



[www.travelbay.com](http://www.travelbay.com)

1800 020 020

[info@travelbay.com](mailto:info@travelbay.com)

## ITINERARY

### Japan – 11 Days on the Golden Route – Osaka to Tokyo – International Flights Included

#### Day 1: Depart from Australia

Depart from Australia. Get ready for your Japan adventure!

#### Day 2: Arrive in Osaka

Arrive in **Osaka**. Your tour guide will collect you from the airport and take to your hotel. Here you can relax, unwind and explore Osaka at your leisure.

Overnight: Kansai Airport Washington Hotel

#### Day 3: Visit Osaka Castle and the famous Dōtonbori

After breakfast your tour guide will take you to one of Japan's most famous landmarks and the symbol of Osaka – **Osaka Castle**. Built in 1583 by the great warlord Hideyoshi the castle is a spectacular sight. Enjoy the tranquillity of the surrounding gardens before heading to the bustle of **Dōtonbori**, downtown Osaka where you can enjoy the best of Osakan cuisine and entertainment – Osaka is known for its gastronomical delights!

Overnight: Osaka Daiichi Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast

#### Day 4: Todaji Temple, the Great Buddha Vairocana and Kyoto

Travel to **Nara** to visit one of Japan's most famous temples – **Todaji Temple**. The temple is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site and is home to the world's largest bronze statue of the Buddha Vairocana. Wander through Nara park where over 1,200 wild sika deer roam freely before travelling on to **Kyoto**. In the afternoon visit **Nishijin Textile Centre** famous for its kimono fabrics. After a traditional kimono show you can visit **Kiyomizu-dera Temple** situated on **the Otowa Waterfall** known for its purity of water. Drink from one of the three streams that are said to instil



[www.travelbay.com](http://www.travelbay.com)

1800 020 020

[info@travelbay.com](mailto:info@travelbay.com)

longevity, success at school or a fortunate love life depending from which of the three streams you drink.

Overnight: Kyoto Shin Hankyu Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

### **Day 5: Zen temples of Kyoto and the bullet train**

Visit **Nijo Castle** and **Kinkakuji Golden Pavilion** – a zen temple and world heritage site. The architecture is a mix of Shinden, Samurai and Zen and is aptly named as the top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Walk over **Togetsu Bridge** which spans the **Katsura River** and offers incredible views of **Mount Arashiyama**. Then hop aboard the bullet train for your journey to **Mount Fuji**.

Overnight: Tominoko Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

### **Day 6: Mount Fuji and the spectacular surrounds**

Soak up the purity of the surroundings of **Mount Fuji** beginning at **Oshino Hakkai** – the Springs of Mount Fuji where eight ponds are fed by melting snow that has taken more than 80 years to filter through porous layers of lava resulting in spring water that is revered by locals. Visit **Gotemba Peace Park** with breathtaking views of Mount Fuji before taking a cruise on **Lake Ashi**. Formed in the caldera of **Mount Hakone**, with a mostly undeveloped shore and scenic views, Lake Ashi is nature at its finest. A Shinto shrine is hidden in the vegetation and is given away only by the striking red torii gates in the water. Explore the active volcanic area and hot springs of **Owakudani Valley** before a nights rest in **Izu**.

Overnight: Itoen Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

### **Day 7: From traditional Odawara Castle to modern Tokyo**

Visit the spectacular **Odawara Castle**, known as one of the top 100 Hanami (flowers viewing) spots in Japan. Then travel to **Kamakura** and visit **Daibutsu**, the Great Buddha which is the second tallest bronze statue in Japan, surpassed only by the statue in Nara's Todaiji Temple. Then it's time to head to the big city of Tokyo for an afternoon in **Yokohama China Town**, the largest Chinatown in Asia.



[www.travelbay.com](http://www.travelbay.com)

1800 020 020

[info@travelbay.com](mailto:info@travelbay.com)

Overnight: Tokyo Dome Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

### **Day 8: Tokyo at your leisure (and pleasure!)**

Discover **Tokyo**, home to over 13 million people, the bustling capital of Japan with a mix of tradition and the ultra modern. Take your time and at your own leisure explore this great city and much of what it has to offer. Visit **Tokyo National Museum**, the **Harajuku** district, do some shopping or simply wander the streets and observe life.

Overnight: Tokyo Dome Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast

### **Day 9: Meiji Shrine and a Sumida River Cruise**

Visit one of the most popular shrines in Japan – **Meiji Shrine**. With a forest of over 120,000 evergreen trees, it stands in contrast to the hustle and bustle of Tokyo. Before visiting the historical **Nakamise Shopping Street** for souvenirs and Japanese snacks where many of the shops have been run by the same family for many generations, visit Japan's oldest and most visited temple – **Sensoji Temple**. Relax on **Sumida River** cruise where you can observe the busy city from the water. The last stop of the day is the **Tokyo Tower**, the second tallest structure in Japan which is actually 13m taller than the Eiffel Tower.

Overnight: Marroad International Hotel Narita (Upgrade: Tokyo Dome Hotel or similar in the central business district)

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

### **Day 10: Explore more delights of Tokyo**

Spend the morning at leisure in Tokyo before your flight home.

Meals included: Breakfast

### **Day 11: Time for home**

Arrive home to Australia.