



# Japan Express

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This is the perfect itinerary if you are only making a brief visit to Japan. You will start off in the ultra-modern, buzzing metropolis of Tokyo. Then with the 7-Day Japan Rail Pass we provide, you will take the fast, efficient Bullet Train to Kyoto. Spend a few days exploring the many temples, shrines and gardens whilst dining on beautifully crafted and intricate kaiseki cooking that Kyoto is famous for.

## Tokyo

Home to over 12 million people, the vast metropolis of Japan's capital must be seen to be believed. Tokyo embraces the modern and ancient like no other city on earth and offers something for everyone who wants to delve into the Japanese phenomenon: the towering skyscrapers and frenzied neon of Shinjuku, the pop culture and gadget paradise of Akihabara, the sophisticated chic of Ginza, the old downtown area of Asakusa, and the tranquil, understated beauty of Meiji Shrine. Not to mention superb restaurants and great bars as well as fabulous shopping and museums befitting the capital of the Land of the Rising Sun



## Kyoto

Kyoto is where you will find the Japan of silent temples nestling in bamboo groves, gardens of finely raked sand and bewitching geisha. This city is home to over 2,000 temples and shrines, exquisite crafts and some of the best cuisine in the country. In short, Kyoto is the heartbeat of traditional Japan.

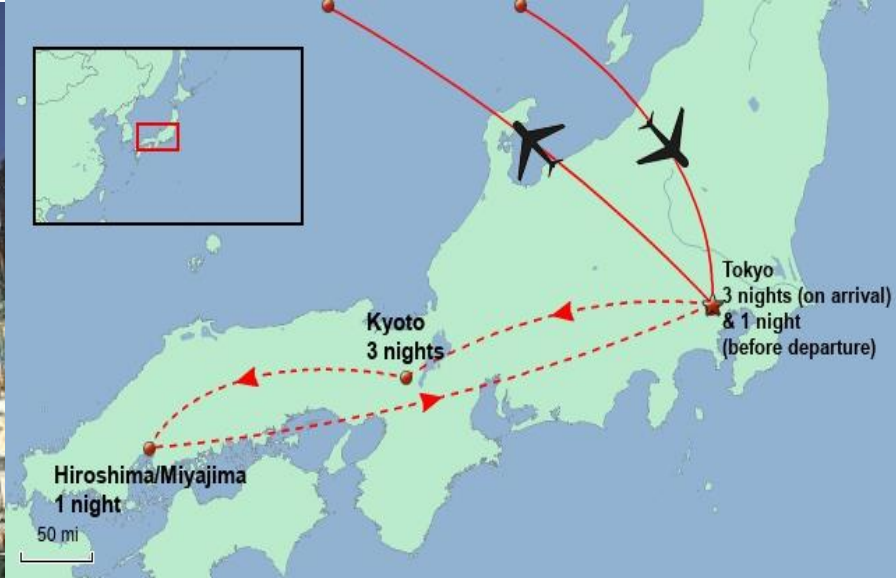
Not to be missed are Kinkaku-ji, Ginkaku-ji and Kiyomizu temples, although be aware that these do become crowded. For a more peaceful, intimate temple experience we recommend the temple complex of Daitoku-ji, in particular Daisen- in sub-temple, and the Arashiyama area to the west of the city.

## Hiroshima, Miyajima Island

Hiroshima is an attractive, cosmopolitan city which has risen from the ashes of the world's first atomic bomb attack on 6 August 1945. The hypocentre of the explosion is now the Peace Memorial Park, a beautiful expanse of greenery housing monuments to the tragedy. You can also use the train and ferry to visit nearby Miyajima island. Miyajima Island is well known for its giant vermilion torii gate, ranked as one of Japan's three best views and which at high tide seems to float on the water.



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## The Itinerary

### Day 1: Arrival in Japan, Meet & Greet at Narita or Haneda Airport (Tokyo)

Welcome to Japan! Our friendly Meet & Greet service representative will be waiting in the Arrivals lobby and holding a sign with your name on. The Meet & Greet will direct you to the Narita Express train or the Airport Limousine Bus bound for Tokyo. Check in to your clean and comfortable hotel in central Tokyo for 3 nights.

### Day 2: Tokyo

Your options are unlimited in this incredible city. Explore Tokyo's past in the bustling, traditional Asakusa district, shop in the fashionable districts of Shibuya and Harajuku, and dine on Japan's finest cuisine. Tokyo is relatively straightforward to navigate, and our Information Pack will make travelling around the city a breeze.

#### Optional guided excursion

*Enjoy a full day of sightseeing by coach in Tokyo, with lunch included. Your guide will show you the highlights of this vast metropolis, from the Imperial Palace and serene Meiji Shrine to the 'Electric City' of*



*Akihabara.*

### Day 3: Tokyo

Enjoy a further day of exploring in Tokyo or use your Japan Rail Pass to venture further afield to Kamakura, a former capital of Japan, or Nikko, a beautiful temple town in the mountains north of Tokyo.

#### Optional guided excursion

*Join a fantastic, guided excursion by coach to the beautiful Hakone & Mt Fuji region. Ride in a cable car for a superb view of the surrounding mountains and volcanic craters, and even board a pirate ship to cruise around Lake Ashi! A delicious lunch is included. Return to Tokyo on Japan's world-famous Bullet Train.*

### Day 4: Tokyo to Kyoto

It's time to say goodbye to Tokyo for a few days and speed on the Bullet Train to Kyoto, the soul of Japan. The journey takes less than 3 hours, leaving you plenty of time to enjoy the late afternoon in Kyoto, where we recommend a stroll around the lovely side streets. You will stay in a comfortable, spotless hotel in the heart of Kyoto for 3 nights.

### Day 5: Kyoto

A rich history of religion, art and craft have combined to make this glorious city a spiritual home for the Japanese. For temples we recommend Kiyomizu-dera and Ginkaku-ji in the hills to the east of the city. Nijo Castle is also well worth a visit, and make sure you allow yourself plenty of time for the wonderful craft shops and delightful streets of Gion, the old geisha quarter.

#### Optional guided excursion

*Join a guided coach tour. As well as visits to Nijo Castle, Kinkaku-ji (The Golden Temple), Sanjusangendo Temple and Kiyomizu Temple, today's tour includes a delicious buffet-style lunch.*

### Day 6: Kyoto/Nara/Osaka at leisure

Use your Japan Rail Pass to explore further afield. Why not visit Nara, Japan's first permanent capital and home to 8 UNESCO World Heritage Sites? You could even check out nearby Osaka, Japan's lively second city.

#### Optional guided excursion

*Spend the afternoon on a guided coach tour to Nara. Your guide will take you around Todaiji temple and Nara Park followed by visits to Kasuga Taisha Shrine before heading back to Kyoto by coach.*



### Day 7: Miyajima

Check out of your hotel and board the Bullet Train to Hiroshima. The Atomic Bomb Dome and the moving Peace Memorial Park and Museum are sights not to be missed. Make the short trip by ferry to the lovely island of Miyajima. Enjoy the beautiful scenery and fantastic views of the o-torii of Itsukushima Shrine, one of the most famous sights in Japan. By late afternoon the day-trippers will have left the island, and you will spend a magical evening in a *ryokan* (traditional Japanese inn) where a delicious Japanese **dinner** and breakfast are included.

### Day 8: Hiroshima to Tokyo

Enjoy the morning in the lovely surroundings of your ryokan before heading back to Hiroshima. Board the Bullet Train again and head back to the electrifying city of Tokyo. Enjoy your final evening in the capital of manga, anime, shopping, eating and people-watching. If your flight is early the next morning, we can also offer hotel accommodation in Haneda or Narita Airport.

### Day 9: Depart Japan

Transfer from your hotel to Narita or Haneda International Airport (Tokyo).

## Price Includes:

- 7 nights' accommodation in a Double/Twin room at centrally located hotels in Tokyo and Kyoto on a bed and Japanese breakfast basis
- 1 night's accommodation in a traditional Japanese *ryokan* including a delicious Japanese **dinner** and breakfast on Miyajima Island
- 7-day Japan Rail Pass allowing you unlimited travel on the entire Japan Rail network including Shinkansen (Bullet Train) services and the Hiroshima to Miyajima ferry
- Transfers from and to Narita or Haneda International Airport (Tokyo) by Express Train or Airport Limousine Bus
- Detailed Japan Journeys Information Pack including detailed train schedules, maps, & brochures
- Personalised Japan Journeys App to help manage your documents
- All Japanese sales taxes and service charge
- Full financial protection via Japan Journeys' membership of the Travel Trust Association through which your monies are held in a Trust Account until you return home (under Membership No. U3078)

## Not Included In Price:

- International airfare
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Entrance fees to sights not mentioned in the itinerary
- Taxi, subway and tramway fees
- Insurance
- Optional excursions (please see below)

3* ACCOMMODATION	4* ACCOMMODATION	5* ACCOMMODATION
<b>from £1,699.00</b>	<b>from £2,395.00</b>	<b>On request</b>
per person based on Twin/Double room occupancy.	per person based on Twin/Double room occupancy.	
<b>from £2,175.00</b>	<b>from £2,995.00</b>	
For Single room occupancy	For Single room occupancy	

### Optional Guided Excursions:

**Tokyo:** £98.00 per person *full day, including lunch*    **Mt Fuji & Hakone:** £170.00 per person *full day, including lunch*  
**Kyoto:** £125.00 per person *full day, including lunch*    **Nara Afternoon:** £77.00 per person

All price estimates are based on current rates of exchange and are subject to availability. To make a booking, a deposit of **£250.00 per person or 10% of the total price (whichever is greater)** is required. The balance of the price of the trip must be made 12 weeks prior to departure.

## HOW OUR INDEPENDENT TOURS WORK

Enjoy independent travel but not the hassle of planning? One of our Independent Tours could be just the ticket. Carefully put together by our team of specialists, our excellent collection of sample itineraries are designed to inform and inspire your next Japan adventure. Every one of our Independent Tours is fully tailor made for you, ensuring your trip is everything you want it to be.

It's quite straight forward to travel independently in Japan. We will provide just the right amount of support and logistical planning to make you feel comfortable in a very foreign land. These itineraries are available for any departure date (with a few exclusions which coinciding with Japanese National Holidays and some weekends). We'll do all the work for you and provide you with an information pack to make your trip run smoothly. You can also add guided tours as indicated and if you do want your own personal guide we can arrange this too.

## WHAT NEXT?

If you're interested in this itinerary, please let us know the following and we will get back to you with a quote:

- Your proposed dates of travel
- Your preferred grade of accommodation (e.g. 3\*, 4\*, or 5\*)
- Your preferred room type (e.g. Double, Twin or Singles)
- How many adults and children this is for (and the age of the children at the time of travel)

## NOT FROM THE UK?

Don't worry! We deal with countless passengers from outside of the UK. You just need to let us know the information above (and you can arrange your own flights to Japan).

To find out more, call one of our specialists now on **020 7766 5267**.



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