

Join Panda Travel in...



# 2025 Discover Mythical Japan

(GP13372)



Oct 18 - 27, 2025

8 Nights/ 10 Days

*Osaka - Okayama - Yonago - Matsue  
- Tamatsukuri Onsen - Izumo - Tottori -  
Miyazu - Miyama - Kyoto - Nara*

**\$100 OFF PER PERSON**  
on our complete package when you  
pay with a personal check/cash

**\$4,398\***

per person-triple occupancy

**\$4,398\***

per person-double occupancy

**\$5,198\***

single occupancy

pandaonline.com

(808) 734-1961

1017 Kapahulu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816

Cancel for any reason  
up to 65 days prior to  
departure

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

# Itinerary

## Day 1: (Sat) Oct 18 – Honolulu Depart Honolulu

→ Meet the Panda Travel representative at the airline's check-in counters 3 hours prior to departure.

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## Day 2: (Sun) Oct 19 – Kansai-Osaka Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Arrive at Kansai Airport. Meet your local speaking guide at the arrival lobby and we'll transfer to Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka, our accommodations 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 their abiding love of delicious street food.

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## Day 3: (Mon) Oct 20 – Osaka (B) Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby to start our tour in Osaka.

→ 9:00am – 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 built the castle as a display of power. The castle has endured centuries of conflict, including being a battleground for samurai sword fights, and has undergone several reconstructions. As you walk through the grounds, take note of the castle's striking gold-leaf trim, copper roof, and massive stone walls adorned with the vibrant hues of **fall foliage**, which add a touch of natural beauty to this historic landmark.

→ 11:00am – Ever wonder how the mouthwatering foods displayed in restaurant windows are 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.

→ 12:15pm – Now visit the bustling **Kuromon Ichiba Market!** Also known as the "Kitchen of Osaka," this famous 190 year old market is a popular spot for locals, and an especially go-to destination for many of the city's chefs to gather their supplies. With over 150 vendors, the market offers a wide variety of fresh and local produce, seafood, meats, sweets, and other traditional Japanese foods. Enjoy lunch on your own.

→ 2:00pm – Return to hotel. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

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## Day 4: (Tue) Oct 21 – Osaka-Okayama (B) Hotel Granvia Okayama (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ Your luggage (2 pieces per person) will be delivered from Osaka to your hotel in Tottori by courier services. Please prepare to pack an overnight bag for your 2-night stay.

→ 9:15am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby as we'll transfer to Shin Osaka station. From there, we'll board a bullet train to Okayama Station.

→ 11:02am – Upon arriving at Okayama, we'll begin to explore the charming destinations of Kurashiki.

→ 12:00pm – First, we'll visit **Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter**, a beautifully preserved historical area converted from the former city's rice storehouses with modern eateries, souvenir shops, and museums. Immaculately preserved from the Edo period, this old rice-merchant quarter houses hundreds of historic houses and granaries, with the oldest being 300 years old. Some families who have lived here for generations are still there! Today's old Kurashiki consists of dozens of characteristic whitewashed, black-tiled kura (rice granaries) centered around a willow-lined transport canal, making for a picturesque scene. It is a "must see traditional neighborhood" that blends the past with the present.

→ 3:15pm – Spend the afternoon at **Okayama Korakuen Garden**, one of the three Great Gardens of Japan. It was established by the feudal lord Ikeda Tsunamasa in 1687 during the Edo period. This garden is well known for its exquisite design, meticulous landscaping, and its status as a Special Place of Scenic Beauty in Japan.

→ 4:30pm – Arrive at **Hotel Granvia Okayama**. Enjoy the evening of shopping and dining at your leisure.

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## Day 5: (Wed) Oct 22 – Okayama-Yonago-Matsue-Tamatsukuri Onsen (B/L/D)

Kyokusui no Niwa Hotel Gyokusen (Free Wi-Fi) - [Enjoy onsen](#)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby. We'll take a short walk to Okayama Station and board the **Limited Express Train to Yonago station**, a major transportation hub located on the scenic Sea of Japan coast in Tottori Prefecture.

→ 11:17am – Once in Yonago, we'll head to a local restaurant for a **Japanese-style lunch**.

→ 1:45pm – Calling all Manga fans! This afternoon, we'll visit the hometown of revered manga artist, Mizuki Shigeru, and explore **Mizuki Shigeru Road**, a famous destination

dedicated to Shigeru and his beloved creations. Shigeru popularized Japanese folklore through stories like “GeGeGe no Kitaro,” and reintroduced “yokai” (supernatural monsters and spirits) to the world as adorable and loveable characters. Along the stroll, you’ll see shops, museums, galleries, and 150 bronze character statues celebrating Shigeru’s life and legacy.

→ **3:30pm** – Next, a visit to the **Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum**. Lafcadio Hearn was a European explorer, writer, and scholar who immigrated to Japan in 1890. Widely recognized for authoring books like “Glimpses of Unfamiliar Japan,” Hearn has been credited for introducing Japan to the Western world. The museum, which was once Hearn’s former residence, houses over 1,000 items and showcases the contributions he’s made to Japanese literature.

→ **4:15pm** – Step back in time and soak in the natural beauty at **Matsue Castle Town**. On your leisurely stroll through the historic streets and landmarks, take note of the traditional architecture, charming shops, and serene atmosphere.

→ **5:30pm** – Arrive at **Kyokusui no Niwa Hotel Gyokusen**, situated in the famous Tamatsukuri Onsen town. The hot spring water is renowned for its therapeutic properties and is believed to help with various ailments. And at **6:00pm**, enjoy a **Japanese-style dinner at the ryokan**.

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### **Day 6: (Thu) Oct 23 – Tamatsukuri onsen-Izumo-Tottori (B/L)**

Hotel New Otani Tottori (Free Wi-Fi) - [Enjoy onsen](#)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

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

→ **10:15am** – This morning, we’ll visit **Izumo Taisha Shrine**. One of Japan’s most ancient and culturally significant Shinto sites, Izumo Taisha is a destination to pray for love and good fortune. You may hear visitors clapping their hands four times in prayer—rather than the traditional two—twice for themselves and twice for their current (or hopeful) partners. At the shrine, you’ll also find souvenir shops, charms, and a splendid main hall which was designated a National Treasure in 1952. We then explore charming **Shinmon-dori shopping street**, a stretch of 60 shops in preserved traditional architecture offering local products, confectioneries, souvenirs, and more. While here, try a bite of the famous Izumo soba noodles and okonomiyaki!

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

→ **2:30pm** – Now a visit to the renowned **Adachi Museum of Art**. Beyond its exquisite seasonally rotating Japanese art collection, the museum features an award-winning garden that has earned the title of best garden in Japan for the past

21 consecutive years. Visitors can admire this garden from inside the museum, taking note of how the decor frames these natural elements to create living portraits that change with the season.

→ **6:00pm** – **Arrive at Hotel New Otani Tottori**. Enjoy the evening at leisure.

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### **Day 7: (Fri) Oct 24 – Tottori-Miyazu (B/L/D)**

Mercure Kyoto Miyazu Resort & Spa (Free Wi-Fi) - [Enjoy onsen](#)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:30am** – **Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour in Tottori and Miyazu.**

→ **9:00am** – Our morning begins with an exciting adventure on the **Tottori Sand Dunes**, the region’s most famous tourist destination and Japan’s only sand dunes.

→ **10:15am** – Next, a stop at the unforgettable **Tottori Sand Museum**, the world’s first and only indoor sand sculpture museum. This incredible facility boasts impressively detailed and life-like sand structures, which are often featured in global news outlets. The museum’s executive director, a world-champion sand artist who has created sculptures for the Japanese royal family, hand selects sculptors for the museum and together, they curate incredible displays of art that match the exhibition’s theme, which changes annually.

→ **11:30am** – Savor a **Japanese-style lunch** at **Sakuyu Center Miharashi no Oka** while soaking in the mesmerizing beauty of the Tottori sand dunes.

→ **3:30pm** – Onto our next excitement, a ride on the **Amanohashidate cable car and lift** to enjoy breathtaking panoramic views of Miyazu Bay and its lush green landscapes. You’ll spot the famous sandbar, which ranks alongside Matsushima and Miyajima as Japan’s top 3 most scenic views. Once we reach the observation deck, marvel at the unobstructed views of Amanohashidate.

→ **5:30pm** – **Arrive at Mercure Kyoto Miyazu Resort & Spa, followed by a buffet dinner at 6pm.**

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### **Day 8: (Sat) Oct 25 – Miyazu-Miyama-Kyoto (B/L)**

RIHGA Gran Kyoto (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:30am** – **Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour for Kyoto.** The morning begins with a drive to **Miyama Kayabuki-no-sato-Kitamura** (“the Thatched Village”), a sanctuary for Gassho Zukuri houses. Regarded as the most visited destination in the region, this village is a rare gem, as it stands among the few places in Japan where these historic houses remain untouched and are carefully preserved by the government.

→ **10:15am** – While we’re in the village, step inside to explore the **Miyama Folklore Museum**, which showcases the lifestyle of the villagers. Explore this charming and historic area, gaining insight into the rich cultural heritage of Miyama, while admiring the natural beauty of the **fall foliage viewing season**.

→ **1:30pm** – After lunch at a local restaurant, we’ll visit **Miyama Oishi Sake Brewery**. There, we’ll partake in sake tastings, savoring the unique flavors and aromas found in their signature brews. This traditional sake brewery is renowned for its exceptional craftsmanship and dedication to producing top-notch sake.

→ **2:15pm** – Along the way, a stop at **Michinoeki Miyama Fureai Hiroba**, a roadside station that offers a range of amenities including local products, souvenirs, and delicious regional delicacies.

→ **4:30pm** – Arrive at **RIHGA Gran Kyoto**, where we’ll stay for the next two nights. The hotel is just a short walk from Kyoto JR Station, local dining and shopping hotspots. Enjoy your evening exploring on your own.

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### Day 9: (Sun) Oct 26 – Kyoto/Free day at leisure (B)

RIHGA Gran Kyoto (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ The day is yours to explore the beautiful city of Kyoto!

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### Day 10: (Mon) Oct 27 – Kyoto-Nara-KIX-Honolulu (B)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ **8:30am** – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour before heading to Kansai Airport this afternoon.

→ **9:15am** – We begin our day exploring one of Japan’s cultural masterpieces and UNESCO World Heritage Site: **Byodoin Temple**. Constructed to emulate Buddha’s palace in paradise, the temple has become an emblem of Japan. The temple’s ornate “Phoenix Hall,” designed to appear as the mythical bird spreading its wings, is even memorialized on the back of the 10 yen coin! The temple grounds also feature a stunning gold-leaf adorned Amida Buddha statue, a green tea room with “tea instructors,” tranquil gardens, and many other cultural elements that make this landmark a must-visit destination.

→ **10:30am** – Now a lesson on Uji tea from historic **Mitsuboshien-Kanbayashisannyu-Honten**. This 500-year-old establishment was founded by “the master of tea ceremony” for the Shogunate, a prestigious and highly revered position. Today, the founder’s 16th generation descendants own the store (and unsurprisingly hold tea champion titles!), which houses a tea room, various teas

and tea-infused confections, and a library that chronicles the history of Uji tea. Excitingly, these contemporary masters of tea will guide us in preparing our own cup of matcha in a traditional tea ceremony—from **making matcha powder** to sipping our smooth and delicious brew.

→ **12:30pm** – Enjoy free time to shop, browse, and have lunch on your own on **Higashimuki Shopping Street**. This covered shopping arcade offers a wide selection of shops and restaurants. A tip: At the entrance of the shopping street, there is Nara’s most famous specialty, persimmon leaf sushi. It is bite size rice balls topped with salted mackerel and wrapped in a persimmon leaf.

→ **2:15pm** – Here 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 (Big Buddha Hall), which houses one of Japan’s largest Buddha statues: 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 shika senbei (deer crackers) that visitors can purchase.

→ Transfer to Kansai International Airport 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, August 15, 2025.
- » Final payment due by August 27, 2025. 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.
- » 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.