Join Panda Travel in...



2025 Discovering Japan's Beauty: Autumn Foliage & Cherry Blossoms

(GP13381)







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

Nov 13 - 22, 2025 8 Nights/ 10 Days

Tokyo - Nagoya - Obara - Gero Onsen -Takayama - Shirakawago - Kanazawa -Kyoto - Himeji - Kobe - Osaka

\$IOO OFF PER PERSON

on our complete package when you pay with a personal check/cash

\$4,578* per person-triple occupancy
\$4,578* per person-double occupancy
\$5,298* 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) Nov 13 – Honolulu Depart Honolulu

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

Day 2: (Fri) Nov 14 – 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 accommodations for 2 nights. Our hotel is directly connected to Sunshine City shopping center with many shopping and dining options. Nearby, you'll also find a 24-hour Family Mart convenience store and a Seiyu supermarket for snack, bento, and beverage pickups.

Day 3: (Sat) Nov 15 – Tokyo (B) Sunshine City Prince Hotel (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

- → 8:30am Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for Tokyo.
- → 9:00am This morning 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 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 Next, we'll explore Asakusa, a famous district that melds the culture and traditions of ancient Tokyo with the metropolitan styles of modern Japan. It's also home to Japan's first cinema!

Widely regarded as the most important temple in Japan, Asakusa's iconic **Sensoji Temple** and **Kaminarimon Gate** (aka "Thunder Gate") with its massive lantern, are a "must see" in every guidebook, boasting over 30 million annual visitors. Traditionally, visitors show respect by clapping twice and bowing their heads at the top of the temple steps. With the belief that coins trap daily dangers, visitors also make a small offering by tossing coins into a wooden rack, symbolically tossing away those dangers.

You'll also find the **Five Storied Pagoda**, one of the "Four Edo Pagodas," standing nearly 174 feet tall and representing Tokyo's few remaining pagodas. The temple grounds feature the **Nakamise Shopping Arcade**, a lively shopping street lined with good luck charms, traditional treats, and Japanese snacks. Enjoy lunch on your own.

→ 1:30pm – Enjoy lunch on your own at **Ueno & Ameyoko**Shopping Street. This is also the perfect place to get your omiyage. "Ameyoko" is short for "Ameya Yokocho" or "candy

shop back alley" since candies were traditionally sold there. Alternatively, it is short for "America," a callback to the post-WWII era when American products were sold there illegally. Now, the street is lined with shops from cooked street food, snacks like dried squid, and fresh seafood to clothes, bags, accessories, cosmetics, and much more!

→ 3:30pm – Return to hotel. The remainder of the day is yours at leisure.

Day 4: (Sun) Nov 16 – Tokyo-Nagoya-Obara-Gero Onsen (B/L/D)

Suimeikan (Free Wi-Fi) - Enjoy onsen

- → Breakfast at hotel.
- → 8:00am Meet your guide at the hotel lobby. We'll then transfer by charter coach to Tokyo Station and board a bullet train to Nagoya. Your luggage(s) (2 pcs per person) will be delivered to your hotel in Takayama the following day. Please pack an overnight bag for a 1-night stay.
- → 10:39am Arrive at Nagoya Station.
- → 11:15am We'll start our tour at Nagoya Castle, the first castle in Japan to be designated a National Treasure. Constructed as the seat of one of the three branches of the ruling Tokugawa family, this magnificent palace was among the largest castles in Japan during the Edo Period. Today, this historical site hosts the annual Nagoya Castle Autumn Festival (TBA).
- → 12:30pm A bento lunch will be provided on the bus to enjoy during the drive to Obara, a small town in Aichi Prefecture known for its stunning Shikizakura trees that bloom in both spring and autumn.
- → 1:45pm Discover the enchanting charm of the Obara Shikizakura Festival. Unlike typical cherry blossoms that only bloom in spring, shikizakura trees blossom twice a year, creating a breathtaking display of soft pink flowers set against the rich hues of autumn foliage. This fascinating event takes place from late October to early December.
- → 2:20pm Next, we will visit the Obara Paper Art Museum, a diverse collection of traditional and contemporary Washi paper artworks, including sculptures, origami, and paintings. As an introduction to Washi paper, we'll enjoy a hands-on papermaking experience!
- → Now, we'll drive to **Gero Onsen**, ranked among Japan's top 3 renowned hot springs and also one of the most popular tourist destinations in the Hida region of Gifu Prefecture. Known for its incredibly smooth and silky water, it bestows its bathers with smooth and radiant skin.
- → 6:00pm Arrive at Suimeikan ryokan, followed by a Japanese-style dinner at 6:30pm. The hotel's onsen is

a great place to unwind after dinner and in the morning before our departure.

Day 5: (Mon) Nov 17 – Gero Onsen-Takayama (B/D) hotel around TAKAYAMA (Free Wi-Fi)

- → Breakfast at ryokan.
- → 9:00am Meet your guide at the ryokan lobby. We'll walk together to Funsenchi Pond to start our morning with a relaxing foot bath at the Funsenchi outdoor hot spring.
- → 10:15am We're now heading to Takayama, located in the mountainous Hida region of Gifu Prefecture. Takayama is renowned for its well-preserved Edo-period streets, traditional architecture, and cultural festivals.
- → 11:30am Now a moment to enjoy an authentic Japanese tea ceremony. At historic Nobata Chaho, we'll learn about the art, etiquette, and presentation behind a traditional tea ceremony and savor a cup of freshly brewed matcha.
- → 12:45pm Take a leisurely stroll along must-visit

 Kamisannomachi Street and admire the well-preserved traditional houses that date back to the Edo period. This picturesque historic area offers a fascinating glimpse into Takayama's rich cultural heritage.
- → 3:00pm Our next stop is Yatai Kaikan, a museum and exhibition hall dedicated to the iconic festival floats of Takayama. Marvel at the exquisite craftsmanship of these floats, explore their intricate designs, and discover the vibrant traditions that bring this festival to life.
- → 4:30pm Arrive at the hotel around TAKAYAMA, followed by a buffet dinner at 6:00pm. Enjoy the evening at leisure.

Day 6: (Tue) Nov 18 – Takayama-Shirakawago-Kanazawa (B/L) ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Kanazawa (Free Wi-Fi)

- → Breakfast at hotel.
- → 8:30am Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour to Shirakawago and Kanazawa.
- → 8:45am Start our day at Miyagawa Open Air Market, one of Japan's largest morning markets. Located along the Miyagawa river and dating back to the Edo period, this marketplace offers a wide range of products exclusively sourced from local farmers. From organic dried popcorn and Hida wood pepper holders to Takayama honey, dried Kabu chips, and fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables, the market proudly displays the pride of local farmers. Enjoy this fantastic cultural hub, where both locals and visitors come together!
- → 10:45am Next, we'll explore Shirakawago Village,

- a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its traditional gassho-zukuri farmhouses. These unique structures feature steep thatched roofs that resemble the hands of Buddhist monks in prayer and are designed to protect from heavy snowfall. Some of these remarkable farmhouses date back over two centuries.
- → 12:30pm Enjoy a Japanese-style lunch at a local restaurant.
- → 3:00pm Here we are at the Gold and Silver Leaf Shop, a specialty store that offers traditional crafts adorned with gold leaf. Gold leaf production dates back 400 years in Kanazawa, and we'll learn more as we participate in a fun, hands-on experience gold pasting workshop.
- → 4:15pm Now, a stop at Higashichaya Old Town, known for its picturesque charm. This historic district features ancient tea houses that once thrived during the Edo era, where geishas and samurai once roamed. While samurai are no longer present, Kanazawa remains one of the few places in Japan where geishas still practice. Take time to browse the craft shops, perfect for finding unique gifts.
- → 5:30pm Arrive at ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Kanazawa. Enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure. Our hotel is just a short walk from Kanazawa Station, which offers a variety of dining and shopping options.

Day 7: (Wed) Nov 19 – Kanazawa-Kyoto (B)

RIHGA Gran Kyoto (Free Wi-Fi)

- → Breakfast at hotel.
- → Please pack an overnight carry-on bag for 1-night. A courier service will deliver your luggage(s) (2 pieces per person) from Kanazawa to Osaka.
- → 9:00am Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a half day tour in Kanazawa.
- → 9:15am This morning, we'll visit Kenroku-en Garden, one of Japan's most stunning gardens. Created by the Maeda family over many centuries near Kanazawa Castle, Kenroku-en translates to "Garden of the Six Sublimities," representing the six essential qualities in Chinese landscape theory that define a perfect garden.
- → 11:00am Our next stop is Omicho Market, Kanazawa's largest fresh food market. The market is composed of a bustling network of covered streets, boasting approximately 200 stalls. While seafood and produce are the main attractions, you can also discover a variety of items such as flowers, clothing, kitchen tools, and more.
- → 12:45pm Arrive at Kanazawa Station. We'll board a bullet train to Tsuruga Station, and then transfer to a Limited Express Train to Kyoto Station.

→ 3:09pm – After reaching Kyoto Station, we'll take a short walk to our hotel, RIHGA Gran Kyoto. Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon of shopping and dining at your leisure.

Day 8: (Thu) Nov 20 – Kyoto-Himeji-Kobe-Osaka (B/L) Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

- → Breakfast at hotel.
- → 8:00am Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a short walk to Kyoto Station, where we'll board a bullet train to Himeii.
- → 9:14am Upon arrival at Himeji Station, our exciting tour will begin.
- → 10:00am Our first stop is the iconic Himeji Castle, one of the last surviving feudal castles. Known as "White Heron Castle" for its unique white exterior, it resembles a bird in flight. Himeji Castle consists of 83 buildings and is adjacent to the beautiful Koko-en Garden. This well-preserved garden, built in the architectural style of the Edo period (1603-1867), is famous for its fall foliage and features nine different gardens, including the Garden of Bamboo and the Tea Ceremony Garden. Himeji Castle is considered a national treasure of Japan and a UNESCO World Heritage site, highlighting the beauty of Japan's four seasons.
- → 1:00pm We'll now enjoy a Japanese-style lunch and visit the Nadagiku Sake Brewery, considered one of the best breweries in Himeji. After the brewery tour, enjoy sake tasting and spend some time in the gift shop. Some of the sake sold here is not available anywhere else.
- → 3:30pm This afternoon, a visit to Kobe Nunobiki Herb Gardens & Ropeway. Reachable via a 10 minute gondola ride, this Kobe landmark features panoramic views of Kobe, Kyoto, and Osaka. Atop, you'll find the Welcome Garden with flowers in bloom, a recreation area with free play equipment, a hammock section, a souvenir shop selling herbs and other aromatic products, and a veranda with 360-degree views.
- → 5:30pm Arrive at Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka. Welcome to Osaka, Japan's third-largest city and a vibrant hub of commerce, known for its bustling street life in arcades, markets, and winding byways. The locals are renowned for their outgoing nature and passion for delicious street food. Our hotel is located just a short walk to Osaka's most famous entertainment districts. Enjoy the evening of shopping and dining at leisure.

Day 9: (Fri) Nov 21 – Osaka/Free day at leisure (B) Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

- → Breakfast at hotel.
- → The day is yours to explore the wonderful city of Osaka!

Day 10: (Sat) Nov 22 – Osaka-Kansai-Honolulu (B)

- → Breakfast at hotel.
- → 9:30am Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour in Osaka.
- → 10:00am 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. Have fun!
- → 11:15am Time for some shopping at Kuromon 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.
- → 1:30pm Enjoy shopping and dining at Lalaport EXPOCITY, one of Japan's largest malls, located in the Expo City development, which includes the Expo '70 Commemorative Park and the iconic Redhorse Osaka Wheel.
- → 3:30pm Step into The Expo '70 Commemorative Park, also known as Banpaku Kinen Park. Originally built for the 1970 Japan World Exposition, it now serves as a popular local park filled with lush greenery, beautiful gardens, and various attractions.
- → Transfer to Kansai International Airport and begin our check-in process for the 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 9, 2025.
- » Final payment due by September 21, 2025. Package is non-refundable after this date.

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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.