

Avril 2024 : 14 jours de tour-guidé du Japon

Présentation gratuite du Japon

SOUS LES CERISIERS EN FLEURS

Lieu : - le 4 octobre 2024 à Argeles sur Mer

Salle municipale Sainte Cecile

Route de Sorede (derrière la caserne de pompiers)

Dates du voyage : 14-26 Avril 2024

De Barcelone €2890



Inscription et renseignements: Véronique 0775818856

VeroTours

YOUR SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Time	Activity
	18 March	21.35	Depart Sydney Kingsford-Smith
Day 1	19 March	5.1 12.00	Arrive Tokyo Haneda Airport Early check-in at your 4-star hotel in the Asakusa district
Day 2	20 March	Morning 12.00 14.00 16.30 Evening	Sightseeing in Asakusa Subway to Tokyo Railway Station Lunch in the station area Bullet train to Kyoto Arrive Kyoto Check-in at your 3.5 star hotel in the Hachojoguchi district Sightseeing and dinner in the Gion district
Day 3	21 March	Morning	Meet your Kyoto tour guide
Day 4	22 March		
Day 5	23 March		
Day 6	24 March	Afternoon 15.00	Depart Kyoto Arrive Nara Check-in at your 3.5-star Nara hotel
Day 7	25 March		Meet your Nara tour guide Nara Park
Day 8	26 March	Morning 15.25 16.24	Nara sightseeing Train to Kyoto Bullet train from Kyoto to Tokyo
Day 9	27 March		Ueno Koen Park Tokyo National Museum?
Day 10	28 March		Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden Shibuya Crossing
Day 11	29 March		Ginza shopping district Kabuki-za theatre Harajuku district
Day 12	30 March	22.20	Depart Tokyo Haneda Airport
	31 March	9.55	Arrive Sydney Kingsford-Smith

DAY 1

19 March – Your Cherry Blossom Tour of Japan begins.

Arrival at Tokyo Haneda airport at 5.30am and transfer to your hotel in Asakusa, the traditional centre of Tokyo. Your accommodation is a 4-star hotel with hot spring facilities: sauna, restaurants, hot spring bath, 24-hour front desk, all in the heart of Tokyo! Check in your room at 12 noon.



4-star accommodation with hot spring facilities, all in the heart of Tokyo!

Arriving early morning leaves you plenty of time to relax and refresh after your flight in the traditional indoor Japanese bathhouse or, armed with your favourite guidebook, set off on your discovery of the modern capital of Japan, before lunch at a nearby restaurant.



Asakusa, the traditional heart of Tokyo with Sensoji Temple at centre.

You'll be enchanted by Asakusa's old temple and its traditional houses which contrast with the modern town. Visit its souvenir shops, return to your hotel, refresh and prepare for dinner at a typical Japanese restaurant situated near the temple.



Left: Tokyo's Harajuku bridge on Sunday sees Japan's youth culture on display, as groups of fantastically dressed teenagers happily pose for pictures. Right: The Sensoji in Asakusa is Tokyo's oldest temple.

DAY 2

20 March – Morning sightseeing in Tokyo – midday train to Kyoto

You'll spend the morning in Asakusa, which has preserved its historic shitamachi (downtown area) and is now one of the most popular spots in the city.

At midday, collect your luggage and transfer by subway to Tokyo station. Leave your luggage at the station and visit the area, having lunch in one of the myriad small bars and restaurants which cluster around Tokyo railway station. At 2pm, board the Shinkansen bullet train to Kyoto.



Kyoto, Japan's most beautiful city.

Arrive in Kyoto at 4.30pm and make the 7 min walk to your 3.5 star modern hotel in the Hachojoguchi area.

Refresh and get yourself ready for an evening stroll through the Gion district, famous for its many ryotei (exclusive private restaurants), where the geiko (geisha) or maiko (apprentice geisha) reside. Have dinner in Gion and, on your way back to your hotel, visit the Sanjo-ohashi Bridge, located at the western end of the beautiful Nakasendo Trail.



Famous for its many restaurants, Gion is also Kyoto's geisha district, with hostesses in colourful kimonos often sighted on the wooden Tatsumi Bridge.

DAY 3 TO DAY 7

21-24 March – Kyoto, city of temples

After breakfast, meet your private bilingual Kyoto tour guide. The touring program of the next 3 days is being handpicked for you by our guide and will soon be made available to you.

There are more than 1600 temples in Kyoto. That means if you visited a different temple every day of the year for four years, you still wouldn't have seen every temple in Kyoto! For the time-poor, there are a handful of famous Kyoto temples that you simply must visit and our guide will select a palette of what is best for us.

The experience of seeing the city's exceptional historical sights will be doubly enjoyable because you'll be seeing them in cherry-blossom season.

Dream of ancient times in Japan's cherry blossom season.

Visit Maruyama Park at night to see the artfully-lit weeping cherry trees alive with gentle pink blossoms.



The Philosopher's Path in Kyoto.

Make your way down the Philosopher's Path for an experience that transports you back to ancient Japan. This pedestrian path follows a waterway lined with cherry-trees that winds between the temples of Ginkaku-ji and Nanzen-ji.

Glimpse a geisha in Kyoto's Gion area and dine with a Maiko

The geisha of Kyoto (known locally as 'geiko') live and work in one of five 'kagai' ('Flower Town') neighbourhoods where they sing, dance and entertain clientele in exclusive teahouses.



Left: Maiko in Kyoto. Right: A Maiko dinner; an authentic part of the culture of Japan

Stroll through the oh-so-charming streets of Gion or Pontocho at dusk and you may be lucky enough to spot maiko – geiko in training – as they make their way to an appointment. We'll have the opportunity for dinner with a Maiko.



Nara, the country's first capital retains the atmosphere of ancient Japan.

DAY 7 TO DAY 9

24 March – Nara

Depart Kyoto after lunch and take the 1-hour train south to Nara.

Nara was the capital of Japan from 710 to 784, prior to the supremacy of its rival Kyoto, and is full of ancient history. You will be ravished by the beauty of the Todai Ji temple, said to be the most ancient wooden temple in the world, renowned for its bronze statue of Buddha.



Nara is home to many historically important temples and shrines and famous for the free-roaming deer of Nara Park.

Arrive at 3pm at your hotel, located only a 3-minute walk from the train station.

Your accommodation in Nara is a 3.5 star Japanese western-style hotel, offering comfort and relaxation. The refined design of its spacious indoor communal bathhouse evokes the image of historical Nara.

Have dinner in the ancient merchant district of Nara, with its narrow streets, shops, cafes and restaurants.

25 March – Meet your guide and visit the ancient city of Nara

Start your day with a Japanese western-style buffet breakfast at Asuka, a tenant restaurant on the first floor of the hotel.

Your guide will suggest outings for the day, such exploring Nara's exceptional and beautiful park where religion and deer live in total freedom and harmony.

Walk along the back road from the Todai-Ji temple to the Kasuga Taisha shrine.

26 March – A morning of shrines and temples

WHAT GOES HERE ? Before a late afternoon Shinkansen bullet-train back to Tokyo.



Tokyo. One of the world's great cities.

DAY 9 TO DAY 12

26-30 March – 4 days sightseeing in Tokyo

Leave Nara at 3.23pm, arriving in Kyoto at 4.12pm; transfer to Kyoto station at 4.24pm and catch a Shinkansen bullet train arriving back in Tokyo station at 6.36pm. Then a taxi to your comfortable Asakusa hotel.

Refresh yourself and let's go to a nice local restaurant! The Japanese can go to dinner quite late.

When it comes to the great cities in the world, you cannot do better than Tokyo. A juxtaposition of deep tradition and fast-paced, modern energy, Tokyo, the capital city of Japan, is one of the best places in Asia to visit.



Ameyoko shopping area in the Ueno district of Tokyo.

27 March – Ueno

Using public transport, we will visit Ueno for most of the day, starting with the large Koen Park. Nearby is the Tokyo National Museum (Kokuritsu Hakubutsukan) home of not just the world’s biggest collection of Japanese art (sculpture, swords, Japanese lacquerie, calligraphy) but also archeological finds of the indigenous Ainu people of Hokkaido.



Left: Tokyo National Museum. Interested in Japanese art and artefacts? this is the place to visit.

Right: Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden. One of the best places in Tokyo to see the cherry blossoms!

Other nearby museums and galleries are:

- The Gallery of Horyu-ji, displaying treasures of the Nara temple era of 1000-year-old masks, scrolls, etc.
- The National Museum of Western Art with an impressive collection of French impressionists
- The Tokyo Metropolitan of Modern Art displaying contemporary Japanese Art
- The Shitamachi History Museum recreating life of the Edo period, with ancient merchant shops of Tokyo and artefacts of the time.

28-29 March – Shinjuku : one of the best places to see the cherry blossoms!

You'll be walking through one of Tokyo's most historic pieces of land when you visit the Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden. One time residence of the Imperial Family, the garden opened to the public in 1949, and is one of the most beautiful in Japan. Because has around 1,500 cherry trees, it also happens to be one of the best places in Tokyo to see the cherry blossoms!

Cross Shinjuku's busy shopping centre and catch public transport to Shibuya for lunch. Visit some of the landmark top-floor views of Shibuya crossing from the rooftop of the Shibuya 109-2 department store.

Shibuya is teeming with fabulous restaurants, shopping, and entertainment. It's certainly not-to-miss neighbourhood when you visit Tokyo.



Shibuya crossing, the world's wildest intersection!

Ginza

Ginza is Tokyo's busiest shopping area and is as iconic as Times Square in New York, but much older. In fact it has been the country's commercial centre for centuries. Ginza is where five ancient roads connecting Japan's major cities all meet. Lined by

exclusive shops and imposing palatial stores, the Ginza district is also fun to simply wander around or, better still, sit in one of its many tea and coffee shops or restaurants while watching the world rush past.

Take time to stroll in the famous department store of Mitsukochi and delight in their displays of selective traditional food and exhibitions of traditional artefacts.

In the afternoon, enjoy the 1-hour traditional performance at the historic Kabuki-za theatre, where dance, songs and highly skilled actors in medieval costume perform for tourists and Japanese people alike.

2 km from Ginza is the Tokyo Imperial Palace (Kōkyo) with its beautiful 17th-century parks surrounded by walls and moats. Established in 1457 and still in use by the imperial family, the Imperial Palace was the focal point from which the city of Tokyo (or Edo, as it was then) gradually grew.



Left: Ginza shopping district. Right: Tokyo Imperial Palace

Take a stroll around the area and you'll see the Nijubashi Bridge and the two-metre-thick wall that surrounds the palace, and the palace gates, one of which leads to the East Higashi-Gyoen Garden.

Tours of the Imperial Palace are available (pre-registration required), which include the Kikyo-mon Gate, Someikan (Visitors' House), Fujimi-yagura ("Mt. Fuji View" Keep), the East Gardens and Inner Gate, the Seimon-tetsubashi bridge, and the Imperial Household Agency Building (be sure to plan ahead).

Harajuku

Nothing is too outrageous when it comes to Tokyo's frenetic Harajuku District. The neighbourhood refers to the area near the Harajuku Station, sandwiched between Shinjuku and Shibuya. If you're looking to bend the rules when it comes to everything cultural and fashionable, this is the spot to go.

The main artery of Harajuku (the best place to spot crazy teen fashions) is Takeshita Dori, flanked on either side by wild and wacky shops. Pink hair, tattoos, and knee-high boots are just the tip of the iceberg here. Even if your style is on the tamer side, fret not – Harajuku has plenty of mainstream boutiques too.



Harajuku, home of the wild and wacky!

But Harajuku is also home to several historical attractions. Meiji Jingu which has an amazing park and old temple where the small Ota Memorial Museum of Art sits. Overall, it's the perfect place to encapsulate Japan's deep-rooted traditions with its surges of futuristic styles.

DAY 12

30 March – Transfer to Tokyo airport

Your tour ends this morning after breakfast at your hotel in Tokyo. Fly out from nearby Tokyo Haneda Airport. Arrive at Sydney at 9.55am on the 30th.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Conditions

The price includes twin accommodation hotel price, breakfasts, transfer to and from the airport private guided tour as well as tickets to Kabuki show.

Not included: return flight ticket, 10 days train pass , lunch or diner, entrance to individual temples or shrine.

Recommended direct flight price starting from \$1840*

*Flight prices are as of 7 November 2022 from Sydney flying direct to Tokyo with ANA

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