



Springtime in Japan

A fully escorted tour of Japan from Cairns

Departs Cairns Monday 01 April 2024

Returns Thursday 11 April 2024

“Join me on the 2024 Springtime in Japan tour for an experience that truly delivers the magic of Japan. The route is carefully selected to maximise the cherry blossom viewing opportunities whilst in Japan with highlights including the best 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 travellers.”

Peter Morrison

Owner/Manager Cairns Central Travel

DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

1. **CAIRNS – OSAKA - KYOTO** Meet your tour director at Cairns International Airport to board your Jetstar flight bound for Osaka's Kansai Airport. Upon arrival transfer by chartered coach to your inner city hotel located within the Kyoto Station precinct. (Flight departs Cairns at 12.25pm and arrives Osaka 7.00pm)



Kyoto Station

2. **KYOTO** Experience the best of Kyoto, visiting many of the city's temples, shrines, palaces and pagodas. A highlight of the day is a visit to the extraordinary Nijo Castle, built in 1603 as the official residence of the Shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu. You will also visit Kinkakuji, the Temple of the Gold Pavilion and the Heian Shrine and Garden. During the day there will also be a chance to participate in a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. (B L D)



Golden Pavilion

3. **KYOTO** - Another day to explore Japan's most loved city. Today's cultural enrichment activities include a Zen meditation experience at Kodaiji Temple as well as a visit to the Nishijin textile centre. No visit to Kyoto is complete without a visit to the Kiyomizu Temple (literally "Pure Water Temple") - the most celebrated temple in Japan. It was founded in 780 on the site of the Otowa Waterfall in the wooded hills east of Kyoto, and derives its name from the fall's pure waters. (B L)



Kiyomizu temple

4. **KYOTO – NAGOYA** This morning you will travel by bullet train to Nagoya followed by a full day sightseeing including visits to Nagoya Castle and the Toyota Commemorative Museum showcasing as many as 4000 exhibition pieces including dynamic displays of original equipment, actual demonstrations by operators, instructive videos and more. Also visit the famous Noritake Garden, home to one of Japan's leading ceramic and porcelain companies. (B L D)



Nagoya Castle

5. NAGOYA -MAGOME TSUMAGO – TAKAYAMA

Depart by coach and travel through Japan's beautiful mountain scenery towards the village of Magome where your 4 kilometre trek to the village of Tsumago begins. A walk along the Nakasendo way will transport you back to the Edo period, some 300 years ago. This scenic trail is especially popular among overseas visitors who seek an authentic experience of traditional life. In the afternoon continue by coach towards the Alpine city of Takayama where old traditions are untouched by the passage of time. (B L D)



Nakasendo Way

6. TAKAYAMA - SHIRAKAWA GO – GOKAYAMA

Continue through Japan's beautiful mountain scenery to one of the country's most remote regions, Shirakawa. Protected as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the unique Gassho-Zukuri (meaning joined hands) style thatched houses can only be found in this area. This afternoon, journey through the Japanese Alps via one of Japan's longest road tunnels, to the secluded town of Gokayama to try your hand at traditional Japanese rice paper making. (B L)



Shirakawa-go village

7. TAKAYAMA - HAKONE – MT FUJI NATIONAL PARK

A walking tour of the city is included this morning before heading towards Hakone, situated deep within Mt Fuji National Park. Be amazed as you travel up to speeds of 280 kms per hour on the super express Bullet train towards the castle town of Odawara before travelling by coach to Lake Hakone, located within Mt Fuji National Park, where the chance to enjoy traditional hot springs bathing awaits. (B L D)



Lake Hakone

8. HAKONE/ KAMAKURA/ TOKYO

Journey east by coach through the Japanese countryside to the historical city of Kamakura where you can immerse yourself in the peace and tranquillity of one of Japan's most culturally significant cities. Visits to the Hachimangu Shrine, Hasedera Temple and the largest outdoor statue of Buddha in Japan are included. In the afternoon continue by motorcoach to Japan's capital , Tokyo. (B L)

B L



Kamakura Giant Buddah

9 . 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. Following a traditional teppanyaki lunch enjoy a cruise along the Sumida River for optimum cherry blossom viewing (weather permitting).

(B L D)



Tokyo Skytree

10 . TOKYO – CAIRNS

Rooms are made available until midday. Day is at leisure. Transfer by chartered coach this evening to Tokyo's Narita International Airport

(B)

INCLUSIONS

- * 9 nights hotel accommodation in superior 4-star hotels
- * Return economy class airfares including 20kgs checked luggage and 7kgs carry-on
- * breakfast daily, 8 lunches and 5 dinners.
- * 2 bullet train trips and 1 regional train trip.
- * Transportation in luxury privately chartered air-conditioned coaches.
- * Small group touring (maximum group size 26 guests)
- * All applicable entrance fees.
- * Luggage transportation.
- * Tour leader from Cairns.
- * Local English-speaking tour guides in Japan.
- * Return transfers (on first and last day of tour only)
- * Special cultural experiences including , Zen meditation, tea ceremony , rice paper making and more.
- * All gratuities

Accommodation List:

- * Tokyo – Tokyo Prince Hotel (or similar)
- * Hakone (Mt Fuji national park)- Ashinoko Prince Hotel (lake view rooms)
- * Takayama – Takayama Associa Resort (or similar)
- * Nagoya – JR Gateway Tower Hotel (or similar)
- * Kyoto – Century Hotel Kyoto Station (or similar)

Pricing:

Twin share : \$6799.00

Single supplement \$1720.00

Important information:

*A non-refundable deposit of \$1000 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 recommend 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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