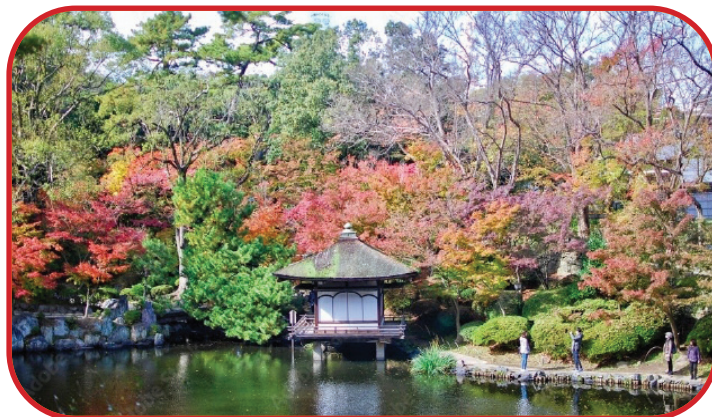


Join Panda Travel in...



# 2024 Osaka and Kyoto Foliage & Kurisumasu Shopping Tour

(GP13I97)



Nov 26 – Dec 2, 2024  
5 Nights/ 7 Days

*Kyoto - Osaka - Wakayama*

**\$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: (Tue) Nov 26 – 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: (Wed) Nov 27 – Kansai-Kyoto (D) Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Arrive at Kansai International Airport. Meet your local English speaking guide at the arrival lobby. We'll transfer to **Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo**, our accommodations for 2 nights. A **bento box** will be provided for you to enjoy along the drive.

---

## Day 3: (Thu) Nov 28 – Kyoto (B) Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo (Free Wi-Fi)

### Happy Thanksgiving!

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ **8:30am** – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby. We begin our day with a visit to **Arashiyama**, in the outskirts of Kyoto where you can enjoy **fall foliage** set against the backdrop of mountains, bridges, and ponds.

→ **9:15am** – Welcome to **Tenryuji Temple**, the head temple of the Tenryu sect of Rinzai Zen Buddhism and official UNESCO World Heritage Site. Founded in 1339, this temple is best known for its beautiful cultural artwork and tranquil Sogenchi pond and garden, one of the oldest landscape gardens in Kyoto. Experience the beauty of **fall foliage** at one of Kyoto's most picturesque spots.

→ Be sure to venture into the internationally recognized cultural and picturesque 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.

→ Or take 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.

→ You can also try the local Arashiyama specialty, **yūdōfu** (simmered tofu). This dish highlights Buddhist vegetarian cuisine and will be served for lunch. 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!

→ **1:00pm** – Now, we're 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!

→ **3:00pm** – Our next stop brings us to **Kodaiji Temple**. Built in memory of Toyotomi Hideyoshi, a prominent historical figure credited for unifying Japan in the 16th century, this stunning landmark features botanical arrangements, serene zen gardens, traditional teahouses, exquisite architecture, and more. Enjoy **fall foliage viewing** in the serene surrounds of the temple.

→ **4:30pm** – Return to hotel. Enjoy the evening of shopping and dining on your own.

---

## Day 4: (Fri) Nov 29 – Kyoto-Osaka (B/L) Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

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

→ **9:30am** – Our morning begins with a visit to perhaps the most important shrine dedicated to Inari (Shinto god of rice): **Fushimi Inari Shrine**. You may recognize this shrine from its thousands of brightly colored vermilion torii gates that lead into sacred Mount Inari's wooded forest. Throughout the shrine grounds, you'll notice statues of foxes, animals believed to be Inari's messengers. A tip: continuing up the path along Mt. Inari rewards visitors with astounding views of **fall colors** during these autumn months.

→ **11:30am** – From here, a stop at **Kizakura Fushimigura**, a sake and craft beer brewery and museum showcasing the behind-the-scenes making of high-end quality brews. Kizakura is a prominent Japanese sake brewing company and sets itself apart by consistently evolving its brew to adapt to contemporary palettes. In addition to incorporating quality ingredients like fresh underground spring water local to Kyoto, Kizakura expertly combines its generations-old secret formula with modern brewing techniques to create the perfect brew. Have a taste of their sake and enjoy perusing their bottle shop. **A Japanese-style lunch** will be served at the facility by 12:30pm.

→ **2:30pm** – Time for a **hands-on Daruma painting** workshop at **Katsuoji Temple**, a temple of luck as prayers made here have healed emperors and helped shoguns become victorious in their conquests. Today, visitors flock to pray for luck with business, academics, sports, and more.

Beyond the idyllic beauty of the temple, visitors will also enjoy the stunning **autumn scenery**, along with the countless daruma dolls strewn throughout the temple grounds. With roots in Buddhism, these good-luck daruma charms inspire perseverance and ward off evil. Traditionally, one paints the left eye to make a wish or set a goal, and the right eye is painted when the wish or goal is fulfilled. The one-eyed doll serves as emotional support and a motivating reminder to keep moving forward, a great personalized memento to take home.

→ **4:30pm – Arrive at hotel.** Set in a modern high-rise building, our hotel for the next 3 nights is located just a few minutes' walk to Osaka's most famous entertainment districts. Here's a glimpse of some nearby places to explore at leisure:

**Kuromon Market:** Known as the “Kitchen of Osaka,” this walking street is comprised of about 150 shops selling mostly fresh fish, seafood, meat, fruits, and vegetables. This is also where many of the city's chefs get their supplies!

**Dotonbori district:** Best seen at night, this is a must visit area to experience Osaka culture and snack on takoyaki, okonomiyaki, and many other well known Osaka street foods. Perhaps what makes this district most iconic is its hundreds of neon lights and mechanized signs, including the famous Glico Running Man sign and Kani Doraku crab sign. This is a great place to enjoy a night out immersed in Osaka's vibrant craft beer scene too!

**Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade:** This shopping arcade and the surrounding Shinsaibashi area is Osaka's premier shopping center. Approximately 2,000 feet long, this area combines chain retail stores and trendy boutiques with expensive department stores and top designer fashion labels.

**Den Den Town:** Located in the Nipponbashi area, Den Den Town is an electronics district comparable to Tokyo's Akahabara where you might be able to bargain a better deal. Nicknamed the “otaku paradise,” Den Den Town also offers numerous manga and anime retailers, as well as maid and cosplay cafes.

**Amerikamura:** Locally known as “Amemura,” this shopping district is considered Osaka's counterpart to Harajuku and is a popular hang out spot for trendy youths with American-style indie boutiques, international bars, and low prices. It has a lively atmosphere and is a great way to see Japan's interpretation of Western culture.

---

## **Day 5: (Sat) Nov 30 – Osaka (B)**

Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

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

→ **10:00am** – Our morning begins with a visit to **Tsutenkaku Tower**. 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!

→ **12:15pm** – Now a visit to **LaLaport Kadoma/Mitsui Outlet Park Osaka Kadoma** (opened in Apr 2023), the first ever shopping complex in Japan to combine these malls under one roof!

→ **5:00pm** – Here on the grounds of Osaka Castle, we'll enjoy the brilliant **Osaka Castle Illuminage** (to be confirmed). In addition to dazzling light-up displays of color, there will be performances, music, and other exhibitions.

→ **6:30pm** – Return to hotel. The remainder of the evening is yours at leisure.

---

## **Day 6: (Sun) Dec 1 – Osaka/Free day at leisure (B)**

Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

→ After breakfast, enjoy your free day to explore the wonderful city of Osaka!

---

## **Day 7: (Mon) Dec 2 –**

### **Osaka-Wakayama-Kansai-Honolulu (B)**

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **9:30am** – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby before we set out for **Wakayama**, a destination renowned for its exceptional seafood.

→ **10:30am** – We begin our day at Kuroe town's **Uruwashikan**, the traditional **Kishu Lacquerware Industry Center**,

to discover the magic behind one of Japan's finest artisanal and cultural treasures: lacquer. The town is famous for its lacquerware production, and the Uruwashi-Kan hosts the annual Kishu Lacquerware Festival, a popular attraction that draws thousands of visitors. Uruwashi-Kan also houses a museum and specialty shop with beautiful lacquered kitchenware, tools, and more. Excitingly, during our **hands-on experience**, an expert craftsman will guide us through designing our own lacquered tray with gold and silver powered colors and paints. How fun!

→ **12:00pm** – Welcome to **Wakayama Marina City!** Designed to resemble Mediterranean coastal towns, this paradise resort island features attractions like an amusement park with European townscapes, a marina, and **Kuroshio Market** – a bustling fish market with the freshest catches from all across Japan.

And at **12:30pm**, a must-see highlight of Kuroshio Market: **the Maguro cut show**. Here, a professional fishmonger demonstrates how to expertly filet freshly caught fatty tuna and teaches spectators about the different cuts of fish. Spend some time perusing the many market stalls and savoring the delectable foods and local specialties that can only be found in this market!

→ **3:30pm** – Now a moment of tranquility at **Momijidani Teien Garden**, a landmark famed for its beautiful and colorful maple trees. The garden is designed in a traditional Japanese style complete with an inner moat, ponds, wooden bridges, stone lanterns, and paved paths. In combination with flowering plants bursting with every autumn color, these elements make for an incredible and serene **fall foliage viewing spot**.

→ **Transfer to Kansai 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 22, 2024.
- » Final payment due by October 4, 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.