

INDEPENDENT TRIPS

Japan Highlights 8D/7N

Cultural

8 Days / 1 Country

Japan

Departure city: **Tokyo, Japan**

End city: **Tokyo, Japan**

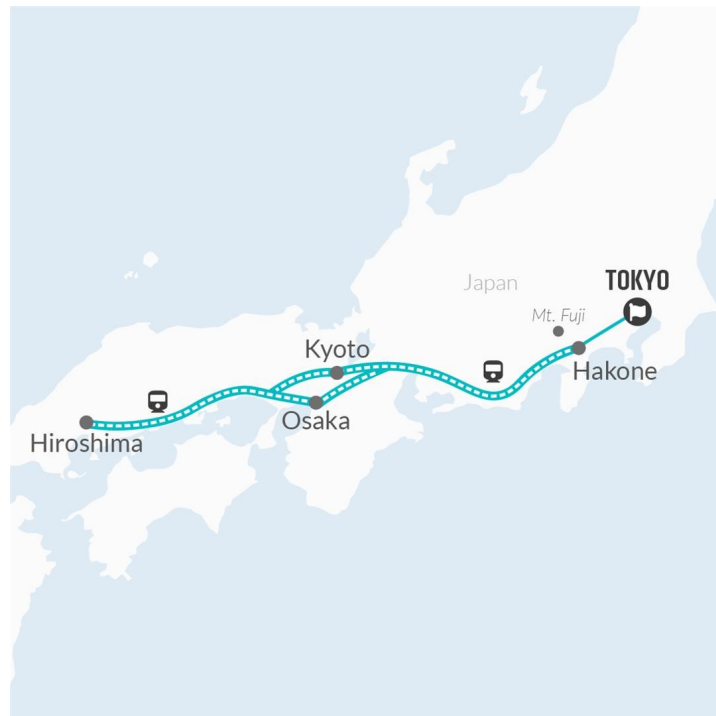


HIGHLIGHTS

- Make your way through Japan on bullet trains
- Explore Hakone, Kyoto, Hiroshima and Osaka
- See the highlights of Kyoto on an included half-day excursion
- Hop on a city sightseeing open-air bus in Hiroshima
- Start and end your adventure in Tokyo
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Starting in Tokyo, travel on bullet trains to the cities of Hakone, Kyoto, Hiroshima and Osaka, seeing the Japanese countryside along the way. Enjoy your free time and appreciate the amazing culture, culinary delights, technological wonders and enchanting natural beauty of Japan along your way, before returning to Tokyo.

MAP



What is included



Independent Trips

Include all of your accommodation, transport and experiences on a pre-set trip that you can customize to perfectly suit your travel needs.



Accommodation: 7

- 7 nights accommodation in hostels, 3-star or 4-star hotels
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Transport: 8

- Airport Transfers, Bus & Train - Hakone - Kyoto
 - Tokyo-Narita Airport pick-up & drop-off - Kyoto - Hiroshima
 - 7-day Japan Rail pass including: - Hiroshima - Osaka
 - -Tokyo - Hakone - Osaka - Tokyo
 - -Hiroshima transport day pass
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Guides:

- English-speaking guide on half-day Kyoto excursion
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What is not included

- *Train station transfers
- *Breakfasts in hostel categories
- *Other meals & drinks
- *Optional activities
- *Tips
- *Personal expenses
- *Travel insurance

*Prices for optional activities are subject to change at any time without prior notice. Please confirm these prices before departing on your trip.

Itinerary

Day 1: Tokyo, Japan

Tokyo-Narita Airport Pick-Up

Today you will be met by our representative at the Tokyo airport (NRT) upon arrival, who will assist you with boarding a train or shared shuttle to your accommodation. Get checked in to your accommodation and enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure. Have dinner on your own and overnight in Tokyo.

Day 2: Tokyo - Hakone, Japan

Bullet Train to Gateway to Mt. Fuji

Have breakfast at your accommodation and check-out. You will depart Tokyo early today to reach Hakone Area, the gateway to Mt. Fuji and its surrounding national park, famous for its wonderful onsen (natural hot springs) and beautiful natural landscapes.

Upon arrival you will have free time to explore the Hakone area on your own. You will have an included Hakone Transport Pass that provides you with numerous forms of transportation throughout the area so you can choose where to go and what to do. You may choose to go on the Volcanic Owakudani Ropeway passing over hot springs and sulfurous fumaroles (operations close intermittently during volcanic activity). Glide across 3,000-year-old Ashinoko Lake on a majestic pirate ship or take the Hakone Tozan Switchback Train that zigzags through the mountains with stunning views of the surrounding valleys. Keep your eyes open for a glimpse of Mt. Fuji throughout the day, although chances may be slim if there are cloudy or overcast skies. Check in to a natural onsen resort in Hakone. Overnight in Hakone.

Day 3: Hakone - Kyoto, Japan

Train to Tokyo

In the morning, head to the train station to board the bullet train en route to Kyoto, Japan's cultural capital. The city offers more than 2,000 shrines and temples. Have lunch on your own upon arrival and get checked in to your accommodation. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure and have dinner on your own. Overnight in Kyoto.

Day 4: Kyoto, Japan

Explore Kyoto's Shrines & Temples

Today you have a morning to relax or explore on your own. At noon, proceed to the meeting point at the Osaka Hotel Granvia. There you will begin a half-day excursion around Kyoto to see the best highlights of the city. Visit the Fushimi Inari shrine and then continue to Sanjusangendo Temple, home of 1,001 armed Kannon Goddess statues (the Goddess of Mercy). Afterward, go to the Kyomizu-dera temple situated on Mt. Otowa and admire its impressive veranda standing 13-metres in height and built without any nails. Awe at the breathtaking view! If you're lucky to be visiting in fall you will see the beautiful cherry blossoms in full bloom. Have dinner on your own tonight and overnight in Kyoto.

Day 5: Kyoto - Hiroshima, Japan

Travel through the Japanese Countryside

Check-out. You will depart Kyoto today via bullet train en route to Hiroshima. Have lunch on your own upon arrival and get checked in to your accommodation. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure in Hiroshima and have dinner on your own. Overnight in Hiroshima.

Day 6: Hiroshima, Japan

Free day in Hiroshima

Today you have a free day to explore on your own. We recommend taking a short ferry ride to Miyajima Island on the Seto Inland Sea where you can enjoy a peaceful atmosphere with wildlife, shrines, temples and local delicacies.

Overnight in Hiroshima

Day 7: Hiroshima - Osaka, Japan

Train to Osaka (B)

Check-out after breakfast. Leave Hiroshima behind and hop into the bullet train that will take you to the vibrant city of Osaka. Have lunch on your own upon arrival and get checked in to your accommodation. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure in Osaka and have dinner on your own. Overnight in Osaka.

Day 8: Osaka - Tokyo, Japan

Return to Tokyo & Airport Drop-Off (B)

Check-out from your accommodation. Enjoy the morning at leisure until it is time to take your scheduled bullet train to Tokyo, and then onto the Tokyo airport (NRT).

