

Join Panda Travel in...



2024 Kyushu Foliage and Kurisumasu Shopping Tour

(GP13198)



Nov 24 – 30, 2024
5 Nights/ 7 Days

*Hakata - Kitakyushu - Hita -
Beppu - Huis Ten Bosch*

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

\$3,098*

per person-triple occupancy

\$3,098*

per person-double occupancy

\$3,498*

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: (Sun) Nov 24 – 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: (Mon) Nov 25 – Fukuoka-Hakata Hotel Clio Court Hakata (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Arrive at Fukuoka Airport.

→ Meet your guide at arrival lobby/Transfer to Hotel Clio Court Hakata – Our hotel is centrally located and adjacent to the JR Hakata Station which offers over 230 stores, including major department stores like Hankyu and Tokyu Hands. Nearby, you can also find Kitte shopping mall (directly linked to the Hakata Station) and a large Daiso. There are also many restaurant options close by. We'll be staying here for the next 3 nights.

Day 3: (Tue) Nov 26 – Hakata-Kitakyushu-Hakata (B) Hotel Clio Court Hakata (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby. Our morning begins with a drive to **Kokura**, a city located on the northern tip of Kyushu, which played a significant role during World War II as one of the original target cities for the atomic bomb. However, it was ultimately spared when the bomb was dropped on Nagasaki instead due to poor visibility. The historic Kokura Castle, built in the 17th century, stands as a testament to the city's rich cultural heritage and samurai history.

→ 9:30am – Renowned for its traditional Japanese architecture, **Kokura Castle** stands as one of Japan's finest castles. Today, it serves as a museum, highlighting the history of the castle, samurai culture, and the local region. The castle's surroundings are adorned with beautiful cherry blossoms in spring and **stunning ginkgo trees in autumn**.

→ 11:15am – Next, we'll visit the **TOTO Museum**, a leading manufacturer of bathroom fixtures. Here, we will learn more about the company's legacy and witness how they are shaping the future of bathrooms.

→ 1:00pm – Now, it's time to explore **Karato Market & Kamon Wharf**. Enjoy lunch on your own at this "local kitchen," a bustling marketplace offering abundant fresh seafood and other regional delights!

→ 2:45pm – On the Kyushu side of the strait, you'll find **Moji Ward**, where you can explore the charming **Mojiko Retro** this afternoon. Here, you will notice a perfect blend of old renaissance style and modern Western inspired architecture, reminiscent of its past as a bustling international trading

hub. Mojiko Retro has even earned a spot on the Japanese government's "Japan's 100 Best City Landscapes" list!

→ 5:30pm – Return to hotel. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 4: (Wed) Nov 27 – Hakata/Free day at leisure (B) Hotel Clio Court Hakata (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ The day is yours to explore the exciting Hakata!

Day 5: (Thu) Nov 28 – Hakata-Hita-Beppu (B/D) Suginoi Hotel, Sora Tower (Free Wi-Fi) - Enjoy onsen

Happy Thanksgiving!

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:45am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for Oita, known for its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty.

→ 9:30am – Our day begins with a visit to the **autumnal beauty: Dazaifu Tenmangu Shrine**. This shrine is one of Fukuoka's most popular destinations, with over 2 million visitors during the first 3 days of the new year. Dedicated to Sugawara-no Michizane, a famed prodigy in politics, literature, and poetry, this shrine honors Michizane as the god of academic achievements and is an especially sacred spot for Japanese youths from all over the country to pray for academic success during exam season. In addition to shops, the shrine's grounds include red-painted and ornate bridges that stretch over a pond designed in the shape of the Japanese character for "heart". Admire the breathtaking display of vibrant foliage as you walk along the grounds, soaking in the beauty of the surrounding scenery.

→ 12:15pm – Now, a stop at **Kuncho Sake Brewery**. A well-known producer of high-quality, traditional Japanese sake, this brewery implements locally sourced ingredients and traditional brewing techniques to perfect its brew. Enjoy touring the facility, learning about the brewing process, and sampling a variety of sake products. A tip: try "Ginjo Ice," the original frozen yogurt made with Camargue red rice.

→ 12:45pm – Time for a nice **stroll in Mameda Machi**. Known as Kyushu's "little Kyoto," this area was built during a prosperous time in the Edo period. Today, among the beautifully preserved streets and buildings, you'll find traditional shops, houses, cafes, museums, and souvenir stores. Enjoy lunch on your own in this historic destination.

→ 3:30pm – This afternoon, embark on an exciting adventure to the **Kokonoe Yume Otsurihashi Grand Suspension Bridge**, one of the longest and highest in Japan.

As we cross the bridge, admire the **vibrant fall foliage** painting the mountains and valleys in hues of red, orange, and yellow. Enjoy the breathtaking panoramic sights of Oita's countryside and be on the lookout for two waterfalls along the way.

→ **5:30pm – Arrive at hotel, followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30pm.** Our hotel features stunning views overlooking Beppu Bay as well as world-renowned hot springs, which are fed by the region's natural geothermal activity. Spend some time to unwind in the hotel's several indoor and outdoor hot spring baths and soak in the therapeutic benefits of the natural waters. To maximize our stay, we've reserved the newly constructed Sora Tower (opened Jan 2023).

Day 6: (Fri) Nov 29 – Beppu-Huis Ten Bosch (B/L) Hotel Nikko Huis Ten Bosch (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for Beppu,** a renowned hot spring resort city.

→ **9:00am –** Our morning begins with a visit to **Beppu Jigoku Meguri**. Despite being known as the “Hells of Beppu” for its unapproachable appearance and thermal temperatures of around 100 degrees, the hot springs are nationally acclaimed as a “place of scenic beauty.” Translated as “Blood Pond Hell,” Chinoike-Jigoku is the oldest natural “hell pond” in Japan with a distinctive red hue colored by iron oxide. Another onsen sighting is Umi-Jigoku or “Sea Hell” for its beautiful cobalt blue. A tip: Be sure to try the on site onsen eggs (boiled in the hot spring!) and “Jigoku Mushi-yaki Pudding” (Pudding steamed in Hell).

→ **12:00pm –** Time for a one of a kind **culinary experience at Geothermal Tourism Lab ENMA**. Here, chefs cook with geothermal steam and natural hot spring water, resulting in unique volcanic infused flavored dishes.

→ **After lunch, we'll drive (including a rest stop) to Huis Ten Bosch.** Complete with canals, windmills, gardens, and cobblestone streets, this charming recreation of a 17th century Dutch town—which is as large as Monaco—was constructed in 1992 to commemorate the rich history shared between Japan and the Netherlands. True to its moniker as the “City of Flowers and Lights,” the park features vibrant seasonal flowers that carpet the authentic European cityscape and millions of colorful LED lights that illuminate the town after dusk. As the seasons change, so does the beauty of Huis Ten Bosch; spring's “One Million Tulip Festival,” summer's “Greatest Rose Festival” and sunflower attraction, fall's “Autumn Roses,” winter's orchid display, as well as the award winning night time illuminations and dazzling light shows are brilliant seasonal spectacles that make for many repeat visitors throughout the year.

Huis Ten Bosch also offers several restaurants, shops, live entertainment, and attractions like a three-story carousel, adventures with augmented reality, and much more.

→ **4:00pm – Arrive at Hotel Nikko Huis Ten Bosch.** With our Huis Ten Bosch **park pass**, you can enjoy Japan's largest and most unique theme park the rest of the day here with dinner on your own tonight and spend tomorrow having more fun in this Dutch-themed wonderland.

Day 7: (Sat) Nov 30 – Huis Ten Bosch-Fukuoka-Honolulu (B)

→ **After breakfast, enjoy free time to explore Huis Ten Bosch on your own until 1pm, with a late checkout for our rooms.**

→ On our way to the airport, we'll stop at a hot spot in Fukuoka: **Mitsui Shopping Park LaLaport Fukuoka**, a sprawling shopping complex that opened in April 2022 and is home to more than 200 shops. Take advantage of this opportunity for some last minute shopping.

→ **Transfer to Fukuoka Airport via Hawaiian Airlines for our flight home.**

→ **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 20, 2024.**
- » **Final payment due by October 2, 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.