



Itinerary

10 Day Japan's Golden Route Tour

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** This is the default version of the tour itinerary. Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this version. If you have booked extras, Please contact info@myholiday2.com.au for a personalised version of your itinerary*

DAY 1: Arrive Osaka, Japan

Arrive in Osaka Japan! Upon arrival your friendly tour guide will be waiting at the airport (KIX) to transfer you to the hotel. Upon check in, the remainder of the day is free at your own leisure.

MEALS: None

OVERNIGHT: Stargate Hotel, Osaka

DAY 2: Osaka ~ Himeji ~ Hiroshima

After breakfast we make the trip to the moving city of Hiroshima. Largely destroyed when the first atomic bomb was dropped over Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, the city became known worldwide for this unenviable distinction. Enroute, we stop in Himeji to visit the castle. It was registered in 1993 as one of the first UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the country. Enjoy your time here before heading to Hiroshima.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Grand Prince Hotel, Hiroshima

DAY 3: Hiroshima Full Day Tour ~ Osaka

Today, we begin with the Itsukushima Shrine on Miyajima Island. The shrine and its torii gate are unique for being built over water, seemingly floating in the sea during high tide. Then visit the Peace Memorial Park and Atomic Bomb Museum, which commemorates the victims of the atomic bomb used in WWII.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Grand Prince Hotel, Hiroshima

DAY 4: Hiroshima ~ Osaka

Today we travel back to Osaka with two break stops. Sit back and enjoy the scenery.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Hotel It, Osaka Shinmachi

DAY 5: Osaka ~ Nara ~ Kyoto ~ Osaka

Visit Todaiji Temple, with its Great Buddha Hall housing the world's largest bronze statue of the Buddha Vairocana. Wander through Nara Park, where over 1,200 wild sika deer roam free. Then travel to Kyoto, visit Nijo Castle, the Kyoto residence of the Tokugawa Shogunate and Kinkakuji: Golden Pavilion, a Zen temple and World Heritage site with two floors covered entirely in thin layers of pure gold and detailed architecture incorporating three distinct architectural styles of Shinden, Samurai, and Zen. For 2025 departures (Osaka to Kyoto), Today we will take a day trip to Nara. Once you arrive in Nara, it is a departure, short walk to the main attractions. We will visit Todaiji Temple and its Great Hall as it houses one of the largest bronze Buddha statues in the world. Wander back through Nara Deer Park, where you can see hundreds of deer roaming around. Nara's 1,200 deer have become the city's symbol as it comes from the Shinto idea that every creature, nature or object is a messenger of God. While you are here you can feed the deer with crackers and enjoy some of the local foods they have to offer. As well as their cute deer souvenirs and activities related to Nara's history. Afterwards, travel to Kyoto, a time capsule of laneways filled with tea houses, izakayas and geisha — if you can spot them vanishing down the back alleys. On arrival, wander across the Togetsu Bridge, the landmark of Western Kyoto's Arashiyama District for over four hundred years. Then, get lost in the surreal and otherworldly beauty of the Arashiyama Bamboo Forest. Gliding across wooden paths that weave through dense thickets of tall bamboo stalks, find a quiet corner to listen to the rustling, creaking, and sway of trunks that knock together, creating a peaceful sound like almost nothing else. (Stay overnight in Noku Hotel Kyoto for 2025)

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Hotel It, Osaka Shinmachi

DAY 6: Osaka ~ Kyoto ~ Mt. Fuji

Today, visit Togetsu Bridge, the landmark of Western Kyoto's Arashiyama District for over four hundred years. Explore Sagano Bamboo Forest on the outskirts of Kyoto, where towering green stalks of the famously versatile plant sway in the wind, creaking eerily as they collide and twist, leaves rustling. After lunch, travel onwards to Mount Fuji by bullet train - Shinkansen (Max. speed 320km/h). For 2025 departures - Kyoto to Mt Fuji - Following breakfast this morning, visit Nijo Castle, where you can revel in the atmosphere of this historical residence of the Tokugawa Shogunate. Later, admire the Kinkakuji (Golden Pavilion), a Zen temple and World Heritage site with two floors covered entirely in thin layers of pure gold and detailed architecture incorporating the three distinct architectural styles of Shinden, Samurai and Zen. After lunch, travel onwards to Mt. Fuji on a world-famous Shinkansen bullet train. Watch as flashes of futuristic skyscrapers, shrines and lush fields pass by in its max 320-kilometers-per-hour dash from Kyoto to Tokyo. This time-defying lightning bolt is diminished only by the majesty of the cloud-cloaked Mt. Fuji, a sight that makes time stand still for a serene, spectacular moment.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Hotel MYSTAYS Fuji Onsen Resort, Mt. Fuji

DAY 7: Mt. Fuji Full Day Tour

Today, visit Oshino Hakkai. Known as the Springs of Mount Fuji, the eight ponds are fed by melting snow filtering down from the slopes of nearby Mount Fuji through porous layers of lava, resulting in very clear spring water that is revered by the locals. Later visit Mount Fuji's 5th Station, which is above the clouds, to view its enormous summit if weather permits. (Alternatively visit Gotemba Peace Park to capture a breathtaking view of Mount Fuji, and Hakone Checkpoint, which used to be an important checkpoint on the highway connecting Kyoto to Tokyo in the Edo period.) Take a cruise on Lake Ashi, and savour the numerous delights of nature.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Hotel MYSTAYS Fuji Onsen Resort, Mt. Fuji

DAY 8: Mt. Fuji ~ Tokyo

Today, visit a Japanese Beer Factory to taste one of most popular Japanese beers on the way to Tokyo. Arrive Tokyo, the rest of the day is at your own leisure.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Sunshine Prince Hotel, Tokyo

DAY 9: Tokyo Free Day

Spend today free at your own leisure. You may spend a day in Tokyo Disneyland or DisneySea (admission \$120), or you can join the Nikko Day Tour. Or alternatively, you can join our wide range of optional programs (tea ceremony, pottery-making experience, golden joinery, kimono photo shoot, cooking class). All activities are not guided and transportation is self-arranged.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Sunshine Prince Hotel, Tokyo

DAY 10: End of Tour ~ Departure

Today transfer to the airport (NRT) to board your flight. We hope you enjoyed your Holiday2Japan

MEALS: Breakfast