



Wonders of Northern Japan

A fully escorted tour of Japan from Cairns

Departs Cairns 21 April 2025

Returns Cairns 1 May 2025



Koiwai farm, Morioka Japan

"Join me on the 2025 Wonders of Northern Japan tour for an experience that truly delivers the magic of Japan. The route is carefully selected to experience the best of Northern Japan with highlights including the sights of bustling modern cities to peaceful, centuries old temples and traditional Japanese gardens and castles. Exclusive close cultural encounters and carefully selected cuisine will satisfy the most discerning of travelers."

Peter Morrison

Owner/Manager Cairns Central Travel

DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

1. CAIRNS – NARITA – TOKYO

Meet your tour director at Cairns International Airport to board your Jetstar flight bound for Tokyo's Narita Airport. Upon arrival transfer by chartered coach to your inner-city hotel located in the Daiba area of Tokyo. (Flight departs Cairns at 12.25pm and arrives Narita 6.25pm)



Daiba - Tokyo

2. TOKYO

See Tokyo at its dynamic best with an action-packed day of sightseeing taking in the Imperial Palace, Asakusa Temple and Nakamise shopping arcade as well as the impressive 634m high Tokyo Sky Tree. In the afternoon travel north by coach to Ashikaga Flower Park – home to Japan's famous wisteria tunnels. Weather permitting, you'll have the opportunity to view the spectacular night-time illumination. Return to your Tokyo accommodation in the evening. **B L D**



Ashikaga Flower Park



Tokyo Skytree

3. TOKYO – HANAMAKI – HIRAIZUMI

Transfer by coach to Tokyo station to depart for Ichinoseki by super express bullet train before commencing your half-day sightseeing in Hiraizumi – the former political and cultural capital of Northern Japan. Enjoy a scenic stop at Genbukei Gorge - a beautiful 2km stretch of gorge along the Iwai River. Visitors can enjoy the dynamic views of the waterfalls and unique rock formations created by the river's erosion as they stroll along the riverside. Tonight's hotel is ideally located in the heart of one of Northern Japan's most popular hot spring areas where you'll get the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of hot spring bathing. **B L D**



Hiraizumi



Genbukei Gorge

4. HIRAIZUMI – ICE CORRIDOR – LAKE TOWADA

Continue today through Japan's beautiful countryside by chartered coach for a full-day sightseeing including stops at Koiwai Farm and the Hachimantai Aspite Ice Corridor. Koiwai Farm spans over 3000 hectares, of which two thirds are covered with a cedar forest while the remaining third is the actual farmland, including pastures and farm buildings. Continue towards Lake Towada via the Hachimantai Aspite Line - a 27km driving route traversing Mount Hachimantai .The driving route is lined by snow walls, known as the Snow Corridor, formed by snow ploughs cutting through the deep snow drifts. Tonight's accommodation is located on stunning Lake Towada - the largest caldera lake on Honshu Island.

B L D



Snow Corridor



Koiwai Farm

5 LAKE TOWADA – AOMORI

Enjoy a morning cruise of Lake Towada before travelling further north towards Aomori City, the northernmost prefectural capital city on Honshu, Japan's main island. Sit back and enjoy the passing scenery through the Japanese countryside as we make our way via Oirase Gorge, one of the most beautiful river valleys in Japan. The Oirase stream flows from the crystal-clear waters of Lake Towada, creating a number of rapids and waterfalls that add to the gorge's beauty. **B L D**



Oirase Gorge



Lake Towada

6 AOMORI – HIROSAKI – AOMORI

Leave Aomori by chartered coach for full-day sightseeing in the culturally rich city of Hirosaki. Hirosaki Park is home to 2600 cherry trees with over 50 different types of cherry including Somei Yoshino cherry blossoms, weeping cherry and double layer cherry and is famed as one of Japan's "top 10" cherry blossom viewing sites. After lunch visit the Neputa Festival hall for a hands-on cultural experience. **B L**



7 AOMORI – HAKODATE (HOKKAIDO)

Today travel by JR super express bullet train to the city of Hakodate via the Seikan Tunnel – the world's longest undersea tunnel (54 klms in length)

Full-day sightseeing by coach taking in the main sights of the city including the Hakodate Botanical Gardens where you can see Japan's famed snow monkeys. This evening take in the breathtaking night views of the city as you ascend by cable car to the top of Mount Hakodate. **B L**



8 HAKODATE

Start the day wandering Hakodate's bustling *asaichi* (morning market), where hundreds of stores and stalls sell fresh local produce, seafood and the odd souvenir. Ascend Goryokaku Tower for views over Goryokaku Fort and Mount Hakodate before visiting the Museum of Northern Peoples which holds and exhibits everyday items of Northern peoples, including many Ainu folkcrafts. **B L**



9 HAKODATE – SHIRAOI – SAPPORO

Full-day sightseeing towards Sapporo by chartered coach stopping at Shikabe Geyser Park, Lake Toya and the Shiraoi Upopoy Ainu village - Japan's northernmost national museum, dedicated to the preservation of Japan's indigenous Ainu culture. In addition to the lake itself, the Toyako region features hot springs and an active volcano, Mount Usu, which last erupted in the year 2000.

Arrive Sapporo early evening - the capital of Hokkaido and Japan's fifth largest city **B L**



Ainu Village



Lake Toya

10 SAPPORO – TOKYO - CAIRNS

Rooms are made available until 11.00am. Day is at leisure. Transfer by chartered coach this afternoon to Sapporo International Airport for your flight back to Cairns (via Narita) **B**



INCLUSIONS

- * 9 nights hotel accommodation in superior 4-star hotels
- * breakfast daily, 8 lunches and 5 dinners.
- * 2 bullet train trips
- * Transportation in luxury privately chartered air-conditioned coaches.
- * Small group touring (maximum group size 28- 30 guests)
- * All applicable entrance fees.
- * Luggage transportation.
- * Tour leader from Cairns.
- * Local English-speaking tour guide in Japan.
- * Return transfers (on first and last day of tour only)
- * Special cultural experiences
- * All gratuities

Accommodation List:

- * Tokyo – Grand Nikko Daiba Hotel
- * Hiraizumi – Musubi no Yado Arinkan
- * Lake Towada – Lake Towada Prince Hotel
- * Aomori – Daiwaroyonet Hotel
- * Hakodate – La Vista Hakodate Bay
- * Sapporo – Sapporo Grand Hotel

KYOTO OPTIONAL EXTENSION:



The opportunity to extend your holiday in Kyoto is available for those wishing to do so from 30 April until 3 May.

Inclusions:

3 nights' accommodation at the 4-star Granvia Hotel Kyoto

Breakfast daily

Arrival transfer from Osaka Airport to Kyoto Hotel

Departure transfer from Kyoto Hotel to Osaka Airport

Full day sightseeing in Kyoto including lunch

Day at leisure on 2 May - a day trip to Hiroshima can be arranged at an additional cost.

One-way airfare including taxes and luggage from Sapporo to Osaka

\$1294 PP TWIN SHARE. (pricing is subject to change depending on number of participants in the Kyoto extension – pricing is currently based on a minimum of 15 passengers)

Single supplement \$550

AIRFARE OPTIONS:

CAIRNS/TOKYO 21 APRIL

A special group fare is available for the flight from Cairns to Tokyo (Narita)

One-way fare including taxes and 20kgs checked baggage:

\$538.00

SAPPORO/CAIRNS 30 APR

For guests who wish to return to Cairns at the end of the tour, and not visit Kyoto, a special group fare is available (seats are limited) :

One-way fare including taxes and luggage

\$685.00

OSAKA/CAIRNS 3 MAY

For guests who taking the Kyoto extension, Jetstar are currently offering one-way fares including taxes and luggage (guaranteed at time of booking only)

\$505.00

Pricing:

Wonders of Northern Japan Tour (LAND ONLY)

\$6698 per person – twin share

Single supplement:

\$1380.00

Important information:

*A non-refundable deposit of \$2000 per person is required at time of reservation. Final balance due 60 days prior to departure.

*Payment by credit card permitted with applicable fees. (1.4pc for Visa/Master and 3pc for Amex)

*Jetstar does not include in-flight meal service and pre-assignment of seat numbers. Additional fees apply.

*Please advise of any special dietary requirements at time of reservation

*Australian passport holders do not require a visa to travel to Japan.

Other passport holders should arrange visas well in advance of departure, if required.

*Travel insurance is strongly recommended in the event of cancellation and or sickness/accident whilst in Japan.

*Cancellation schedule:

60 days or more prior to departure: loss of deposit

59 to 45 days prior to departure : 10% of the total tour fare plus loss of deposit and airfare component

44 to 8 days prior to departure : 30% of the total tour fare plus loss of deposit and airfare component

7 to 2 days prior to departure : 80% of the total tour fare plus loss of deposit and airfare component

1 day prior to departure: 100% of the total tour fare and airfare component

*Please refer to www.cctravel.com.au for Cairns Central Travel's booking and advisory terms & conds.

Cairns Central Travel

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