sets, meet your guide for a 3-hour food tour of Tokyo's best locals-only eateries. As you explore the backstreets of Tokyo nightlife, you'll taste yakitori chicken skewers, okonomiyaki pancakes, fresh sashimi, and unique desserts. Wash it all down with a glass of sake or beer just like the Japanese salarymen who will be surrounding you as they take part in their nightly post-work revelry.

Day 10 - Tokyo

The Grand Finale

One final day to savor the sights and sounds of the eclectic charm of Tokyo. Visit the serenely forested Meiji Shrine, and then dive into the lively contrast of the youthful Harajuku district. See the famous "Shibuya Scramble" crosswalk – the busiest in the world – from above at a special observation deck. Finish the day with a visit to the mind-bendingly original TeamLab Borderless digital museum. You'll walk through rooms flooded with projections, mirrors, and geometric architecture – all highly Instagrammable.

Accommodation in Tokyo

Premium Category

Palace Hotel Tokyo, 2 nights

Essentials Category Keio Plaza Hotel, 2 nights

Departure

Day 11 - Tokyo

Time to say goodbye to the unforgettable wintertime charms of Japan. We provide private transportation to the airport as you prepare to depart.



Insider Activities

All of our Japan Insider Collection itineraries feature a selection of activities chosen by our luxury consultants to align with the trip theme. They are described below. You may add more activities to your itinerary, or substitute existing ones, using our Insider Activity Menu. Please note that we recommend a maximum of 2 to 3 activities per destination.

Ski Equipment Rentals & Hakuba Lift Pass

Your ski trip includes three days of equipment rentals (ski and boots) and slope passes granting you access to all ten resorts in Hakuba Valley. Additional equipment rentals (pants, jacket, etc), lessons, and snow activities are available at additional costs.

Taiko Drum Workshop

Taiko drumming is all about raw power. Experience the excitement for yourself in a private taiko workshop at a professional drum studio where you'll learn a sample of different beats on various drums. You'll soon see why these drummers say that the rhythm doesn't comes from the sticks in your hands, but from deep within your soul.

Evening Food Tour

Join a local expert guide for a fun tour of Tokyo's best backstreet dining spots. Your expert guide knows where to find the best dishes, including favorites like yakitori chicken, okonomiyaki pancakes, and fried noodles. Along the way, you can sample sake, whiskey, and plum wine, but be sure to save room for dessert as well!

TeamLab Borderless Digital Museum

This permanent installation at the Mori Building Digital Art Museum is now the world's largest digital art museum. Here you'll find 50 interactive and Instagrammable displays supported by 470 projectors and 520 computers. The concept of the museum is defined as "borderless" with interconnected zones featuring various themes. (The museum features many mirrored floors, so please plan your clothing accordingly.)









Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- Winter travelers seeking the world's best powder
- Skiers and boarders also looking for a glimpse into Japanese culture

Seasonal Information

This winter trip is designed for travelers arriving in Japan between mid December and mid March. For earlier or later arrivals, please contact us.

Due to Christmas and New Year festivities, availability and pricing is not guaranteed between **December 24th and January 4th**. For ski holidays during those dates, please contact us. One of our Luxury Travel Consultants can help you build a custom trip.



Pricing Information

Estimated price per passenger

Essentials	Premium
USD 7 500	USD 10 000

Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

The accommodations, transportation, and activities in our Japan Insider Collection trips are customizable, so all itineraries and price quotes are uniquely tailored to our guests.

The only exact price will be the one you receive in your personalized quotation.





Ski Japan: Niseko, Hokkaido



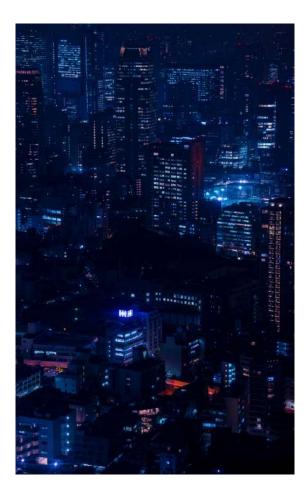
ltinerary

- 15 days / 14 nights
 - 1 Arrival in Tokyo
 - 2 Tokyo3 Tokyo
 - Tokyo

5

6

- Tokyo to Hokkaido
- Niseko
- 7 Niseko
- 8 Niseko 9 Niseko
- 10 Otaru
- 11 Sapporo to Kyoto
- 12 Kyoto
- 13 Kyoto 14 Kyoto
 - Kyoto
- 15 Departure from Osaka



Accommodation in Tokyo

Premium Category

Palace Hotel Tokyo, 4 nights



Essentials Category

Keio Plaza Hotel, 4 nights



This newly renovated historic Japanese hotel boasts the city's best views of the Imperial Palace. Rooms feature impressive outdoor balconies and an array of luxury amenities. With a wide choice of restaurants, as well as an Evian spa, fitness center and pool, Palace Hotel offers an elegant Tokyo experience.

Located among the soaring towers of Shinjuku, this modern hotel is perfect for travelers who want to be right in the center of modern Tokvo.

All rooms offer spectacular views of the cityscape. Opportunities for nightlife and dining abound, with lively neighborhoods like Kabukicho and major department stores within walking distance.

Day 1 - Tokyo

Arrival in Tokyo

This lively metropolis is truly a feast for the senses, and offers a variety of ways to explore art, history, food, pop culture, architecture, fashion, and the unique Japanese sense of modernity. Enjoy private transport from the airport to your hotel, with the afternoon and evening at your leisure.

Day 2 - Tokyo

A Modern Marvel

Prepare for a day filled with some of Tokyo's best sightseeing. Your private guide will escort you through the famous Tsukiji Market, where you can sample the freshest ingredients in a lively atmosphere. Visit the district of Asakusa, with bustling Nakamisedori shopping street and the impressive Sensoji Temple. Finish the day with a visit to the Tokyo Skytree, a soaring testament to Japanese technological prowess, with an observation deck offering sweeping views of the city.

Day 3 - Tokyo

Exploring the Capital

Journey to western Tokyo with your guide and explore the peaceful Meiji Shrine, an oasis of greenery in the urban jungle. Stop by the fashionable Harajuku neighborhood, stroll through upscale Omotesando, and experience the orderly chaos of the famous Shibuya crossing. Enjoy an afternoon sake tasting session at a local sake shop where the staff is always eager to share their knowledge of Japan's national beverage.

Day 4 - Tokyo

Explore on Your Own

Use this free day to experience all that the city has to offer. We suggest visiting some of Tokyo's world-class museums and galleries, or taking a stroll through one of the city's fine gardens.

HOKKAIDO

Day 5 - Tokyo to Hokkaido

Flying North

Embark on a day of travel to reach the snow-covered landscape of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island. Your flight to Sapporo is followed by a private vehicle transfer to your lodging in the resort town of Niseko.



Day 6-9 - Niseko

Hitting the Slopes

Welcome to the ultimate winter destination in Japan. Niseko is said to have the world's finest powder snow, and you will soon understand that this is no exaggeration. You'll enjoy four days of skiing and/or snowboarding, with a Niseko All Mountain Lift Pass granting you access to the slopes of multiple resorts. When the sun sets, retire to your luxury accommodation and treat yourself to fine dining options and a soak in hot spring waters.

Accommodation in Niseko

Premium and Essentials Categories



The Vale Niseko

5 nights

Awarded the World's Best Ski Hotel numerous times, The Vale Niseko is ski-in ski-out and features a number of luxury amenities like hot springs, fine dining, and opulent guest rooms.





Day 10 - Otaru

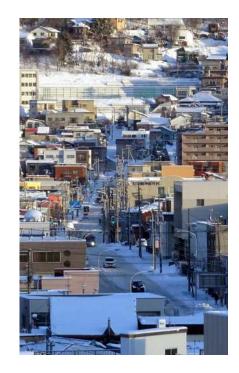
Snowy Sightseeing

Step out of your ski boots and into the past in Otaru, a delightful historic town along Hokkaido's coast. Explore the town with a private guide and see the traditional canal district, stroll the charming main streets containing historic architecture, and even learn the craft secrets of a famous local Buddhist altar workshop. Warm up with a tour and tasting at the Nikka Whiskey Distillery before heading on to Sapporo for your final night on the northern island.

Day 11 - Sapporo to Kyoto

Returning South

The morning is yours to explore Sapporo. In the afternoon, fly into Itami Airport and transfer to your accommodation in Kyoto by private car.



Accommodation in Sapporo

Premium Category



Sapporo Grand Hotel

1 night

Since 1934, this hotel has become the standard for northern luxury. A perfect balance is struck between the modern elegance of the rooms and the warm service from the attentive staff. **Essentials** Category



JR Tower Hotel Nikko Sapporo 1 night

Sophisticated charm combines with an ideal central location to make for an altogether wonderful hotel. The sky bar on the 35th floor is particularly well known for its view of the snowy city.



КҮОТО

Day 12 - Kyoto

Green Nature, Green Tea

The western side of Kyoto is home to the famous Arashiyama bamboo forest, as well as a serene moss garden and a moving display of outdoor Buddhist art. Tour these locations with a private guide before heading to the sparkling Golden Pavilion of Kinkakuji Temple.

After a lunch of vegetarian Zen cuisine, go deeper into Zen philosophy with a private tea ceremony at the home of our in-house tea expert.

Day 13 - Kyoto

Timeless Kyoto

Start the day with a walk through Nishiki Market, where local restaurants have procured fresh ingredients for more than 400 years. Travel to the eastern foothills of Kyoto with your guide to explore the masterfully landscaped Ginkakuji Temple grounds. Finish the afternoon with a walk through the timeless streets of Gion, lined with wooden teahouses and bursting with traditional charm.

We've saved the best for last: a private meeting with a young geisha-in-training. Enjoy a conversation over tea and learn about this traditional entertainer's lifestyle.



Day 14 - Kyoto

Day at Leisure

Use this day to enjoy Kyoto, or take a trip an hour south to Nara. There you can see the world's largest bronze Buddha statue, feed the tame deer that roam Nara Park, and walk through the traditional district of Nara Machi.



Accommodation in Kyoto

Premium Category



The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto 4 nights

Indulge in luxury fit for an emperor in Japan's former imperial capital. The Ritz Carlton Kyoto combines a perfect location and world-class in-house restaurants.

Essentials Category



Hyatt Regency Kyoto 4 nights

The Hyatt will immediately impress you with its attentive staff, stylish lobby, and variety of dining options. The location on the eastern side of the city puts you in close proximity to sightseeing spots and walking paths along the Kamogawa River.

Day 12 - Departure from Osaka

Departure

Time to say goodbye to the unforgettable wintertime charms of Japan. We provide private transportation to Kansai International Airport as you prepare to depart.



Insider Activities

All of our Japan Insider Collection itineraries feature a selection of activities chosen by our luxury consultants to align with the trip theme. They are described below. You may add more activities to your itinerary, or substitute existing ones, using our Insider Activity Menu. Please note that we recommend a maximum of 2 to 3 activities per destination.

Ski Equipment Rentals & Niseko All Mountain Pass

Your ski trip includes four days of equipment rentals (ski and boots) and a four-day lift pass granting you access to all four resorts in Niseko. This pass also includes night skiing. Additional equipment rentals (pants, jacket, etc), lessons, and snow activities are available at an additional cost.



Sake Tasting in Tokyo

In the past decade, sake has enjoyed a wave of renewed popularity both in Japan and overseas. A tasting experience is one of our most requested activities for travelers, allowing visitors to learn about this famous alcoholic beverage that has been a part of Japanese culture for millennia. Dive into the liquid landscape of Japan under the care of a knowledgeable expert and discover how the locals prefer their sake.

Meeting with Maiko in Kyoto

One of the most sought-after bookings in Kyoto is a private audience with a maiko, a young geisha-in-training that is still mastering the art of refined performance and gentle hospitality. This is a rare chance to see the maiko kimono and makeup up close and discover why only a few young women each year choose to enter this difficult life. Enjoy tea while asking questions about her life and finish with an elegant dance performance.



Tea Ritual in Kyoto

There's no better city than Kyoto to explore the world of tea. This was the spot where the craze for refined matcha tea exploded in the 16th century, and it remains popular to this day. Step into the traditional home of a tea practitioner for a private ceremony that will demystify the Way of Tea. Take this moment to relax and learn how this simple ceremony connects to Japanese everyday life in surprising ways.



Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- Winter travelers seeking the world's best powder.
- Skiers and snowboarders also looking for a glimpse into Japanese culture.

Seasonal Information

This winter trip is designed for travelers arriving in Japan between mid December and mid March For earlier or later arrivals, please contact us.

Due to Christmas and New Year festivities, availability and pricing is not guaranteed between **December 24th and January 4th**. For ski holidays during those dates, please contact us. One of our Luxury Travel Consultants can help you build a custom trip.



Pricing Information

Estimated price per person



Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

The accommodations, transportation, and activites in our Japan Insider Collection trips are customizable, so all itineraries and price quotes are uniquely tailored to our guests.

For the ski portion of the itinerary, this pricing includes lift passes as well as ski and boots rental. Additional equipment rental and activities like ski lessons, snowshoeing, catskiing, and backcountry tours are also available for an extra charge.

The only exact price will be the one you receive in your personalized quotation.





Spring in Japan: Chasing Cherry Blossoms KANAZAWA



Hakone

Tokyo Tokyo Tokyo to Hakone

Hakone to Kyoto Kyoto

Arrival in Tokyo

- Nara
- Kyoto to Kanazawa
- 10 Kanazawa
- Kanazawa to Tokyo 11
- 12 Departure from Tokyo

Day 1 - Tokyo

Arrival in Tokyo

This lively metropolis is truly a feast for the senses, and offers a variety of ways to explore art, history, food, pop culture, architecture, fashion, and the unique Japanese sense of modernity. Enjoy private transport from the airport to your hotel, with the afternoon and evening to explore freely.

Day 2 - Tokyo

Stepping into Spring

Spring is in the air as cherry blossoms begin to open throughout the capital. Visit a Shinto shrine with a famous cherry tree and take in the magnificent display of pink and white blossoms at Shinjuku Gyoen garden. Enjoy guided sightseeing in Shibuya and Asakusa, and finish the day atop an observation deck in the Roppongi district to enjoy stunning views of the city.



Accommodation in Tokyo

Premium Category

Palace Hotel Tokyo, 3 nights



This newly renovated historic Japanese hotel boasts the city's best views of the Imperial Palace. Rooms feature impressive outdoor balconies and an array of luxury amenities. With a wide choice of restaurants, as well as an Evian spa, fitness center and pool, Palace Hotel offers an elegant Tokyo experience.

Essentials Category

Keio Plaza Hotel, 3 nights



Located among the soaring towers of Shinjuku, this modern hotel is perfect for travelers who want to be right in the center of modern Tokyo. All rooms offer spectacular views of the cityscape. Opportunities for nightlife and dining abound, with lively neighborhoods like Kabukicho and major department stores within walking distance. Day 3 - Tokyo

A Springtime Tradition

Today you will experience *hanami*, a picnic in the park amongst the blossoms. Locals look forward to this perennial activity all year. The delicious food and drink shared under the trees make it even more exciting. Your guide will accompany you to the famous Tsukiji Outer Market and the underground food halls in Ginza to find the best snacks and treats for your picnic. After lunch, the afternoon is yours to explore as you wish.



HAKONE

Accommodation in Hakone

Premium and Essentials Categories

Gora Byakudan Ryokan 1 night



This modern ryokan is a delightful oasis nestled between Hakone's lush forest and mountains. Featuring private outdoor hot spring baths in each room, it is the perfect place to relax after a busy day of sightseeing. Day 4 - Tokyo to Hakone

Rural Retreat

After three days in the city, it's time to head into the countryside to unwind in Hakone, a natural hot spring retreat. Spend the day touring with a guide and private vehicle. Your first stop is to admire the blossoms at Odawara Castle. As you drive through the mountains, you will stop for tea at a traditional teahouse, visit the famous Hakone Shrine, and finish with another stunning display of cherry blossoms along the banks of the picturesque Hayakawa River. Retire to a relaxing hot spring bath at tonight's elegant ryokan lodging.

Day 5 - Hakone to Kyoto

Art and Travel

Savor a lavish traditional Japanese breakfast before visiting the Hakone Open Air Museum in the charming Gora area. Bid farewell to the countryside and hop aboard a bullet train to Kyoto. The afternoon and evening are free for you to begin exploring the city's winding streets.







Accommodation in Kyoto

Premium Category



The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto

4 nights

Indulge in luxury fit for an emperor in Japan's former imperial capital. The Ritz Carlton Kyoto combines a perfect location and world-class in-house restaurants.

Essentials Category



Hyatt Regency Kyoto 4 nights

The Hyatt will immediately impress you with its attentive staff, stylish lobby, and variety of dining options. The location on the eastern side of the city puts you in close proximity to sightseeing spots and walking paths along the Kamogawa River.

KYOTO & NARA

Day 6 - Kyoto

The Ancient Capital

This is your chance to take a deep look into the culture of Japan's most celebrated city with a knowledgeable private guide at your side— and see some amazing cherry blossoms along the way. Today's route takes you down the flowering Philosopher's Path from the refined Silver Pavilion into the heart of Gion, the geisha district. The day finishes with a special experience: a private meeting with a *maiko*, a young geisha-intraining, who will share with you the secrets of her role as a traditional entertainer.

Day 7 - Kyoto

Bright Blossoms and Rich Tea

Venture to the western edge of Kyoto, stopping along the way at a few off-the-beaten-path spots where the locals gather to enjoy the blossoms. In Arashiyama, you will find the contrast of green bamboo and pink cherry blossoms is a delightful display of nature. After a lunch of vegetarian Zen cuisine, enter the private home of our in-house tea expert and learn the secrets of a zen tea ritual.

Day 8 - Nara

A Delightful Day Trip

No visit to the region is complete without a trip to Nara, an hour south of Kyoto. In spring, Nara Park is bursting with blossoms, and thousands of the famous wild deer roam freely beneath the trees. Visit the *Daibutsu*, the world's largest bronze Buddha statue, and enjoy a walk through nature before returning to Kyoto in the afternoon.



KANAZAWA

Day 9 - Kyoto to Kanazawa

A Glimpse into Traditional Art

Depart Kyoto by express train and arrive in Kanazawa, a vibrant city on the northern coast with centuries of cultural history. After lunch, you'll be accompanied by a guide to visit the workshop of a local artisan. Choices for this visit include an expert bamboo basket weaver, a renowned *makie* lacquerware artist, or one of the few remaining swordsmiths in Japan.

Day 10 - Kanazawa

Blossoms on the Coast

You will be visiting Kanazawa in the perfect season. At their peak, the cherry trees bloom throughout the grounds of the stately Kanazawa Castle ruins, as well as in Kenrokuen, considered one of top three gardens in all of Japan. You will also explore classic streets lined with traditional wooden homes and teahouses in Higashichayagai, and stop for lunch in the Omicho seafood market.



Accommodation in Kanazawa

Premium and Essentials Categories

Hotel Nikko Kanazawa, 2 nights

With 30 floors of luxury rooms, the tallest hotel in the Hokuriku region also happens to be one of the finest. Located directly across the street from Kanazawa Station, Hotel Nikko ensures a comfortable and convenient stay with excellent views that stretch to the ocean from the top floors.



Day 11 - Kanazawa to Tokyo

Return to the Capital

Ride back to Tokyo on the bullet train and spend a final day exploring on your own.

Day 12 - Tokyo

Departure

Time to say goodbye to the unforgettable springtime charms of Japan. We provide private transportation to the airport for your departure.

Accommodation in Tokyo

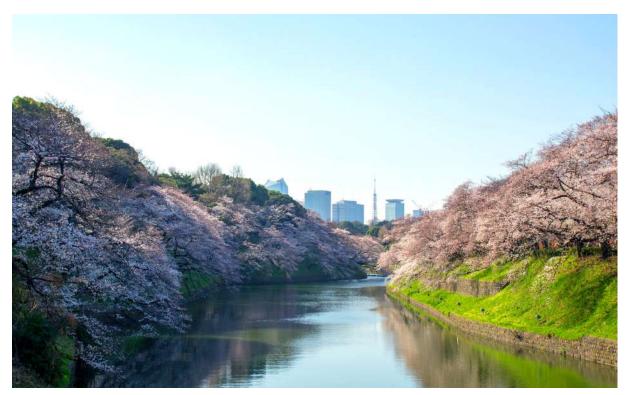
Premium and Essentials Categories

Hotel Gajoen 1 night



One of Tokyo's finest classic hotels, conveniently located along the banks of the Meguro River— a popular spot for cherry blossom viewing.





Insider Activities

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Hanami Picnic in Tokyo

For locals, spring isn't complete without a picnic under the cherry trees. Your guide will help you pick up snacks and drinks at the famous Tsukiji Market and in the basement foodhalls of Ginza. Enjoy your selection in a park with a fantastic view of the classic Tokyo Tower. This quintessential Japanese seasonal activity is the ideal way to enjoy the blossoms (rainy day substitute activity is provided).



Meeting with Maiko in Kyoto

One of the most sought-after bookings in Kyoto is a private audience with a maiko, a young geisha-in-training that is still mastering the art of refined performance and gentle hospitality. This is a rare chance to see the maiko kimono and makeup up close and discover why only a few young women each year choose to enter this difficult life. Enjoy tea while asking questions about her life and finish with an elegant dance performance.

Tea Ritual in Kyoto

There's no better city than Kyoto to explore the world of tea. This was the spot where the craze for refined matcha tea exploded in the 16th century, and it remains popular to this day. Step into the traditional home of a tea practitioner for a private ceremony that will demystify the Way of Tea. Take this moment to relax and learn how this simple ceremony connects to Japanese everyday life in surprising ways.

Traditional Artisan Studio Visit in Kanazawa

Uncover the secrets of authentic Japanese art in Kanazawa as you enter the workshop of a local artisan of your choosing: an expert bamboo basket weaver, a renowned *maki-e* lacquerware artist, or one of the few remaining swordsmiths in Japan. This is a rare chance to meet traditional craftsmen only accessible through wondertrunk & co.





Trip Details

This Trip is Perfect For

- Travelers excited to experience spring in Japan and see the famous cherry blossoms up close
- First-time visitors to Japan
- Those who want to discover the essence of Japan in a short time

Seasonal Information

This limited time trip is designed for travelers arriving in Japan between the 23rd and 31st of March. For earlier or later arrivals, please contact us.

This itinerary is designed to maximize your chances of enjoying cherry blossoms in bloom in as many destinations as possible. However, bloom dates vary from year to year so this cannot be guaranteed. This trip is intended to be a wonderful introduction to Japan regardless of the cherry blossom bloom schedule.



Pricing Information

Estimated price per person

Essentials	Premium
USD 8 500	USD 14000

Our Pricing Categories

Essentials

- 4-star accommodation
- Mix of private and public transportation

Premium

- 5-star accommodation
- Private transportation

Why is this price an estimate?

The accommodations, transportation, and activites in our Japan Insider Collection trips are customizable, so all itineraries and price quotes are uniquely tailored to our guests.

Spring is peak travel season in Japan, so pricing and availability will evolve as the season draws nearer. Final pricing can vary based on availability of services and accommodations, time of inquiry, and other factors.

The only exact price will be the one you receive in your personalized quotation.

Wondertrunk & co. assumes no responsibility for shifts in the cherry blossom bloom schedule due to prevailing yearly climate conditions. If you wish to cancel or alter your trip due to evolving climate conditions that may affect the timing of the cherry blossom bloom schedule, our standard cancellation policy will apply.

