



Easy Tours Japan

Fully Escorted Luxury Travel for the Discerning Retired Traveller
Japan Cultural Tour
16 – 30 October 2025

14 Nights – 15 Days

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 flights from Australia, private buses, Shinkansen (Bullet Train), boat, and local public transport.

Now including Tokyo and Mt Fuji and all breakfast and dinners

Your fully escorted tour includes:

Tour Escort:

Your dedicated Tour Escort, John, will accompany you every day of the tour, guiding you through the rich history and culture of Tokyo, Kyoto, Himeji, and Hiroshima. You'll visit the charming city of Nara, where you'll explore iconic attractions such as Nara Park and the breathtaking Todai-ji Temple, home to the Hall of the Great Buddha. Experience the beauty of Arashiyama as you tour its scenic landscapes and ride a traditional rickshaw through the enchanting Arashiyama Bamboo Grove. Throughout your journey, you'll visit historic temples and shrines, savor exquisite Japanese cuisine, and immerse yourself in the authentic essence of Japan—all under the expert guidance of your Tour Escort, John.

Transport included in your tour:

- Return economy airfares Brisbane – Japan with Jetstar, including meals and entertainment
- Chartered coach on arrival in Japan to your Tokyo accommodation
- Shinkansen rail pass
- Suica Card (Japanese Go Card) pre-loaded with Japanese Yen for local, fully escorted, rail travel
- Takkyubin large suitcase transfer so you do not have to carry your large suitcase from city to city

Accommodation included in your tour:

- 3 nights accommodation in a 4 Star hotel, Tokyo
- 9 nights accommodation in a 4 Star hotel, Kyoto, located next to the Kyoto train station
- 2 nights in a 4 Star hotel, Hiroshima Bay

Meals included in your tour:

- **Breakfast: included every day**
- Lunch: x 2
- **Dinner: included every evening**, including 2 traditional Japanese dinners

Experiences included in the Tour:

- Tour the amazing Tokyo Skytree, the tallest tower in the world and tallest structure in Japan
- Enjoy a one day tour to Mt Fuji, a beautiful and sacred place or the Japanese people
- Experience a day tour of Tokyo visiting the Meiji Shrine / Shibuya / Asakusa
- Traditional Kyoto Tea Ceremony
- Tour of Kyoto Tower, viewing the expanse of Kyoto and surrounds.
- Sekka Shibori scarf class
- Sushi making class
- Return Miyajima Ropeway tickets
- Tour of Kyoto's most famous temple, Kiyomizu-dera
- Private Limousine Bus and English-speaking guide to tour Kinkaku-ji Temple, Ryoanji Rock Garden Nijo Castle, and Gion, followed by a delicious traditional Japanese dinner
- Private Limousine Bus and English-speaking guide for included full-day Nara tour
- Return boat transfer from Miyajima Island to your Hiroshima Bay hotel
- Boat ride on the beautiful Katsura River at Arashiyama
- Rickshaw Tour of the Arashiyama Bamboo Forest
- Tour the mystic and amazing Sanjusangendo Temple
- Tour of Hiroshima Peace Park and Hiroshima Atomic Dome and Peace Museum

Entrance Fees to the following Temples, Shrines, and Castles 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
- Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum
- Tenryuji Temple

Included in your Tour with free entry:

- Nishiki Market tour
- Kuromon Ichiba Market
- Heian-Jingu Shrine Torii Gate
- Chionin Temple Gate
- Fushimi Inara-Taisha Shrine
- Arashiyama Kimono Forest
- Arashiyama Bamboo Grove
- Togetsukyo Bridge and Katsura River
- Gion historical and shopping district
- Miyajima Island, including the giant floating Torii Gate, Gojunoto the Five-Storied Pagoda, and the Omotesando Shopping Arcade

Your Flights – JETSTAR

16 October 2025 – Depart Brisbane Jetstar Airways flight JQ9 at 09:30am, arriving Narita, Tokyo at 05:40pm

29 October 2025 – Depart Japan Jetstar Airways flight JQ24 at 09:45pm

30 October 2025 – Land Brisbane at 07:35am

Day 1. 16 October 2025

Konnichiwa and welcome to Japan.

On arrival in Tokyo, you will be welcomed by your Tour Escort, John, and your **private Limousine Bus**; to take you directly to your Tokyo hotel.

On arrival at your hotel you will be welcomed with a delicious sushi box, and enjoy a restful night in the comfort of your hotel, ensuring you're refreshed and ready to embark on an unforgettable Japanese cultural journey.

Day 2. 17 October 2025

You'll begin your day with a delicious, included breakfast. Your first stop is **Asakusa**, a historic district that captures the essence of traditional Japan. Stroll through its charming streets, explore the iconic Senso-ji Temple, and soak in the vibrant atmosphere of **Nakamise Shopping Street**.

Next, you'll visit the **Meiji Shrine**, a serene and sacred Shinto shrine nestled in the heart of the city. Surrounded by lush forest, it offers a peaceful contrast to Tokyo's dynamic energy.

To end the day on a high note, you'll head to the **Tokyo Skytree**, the tallest structure in Japan and the tallest tower in the world. Take in breathtaking panoramic views of the city, a perfect way to wrap up your unforgettable day in Tokyo. After touring Skytree you will enjoy a delicious included dinner.

Day 3. 18 October 2025

Start your day with a delightful, included breakfast. Today promises adventure and breathtaking sights as you set off on your **private tour bus** to witness the majestic **Mt. Fuji**. Rising to an impressive 3,776 meters, it is Japan's tallest and most revered peak. For centuries, Mt. Fuji has been a sacred symbol, deeply influencing Japanese culture and perceptions of nature. Gazing upon its awe-inspiring beauty is an unforgettable experience—one that will leave a lasting impression for years to come. On your return to the hotel you will enjoy a delicious included Japanese dinner.

Day 4. 19 October 2025

After enjoying breakfast, you will board the Shinkansen for a scenic journey to **Hiroshima**. Please note that your large suitcase will be sent ahead to Kyoto, so be sure to pack an overnight bag for your two-night stay in Hiroshima.

Upon arrival, you will spend the afternoon exploring the **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum**, a profoundly moving experience that offers insight into the city's history and resilience.

In the evening, you will check into your beautiful hotel overlooking **Hiroshima Bay**, where you will unwind and savour a traditional Japanese dinner, immersing yourself in the local culture and flavours.

Day 5. 20 October 2025

After your included breakfast, we will have a leisurely island day. As a group, we will journey by boat to the breathtaking **Miyajima Island**, renowned for its stunning scenery and cultural landmarks.

For lunch, embark on your own culinary adventure—Miyajima is famous for its fresh oysters and delicious seafood, offering a variety of local flavours to discover.

On arrival at the island we will make our way to the amazingly beautiful **Miyajima Ropeway and ride to the top of Mount Misen**. Here you will have unsurpassed views of Miyajima Island and Hiroshima Bay.

While on the island, you can visit iconic sites such as the sacred Itsukushima Shrine and its magnificent floating Torii Gate, the elegant Five-Storied Pagoda (Gojunoto), the bustling **Omotesando Shopping Arcade**.

After a day of exploration, you may return to the mainland at your own pace. In the evening, enjoy an included Japanese buffet dinner, enjoying the seasonal foods of Hiroshima.

Day 6. 21 October 2025

After enjoying a delicious breakfast, you will take a taxi to Hiroshima Station for your Shinkansen journey to the beautiful and historic city of Kyoto.

Along the way, we will make a short stop to explore the breathtaking **Himeji Castle**, a masterpiece of early 17th-century Japanese architecture. Known as "**The White Heron**" for its elegant, soaring design, Himeji Castle stands as the finest surviving example of traditional Japanese castle craftsmanship.

Following your visit, you will continue your journey to Kyoto, where you can unwind at your hotel before enjoying a thoughtfully prepared evening meal, marking the perfect end to a perfect day. Tonight, you will also be reunited with your large suitcase.

Day 7. 22 October 2025

You'll start the day with a delicious included breakfast before setting off on an enriching journey through Kyoto.

Our morning begins with a short taxi ride to the awe-inspiring **Kiyomizu-dera Temple**. Here, your Tour Escort, John, will guide you through the temple's fascinating history and breathtaking architecture.

After exploring Kiyomizu-dera, you will stroll down the charming Teapot Lane, a vibrant shopping street lined with traditional stores and enticing market stalls. Take your time to browse unique souvenirs and savour delectable Japanese treats from the local restaurants.

Next, you make your way to the imposing **Chion-in Temple Gate**. This temple gate is the largest temple gate in Japan. Continuing our walk through Kyoto's beautifully preserved streets, we'll arrive at the stunning Heian-jingu Shrine and Gardens. As we approach, we will pass beneath Japan's largest Torii Gate, the striking **Heian-jingu Shrine Grand Torii Gate**. Along the way, we'll pass a traditional Japanese antique store, where you might discover unique treasures to bring home.

To conclude our day's adventures, we'll return to our hotel at Kyoto Station via the Kyoto subway system, using your included transport card. This journey offers a chance to experience the rhythm and energy of local life in Kyoto.

Tonight, enjoy an included dinner at our hotel. Afterward, for those eager to explore further, John will lead an evening walk through Kyoto Station, where you'll visit the Kyoto Viewing Deck, stroll across the Skywalk on the station's rooftop, and admire the beautifully illuminated staircase—a perfect way to end a memorable day.

Day 8. 23 October 2025

After a delicious breakfast, we will join our private guide on our tour bus and travel to the historic city of **Nara**.

Today promises to be an unforgettable experience. You will visit iconic attractions such as the serene Nara Park, the awe-inspiring Todai-ji Temple, and the magnificent **Hall of the Great Buddha**.

Known as Japan's cultural heart, Nara is a living treasure, rich in history and beauty. Your guide, John, along with a Japanese English speaking guide, will lead you through the tranquil temples and sacred shrines, sharing fascinating stories along the way. As you wander through lush gardens, you'll also have the chance to interact with the friendly, free-roaming deer that call Nara Park home.

For lunch, you'll have the freedom to choose your own culinary adventure, with recommendations for both traditional Japanese dishes and Western-style options. After lunch you will stroll around **Nara Old Town**, a beautiful and historic section of Nara.

In the late afternoon, you'll return to your hotel to unwind, and enjoy an included delicious dinner, capping off a truly memorable day.

Day 9. 24 October 2025

After enjoying your included breakfast, you will embark on a wonderful day of exploration, traveling via bus with your Tour Escort, John, to the stunning Arashiyama district—one of Kyoto's most picturesque and beloved destinations.

Upon arrival, you will experience the enchanting **Arashiyama Bamboo Grove** in a truly special way—on a traditional **Japanese rickshaw ride**. As you glide through the towering bamboo forest, your rickshaw driver will take stunning

photos of you in the private section of the grove, capturing memories of this serene and magical setting. The gentle rustling of the bamboo in the wind creates an atmosphere unlike any other, making this a uniquely Japanese experience.

After your rickshaw ride, we will take a leisurely walk to the historic **Togetsukyo Bridge**, which spans the magnificent Katsura River. This scenic spot offers fantastic photo opportunities and is frequently featured in period films due to its timeless beauty.

For lunch, you'll have the freedom to choose from the many wonderful restaurants and street food stalls along Arashiyama's bustling main street, where you can sample local specialties and browse charming gift shops.

Following lunch, you will embark on a **scenic boat ride along the Katsura River**, a relaxing and enjoyable experience that allows you to take in the breathtaking natural beauty of Arashiyama from the water.

After a day of exploration, John will return you to Kyoto Station and your hotel, allowing you time to relax before dinner. Tonight, you will enjoy an included meal at your hotel restaurant.

Day 10. 25 October 2025

After enjoying your included breakfast, you'll set off on a captivating journey through Kyoto's history and cultural landmarks with your Tour Escort, John. Traveling by private bus with an English-speaking Japanese tour guide, you'll explore some of the city's most iconic sights.

Our day begins at the dazzling **Kinkakuji Temple (The Golden Pavilion)**. Covered in brilliant gold leaf and mirrored in a tranquil reflecting pond, this breathtaking structure is one of Kyoto's most iconic landmarks and offers an unforgettable photo opportunity.

Next, we visit the serene **Ryoanji Temple**, home to Japan's most famous Zen rock garden. This minimalist yet deeply symbolic arrangement of raked gravel and 15 enigmatic stones invites quiet contemplation and inner reflection.

Our final temple stop is the impressive **Nijo Castle**, an architectural treasure known for its grand interiors and unique "nightingale floors," which chirp softly underfoot to warn of approaching intruders—a clever security feature from the samurai era.

After a morning rich in cultural discovery, you'll enjoy a delicious **included lunch** before we head to **Gion**, Kyoto's historic Geisha district. As you wander through its narrow, lantern-lit streets, John will share fascinating insights into the traditions and mystique of this unique neighborhood. With a bit of luck, you might even spot a **Geisha / Geiko** or **Maiko** (apprentice Geisha) heading to an evening engagement.

We'll end this unforgettable day with an **included dinner** at a traditional Japanese restaurant, where you'll savor authentic Kyoto cuisine. Afterward, John will accompany you back to your hotel via subway, using your **included Suica Card**. This day offers a perfect blend of beauty, tradition, and cultural immersion—highlighting some of Kyoto's most treasured experiences!

Day 11. 26 October 2025

After enjoying your included breakfast, get ready for an exciting day exploring Kyoto with your Tour Escort, John, as your guide.

We begin our journey with a taxi ride to **Sanjusangendo (Rengeo-in) Temple**, home to 1,001 breathtaking statues of Kannon, the Goddess of Mercy. Dating back to 1164, this awe-inspiring temple offers a profound and serene experience. As a sign of respect, you will be required to remove your shoes before entering, and photography inside the temple is not permitted.

After departing Sanjusangendo, you will travel via taxi to a traditional Japanese tea house to experience an authentic **Kyoto-style Tea Ceremony**—an unforgettable highlight of your journey.

Following the Tea Ceremony, we will take a short walk to the subway for a quick 10-minute ride to the iconic **Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine**. Here, you can immerse yourself in the beauty of the famous vermilion Torii gates that form a mesmerizing pathway behind the main shrine. You may choose to take a short stroll through the gates or explore the lively market area surrounding the shrine, where you can sample delicious Japanese street food or enjoy lunch at one of the many charming local restaurants.

After our time at **Fushimi Inari Taisha**, we'll take a quick 10-minute train ride back to Kyoto Station. Upon arrival, John will guide you through the highlights of this impressive station, including its fascinating food floors, where locals shop daily for fresh ingredients and prepared meals.

We'll return to our hotel in the afternoon, allowing some time to relax before dinner.

Tonight, enjoy an included **Yakiniku dinner, a traditional Japanese "grilled meat" cuisine**. Get ready for a fun and interactive dining experience—you'll be provided with fresh cuts of meat and will grill them yourself on a burner built into your table.

For those feeling adventurous after dinner, John will offer an optional return visit to **Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine**, where you can experience the shrine's iconic vermilion Torii gates in a beautiful and eerie nighttime setting—a truly unforgettable way to end your day.

Day 12. 27 October 2025

After enjoying your included breakfast, today offers a chance to unleash your creativity.

Using your included Suica card, you'll travel by subway with your Tour Escort, John, to experience a private Sekka Shibori scarf class and visit the **Sekka Shibori Scarf Museum**. During this hands-on workshop, you'll learn the traditional Japanese art of dyeing, using the intricate sekka shibori technique to create your very own silk scarf. By the end of the class, you'll have a beautiful, personalized piece to take home as a special memento of your time in Japan.

After your creative experience, you'll journey by subway to the historic **Fushimi District** in Kyoto, renowned as the heart of sake production. This area has been crafting and selling high-quality sake since the 1600s. You'll visit the impressive **Gekkeikan Sake Factory and Museum**, founded in 1637, where you'll gain fascinating insights into the centuries-old process of sake making. You will also get the chance to sample and enjoy different styles of sake.

Following your visit to Fushimi, John will escort you back to Kyoto Station, where you'll embark on a tour of the iconic **Kyoto Tower**. From the observation deck, you'll be treated to panoramic views of Kyoto and, on a clear day, even catch a glimpse of Osaka in the distance. It's the perfect way to wrap up an enriching day of cultural exploration. We will finish the day with a delicious included Japanese dinner.

Day 13. 28 October 2025

After your included breakfast you will travel by train to the beautiful city of Uji. Uji is located just south of Kyoto, Japan, renowned for its cultural heritage and serene beauty. It is especially famous for producing some of the finest green tea in the country. With its scenic riverside setting, ancient shrines, and traditional tea houses, Uji offers a tranquil retreat steeped in history and tradition.

Day 14. 29 October 2025

Today marks your last day in Japan. After a delicious breakfast, you'll head to the vibrant **Nishiki Market**, often referred to as the "Kitchen of Kyoto." Operating since the early 1300s, this bustling market offers an array of traditional Japanese food items to sample, from fresh seafood to pickled delicacies. As you stroll through the market, you'll also find unique shops selling everything from finely crafted knives and bowls to beautiful chopsticks – the perfect souvenirs to remember your time in Japan.

For lunch, you'll take part in a hands-on **Sushi Class**, where you'll learn the art of crafting delicious sushi — a fun and valuable skill to take home with you to Australia.

After returning to your hotel in the afternoon to collect your luggage, you will board the airport bus at 5:00 PM, for Kansai Airport. From here, you'll begin your journey home to Brisbane, filled with unforgettable memories from your time in Japan.

Day 15. 30 October 2025 – Land in Brisbane