

Join Panda Travel in...



2027 Charms of Shikoku & Kansai Cherry Blossom Tour

(GP13670)



March 25 - April 2, 2027

7 Nights/ 9 Days

*Hiroshima - Miyajima - Dogo - Kochi -
Takamatsu - Awajishima - Osaka - Wakayama*

\$100 OFF PER PERSON

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

JAL Economy Class

☐ **\$4,388***

pp double/triple occupancy

☐ **\$4,988***

single occupancy

JAL Premium Economy Class

☐ **\$5,688***

pp double/triple occupancy

☐ **\$6,288***

single occupancy

pandaonline.com

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1017 Kapahulu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816

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

Itinerary

Day 1: (Thu) Mar 25 – Honolulu Depart Honolulu via JL73

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

Day 2: (Fri) Mar 26 – HND-HIJ-Hiroshima Hotel Granvia Hiroshima South Gate (Free Wi-Fi)

→ 4:05pm – Upon arrival at **Haneda**, meet your English speaking assistant at the arrival lobby.

→ 7:55pm – Depart Haneda to Hiroshima Airport (HIJ) via Japan Airlines domestic flight (JL267).

→ 9:25pm – **Welcome to Hiroshima!** Meet your local, English-speaking guide in the arrival lobby. We will transfer to **Hotel Granvia Hiroshima South Gate** for our 2-night stay. Conveniently located right at JR Hiroshima Station, the hotel is close to several 24-hour convenience stores nearby.

Day 3: (Sat) Mar 27 – Hiroshima-Miyajima-Hiroshima (B) Hotel Granvia Hiroshima South Gate (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 9:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for Miyajima Island.

→ 10:30am – We'll take a short 10 min. **ferry ride** to Miyajima Island, also known as the "Island of Gods" and one of the most gorgeous destinations in Japan.

→ 11:00am – We'll stroll down **Omotesando**, the main street leading to **Itsukushima Shrine**. A UNESCO World Heritage site and one of Japan's most iconic landmarks, this unique shrine is dedicated to the deities who protect against maritime disasters and conflict. Its most famous features are the iconic Torii Gate and the shaden (shrine pavilion), which appear to float on the water at high tide. At low tide, the water recedes completely, allowing you to walk right out to the gate. Spring is an especially good time to visit, as the island comes alive with beautiful **cherry blossoms**.

→ Enjoy lunch on your own and souvenir shopping along the way for items like Shamoji (a rice scoop), or sample Hiroshima delicacies like Momiji manju (buns shaped like maple leaves and filled with a bean-jam filling).

→ 1:25pm – Return to Miyajima by **ferry** and our bus will take us back to the hotel.

→ 2:30pm – **Arrive hotel.** Enjoy exploring the nearby shopping and dining options at leisure.

Day 4: (Sun) Mar 28 – Hiroshima-Dogo (B/L/D) Dogo Onsen Chaharu (Free Wi-Fi) - **Enjoy onsen**

Please prepare your overnight bag for 1 day. Your suitcase will be delivered by chartered truck from Hiroshima to your hotel in Kochi the next day.

→ Breakfast at hotel

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

→ 9:00am – Our first stop will be the **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum**. After WWII, Japanese architect Kenzo Tange spearheaded the design of this park to commemorate the lives lost on August 6, 1945. The **A-Bomb Dome**, the only structure in the area to survive the atomic blast, was designated a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 1996. In Spring, the park's **hundreds of cherry trees** bring added beauty and calm to this historic space.

→ 11:45am – Arrive at Hiroshima Port. And at **12:35pm**, we'll take a **ferry ride** (Setouchi Kisen Sea Paseo 7) to Matsuyama Port. **Lunch** will be served on board.

→ 3:17pm – Upon arrival, we'll transfer to our hotel in Dogo, Japan's oldest hot spring resort. Dating back 3,000 years, this area is one of the country's most famous hot spring destinations and a frequent getaway for the Imperial Family. You may recognize the Dogo Onsen Honkan, a wooden public bathhouse with a maze-like interior that inspired scenes in Hayao Miyazaki's film, Spirited Away.

→ 4:00pm – Check in at **Dogo Onsen Chaharu**, followed by a **Japanese-style dinner at the ryokan**. After dinner, relax at the rooftop open-air onsen beneath the moon and stars.

Day 5: (Mon) Mar 29 – Dogo-Kochi (B/L/D) Mercure Kochi Tosa Resort & Spa (Free Wi-Fi) - **Enjoy onsen**

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:30am – This morning, join our guide for a walk through **Dogo Park**, a popular spot for **cherry blossom viewing**, featuring over 300 cherry trees in bloom.

→ 9:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for Kochi.

→ 10:00am – Enjoy a fun-filled time learning the traditional techniques of **making chestnut tarts** and **factory tour**, a cultural heritage of chestnut desserts. Create sweet memories while savoring their rich flavors.

→ 12:00pm – From here, a visit to the world's first towel museum, **Imabari Towel Museum**, dedicated to the art of towel manufacturing and a nod to Imabari's status as the largest towel-producing city in Japan. The museum offers an exhibition showcasing the manufacturing process, as well as a wall with over 1,800 large spools of thread and artworks. You can also shop for fine towels and clothing here.

→ **1:30pm** – Enjoy a **Japanese-style lunch** at a local restaurant.

→ Now, drive to Kochi - a scenic city known for its skipjack tuna and yuzu citrus. We'll make a stop along the way at **Michi-no-eki**, a popular roadside attraction filled with shops and restaurants.

→ **5:00pm** – Check in at **Mercure Kochi Tosa Resort & Spa**, followed by a **buffet dinner** at **6:00pm**. During our stay, take some time to enjoy the relaxing onsite onsen.

Day 6: (Tue) Mar 30 – Kochi-Takamatsu (B)

JR Hotel Clement Takamatsu (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

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

→ **8:45am** – This morning begins with a visit to **Katsurahama**, a nearly 45 ft tall bronze statue memorializing **Sakamoto Ryoma**, who is most recognized for his success in toppling the Tokugawa regime with peace and without war.

→ **10:00am** – Opened in 1985, the **Ino-cho Paper Museum** showcases the 1,000-year history of Tosa Washi, a traditional paper-making craft designated as a national Intangible Cultural Property. The visit includes a **hands-on paper making experience** where you will make your own sheet of paper.

→ **12:15pm** – Then, off to **Hirome Market**, an indoor market with roughly 65 food stalls and izakaya. It is a popular spot for locals to eat, drink sake, and socialize. Enjoy lunch on your own while discovering local delicacies like Katsuo no tataki (seared bonito), inaka-sushi (vegetable-based regional sushi), and aonori (seaweed) tempura.

→ **1:30pm** – This afternoon, we'll tour **Kochi Castle**, one of Japan's 12 remaining original castles that survived the post-feudal era intact. The castle is notable for its architectural features, including shachihoko (mythical fish-shaped roof ornaments designed to ward off fire), and offers views of the city from the top. In springtime, the historic tower is framed beautifully by surrounding **cherry blossoms**.

→ Afterward, we'll drive across the island of Shikoku to the coastal city of Takamatsu.

→ **4:45pm** – Rated 3 stars by the Michelin Green Guide Japan, **Ritsurin Garden** is a 400-year-old landscape garden originally built by the feudal Matsudaira lords. It features six ponds, thirteen landscaped hills, historic teahouses, and a variety of seasonal flora set against the natural backdrop of Mt. Shiun. While flowers bloom here year-round, the **cherry blossom season** in the spring is especially remarkable.

→ **6:00pm** – Check in at **JR Hotel Clement Takamatsu**. Enjoy the evening of shopping and dining on your own.

Day 7: (Wed) Mar 31 – Takamatsu-Awajishima-Osaka (B/L)

Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:00am** – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby. This morning, we'll drive to Osaka via **Awaji Island**, crossing the **Onaruto Bridge** from Shikoku and taking in great views of the strait below.

→ **9:30am** – We'll now stop at the **Uzu no Oka Onaruto Bridge Memorial Museum**, a hilltop complex built to commemorate the completion of the bridge. The facility features the interactive Uzushio Science Museum, a gift shop stocked with regional souvenirs, and a panoramic restaurant. Before leaving, be sure to take a photo in front of the life-sized star agricultural product of Awaji: "Otama Onion".

→ **10:50am** – Next, time to board the **Uzushio Cruise**. The Naruto Strait is famous for its massive whirlpools, which form roughly every 6 hours due to changing tides and unique underwater geography. The cruise brings us right up to these shifting water formations. The tour boats are large and highly stable, ensuring a comfortable ride.

Note: If you prefer not to board the cruise, the departure terminal offers comfortable waiting areas, local food stalls, and shopping.

→ **1:45pm** – After a **Japanese-style lunch** at a local restaurant, we will head out to enjoy a **strawberry picking experience**.

→ **3:15pm** – Our afternoon continues at **Awaji Hanasajiki**, a picturesque park known for its seasonal floral displays set against a beautiful backdrop of the sea. The vast fields feature rotating blooms throughout the year. From March to mid-April, the hillsides are typically blanketed in vibrant yellow rapeseed blossoms and purple linaria.

→ **5:30pm** – Check in at **Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka**. Our hotel is located a short walk to Osaka's most famous entertainment districts. Enjoy the evening at leisure!

Day 8: (Thu) Apr 1 – Osaka-Free Day (B)

Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka (Free Wi-Fi)

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

Day 9: (Fri) Apr 2 – Osaka-Wakayama-KIX-HNL (B)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

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

→ **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!

→ **2:00pm** – Now a visit to **Nakano no Sake Brewery**, a well known facility that draws on the region's renowned plums and mountain spring water. Its roots trace back through soy sauce and shochu production, before the brewery became known for sake and umeshu. At its center is a beautiful garden, a pond built in 1952 to cool the brewery's shochu, now home to about 100 koi and frequent visits from swans, herons, and cormorants.

→ **3:45pm** – Here we are at **AEON Mall Rinku Sennan**, a large shopping mall with everything you need to round up any last minute shopping before the drive out to Kansai International Airport.

→ **Transfer to Kansai International Airport to begin our check-in process for our flight home.**

→ **Arrive in Honolulu (same day).**

Thank you for traveling with us! 🐼



Need to Know...



Payment Policy

- » To secure your reservation, a **\$200 per person** deposit is required. The deposit can be refunded until **December 21, 2026**. Any changes made after this date will be subject to additional fees.
- » Final payment is due by **January 25, 2027**. 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.
- » We reserve the right to change any part of the itinerary, including payment schedules, at any time and 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.