



Japan Holidays
EXCLUSIVE TOUR

THE REAL LAST SAMURAI &
HIDDEN CHRISTIANS TOUR

Departures 2018

Fri 13 April | Fri 11 May | Fri 18 May | Fri 25 May | Fri 01 June | Fri 08 June
& Every Friday in September 2018

From \$3075* per person



TOUR DESCRIPTION

Introduction:

Departure Date in 2018:

Fri 13 April | Fri 11May | Fri 18 May | Fri 25 May |

Fri 01 June | Fri 08 June

& Every Friday in September

Period:

8 Days | 7 Nights

Price:

From \$3075* per person

* Price subject to exchange rate

* From 2 pax minimum to 8 pax maximum

* Price for This Tour is from \$5720 per pax (2 pax)

and from \$3075 per pax (8 pax)

Inclusions

- 7 B'Fasts, 6 Lunches, 6 Dinners

- 7 Nights accommodation Western or Japanese

Ryokans

- Transfers, Tours & Entrances as per itinerary

- Private Escort/Guide in Japan

Non Inclusions

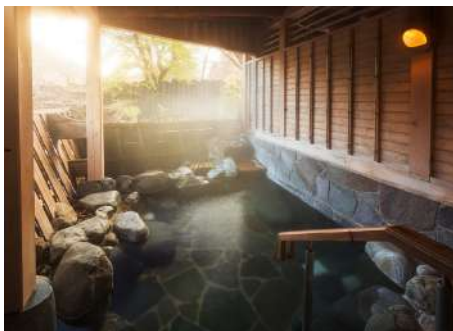
- International & Domestic Flights

Highlights:

- **The Nature:** Stunning and unique volcanic landscapes and sights. Mountains, rivers, and beautiful sub-tropical islands.
- **The Relaxation:** Slow life. Slow food. The simplicity and charm of real Japan. And onsens galore, especially outdoor ones!
- **The Unique landscapes:** Japan's biggest inhabited caldera and largest and most beautiful grasslands.
- **The Samurai links:** Home to Japan's most impenetrable castle and the resting place of its greatest swordsman Musashi Miyamoto.
- **The Tastes:** Delicious food, a great variety of fresh produce and the best water quality in Japan.
- **The Space:** Leave behind the crowds, hustle and bustle of Tokyo, Osaka and Kyoto and step into the serene, lush, green and tranquil 'inaka' of the Japanese countryside.
- **The Culture:** Fascinating historical sights stretching all the way back to Japan's foundation myths.
- **The Transport:** Kumamoto's central location and transport links makes it an ideal base for your trip.
- **The People:** The people make the place and you will find Kumamoto people and Kyushu people in general warm, open, friendly, sincere and very welcoming.
- **The Outdoors:** Great selection of activities to try: from whitewater rafting to hiking, horse riding to canyoning and paragliding.

Book today at:

www.japanholidays.com.au



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Friday : Tokyo

Arrive Narita International Airport. After clearing Customs transfer to hotel near the Narita Airport using Hotel shuttle.

Accommodation: Narita View Hotel



Day 2 - Saturday : Tokyo - Kumamoto (B / L / D)

After an early Breakfast – transfer back to Narita Airport and Depart Narita on Jetstar flight to Kumamoto arriving at 10:15am approximately. Upon arrival, Ken Takenaga, will meet you and be your guide throughout the tour. Depart Aso Kumamoto Airport for Kumamoto City sightseeing. After dropping bags at the Hotel, the first stop will be Suizenji Japanese Garden, one of the most acclaimed gardens in Japan. Lunch at sumptuous buffet restaurant “Ginnan”. After lunch, walk to the Kumamoto Castle to see damages caused by the earthquakes of April 16th and current recovery progress. Afterwards visit the Kumamoto Prefectural Traditional Craft Center to view various local traditional products. Recommended product here is Japanese kitchen Knives that are made by sword makers. Time to visit Tsuruya Department Store for shopping opportunity. Enjoy dinner at one of Kumamoto’s favourite restaurants.

Accommodation: Hotel Nikko Kumamoto

Day 3 - Sunday : Kumamoto (B / L / D)

Today you will really gain an understanding of why Kumamoto is referred to as

The Land of Fire and Water. After breakfast, we will drive to Daikanbou Observation Point to view the World largest Caldera measuring more than 120 km around. If weather permits visit Nakadake active Volcano. After a hotplate local – Higo Steak - lunch, we will visit Tabaruzaka Battle ground where the last battle took place between Satsuma Rebellion Samurai and the government troops during Seinan Civil War of 1877, -- the last civil war of Japan. Return to your hotel. Tonight enjoy more tastes of the region.

Accommodation: Hotel Nikko Kumamoto



ITINERARY

Day 4 - Monday : Kumamoto (B / L / D)

After breakfast, we commence our journey to Gokanoshō – the Land of the Last Samurai. Gokanoshō is located in the centre of Kumamoto Prefecture and is often called the last secluded region in Kyushu. These villages are known as the "Home of the Heike fugitive legend" or the Hidden Samurai. Gokanoshō with its combination of waterfalls, mountains and dense forest offers an escape into a splendid piece of natural scenery never seen on regular sightseeing tours of Japan. On the way we will stop by the Sendan Todoto Waterfall and walk the suspension bridges. Stay Heike-so or Sakura-so with the local people and enjoy the generous hospitality of the mountain people that you will remember for the rest of your life. The food and local "moonshine" is superb. Stay overnight Heiko-so Minshuku, Gokanoshō

Accommodation: Heiko-So



Day 5 - Tuesday : Kumamoto (B / L / D)

Say goodbye to Gokanoshō after a sumptuous Japanese breakfast and leave for Amakusa, travelling by a private vehicle over the 5 scenic famous bridges. A highlight for the women today will be the Honda Pearl Center. Next we will move to the Christian Museum and learn about the history of the Hidden Christians in Amakusa. We will be visiting the beautiful West Coast overlooking the East China Sea and travel through rice farms before stopping at a local ceramic pottery factory. Next we arrive at Sakitsu Cathedral. This is followed by a visit to Oe Cathedral. Father Garnier built this Romanesque –style church from his private funds in 1933. In the chapel, you can see sacred paintings, which are few in number in Japan. Tonight we will eat an amazing seafood dinner at the hotel.

Accommodation: Amakusa Santa Coming Hotel (Seaside Hotel formally)



Day 6 - Wednesday : Kumamoto - Nagasaki (B / L / D)

After Breakfast, we will depart Amakusa on a vehicular ferry to Shimabara. First visit the ruin of Hara Castle, the battleground of the Christian rebellion in the year 1637. Visiting this site will provide an insight into how the rebellion forces were defeated in this famous last battle. From here the tour travels to inspect Mt. Fugen which last erupted in 1995 and view the associated Volcanic museum Then onto the Shimabara Castle where we will try traditional amour, and view the castle and sights from the top. The accommodation this evening is in a traditional Japanese style ryokan.

Accommodation: Iseya Ryokan



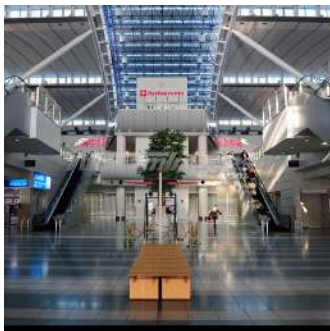
ITINERARY

Day 7 - Thursday : Kumamoto (B / L / D)

Today the tour travels to Nagasaki. Tour of Nagasaki City including the Nuclear Atomic Bomb Museum and Peace Park and Urakami Cathedral built by the persecuted Christians in 1914 and Dutch Village amongst other sites. In Nagasaki we make time to enjoy local chanpon noodles. There is plenty of time to enjoy this port city and discover the Portuguese and Dutch influences. It is also a good city to explore shopping districts by utilizing local tram service.

Dinner will be at local restaurant nearby Hotel.

Accommodation: JR Kyushu Hotel Nagasaki



Day 8 - Friday : Nagasaki - Tokyo (B)

After breakfast check out and depart hotel by Bus to Fukuoka to connect with the return flight to Tokyo. Option is to also continue travels to other parts of Japan and consult Japan Holidays for more details on your itinerary.

End of Tour

Sayonara

Japan Holidays