

Join Panda Travel in...



2025 Osaka, Kyoto & Kobe: Presidents' Day Omiyage Weekender

(GP13244)



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

February 13 - 18, 2025

4 Nights/ 6 Days

\$75 OFF PER PERSON
on our completed package when you pay with a personal check/cash

\$2,595*
per person-double occupancy

\$2,775*
single occupancy

pandaonline.com

(808) 734-1961

1017 Kapahulu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816

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

Itinerary

Day 1: (Thu) Feb 13 – Honolulu Depart Honolulu via Hawaiian Airlines

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

Day 2: (Fri) Feb 14 – Kansai-Osaka

Agora Place Namba (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Arrive at Kansai Airport.** Meet your local speaking guide at the arrival lobby. We'll transfer to **Agora Place Namba**, our accommodations for the duration of the tour. Our hotel is located a short walk from Dotonbori, Kuromon Market and Nipponbashi, local hot spots for food and shops.

Day 3: (Sat) Feb 15 – Osaka-Kobe-Osaka (B)

Agora Place Namba (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby.**

→ **9:30am –** We begin our day at **Asahi Akashi Factory**, home to everyone's favorite soft drinks (like Calpico!) and snacks brand. Here, we'll sample their popular products, peruse their gift shop, and get a behind the scenes look into this beverage titan's manufacturing process—with 50 million cases of drinks produced annually!

→ **11:45am –** Next, we'll stop at this lively 400 year old local fish market and shopping street, **Akashi Seafood Market**. Sample the freshest catches from the famous fishing port of Akashi and keep your eye out for the local specialty: octopus!

→ **2:00pm –** We're now at the **Sannomiya Center Gai Shopping Street**, a large shopping arcade offering a wide variety of retail and food outlets. Enjoy free time here to explore and shop.

→ **3:30pm –** Now a moment at Kobe's thriving and spacious waterfront district, **Kobe Harborland**. Following the Great Hanshin Earthquake in 1995, the city developed this dynamic entertainment and shopping venue in its efforts to revitalize Kobe. Here, you'll find landmarks like the Kobe Port Tower, a symbol of the region; Mosaic shopping mall, featuring an array of stores and restaurants; the Kobe Maritime Museum; the Kobe Harborland Ferris Wheel; and more!

→ **5:30pm – Return to hotel.** Enjoy the evening of shopping and dining on your own.

Day 4: (Sun) Feb 16 – Osaka-Kyoto-Osaka (B/L)

Agora Place Namba (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby.**

→ **9:45am –** Perhaps the most important of shrines dedicated to Inari (Shinto god of rice), **Fushimi Inari Shrine** is a recognizable network of 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.

→ **12:00pm –** Get ready for an exciting hands-on experience of making **Yatsuhashi**, an iconic traditional Japanese confectionery that originated in Kyoto. This beloved treat is often enjoyed during special occasions and festivals, symbolizing good fortune and prosperity.

→ **1:00pm – Enjoy Japanese style lunch at a local restaurant.**

→ **2:30pm –** This afternoon, 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 **yūdoфу** (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!

→ **6:00pm – Return to hotel.** The remainder of the evening is yours at leisure.

Day 5: (Mon) Feb 17 – Osaka/Full day at leisure (B)
Agora Place Namba (Free Wi-Fi)

Happy Presidents' Day!

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

Day 6: (Tue) Feb 18 – Osaka-Kansai-Honolulu (B)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 9:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby.

→ 9:30am – Our morning begins at one of Osaka's most culturally significant destinations: **Osaka Castle**. After unifying Japan in the 16th century, military leader Toyotomi Hideyoshi proudly built the castle as a display of power. The castle has endured centuries of conflict (including as a battleground for samurai sword fights) and has subsequently gone through several reconstructions. As you walk through the grounds, take note of the castle's massive stone walls, striking gold-leaf trim, copper roof, and panoramic views. From late winter to early spring (February to March), the park's 1,270 plum trees, consisting of 100 different varieties, typically bloom into one of the largest congregations of **plum blossoms** in Japan—adding even more drama to one of the city's most photogenic destinations.

→ 11:30am – Ever wonder how the mouthwatering 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.

→ 1:15pm – Grab lunch on your own 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.

→ 3:30pm – 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. During the plum blossom season, approx. 600 plum trees of 120 varieties transform the park into a breathtaking destination

→ 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, December 10, 2024.**
- » **Final payment due by December 22, 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.