



Japanese Voyage

9 nights from \$4460

For Reservations Please Call 1-800-22-SWAIN

Destinations

Tokyo, Hakone, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Osaka

Includes

- All round trip airport and train station transfers
- 3 nights Tokyo
- Dynamic Tokyo half day tour
- Kamakura Walking Tour
- Coach transfer from Tokyo to Hakone (via Mount Fuji)
- 1 night Hakone
- Hakone tour and hot springs bath
- Bullet train from (Odawara to Kyoto)
- 3 nights Kyoto
- Kyoto half day city tour
- Bullet train from Kyoto to Hiroshima
- 1 night Hiroshima
- Hiroshima and Miyajima tour
- Bullet train from Hiroshima to Kurashiki
- Okayama and Kurashiki tour
- Train journey from Kurashiki to Osaka
- 1 night Osaka
- 9 breakfasts 3 lunches



Day 1 Fly USA to Tokyo

Day 2 Welcome to Tokyo, Japan

Upon arrival, you will clear customs and immigration before being transferred to your hotel.

From its bright billboards and crowded sidewalks, one could confuse Tokyo for New York City, but hiding in the shadows of the skyscrapers, neatly-clipped bonsai trees frame ancient wooden houses and kimono-clad women shuffle down narrow streets. Pass spring days under a pink cloud of fragrant cherry blossoms in Ueno Park, or awake early to witness the madness of a tuna auction at Tsukiji Fish Market. Sail down the Sumida River and make a grand entrance at Sensoji, Tokyo's oldest temple, or feast your eyes on the world's largest collection of Japanese art at the Tokyo National Museum.

Day 3 Dynamic Tokyo

Your first stop today is the observation deck of the Tokyo Tower where you can get sweeping 360° views across the city and on a clear morning even Mount Fuji. Tokyo Tower is 1,091 ft / 333 m tall, making it the tallest man-made structure in Japan. Visit Happo-en Garden, embodies Japan's history of celebrating each of the four seasons. At a garden tea room witness a tea ceremony demonstration (or sado 'the way of tea'), a traditional ritual influenced by Zen Buddhism in which powdered green tea is ceremonially prepared by a skilled practitioner.

Following a barbeque-style lunch at Chinzan-so Restaurant, drive by the Diet - Japan's parliamentary seat of power. Heading to the center of the city now you will stop at the large plaza in front of the Imperial Palace, where you can view the Nijubashi (two bridges that form an entrance to the inner palace grounds). The palace buildings and inner gardens are not open to the public.

Then enjoy a forty-minute Sumida River boat ride from Hinode pier to Asakusa. The river was the most important waterway for the development of Tokyo, and sights along the way include the twelve bridges of Sumida, the traditional neighborhoods of old Edo. Back on land the Asakusa Kannon Temple - or Senso-ji - is a few minutes walk away.

It is Tokyo's oldest temple, and one of its most significant. Adjacent to the temple is a Shinto shrine, the

Asakusa Jinja and entrance to the temple is through the Nakamise shopping arcade, one of the oldest arcades in Japan dating back to the 17th century, selling toys, sweets, snacks and souvenirs.

Return to the central Tokyo again with a drive through the famous Ginza, Tokyo's Fifth Avenue.

Day 4 Kamakura Walking Tour

Board a local train on the Yokosuka Line for a 55 minute trip to Kamakura, then take a connecting train to Hase.

Surrounded by mountains on three sides and the open water of Sagami Bay on the fourth, Kamakura is a natural fortress. During the Heian period it was the chief city of the Kanto region, and from the 12th through 14th centuries the Minamoto shoguns ruled Japan from here under what is known as the Kamakura Shogunate.

Kamakura is now mainly known for its temples and shrines. Visit Kotoku-in, with the monumental outdoor bronze statue of Amida Buddha, the most famous of these. A 15th Century tsunami destroyed the temple that once housed the Great Buddha, but the statue survived and has remained outdoors ever since. Visit Hase Temple, a temple most famous for its statue of Kannon, the goddess of mercy. The statue shows Kannon with eleven heads, each representing a characteristic of the goddess.

Visit Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine, which features include the symbol of the first Shogun Minamoto; an arched bridge; the Genji and Heike ponds; a huge ginkgo tree, and the colorful Main Hall standing at the top of 62 stone steps.

Walk back to Kamakura Station via Komachi Shopping Street with time to browse the art and craft shops.

Day 5 Tokyo to Hakone (Via Mount Fuji)

Depart for Hakone by coach, en route drive halfway up to Mt Fuji and stop at 5th station. You will enjoy a western style lunch at a local restaurant. Upon arrival in Hakone, you will take a mini cruise on Lake Ashi, and take a cable car ride to Mt Komagatake. At the top of the mountain, you will have spectacular views of Mt Fuji and Hakone National Park.

Hakone is a favorite weekend getaway for Tokyoites, offering everything from hot-spring resorts to magnificent views of Mount Fuji. Getting to Hakone is an experience in itself. Depart Tokyo on a high speed train, switch to a small mountain tram, and zigzag through forests and over streams. Enjoy unbelievable views as you ride a cable car and skim across Lake Ashi by boat before entering an alpine wonderland.

After enjoying the sights of Hakone, relax in the hot spring baths.

Day 6 Bullet train to Kyoto

Experience a ride on a 'Shinkansen' (Bullet train) as you journey to Kyoto. The distance is 430 miles.

With its Zen rock gardens and air of tradition, Kyoto is a city for lovers. Young couples drift down the Oi River in wooden boats glowing with red lanterns while older sweethearts stroll along the narrow streets of historic Eastern Kyoto. As home to 20% of Japan's national treasures, Kyoto is a massive museum.

For a trip back in time this is the perfect place to stay at a traditional ryokan. While the experience is not inexpensive when compared with some hotel options, it is certainly a unique way to experience the simplistic beauty of genuine Japan. Gleaming polished wood, tatami floors, rice-paper sliding doors, meticulously groomed gardens, and kimono-clad hostesses will all ensure this cultural insight is an absolute highlight of your visit.

Nara tour

This afternoon you will visit Todaiji Temple with its huge Image of Buddha; Sacred Deer Park; and Kasuga Shinto Shrine famous for its hundreds of stone lanterns.

Buddhism gained a foothold in Japan after monks from the Korean kingdom of Paekche introduced the faith to the Japanese court. It quickly won an influential following, reaching the highest circles of imperial power by the 7th century.

In 685 the Emperor Temmu ordered that every family throughout the land should establish a Buddhist Altar. His descendent Prince Shotoku went further, decreeing that a national branch temple be built in every province. Two years later, in 743, he ordered the construction of a grand national temple to oversee them all. Todaiji was the result.

Completed in just four years by 751, Todaiji was truly a wonder of the world. It housed the largest wooden building the world has yet seen. Even the 2/3 scale reconstruction, finished in the 17th century, it remains the largest wooden building on earth today.

Day 7 Kyoto city tour

Please assemble in your hotel lobby to start a morning tour of Kyoto. Today you will discover the historical sites of this interesting city. The first site will be the Nijo Castle, the old residence of the Shogun, followed by the famous golden pavilions at the Kinkakuji Temple, the Higashi Honganji, and finishing at the Kyoto handicraft Center. This tour begins at 8.30am, and concludes at 12.30pm at your hotel.

Day 8 At leisure, Kyoto

The city boasts an impressive catalog of 1,700 well-preserved Buddhist temples and 300 Shinto shrines. Kinkakuji, the Temple of the Golden Pavilion, is one of Kyoto's most famous and elaborate attractions. Featuring a three-story pavilion covered in gold-leaf and crowned by a phoenix, one has to shade their eyes from its brilliance. Rivaling this luster is Nara's Great Buddha, Daibutsu, one of the largest bronze statues in the world containing 286 pounds of pure gold.

Day 9 Hiroshima and Miyajima

Travel from Kyoto by JR Bullet Train (Shinkansen) to Hiroshima. On arrival, begin a sightseeing tour by motor coach, of Hiroshima and Miyajima. Visit Itsukushima Shrine with its famous 'Torii' gate in Miyajima Island, Peace Memorial Park and Atomic Bomb Museum. Tour ends at your hotel for your overnight stay.

Day 10 Okayama and Kurashiki

Travel from Hiroshima by JR Bullet Train for Shin-Kurashiki. On arrival, begin a half day motor coach sightseeing tour of Kurashiki, to visit Ohara Museum of Art. Enjoy a western style lunch at Kurashiki International Hotel, and then continue to Okayama. At Okayama visit Korakuen Garden before transferring to the train station for the JR Bullet Train for Shin-Osaka. Arrive at Shin-Osaka Station and transfer to your hotel.

Day 11 Fly Osaka to USA

Hotels

For more information about the hotels visited in this itinerary please click the hotel name below.

City	Standard	Superior	Deluxe	Luxury
Tokyo	Shinagawa Prince Hotel	Keio Plaza	Imperial Hotel	-
Hakone	Kowaki-en Hotel	Fujiya Hotel	Hyatt Regency	-
Kyoto	New Miyako Hotel	Hotel Granvia	Hyatt Regency	-
Hiroshima	Granvia Hotel	Granvia Hotel	Granvia Hotel	-
Osaka	Granvia Hotel	Swissôtel Nankai	Imperial Hotel	-

Pricing

To determine pricing for your tour select the appropriate travel season and desired accommodation level from the table below.

	Standard	Superior	Deluxe	Luxury
4/1/09-4/30/09	\$4510	\$5260	\$5720	-
5/1/09-5/31/09	\$4490	\$5190	\$5720	-
6/1/09-8/31/09	\$4460	\$5100	\$5720	-
9/1/09-9/30/09	\$4470	\$5150	\$5720	-
10/1/09-11/30/09	\$4510	\$5260	\$5720	-
12/1/09-12/31/09	\$4470	\$5140	\$5720	-
1/1/09-2/28/10	\$4700	\$5370	\$6020	-
3/1/10-3/31/10	\$4720	\$5400	\$6020	-
Single Traveler Supplement <i>from</i>	\$1960	\$2570	\$3050	-
Single Room Supplement <i>from</i>	\$800	\$1240	\$1630	-

International Airfare Pricing

Routing: LAX or SFO-TYO/OSA-LAX or SFO

4/1/09-5/28/09, 8/17/09-10/25/09, 2/5/10-2/11/10, 3/12/10-3/31/10	\$1555
5/29/09-6/18/09, 7/20/09-8/16/09, 12/11/09-12/24/09	\$1705
6/19/09-7/19/09	\$1765
10/26/09-12/10/09, 12/25/09-2/4/10, 2/12/10-3/11/09	\$1425

Terms & Conditions

*Prices are per person, twin/double share in USD. Travel may be restricted to certain days of the week and be available from one or multiple US departure points. Add on fares are available from most US cities and surcharges may be applicable for travel on particular days of the week. Seats are limited and may not be available on every flight. Hotels and tours remain subject to availability. US and Foreign Govt. taxes and fees vary depending on the itinerary selected and may range from \$90 to \$395 per person. Passenger Facility Charges of up to \$18 per person and the September 11th Security Fee of up to \$10 per person, are not included. After ticketing changes may not be permissible in some circumstances, or a change fee may be applied. Cancellation penalties and other booking or alteration restrictions may exist. Please note that some air segments may be served by an associated carrier. Full payment for special deals may be required within a number of days of the reservation being made as nominated by your consultant at the time of booking (or 60 days prior to departure). Please note blackout dates may apply to Christmas, New Year and local special event periods. Prices indicated remain subject to change without notice. Group inquiries are welcome however specials remain subject to hotel and airline capacity control and therefore may not be applicable for group travel. The best deal available for group travel will always be given in lieu of the offer indicated. Unless otherwise indicated all travel must be completed by March 31, 2010 if not before.