

Journey through Japan

Depart Cairns 2nd September at 12.00PM arrive Tokyo 6.35PM – Jetstar

Commence the following tour in Tokyo on the 2nd September and ending in Osaka on the 13th September

2nd September Tokyo, Japan

Welcome to Japan's capital city. Hotel rooms are available for mid-afternoon check-in.

3rd September Tokyo

Today's sightseeing tour takes you to the MEIJI SHRINE, a magnificent 20th century Shinto monument set in a man-made forest. Afterward, pass by the Imperial Palace Plaza, the State Guest House, the Akihabara district, and the famous Ginza shopping street. Your tour concludes with a visit to the ASAKUSA KANNON TEMPLE and the NAKAMISE SHOPPING ARCADE. Enjoy a free afternoon and evening in this cosmopolitan city. (B)

4th September Tokyo

Enjoy your day at your leisure. Perhaps join a full day optional excursion to Mount Fuji. (B)

5th September Tokyo - Nikko - Utsunomiya

Journey north to Nikko for a visit to TOSHOGU SHRINE and its famous YOMEIMON GATE, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Next, continue on to the scenic Iroha-zaka Driveway, which reaches elevations of 3,940 feet (1200 metres), to visit LAKE CHUZENJI and the KEGON WATERFALL. Continue to Utsunomiya, home of Japan's famous gyoza dumplings. (B)

6th September Utsunomiya - Matsumoto

This morning, travel to Matsumoto where you will see MATSUMOTO CASTLE and the MATSUMOTO CITY MUSEUM. (B)

7th September Matsumoto - Takayama

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 (joined hands) thatched houses can only be found here. This afternoon, journey through the Japanese Alps to the secluded town of Takayama, where old traditions are untouched by the passage of time. (B)

8th September Takayama - Kyoto

Journey to Kyoto, one of the most fascinating cities in Japan. The remainder of your day is free to explore. This evening, you may choose to stay in a traditional Japanese ryokan (additional expense). (B)

9th September Kyoto

Enjoy a tour 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 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)

10th September Kyoto - Matsue

Journey to the city of Yonago on the coast of the Sea of Japan. After a brief visit, continue to ADACHI MUSEUM OF ART to view Japanese-style gardens and view paintings by one of the greatest Japanese

painters, Yokoyama Taikan. Later, visit Matsue to see MATSUE CASTLE and BUKE YASHIKI, a former samurai residence. (B)

11th September Matsue - Hiroshima

En route to Hiroshima, visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of ITSUKUSHIMA SHRINE and its famous FLOATING TORII GATE. From here, continue to Hiroshima. This city bears significant historic importance, for it was here that the world's first atomic bomb was dropped in 1945. Your tour features the PEACE MEMORIAL PARK to see the PEACE MEMORIAL. Commonly referred to as the Atomic Bomb Dome, this UNESCO World Heritage Site has been preserved just as it was on August 6, 1945, immediately after the bombing. Also, visit the SHUKKEI-EN GARDEN, which dates back to 1620. (B)

12th September Hiroshima - Osaka

Your fascinating journey to Osaka, aboard one of Japan's famous BULLET TRAINS, is sure to be a highlight of your tour. The rest of the day is yours to explore Japan's second largest city. (B)

13th September Osaka

Your tour ends with breakfast this morning. (B)

Depart Osaka 13th September at 9.00PM arrive Cairns 14th September at 5.15AM – Jetstar

Cost per person \$5292.00 and includes the following:

- Airfares
- Airport taxes
- 13 day tour including breakfast daily and sightseeing as per itinerary