Reservations & Information 800-955-1925
www.oattravel.com/jpn

CUCRA - UC Retirees Travel presents ...

Japan’s Cultural Treasures
Small Group Adventure
Japan: Tokyo, Hakone, Kanazawa, Kyoto

15 days from $6795
Includes international airfare from Los Angeles from San Francisco $6895 per person
14 days from $5195
Without international airfare
Single Supplement: FREE

15 days from September 4, 2024

Itinerary Summary

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It’s Included

• Explore in a small group of 16 travelers maximum (average group size of 13)
• International airfare, airport transfers, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges unless you choose to make your own air arrangements
• All land transportation, including 3 rail transfers on bullet and local trains
• Accommodations for 13 nights
• 29 meals—13 breakfasts, 9 lunches, and 7 dinners
• 13 small group activities
• Services of a local O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader
• Gratuities for local guides and drivers
• 5% Frequent Traveler Credit toward your next adventure

PLEASE MENTION THIS CODE WHEN BOOKING G4-28708

Overseas Adventure Travel®
Itinerary

DAY 1 • Depart U.S.
Depart the U.S. on your overnight flight to Tokyo, Japan.

DAY 2 • Tokyo
Arrive in Tokyo. An O.A.T. representative will meet you at the airport and assist with the transfer to your hotel. There, meet your Trip Experience Leader and fellow travelers, including those who took the optional Tokyo: Ancient & Modern Traditions pre-trip extension.

Shizutetsu Hotel Prezio Tokyo Tamachi

Activity Level: 1 2 3 4 5 MODERATE

Pacing: 4 locations in 14 days with 3 train rides and one overland drive of 4.5 hours

Physical requirements: You must be able to walk up to 5 miles unassisted each day over city streets, through gardens and markets, and within temples and shrines in which the ground may be uneven and stairways may lack handrails. Luggage porters are unavailable at hotels and on trains.

Flight time: Travel time will be 10-21 hours and will most likely have one to three connections

View all physical requirements at www.oattravel.com/jpn

DAY 3 • Tokyo • Meet former sumo wrestler • Shinjuku
Visit a restaurant owned by a former sumo wrestler, and enjoy an interactive demonstration of this iconic sport. Then, engage in a conversation with a former wrestler who will share their experience with us—an exclusive O.A.T. feature.

B,L—Lotte City Hotel Kinshicho or similar

DAY 4 • Tokyo • Taiko drumming experience • Asakusa
Take the subway to visit a taiko (traditional Japanese drums) studio, and learn about these instruments with a drum master. Then, travel to the Asakusa area, and stroll down streets lined with shops.

B,D—Lotte City Hotel Kinshicho or similar

DAY 5 • Hakone • A Day in the Life of Ashigara Village
Travel to Hakone, stopping for A Day in the Life of a wasabi farm. Visit a community farm before joining a local family for lunch. Later, head to a local karate studio, or dōjō, for a demonstration from a karate master. Then, visit a local children’s nursery.

B,L,D—TKP Hotel & Resort Rekutore Hakone Gora or similar

DAY 6 • Hakone • Wood workshop • Boat ride on Lake Ashi
Get to know a local fisherman and understand the importance of this industry in Hakone. Then, visit a woodcraft shop to see intricate, wooden inlaid pieces and learn how they’re produced. Afterward, eat lunch at a geisha house and watch a traditional geisha performance.

B,L,D—TKP Hotel & Resort Rekutore Hakone Gora or similar

DAY 7 • Bullet train • Express train to Kanazawa
Ride the shinkansen (bullet train), boarding in Odawara for the first leg of the journey. At 200 mph, it remains among the fastest trains in the world. Later, take a limited express train to Kanazawa, enjoying a view of Japan’s rolling countryside and modern cityscapes.

B,D—Hotel Kanazawa or similar

DAY 8 • Kanazawa • Kenrokuen Garden • Visit Omicho Market
Visit the beautiful Kenrokuen Garden, then walk the Higashi Chaya District, known for its teahouses. Next, visit the 300-year-old Omicho Market. Finally, visit a local gold leaf company for a hands-on lesson.

B,L—Hotel Kanazawa or similar
DAY 9 • Kanazawa • Optional Gokayama tour
Enjoy free time to explore Kanazawa on your own, or join a full-day optional excursion to Gokayama—a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This village in the remote Chubu Mountains is renowned for its distinctive gassho-zukuri-style homes with steeply pitched thatched roofs.
B—Hotel Kanazawa or similar

DAY 10 • Kanazawa • Home-Hosted Visit: Tea with a local family • Train to Kyoto
Enjoy a Home-Hosted Visit with a local family, sitting down for tea and a firsthand glimpse of Japanese life. After, ride the rails to Kyoto, Japan’s ancient imperial capital. This city remains an important cultural center today, and has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
B,L,D—Hotel Vista Premio Kyoto

DAY 11 • Kyoto • Arashiyama Bamboo Grove • Kinkakuji • Controversial Topic: Ethnic Korean discrimination
Explore the Arashiyama Bamboo Grove before we visit Kinkakuji, the Temple of the Golden Pavilion. Then, venture to the outskirts of Kyoto for a Controversial Topic about the discrimination faced by ethnic minority Koreans living in Japan.
B,L—Hotel Vista Premio Kyoto

DAY 12 • Kyoto • Nara • Matcha tea experience
Explore Nara, visiting Todaiji Temple and Kasuga Shrine, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Then, visit a local a tea company for a matcha tea-making demonstration and a hands-on experience of grinding your own green tea using a mill stone.
B,L,D—Hotel Vista Premio Kyoto

DAY 13 • Kyoto • Buddhist Temple • Sushi-making lesson
Head to Senkoji Temple. Try Zen meditation and have a tea ceremony. Then, embark on a boat ride to Togetsu Bridge, followed by lessons in sushi-making and ikebana—the art of flower arrangement.
B,L—Hotel Vista Premio Kyoto

DAY 14 • Kyoto • Ninja martial arts studio • GCF visit: Kyoto’s YWCA • Controversial Topic: Empowering single mothers
Visit a local ninja martial arts studio, and sit in on the students’ practice. Then, visit Kyoto’s YWCA (Young Women’s Christian Association)—a NEW Grand Circle Foundation site—which offers community services to meet the needs of women, children, and foreign residents in Japan. Here, learn about the Controversial Topic of the increased divorce rate in Japan and its impact on single mothers.
B,L,D—Hotel Vista Premio Kyoto

DAY 15 • Return to U.S.
Transfer to the airport in Osaka for your flight home. Travelers taking our optional Hiroshima: City of Peace post-trip extension will transfer to Hiroshima by bullet train today, while travelers taking our optional Osaka to Hiroshima by Bullet Train post-trip extension will transfer to Osaka via private motorcoach.
B
2024 Departure Dates & Prices
Additional departure cities are available.