

TRAVELABOUT SOLO TRAVEL CLUB

18 DAY JAPAN DISCOVERY AUTUMN TOUR

Departing 30 OCTOBER 2020

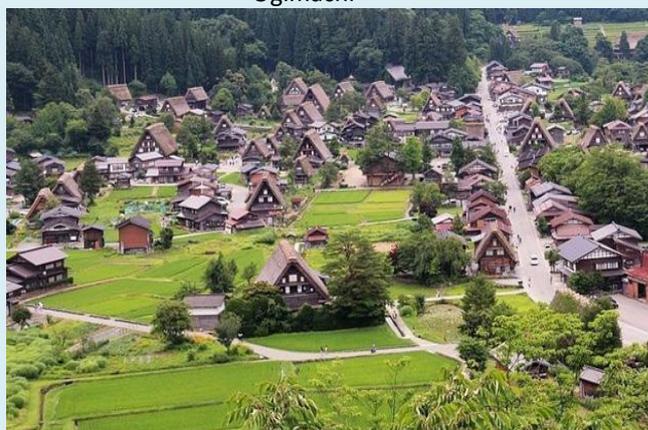
\$9290 PP Twin Share

\$10740 Solo

Mt Fuji



Ogimachi



Kyoto



Hiroshima



Exclusive tour capturing the spectacular autumn colours, scenic and cultural highlights of Japan... incorporating Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto and Nara Land of unique culture, natural wonders, imperial heritage, tranquil temples, shrines and classical gardens

Includes:

Return Airfares Tokyo with Nippon Air, English speaking Tour Guide , Coach & Bullet Train as per itinerary, Admissions as per itinerary, All must-do sightseeing, Meals as indicated with some Western Meals. Excellent Hotels.

TRAVELLING SOLO BUT NOT ALONE

Day 1 Oct 30

Transfer from Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club to Sydney Airport for our flight to Tokyo

Day 2 Oct 31 Tokyo

We arrive in Tokyo, where we will be welcomed by our local guide. We visit the famous Tsukiji Fish Market, Transfer to our hotel for some leisure time before we enjoy a welcome dinner. D

Day 3 Nov 1 Tokyo

Our adventure begins with a breathtaking view of the city from the Tokyo Skytree we visit Tokyo's most celebrated temples in Asakusa, followed by a visit to Nakamise Shopping Street. We visit the Imperial Palace Plaza then wander through the lovely Hama Rikyu Gardens. This evening, enjoy a dinner cruise around Tokyo Bay. B L D

Day 4 Nov 2 Tokyo -Mt Fuji

This morning, travel by coach to Tokyo Station, while the Coach continues to Odawara, we will take 1 hour tour to explore the Tokyo Station area which is not only a transportation facility, but also an important national architectural icon in Japan. We take the bullet train to Odawara Station; the ride is about 35min. We then take our coach to Mt Fuji. Mt-Fuji is one of the most sacred mountains and pilgrimage sites in Japan. After lunch, we travel to Hakone, where we take a cruise (if the weather permits) on the placid Lake Ashinoko and enjoy the beautiful view of Mt Fuji and its scenic surroundings. Later, take the cable car up to Owakudani, the area around a crater created during Mt Fuji's last eruption. Tonight, enjoy a traditional "Onsen" (hot spring bath) at your hotel. B L D

Day 5 Nov 3 Kawakuchko- Matsumoto –Takayama

Today we will drive to Matsumoto City near the centre of the Nagano Prefecture and known as the gate to the Northern Alps' climbing routes. The Matsumoto Castle is one of the most famous Japanese flatland castles and is widely recognised as a national treasure. Afterwards, continue to one of Japan's largest wasabi farms where you can learn to make wasabi vegetables. Following this, we will drive through the winding mountain passes to Takayama, a beautiful castle town surrounded by mountains in every direction. B L D

Day 6 Nov 4 Takayama

We take a walk to the Miyagawa Morning Market located next to the Nakabashi Bridge where all along the riverside locals sell their produce. Here you can sample some of the region's fruit and vegetables pickles. Later we visit Sanno-machi Old Town where wooden houses are still the main architectural style and beautifully preserved. We will also visit the Takayama Festival Floats Exhibition Hall, the Kusakabe Folk Museum and the Takayama Jinya. Enjoy free time to explore the local shopping streets dating back to 400 years ago. B L D

Day 7 Nov 5 Takayama-Shirakawa-go-Kanazawa

Travel to the Shirakawa-go region and visit the UNESCO World Heritage Listed, 700 year old village of Ogimachi: a secluded snowy mountain village. Retaining the historic landscape with approximately 50 traditionally designed farmhouse-style Gassho-Zukuri – some of which are more than 250 years old. Try your hand at making traditional Japanese washi paper before continuing to Kanazawa, a castle town that is also a Samurai town. In Kanazawa you also visit the Nomura Samurai House which has a beautiful Japanese garden. Take a walk through the Old District, where ancient wooden townhouses have been turned into souvenir shops and cafés line the cobblestone streets. B L D

Day 8 Nov 6 Kanazawa-Kyoto

The main attraction of the old town is the beautiful Kenroku-en Garden: one of Japan's top three gardens. Afterwards, visit the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art. After lunch, travel by coach to Kyoto, a city with more than a thousand years of history and home to hundreds of temples, shrines and gardens. Kyoto was the imperial capital of Japan between 794 and 1868. B L D

Day 9 Nov 7 Kyoto

Visit the famous Kinkaku-ji temple, also known as the Golden Pavilion. Later, visit the UNESCO World Heritage listed Ryoanji Temple, which is the site of Japan's most famous rock garden. To finish the day, we continue to the restored wooden townhouse where we will learn about traditional Japanese handicrafts such as origami, ikebana, and calligraphy, and participate in a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. B L D

Day 10 Nov 8 Kyoto- Nara - Kyoto

We travel to Nara, the first permanent imperial capital of Japan which was established in the year 710. We visit the Todaiji Temple, which is home to Japan's largest Buddha. We will also visit the Issuien Gardens, which is also known as the garden founded on water' deriving from the fact that its ponds are sourced from the Yoshikigawa River. Return to Kyoto and visit the Fushimi Inari-taisha Shrine. This intriguing Shinto shrine was dedicated to the god of rice and sake by the Hata clan in the 8th century. It is famous for its thousands of bright orange torii gates which were featured in the movie Memoirs of a Geisha. B L D

Day 11 Nov 9 **Kyoto**
Arashiyama, Kizomijudera temple B L D

Day 12 Nov 10 **Kyoto-Osaka**
We visit the Osaka Castle before taking a cruise along the Yodogawa River. Tonight, wander down Dotonbori, a large-scale downtown food paradise that runs along the south bank of the Dotonbori-gawa Canal, often selected as a scene in Japanese and foreign movies as the symbol of Osaka. You will have the opportunity to sample some delicious local delicacies during the farewell dinner. B L D

Day 13 Nov 11 **Osaka- Shin-Osaka –Kokura**
We take coach transfer to Shin-Osaka Station, board the bullet train bound for Kyushu Island, the 4th largest in Japan where the scenic and hot spring is famous. We will first stop in Kokura Town for an overnight stay, Kokura was an ancient castle town, and now reinvented itself as a commercial, entertainment and transportation centre. B

Day 14 Nov 12 **Kokura- Beppu**
After breakfast, we travel by coach to Beppu, famous for its lakes, gorges and hot springs. We will first visit the Dazaifu Temmangu Shrine which dedicated to the spirit of Sugawara Michizane, a scholar and politician of the Heian Period. With his great learning, Michizane has been associated with Tenjin, a Shinto deity of education. We continue to Yufuin, located on a flat river basin surrounded by mountains. The most prominent feature of Yufuin's skyline is the twin peak Mount Yufu, which hovers over the town and serves as the backdrop; you will have some time to stroll around the local shopping district then visit to the Lake Kinrin, a small lake with clear waters that well up from a hot spring. Today's visit will end in Umijogoku, one of the most beautiful hells Umijogoku Sea Hell, the "sea hell" features a pond of boiling blue water in its spacious gardens, The spectacular hot springs are for viewing rather than bathing. B

Day 15 Nov 13 **Beppu – Hiroshima**
This morning, we will first drive to Kusasenri and Daikanbo area for its beautiful view of Mt Aso. Kusasenri is a grassy plain that expands out past the northern foot of one of the five peaks of Mount Aso, Daikanbo is a mountain which is also part of the Aso mountain range, formed by a great volcanic explosion, and it now has become a popular viewing spot for Mount Aso. Continue our visit to the Takachiho Gorge, Manai Falls and enjoy a boat ride. If time permitted, we will visit the Takachiho Shrine. Later, transfer to Kumamoto station to take the Shinkansen to Hiroshima. B

Day 16 Nov 14 **Hiroshima**
This morning, we will visit the Sacred Island of Miyajima, the cradle of the Japanese Shinto religion; later take a ferry ride to the Itsukushima Shrine. The shrine has more than 1400 years of history, and is a registered World Heritage Site best known for its "floating" torii gate appears to be protruding from the sea during high tide. Continue onto the Hiroshima Peace memorial Park or known as the Atomic Bomb Domb which was designated an UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996, dedicated to promoting peace around the globe.

Day 17 Nov 15 **Hiroshima- Shin-Osaka – Tokyo Haneda airport-Sydney**
We have some free time before being transferred to the train station to board the bullet train to Shin-Osaka (89Mins), connect to the train to Tokyo Station (174Mins), and then transferred by coach to Haneda Airport for flight **NH879 at 22:00** to Sydney

Day 18 Nov 16 **Arrive Sydney**
We arrive in Sydney at 9.35am, where we meet our shuttle service to take us back to Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOU JOINING US ON THIS GROUP TOUR!

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