

Join Panda Travel in...



# 2025 Tokyo & Sumo Tournament: Martin Luther King Jr Tour

(GP13243)



Jan 17 – 23, 2025

5 Nights/ 7 Days

Tokyo - Chichibu -  
Kumagaya/Saitama

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

**\$2,695\***

per person-triple occupancy

**\$2,695\***

per person-double occupancy

**\$2,995\***

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: (Fri) Jan 17 – 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: (Sat) Jan 18 – Haneda-Tokyo

Sunshine City Prince Hotel (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Arrive at Haneda Airport, and meet your English speaking guide at the arrival lobby. We will then transfer to Sunshine City Prince Hotel, our accommodation for the night. Our hotel is directly connected to Sunshine City shopping center with many shopping and dining options available to you. Nearby, you'll also find a 24-hr Family Mart convenience store and a Seiyu supermarket for snack, bento, and beverage pickups. Enjoy your evening at leisure.

## Day 3: (Sun) Jan 19 – Tokyo-Chichibu-Kumagaya/Saitama (B/D)

Toki No Yu Onsen Hotel Heritage (Free Wi-Fi) - [Enjoy onsen](#)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour to Saitama.

→ 10:30am – Our day kicks off with the leisurely **Nagatoro River Boat Ride** where skilled boatmen will steer our traditional Japanese boat along the Arakawa River and through a majestic valley to experience the most mesmerizing views of nature. Enjoy this fun, yet serene cruise!

→ 12:15pm – Take some free time to explore and enjoy lunch on your own at **Matsuri no Yu**. Designed after Chichibu's famous festival, this exciting complex features shopping, and food areas. Check out the many eateries offering delectable Chichibu specialties like Waraji Katsudon (crispy pork cutlet rice bowl), Buta Miso Don (miso-marinated pork rice bowl), and miso potato.

→ 2:00pm – If you missed one of Japan's largest festivals last winter, don't fret as the **Chichibu Night Festival Museum** revives this glorious event for you to experience. Festival music, ornate floats, and intricate ornaments come together to recreate the thrill and excitement of this famous event. Happy celebrating!

→ 3:15pm – From here, a stop at Saitama Prefecture's historic **Bukou Shuzo Sake Brewery**. Housed in a centuries old building registered as a national tangible cultural heritage, Bukou Shuzo has maintained its status as a leading sake producer with its high quality brews that incorporate natural waters drawn from an onsite well. Here, visitors are

treated to a behind the scenes look at their sake making process.

→ 5:15pm – Arrive at **Toki No Yu Onsen Hotel Heritage**, a tranquil retreat tucked in nature. One of the top hotels in Saitama, this relaxing natural hot spring resort has also hosted members of the Imperial family, including the Emperor and Empress of Japan. And at 6:30pm, enjoy your **Japanese-style dinner**.

## Day 4: (Mon) Jan 20 – Kumagaya/Saitama-Tokyo (B/L)

Sunshine City Prince Hotel (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 9:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby this morning to experience the charm of old Japan in this former castle town, **Kawagoe**. Discover Edo-style buildings, traditional architecture, vibrant festivals, and the birthplace of the iconic Kitsune mask (fox mask).

→ 10:00am – Start the day with a stroll in **Kawagoe** or "Little Edo." Enjoy free time to browse, shop, and explore this former castle town, with its preserved Kurazukuri (clay-walled warehouses) and other historic buildings surrounding. A tip: visit the iconic Starbucks on Kanetsuki Dori Street. Located in an old warehouse, this iconic spot has become world famous and the best example of traditional meets modern.

→ 12:00pm – Enjoy a Japanese style lunch at a local restaurant.

→ 1:00pm – Here we are at **Koedo Kurari**, a celebrated brewing facility and nationally registered Tangible Cultural Property. The site houses a souvenir shop, a cafe, and a sake tasting room where visitors can sample sake from 30+ breweries strewn across the Saitama prefecture.

→ 2:00pm – Next, a moment at 1,500 year old **Hikawa Shrine**. Today, many visit the shrine to pray for happiness in the family and luck in matchmaking. Here, visitors can also perform a "hitogata nagashi" purification ritual by releasing a human-shaped paper at the onsite river, make wishes, and improve their luck with "omikuji" or fortune slip readings.

→ 3:30pm – Now a step inside a must-visit contemporary landmark in Japan: the **Kadokawa Culture Museum** in **Tokorozawa Sakura Town**. Completed in 2020, this architectural marvel pushes the boundaries of physics and design to create a futuristic cultural complex that celebrates Japanese arts and entertainment. A few highlights of this otherworldly museum: the massive "Bookshelf Theater" library containing 30,000 titles; the "Manga & Light Novel Library" with one of the largest manga collections in the world (35,000 manga literature!); the "EJ Anime Museum"

and its immersive anime exhibits; the “Musashino Gallery,” a VR and AR playground; and more!

→ **6:00pm – Arrive at Sunshine City Prince Hotel.** Enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure.

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### **Day 5: (Tue) Jan 21 – Tokyo-Sumo Tournament (B)**

Sunshine City Prince Hotel (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

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

→ **9:00am** – Our day begins with a visit to **Tsukiji Outer Market**. A renowned bucketlist spot, Tsukiji is the largest fish market in the world. While the inner auction market relocated to Toyosu in 2018, the charm remains in its outer market. Be sure to enjoy all that the outer market has to offer, from seasonal produce and candy tasting to knife-making artisan shops.

→ **11:30am** – Here we are at **Arcakit Kinshicho**. This shopping complex not only houses one of the largest Daiso (7/F) in Tokyo but also many stores (e.g. 3Coins on 3/F), fashion retailers, eateries, as well as a supermarket.

→ **1:00pm** – Let’s join the locals in cheering on your new favorite athletes: **sumo wrestlers!** Japan’s national sport and an emblem of Japanese culture, Sumo is a centuries-old wrestling style that began as a performative ritual for Shinto deities. Some of those traditions are still honored, like the symbolic purification of the wrestling ring with salt. Today, sumo tournaments are held six times a year and draw large crowds. Hope you enjoy this exhilarating celebration of athleticism, tradition, and ceremony!

→ **5:30pm – Return to hotel.** Enjoy the evening at leisure!

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### **Day 6: (Wed) Jan 22 – Tokyo/Full day at leisure (B)**

Sunshine City Prince Hotel (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **After breakfast, enjoy your free day to explore Tokyo!**

→ If you’ve already experienced Sunshine City shopping mall, take a visit to Ikebukuro station and hop on a rail line that will connect you to other popular areas like Shinagawa, Shibuya, Shinjuku, Ueno, and Akihabara. Ikebukuro station is also close to our hotel.

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### **Day 7: (Thu) Jan 23 – Tokyo-Haneda-Honolulu (B)**

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

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

→ **9:30am** – This morning begins with an excitingly fun **Taiyaki making experience!** This iconic golden fish-shaped pastry dates back hundreds of years to the Edo period, with

its first iteration being a round-shaped cake filled with azuki bean paste. During this era, tai (sea bream fish) was highly prized seafood and was gifted to esteemed figures like the shogun. Overtime, tai evolved to become symbols of luck, prosperity, and happiness in Japanese culture.

→ **11:00am** – Next we are at **Asakusa’s** iconic **Sensoji Temple** and **Kaminarimon Gate** (aka “Thunder Gate”) with its massive lantern. This spot is a “must see” in every guidebook and boasts over 30 million annual visitors. Traditionally, once you reach the top of the temple steps, you should clap twice and bow your head as a sign of respect. With the belief that coins trap the dangers of daily life, visitors also customarily make a small offering by tossing coins into a wooden rack, tossing away those dangers as well.

You’ll also find the **Five Storied Pagoda** there. Regarded as one of the “Four Edo Pagodas,” this nearly 174 foot monument stands to represent Tokyo’s few remaining pagodas. As you roam through the temple grounds, you’ll come across the **Nakamise Shopping Arcade**, a lively and extensive shopping street lined with good luck charms, traditional goodies, and Japanese snacks.

→ **1:00pm** – We’ll now explore all of Japan without having to leave Tokyo at the **Antenna shops in Yurakucho**. To promote tourism and share their cultures, local prefectures like Okinawa, Hokkaido, and Osaka have set up these retail stores to showcase their region’s food, craft, and other specialties. Here, you can discover the best of the 6 regions or prefectures, including Okinawa, Hokkaido, Osaka, Akita, Tokushima/Kagawa, Hyogo, and Wakayama.

→ **3:00pm** – From here, a stop at **Toyosu Senkyaku Banrai**. Opened in Feb 2024 and inspired by the historic streets of Tokyo, this Edo themed multi-story shopping and entertainment center treats visitors to a variety of boutiques, as well as eateries featuring specialty foods like Toyosu’s signature fresh seafood and produce.

→ **5:00pm – Arrive Haneda Airport to begin our check-in process for the flight home.**

→ **Depart from Haneda 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, November 13, 2024.**
- » **Final payment due by November 25, 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.