

Join Panda Travel in...



2024 Discover Autumn leaves in Kansai: Osaka, Kyoto and beyond

(GP13181)



Nov 6 - 13, 2024

6 Nights/ 8 Days

*Kyoto - Nara - Ise - Vison -
Nagoya - Osaka*

\$100 OFF PER PERSON
when you pay with a personal check/cash

\$3,698*

per person-triple occupancy

\$3,698*

per person-double occupancy

\$4,269*

single occupancy

pandaonline.com

(808) 734-1961

1017 Kapahulu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816

Cancel for any reason up
to 65 days prior to departure
date for a FULL REFUND!

A minimum of 16 participants is
required for the tour to operate

Itinerary

Day 1: (Wed) Nov 6 – Honolulu Depart Honolulu via Hawaiian Airlines

→ Meet the Panda Travel representative 3 hrs prior to departure at the Hawaiian Airlines check-in counters.

Day 2: (Thu) Nov 7 – Kansai-Kyoto (D)

Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Arrive at Kansai Airport. Meet your local speaking guide at the arrival lobby. We'll transfer to Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo, our accommodations for the next 2 nights. Our hotel is conveniently located across the street from the Kyoto JR Station and around the corner from the Aeon Mall, local hot spots for food and shops. A **bento box** will be provided to enjoy dinner along the drive.

Day 3: (Fri) Nov 8 – Kyoto (B)

Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 9:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour around Kyoto.

→ 9:30am – Did you know that Kyoto is home to the world's oldest fan or that the majority of fans produced in Japan originate from there? Take part in Kyoto's rich cultural heritage with a **hands-on Japanese fan (sensu) making experience** at Maisendo Nishiki, a haven dedicated to the art of fan-making. Have fun crafting your very own, authentic "Made in Kyoto" fan!

→ 10:30am – From here, a stop at the bustling **Nishiki Market!** This 400 year old hub for food vendors features over 100 shops and restaurants selling a wide range of traditional Japanese foods and handmade crafts. Sample fresh seafood, matcha, mochi, and other local specialties!

→ 12:30pm – Later today, we'll explore **Arashiyama**. Located in the outskirts of Kyoto, this picturesque destination is teeming with natural beauty and culture. Some suggestions for exploring this tranquil area.

→ Venture into the internationally recognized cultural and gorgeous landmark, **Sagano Bamboo Path**. Rooted in Japanese belief, bamboo has the power to ward off evil and deliver good fortunes, protecting the nearby Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines. When you walk through the tunnels of bamboo, you can feel the energy of the forest. Wander around and marvel at the soaring stalks of bamboo that surround you. Close your eyes and listen to the sound of the rustling bamboo swaying gently in the wind. Don't miss out on this breathtaking and meditative experience!

→ Or make a half an hour uphill hike to reach **Iwatayama Monkey Park**. There, you'll find mischievous monkeys

scurrying about in their natural habitat or munching on a bag of apples that visitors can purchase. Another benefit of making this trek is the astounding panoramic views of Kyoto atop.

→ If you want to grab a bite to eat, try **yūdofu** (simmered tofu), a local Arashiyama specialty that highlights Buddhist vegetarian cuisine.

→ If **shopping** is on your to-do-list, there are plenty of shops to collect items like traditional fans, bamboo goods, and specialty snacks. This is also a great opportunity for you to take a break from walking and hitch a ride on a rickshaw!

→ **4:15pm – Return to hotel**. Enjoy the evening of shopping and dining on your own.

Day 4: (Sat) Nov 9 – Kyoto-Nara-Ise (B/D)

Toba Seaside Hotel, Nozomikan (Free Wi-Fi) - [Enjoy onsen](#)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a drive to Nara this morning. Your luggage(s) (2 pcs per person) will be delivered to your hotel in Osaka. Please prepare an overnight bag for 2 days.

→ 9:00am – Now, we are at **Todaiji Temple (Great Buddha)**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a cultural landmark of Nara. Completed in the year 752, the temple once served as Japan's head Buddhist temple. Its most notable feature is Daibutsuden: a bronze figure towering at nearly 50 feet and weighing an impressive 121 tons. Inside the hall, you can find a pillar with a large opening carved at its base that's said to be the size of Daibutsu's nostril. According to legend, those who are able to squeeze through will be granted enlightenment in their next life.

→ Outside the temple, you can find 1,000 wild deer roaming about at **Nara Deer Park**. Believed to protect the temple grounds as messengers of the gods, the Nara deer can be found sniffing the pockets of passersby for food or happily snacking on deer crackers that visitors can purchase.

→ 1:00pm – Now a step back in time at **Okage Yokocho Shopping Street**, a reconstructed Edo-era town. Along this charming street, you'll find famous Ise and Shima eateries, specialty food stores, and souvenirs galore.

→ 2:45pm – A visit to **Ise Jingu Shrine** is a must for anyone seeking cultural and religious significance in Japan. This shrine complex consists of the Inner Shrine, dedicated to the sun goddess Amaterasu, and the Outer Shrine, devoted to Toyouke, the goddess of agriculture and industry.

→ 5:00pm – Arrive at **Toba Seaside Hotel**, followed by a **buffet dinner at 7:15pm**. Located on a hill, this well-known onsen resort treats its guests to spectacular views of Toba Bay.

Day 5: (Sun) Nov 10 – Ise-Vison-Nagoya (B/L)

Nagoya Marriott Associa Hotel (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:45am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour for Ize and Nagoya.**

→ **9:00am – Welcome to Mikimoto Pearl Island!** The Island’s Museum reveals the wonders of pearls and celebrates Mikimoto Kokichi, a pioneer in the pearl industry who innovated a method of cultivating pearls on the island in 1893. At **9:30am**, we’ll watch an incredible display of talent during the **Amasan Show**, where skilled ama or “sea women” demonstrate traditional techniques used to harvest pearls from oysters at the bottom of the bay. The Island also has a gift shop that features pearl jewelry and pearl-based works of art.

→ **11:30am – Time for lunch at VISON’s AT CHEF MUSEUM**, where a collection of chefs—supervised by 18 renowned chefs from across Japan, 7 of whom are Michelin-starred—come together to create delectable works of art using quality, locally sourced ingredients.

→ **12:30pm – We’ll then explore VISON**, an impressive commercial complex that aims to inspire one thing in visitors: to enjoy life. With lush nature surrounding, this massive “beautiful village” is home to one of Japan’s largest farmers markets, workshops, museums, approx. 70 vendors, and so much more!

→ **4:00pm – Next, a moment at Nabana no sato Flower Park**, one of Mie Prefecture’s most celebrated and colorful attractions. Here, we’ll marvel at the vibrant flowers of over 12,000 varieties in full bloom at the Begonia Garden. At **5:10pm**, we’ll delight in the Park’s famous illumination, a grand display of over 5.8 million LED lights that creates an even more beautiful atmosphere.

→ **6:45pm – Arrive at Nagoya Marriott Associa Hotel.** Our hotel is connected to the JR Nagoya Station with many shops and eateries. Enjoy free time here to explore and shop. The remainder of the evening is yours at leisure.

Day 6: (Mon) Nov 11 – Nagoya-Osaka (B)

Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **9:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby to start a full-day tour for Osaka.**

→ **9:30am – We’ll start our tour at Nagoya Castle**, the first castle in Japan to be designated a National Treasure. Constructed as a seat of one of the three branches of the ruling Tokugawa family, this magnificent palace was one of the largest castles in Japan during the Edo Period. Today,

this historical site hosts an annual **Chrysanthemum Festival** (TBA). Take some free time to explore and enjoy the scenery.

→ **11:15am – Now a stop at the bustling Osu shopping district** to explore and have lunch on your own. The district has existed for over 400 years and it hosts hundreds of shops, restaurants, Buddhist temples and entertainment options. It’s also home to many subcultural gatherings, including the popular World Cosplay Summit.

→ **1:15pm – Arrive at Nagoya Station**, where we’ll board a **bullet train** to Osaka.

→ **2:39pm – Upon arriving at Shin Osaka Station**, we’ll transfer to our hotel.

→ **3:30pm – Arrive at Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka for the next 2 nights.** Welcome to Osaka, Japan’s third-largest city and the capital of commerce with a bustling street life in its arcades, markets, and byways. Osaka’s citizens speak the Kansai dialect and are known for their outgoing nature, as well as for their abiding love of delicious street food. Our hotel is located just a few mins’ walk to Osaka’s most famous entertainment districts. Enjoy the rest of the day shopping and dining on your own.

Day 7: (Tue) Nov 12 – Osaka/Full day at leisure (B)

Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **After breakfast, the day is yours to explore the wonderful city of Osaka!**

Day 8: (Wed) Nov 13 – Osaka-Kansai-Honolulu (B)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **9:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour around Osaka.**

→ **10:00am – Explore Tsutenkaku Tower** this morning. This “Eiffel Tower of Osaka” features a statue of Billiken—a deity believed to bring good luck to those who rub the soles of its feet—and an observatory with sweeping views of the city. When the original Tsutenkaku was constructed in 1912 as a part of Shinsekai Luna Park (Japan’s second ever amusement park), it was the tallest structure in Asia and a major attraction in the region. Though the tower was dismantled to supply steel to the wartime economy during WWII, it was rebuilt in 1956 and remains the symbol of Osaka today.

→ Once here, we’ll also be visiting **Shinsekai District**, a quaint area adorned with lanterns and glowing neon lights. The iconic Shinsekai (“New World”) District is a gateway into Osaka’s early 20th Century past. Seemingly frozen in time, this retro playground of amusement arcades, shops,

and eateries is a nostalgic experience you won't forget!

→ **12:00pm** – Ever wonder how the mouth-watering food displayed in restaurant windows is made to look so lifelike? Let's find out at the interactive **"food sample" making workshop**, where you'll handcraft your very own realistic foods.

→ **1:45pm** – This afternoon, we'll explore **the Expo '70 Commemorative Park**, also known as Banpaku Kinen Park. Originally built for the 1970 Japan World Exposition, it now serves as a public park with lush greenery, beautiful gardens, and various attractions, making it popular among locals and tourists.

→ **3:00pm** – Here we are at **Lalaport EXPOCITY**, which is part of the Expo City development and showcases various attractions like the Expo '70 Commemorative Park and the Redhorse Osaka Wheel. As one of Japan's largest shopping malls, it offers a wide selection of shops, restaurants, cafes,

and entertainment options, making it a beloved destination for shopping, dining, and leisure activities.

→ **5:45pm** – Arrive at **Kansai International Airport** to begin our check-in process for the flight home.

→ **Depart from Kansai via Hawaiian Airlines.**

→ **Arrive in Honolulu (same day).**

Thank you for traveling with us! 



Need to Know...



Payment Policy

- » **Reserve with \$75 per person deposit. Refundable up to 65 days prior to departure date, September 2, 2024.**
- » **Final payment due by September 14, 2024. Package is non-refundable after this date.**

* Fares and Fees (Priced in USD)

- » Are subject to change in light of fuel supplements, taxes, and differences in costs.
- » Air ticket fare is guaranteed, but taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges are subject to change until tickets are issued, approximately 53 days out.
- » We reserve the right to make changes to the itinerary with or without notice.



Special Assistance

- » You must inform us of any disability/impairment that requires special attention at the time of your making the reservation.
- » We reserve the right to cancel the reservation(s) if the disability/impairment is unsuitable for the tour.
- » You are also responsible for any costs and/or accommodations related to your disability/impairment, such as providing your own travel companion.



Travel Insurance

- » We highly recommend the purchase of trip insurance. Please ask our representatives for more information.



Travel Documents

- » A valid passport is required for all U.S. citizens and must be valid and not expire at least 6 months from the return tour date.
- » Non-U.S. passport holders must check with the Japanese Consulate to see if a visa is required.



Land Tour Operator & Costs

- » Land Tour Operator is Nippon Travel Agency.
- » Land Tour costs are based on current currency conversion rates, which are subject to change.



Other remarks

- » Not Included in the tour: Gratuities for local English speaking guide; additional baggage fee charges from the airlines; alcohol and soft drinks with meals.
- » A minimum of 16 participants are required for the tour to operate.
- » You are expected to abide by domestic and international government and accommodation policies related to health, safety, and welfare.