



# Easy Tours Japan

Fully Escorted Travel for the Discerning Traveller  
Japan Cultural Tour  
17 – 30 October 2025

**13 Nights**

Twin Room per person: \$7400 / Single Room per person: \$7950

This tour includes a moderate amount of walking, and comfortable shoes are recommended. Transport will include private buses, Shinkansen, boat, and local public transport.

Your fully inclusive escorted tour includes:

#### Tour Escorts:

- Tour Escort, John, will accompany you on every day of the tour
- Private Limousine Bus, including Tour Escort, John, and English-speaking Japanese Guide for a tour of Nijo Castle, Ryoanji Temple and Rock Garden, and Kinkakuji Temple (The Golden Pavilion)
- Private Limousine Bus, including Tour Escort, John, and an English-speaking Japanese Guide for a full-day tour of Nara, including attractions such as Nara Park and Todai-ji Temple, and The Hall of the Great Buddha.
- Tour Escort, John, and English-speaking Japanese Guide for tour of Gion

#### Transport included in your tour:

- Return economy airfares Brisbane – Japan with Jetstar, including meals and entertainment
- Chartered coach on arrival at Kansai International Airport to transfer to your Kyoto hotel
- 5-day Kansai-Hiroshima Area Rail Pass
- Suica Card (Japanese Go Card) pre-loaded with Japanese Yen for local, fully escorted, rail travel
- Takkyubin large suitcase transfer from Kyoto to Osaka

#### Accommodation included in your tour:

- 8 nights accommodation in a 4 Star hotel, Kyoto, located next to the Kyoto train station
- 2 nights in a 4 Star hotel, on beautiful Hiroshima Bay
- 2 nights in a 4 Star hotel, Osaka

#### Meals included in your tour:

- Breakfast: x 12
- Lunch: x 2
- Dinner: x 9, including 2 traditional Japanese dinners and one dinner at a Japanese Fishing Restaurant.

### Experiences included in the Tour:

- Traditional Kyoto Tea Ceremony
- Night tour of Kyoto Tower, viewing the expanse of Kyoto and surrounds.
- Sekka Shibori scarf dyeing class
- Sushi making class
- Japanese sweet making class
- Return Miyajima Ropeway tickets
- English-speaking guide at Kiyomizu-dera with coach return in the evening to hotel
- Private Bus and English-speaking guide to Nijo Castle, Ryoanji Rock Garden and Kinkaku-ji Temple
- Gion Evening Tour with English-speaking guide, followed by traditional Japanese dinner
- Private Limousine Bus and English-speaking guide for included full-day Nara tour
- Return boat transfer from Miyajima Island to Hiroshima
- Sagano Scenic Railway to Kameoka Station, with return to Arashiyama Station
- Kyoto Arashiyama Rickshaw Tour of the Bamboo Forest
- Tour of the Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum
- Dinner at the Zauo Fishing Restaurant
- Traditional dinner in Gion

### Entrance Fees to the following Temples, Shrines, and Temples included in the Tour:

- Heian-jingu Shrine and Gardens
- Kiyomizu-dera
- Sanjusangendo Temple
- Ryoan-ji Rock Garden and Temple
- Nijo Castle
- Kinkaku-ji – The Golden Pavilion
- Himeji Castle
- Osaka Castle
- Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum

### Included in your Tour with free entry:

- Nishiki Market tour
- Heian-Jingu Shrine Torii Gate
- Chionin Temple Gate and Temple
- Fushimi Inara-Taisha Shrine
- Arashiyama Kimono Forest
- Arashiyama Bamboo Grove
- Togetsukyo Bridge and Katsura River
- Gion historical and shopping district
- Hiroshima Peace Park and Hiroshima Atomic Dome
- Miyajima Island, including the giant floating Torii Gate, Gojunoto the Five-Storied Pagoda, the Omotesando Shopping Arcade and the world's largest rice paddle
- The Dotonbori precinct, including unique shopping as well as eye-catching signage and billboards, such as the giant pufferfish, octopus, and Kani Douraku crab, as well as the famous Running Man, Dotonbori Glico sign.

### Your Flights – JETSTAR

17 Oct. 2025	Brisbane – Osaka, Kansai (Direct Flight) 11:40am
29 Oct. 2025	Depart Osaka, Kansai (Direct Flight) 09:00pm
30 Oct. 2025	Land- Brisbane 06:40am

## Day 1. 17/10/2025

Konnichiwa and welcome to Japan.

On arrival at the bustling Kansai International Airport, you will be welcomed by your Tour Escort, John, and your private Limousine Bus; to take you directly to your hotel. Travel time of approximately 80 minutes.

On arrival at your hotel, you will enjoy a delicious sushi box and a comfortable bed. You will get a restful sleep after your flight, before you start your Japanese cultural tour.

## Day 2. 18/10/2025

Ohayo Gozaimasu - Good Morning.

We start the day with an included delicious breakfast.

Your Tour Escort, John, will lead you the entire day.

Our day will start with a short taxi ride to the awe inspiring Kiyomizu-dera Temple. At Kiyomizu-dera Temple you will be guided by Tour Escort, John, and an English-speaking guide, who will share the amazing history of this beautiful Temple.

Following your tour of Kiyomizu-dera, we will walk down the beautiful Tea Pot Lane shopping street. Here you will find traditional shopping and your choice of delectable Japanese food from the market stalls and restaurants.

We will then walk to the imposing Chionin Temple Gate. If time permits, you may choose to venture up the stairs to see Chionin Temple, a traditional Japanese cemetery and the Chionin Temple Bell. The bell was cast in 1636, with a height of 3.3 metres, diameter of 2.7 metres and weight of 70 tons.

Following Chionin Temple, you will walk through the beautiful traditional streets to Heian-jingu Shrine and Gardens. You will pass under Japan's largest Torii Gate, the Heian-jingu Shrine Grand Torii Gate. On the way to the Shrine and Gardens, you will walk past a traditional Japanese antique store. Here you may find some Japanese treasures.

We will then travel back to our hotel at Kyoto Station, using your included transport card, via the Kyoto subway system. This will allow you to feel like a local and experience the true pulse of Kyoto.

Dinner tonight is included in our hotel. This has been a big day, and we will all be looking forward to an early bed.



### Day 3. 19/10/2025

Following your included breakfast, you will have an exciting day exploring Kyoto with John as your Tour Escort and guide.

We will leave the hotel via taxi and travel to Sanjusangendo (Rengeo-in) Temple. Here you will view the 1001 statues of Kannon, the Goddess of Mercy. This Shrine dates from 1164. This is an amazing shrine. You will be required to remove your shoes to enter the shrine. Photos are also not permitted in the shrine.

Following your visit to Sanjusangendo (Rengeo-in) Temple, we will take a taxi ride to experience a traditional Kyoto Tea Ceremony. During the ceremony you will be taught how to make traditional Matcha Tea. Assisting in the Tea Ceremony will be a Geiko. In Kyoto, a Geisha is known as a Geiko.

After we have been taught how to make Matcha Tea, we will walk to the subway and travel to Fushimi Inara-Taisha Shrine. For lunch, you may choose to enjoy some traditional Japanese street food or eat at one of the many small restaurants surrounding the shrine. After lunch you can walk through the hundreds of brightly coloured vermilion Torii Gates that straddle the network of trails behind the main Shrine. You may choose to do a short walk and enjoy the market atmosphere of the surrounding area.

When you have finished exploring Fushimi Inara-Taisha Shrine, you will travel again on the local train, for a ten-minute ride back to Kyoto Station.

On arrival at Kyoto Station, John will show the highlights of the Station, as well as the extremely interesting food floors, where many Japanese people shop each day for their evening meals.

We will be back at our hotel with some time to rest prior to our evening meal.

Dinner tonight is included and is a traditional Yakiniku meal. The translation of Yakinuki means 'grilled meat' cuisine. You will need to work for your dinner though, you will be provided the meat, however you will need to cook it on a burner built into your table. This is a fun and interesting way to have dinner.

Following dinner, for those who wish to do a little more exploring, Tour Escort John will walk you through Kyoto Station. The Station at night has a completely different atmosphere. It is colourful and vibrant. We will explore the Kyoto Station Viewing Deck, the Skywalk across the roof of the station and the beautifully illuminated staircase.

### Day 4. 20/10/2025

Following your included breakfast, you will travel with your Tour Escort, John, on a private minibus, to the beautiful tourist district of Arashiyama.

On arrival at Arashiyama, you will tour the enchanted Arashiyama Bamboo Grove, riding in a traditional Japanese rickshaw. This is a truly beautiful experience, with the rickshaw driver taking special photos of you while in the private section of the bamboo grove. The Arashiyama Bamboo Grove is one of the most photographed sights of Japan, where you will view and hear the towering bamboo.

Following your rickshaw ride, we will then walk to the historic Togetsukyo Bridge. This area provides excellent photo opportunities of both the Togetsukyo Bridge and the magnificent Katsura River. This bridge is used in many period film productions.

Lunch is your own choice in the bustling main street, filled with a variety of food and gift shops.

Following lunch, you will experience the beautiful Sagano Scenic Rail, known as the Romantic Train, on a 25-minute ride to Kameoka Station. You will then return to Arashiyama on the Sagano Scenic Rail, giving everyone the opportunity to sit on the picturesque river side of the train.

If time permits, on your return to Arashiyama, you may choose to visit the Arashiyama Iwatayama Monkey Park. Be warned that the 25-minute walk up the hill to the Monkey Viewing Area is steep. Entry to the Iwatayama Monkey Park will cost 600jpy.

John will then return you to Kyoto Station and your hotel, on our private minibus. Dinner tonight is included in your hotel restaurant.

For those of you who are feeling adventurous, following dinner, John will take you back to Fushimi Inara-Taisha Shrine, to experience this beautiful, eery shrine at night.

### **Day 5. 21/10/2025**

Day 5 will be one of your favourite days. After your included breakfast, along with your Tour Escort, John, and an English-speaking Japanese Guide, you will board a private minibus, the most convenient and comfortable way to explore Nijo Castle, Ryoanji Temple and Rock Garden, and Kinkakuji Temple (The Golden Pavilion).

After your included lunch, you travel via the private Limousine Bus to Gion for a private tour with your Tour Escort, John, and an English-speaking Japanese Guide. Gion is Kyoto's geisha district, holding the history and mystery of Kyoto, where you will explore the narrow and traditional laneways of this historic area. When your tour concludes, Tour Escort, John will take you to a restaurant for you to experience a traditional Japanese meal. This unique experience is included in your tour.

Following dinner, Tour Escort, John will return you to your hotel on your minibus. For the adventurous, you may choose to explore Gion after dinner and return to the hotel yourself. It is an easy trip.

### **Day 6. 22/10/2025**

Today is a day for a sleep-in after the big tour day and night at Gion. You can enjoy a later included breakfast as we will not be leaving the hotel until 9:30 am.

Today we will travel by local train to the suburb of Fushimi-ku, Kyoto, where we will experience a traditional Japanese shopping area. Here, you will find locals going about their daily activities, not bothered by tourists. Once we have walked through the shopping area, we will head to the Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum. You will be able to tour the museum at your own pace, and sample different styles of sake at the end of the tour.

For those who feel like an additional adventure in the late afternoon, you can visit Nishiki Markets, with your Tour Escort, John. The markets were founded in 1310 and are known as the "Kitchen of Kyoto". The markets sell an impressive range of fresh and cooked Japanese cuisine.

Your included dinner tonight is a short walk from our hotel to an English style pub, where you will be able to enjoy a meal of fish and chips.

Following dinner, Tour Escort, John will walk you to Kyoto Station, where you will be taken on a tour of Kyoto Tower at night. Here you will experience how vast Kyoto is, and from the top of Kyoto Tower.

### **Day 7. 23/10/2025**

After your included breakfast, you will board the private minibus, travelling in a convenient and comfortable manner, with Tour Escort, John, and an English-speaking tour guide, for an exciting day in Nara. The bus ride will take approximately 1 hour. You will tour attractions such as Nara Park and Todai-ji Temple, The Hall of the Great Buddha and Isuien Garden.

Nara is considered a cultural treasure of Japan. Your guides will tour you through temples and shrines. You will enjoy the beautiful gardens and see the free-roaming tame deer. Lunch will be your own experience, with recommendations from John and your English-speaking guide.

You will return to your hotel late in the afternoon, with dinner being your own choice. Your Tour Guide, John, has several recommendations for dinner that are inexpensive, traditional and delicious.

### **Day 8. 24/10/2025**

Following your included breakfast, you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your creativity.

Today, using your included Suica card, you travel by subway train, with Tour Escort, John, to experience a private Sekka Shibori Scaff class and visit the Sekka Shibori Scaff Museum. You will learn how to dye a silk scarf using the Sekka Shibori method. At the end of your private class, you will have a beautiful scarf or handkerchief to serve as a souvenir of your trip to Japan.

Tour Escort, John will then return you to your hotel, where you will pack for your trip the following day to Hiroshima and Miyajima Island. Your last night in Kyoto will be a dinner of your own choice. Your Tour Guide, John, has several recommendations for dinner that are inexpensive, traditional and delicious.

### **Day 9. 25/10/2025**

Today your large suitcase will be privately transferred to Osaka, as large suitcases are unable to be taken on the Shinkansen. You will need an overnight bag for the two nights on Miyajima Island.

Following your included breakfast, Tour Escort, John will lead you to the Kyoto Shinkansen Station, for your first ride on a Shinkansen or Bullet Train.

You will travel for approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes, via Bullet Train, to Hiroshima Station. This is a very relaxing and interesting trip, where you will see both urban and rural Japan.

On arrival in Hiroshima, we will travel via Trolley Car, to the Hiroshima Peace Park, The Atomic Dome and Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. You will use your included travel card to pay for the trolley car transport.

When you reach the Peace Park, you will place your overnight bag in a locker, at a cost of approximately 200jpy, while you tour the Peace Park and Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. It is important that you have some 100jpy coins to use in the lockers.

Following your tour of the Peace Park and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, we will travel via private minibus to our hotel overlooking Hiroshima Bay. This hotel overlooks Miyajima Island. You will be able to relax by walking through the parks and paths beside the bay prior to dinner. Dinner tonight is an included buffet dinner.

## Day 10. 26/10/2025

Today, following your included breakfast, you will travel to Miyajima Island via boat.

After we arrival on the island we will head to the Miyajima Ropeway. The ropeway will take you to the top of Mount Misen, where you will have magnificent views of Hiroshima Bay

Today is a day of relaxation and exploration. Following your Miyajima Ropeway ride, you will be free to explore the island at your leisure. You can visit points of interest such as the Itsukushima Shrine, the giant floating Torii Gate, Gojunoto the Five-Storeyed Pagoda, the Omotesando Shopping Arcade and the world's largest rice paddle.

Lunch is your own adventure, with the island being famous for oysters and seafood. There are many inexpensive restaurants on the island. You may need to line up prior to entry, however Japanese do not linger over their meals and the lines move fast.

After a relaxing day on Miyajima Island, we will travel by boat back to our hotel for the evening. The included evening meal at our hotel is a traditional Japanese dinner. You will enjoy the meal in the dining area with your fellow adventurers.

## Day 11. 27/10/2025

After enjoying your included breakfast, you will say farewell to Hiroshima. We will return to Hiroshima Shinkansen Station for our shinkansen ride to Himeji.

You will then board the Shinkansen, with your Tour Escort, John; and travel approximately 1 hour 40 minutes to Himeji, to visit the beautiful Himeji Castle, also known as the White Heron.

On arrival at Himeji Station, we will stow our hand luggage in storage lockers for the day. This is easy and convenient.

For those who are feeling adventurous, your Tour Escort, John, will guide you through Himeji Castle. The stairs in the castle are extremely steep and narrow. Himeji Castle is beautiful to look at, however difficult to tour through.

You will also have the opportunity to tour through the beautiful gardens that are part of the castle complex. This is a highlight of the day at Himeji.

Lunch will be your own choice in the food and shopping area surrounding Himeji Castle. For lunch, there are some welcoming coffee shops to be found in the covered shopping arcade close to Himeji Castle.

After your Himeji tour, you will board the Shinkansen for a 30-minute ride to Osaka. On arrival at Osaka, you will be reunited with your large suitcase at your hotel. There will be time to rest before your Tour Escort, John, takes you on a walk through the local shopping area to find dinner. Osaka is a 'foodie paradise' and in Osaka Japanese use the word, *kuidaore*, which means "to ruin yourself with extravagant food found there."

### Day 12. 28/10/2025

After enjoying your included breakfast, your Tour Escort, John, will take you via local train, using your included Suica Card, to the beautiful Sumiyoshi Shrine. The shrine is extremely beautiful, as are the surrounding gardens.

Lunch today is a unique experience. Today you will be taught how to make sushi, with lunch including sushi that you have made during the class. This will be an enjoyable and fun experience.

After lunch we will return to the hotel, to give you the opportunity to pack, ready for your trip home the following day.

In the evening, your included dinner is at the Zauo Fishing Restaurant. You will sit around an indoor pond and fish for your dinner. Don't worry, if you can't catch a fish, you won't starve, as other food is also provided. This is a fun and sometimes hilarious way to have dinner.

Following dinner, your Tour Escort, John, will walk you back to your hotel, or you can choose to further explore the Dotonbori area for your last night in Japan.

### Day 13. 29/10/2025

Today is our last day in Japan. After your included breakfast, your Tour Escort, John, will take you on a private minibus to Osaka Castle. You will tour the castle and return to your hotel by mid-day. You will have until 01:00pm in your room to do a final pack and rest.

At 01:00pm, we will take our bags to the foyer for storage and head to lunch in the local shops. After lunch, you will have the opportunity to do some final shopping, prior to hopping on our private airport bus, which will take us to Kansai Airport, departing our hotel at 05:00pm.

### Day 14. 30/10/2025

We will have an early morning arrival back in Brisbane, landing at 06:40am.

