



Japan Holidays
EXCLUSIVE TOUR

WORLD HERITAGE &
KUMANO KODO AUTUMN
TOUR 2017

Sun 29th October – Sat 11th November 2017 | 14 days-13nights

from A\$5900 per person



TOUR DESCRIPTION

Introduction:

Departure Date to Arrive in Japan:

Saturday 28th October or Sunday 29th October to arrive in Tokyo by 29th October 2017

Departure Date from Tour:

Saturday 11th November 2017 Australia

Period:

14 days-13nights

Price:

\$5900 per person- Single Supplement - TBA

Short Description:

Autumn colours, hot springs, outstanding food, stays in Japan's most popular cities of Tokyo and Kyoto coupled with walking in the footsteps of the ancient pilgrims will revitalize any person seeking a tour offering unrivalled beauty where you will gain an understanding of both historical and contemporary Japan.

Escorted by Judy Luxton

Highlights:

- Visit Tokyo's Must see's including Mt Fuji/Hakone, Ginza, Imperial Palace, Asakusa
- Travel by super-fast Bullet Train
- Stay in a traditional Buddhist Temple lodging and experience morning prayers with local monks.
- Minimum 4 star accommodation (except temple Stay)
- Walk the spectacular mountainous scenery of Kumano Kodo with a local expert Guide
- Enjoy & experience Taiko Drumming
- Hot spring bathing in natural onsens and stay in traditional Ryokan accommodation
- Visit Kyoto's major temples, shrines, gardens, castle & imperial palace
- Ride the Hozu rapids and walk the streets of Arashiyama
- Visit Ise and stay on the coast at Toba
- Experience excellent Japanese cuisine and local sake

Book today at:
www.japanholidays.com.au



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Sun 29th Oct : Tokyo

Upon your arrival, Judy will greet you in the lobby of the hotel.

Day of leisure if your arrival is early morning.

Judy will be on hand for any sightseeing- suggestions -Tsujiki markets and Ginza & Harajuku, Meiji shrine and omotosando areas

Accommodation: Tokyu Stay Ginza



Day 2 - Mon 30th Oct : Tokyo

On this Dynamic Tokyo Day Tour will see some of Tokyo's most famous sights; Tokyo Tower,Imperial Palace Plaza,Senso-ji Temple in Asakusa,and a Sumida River cruising,as well as a traditional Japanese tea ceremony experience. Includes a Japanese-style barbecue lunch (vegetarian menu available). The tour will conclude at 17.30pm at Tokyo Station, where Judy will meet you and arrange welcome drinks & Dinner at a local restaurant – Izakaya

Accommodation: Tokyu Stay Ginza

Day 3 - Tue 31st Oct : Tokyo - Hakone - Tokyo

Let's hope weather if fine to see Mt Fuji from our route we shall take from Hakone Yumoto. We start at Shinjuku and travel by the Romance Car to Hakone-Yumoto. From there we shall enjoy the Cable Car, rope way, and cruise on Lake Ashi to see the breathtaking Mt Fuji from multiple perspectives throughout the day. We end our day in Shinjuku at the food halls of Odakyu Department store.

Accommodation: Tokyu Stay Ginza



ITINERARY

Day 4 - Wed 1st Nov : Tokyo - Nara

Before travelling to Nara, we forward our main suitcases to Kyoto and Travel with cabin sized bags and a backpack.

Today we will board the bullet train "Shinkansen" and travel quickly to Kyoto- hopefully again seeing Mt Fuji on the way. After check-in at our local ryokan , you'll get an opportunity to visit Nara Park , the deer and the imposing Todaiji Temple and Kasuga Shrine before a local Okonomiyaki Dinner

Accommodation : Ryokan Matsumae or similar



Day 5 - Thu 2nd Nov : Nara - Koyasan

After a wonderful Western/ Japanese breakfast, we head to Koyasan via trains and one of the steepest cable cars in Japan. After meeting our expert Koyasan Guide, Noriko-san we board a bus to our temple and leave our luggage (check in is not available until 3.00pm), after which we have lunch before visiting Koyasan's temple complex. Amid 900m high mountains, you can view World Heritage-listed temples, monasteries and assembly buildings before dinner - served at 5.30pm in the Temple; vegetarian Buddhist cuisine. After dinner, you are welcome to spend more time in the Temple, or you can depart on the night tour through Okunoin Cemetery, or you can see the head temple - Kongobu-ji lit up.

Accommodation : Ekoin Temple Lodging, Koyasan

Day 6 - Fri 3rd Nov : Wakayama

Very early this morning, you have the opportunity to attend a Buddhist Ceremony (6.00am) before breakfast. The group will meet with our guide Noriko for a morning of sightseeing before departing for our next stay at around 2.30pm. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon and a traditional dinner at one of Japan's ' Beautifying Onsens', in the ryokan or alongside the riverbed.

Accommodation : Kamigoten Ryokan or Kawayu Onsen Midoriya



ITINERARY

Day 7 - Sat 4th Nov : Kumano Kodo

After breakfast, the group will drive to Takahara to hike the Kumano Kodo, from Takahara to Chikatsuyu-Oji (9.3km, 6 hours). The group will be provided with a picnic lunch- eaten at Jujo-oji , sandwiches or a Japanese obento (box), and then set off with our guide Mr Nishiihata for the walk. After the day's walking is finished, the group will drive to Kawayu Onsen for Onsens and relaxation before dinner. WE do cater with another guide and Transport if the 9.3Km walk is too much for anyone on this day.

Accommodation : Kawayu Midoriya Ryokan



Day 8 - Sun 5th Nov : Kumano Kodo Wakayama

After buffet breakfast, the group will drive to Hosshinmon-oji and walk the Kumano Kodo from Hosshinmon-Oji to Kumano Hongu Taisha (7km, 3 hours). (For those not walking, we are able to have them spend time at the visitors centre and view the videos and presentations and also the Kumano Hongu Taisha.) After a provided sandwich/obento picnic lunch at Fushigami-Oji, the group will see the Kumano Hongu Taisha (the main Kumano Shrine in Japan), Oyunohara and the Giant Torii Gateway. Leisure time until 3:45pm when we meet up at the Kumano Hongu Heritage Centre and drive to Yunomine Onsen - one of only two World Heritage Listed hot springs around the globe. Once the day is finished, the group will drive back to Kawayu Onsen and enjoy a Taiko Drum performance, which will finish at 9.30pm.

Accommodation : Kawayu Midoriya Ryokan

Day 9 - Mon 6th Nov : Wakayama

Today we leave Midoriya and drive to the boat launch to go in traditional boats down the Kumanogawa river- Unesco heritage listed. This 90 minute traditional boat ride traces the transportation of the Pilgrims many years ago.. After visiting Kumano Hayatama Taisha and Kamikura-Jinja, the group will head to Katsuura, We stop off at Daimonzaka and walk the Kumano Kodo 1km to Kumano Nachi Taisha and waterfall. We depart at 5:15pm back to Katsuura and take the ferry boat to Urashima Hotel - a popular holiday spot for Japanese who love Tuna and the coastal Onsens. Tonight we dine and see a tuna cutting performance & relax in the town's hot springs and cave baths (Budiko) after a big day.

Accommodation : Hotel Urashima & Sanjokan section is completed



ITINERARY

Day 10 - Tue 7th Nov : Wakayama - Toba& Ise

Some may wish to arise early -Before buffet breakfast to attend the Fish/Tuna Markets. Many of the tuna from this market make their way to Tsukiji Market in Tokyo, the biggest in the world. We return to the hotel for the morning buffet breakfast, after which we check out of the hotel- and head to Toba and Sightseeing in Ise. Tonight you can dine in a a la carte French or Japanese Restaurant and soak in the Onsen afterwards

Accommodation : Toba International Hotel



Day 11 - Wed 8th Nov : Toba - Kyoto

Today we will tour by public Transport the main shrines of Ise- Geku- outer Shrine & Naiku -Inner Shrine and Oharai-machi where we can sample local foods and get interesting Local Souvenirs.

Later this day we travel to Kyoto and taxi to our hotel. Later that day we shall walk or take local transport to the Gion area for Night tour of the Gion district, to view Maiko and afterwards eat dinner at a local izakaya.

Accommodation : Citadines Karasuma Gojo

Day 12 - Thu 9th Nov : Kyoto

After Breakfast we will depart at 8.30 am for our private coach day's sightseeing of Kyoto - Nijo Castle which was built by the Tokugawa Shogun in 1603 with its beautifully detailed and specially-constructed "nightingale" floors to warn of approaching visitors/intruders are of particular interest; Kinkakuji Temple or "Golden Pavilion" which still exudes an impression of timelessness; Ryoanji which is rightly famous for its exquisite garden of raked sand and 15 judiciously placed rocks and designed in 1473; and Fushimi Inari Shrine with its more than 7000 vermilion hued Torii gates which have been donated by members of the public. Japan Holidays will host lunch on this day.

Accommodation : Citadines Karasuma Gojo



ITINERARY

Day 13 - Fri 10th Nov : Kyoto

Today we travel to Arashiyama Sagano area of Kyoto. and spend time viewing the Serene Bamboo forest and Arashiyama area before heading to Saga Arashiyama to ride the "Romance" Train into the mountains and return via boat down the gentle "white water" to Arashiyama. This area is noted for its cherry blossoms in the spring, blazing maple colours in autumn and was a favourite of Emperors and Nobles throughout Japanese history. Japan Holidays will host a farewell dinner on this night.

Accommodation : Citadines Karasuma Gojo



Day 14 - Mon 11th Nov : Kyoto - Hone or Extension Tour

Today is your last day on tour or the first day for your extension tour. For those departing from Itami or Kansai airport there will be a Shared Shuttle transfer arranged for your departure flight.

Sayonara

**OPTIONAL EXTENSION TOURS AVAILABLE
PLEASE ENQUIRE**



Japan Holidays