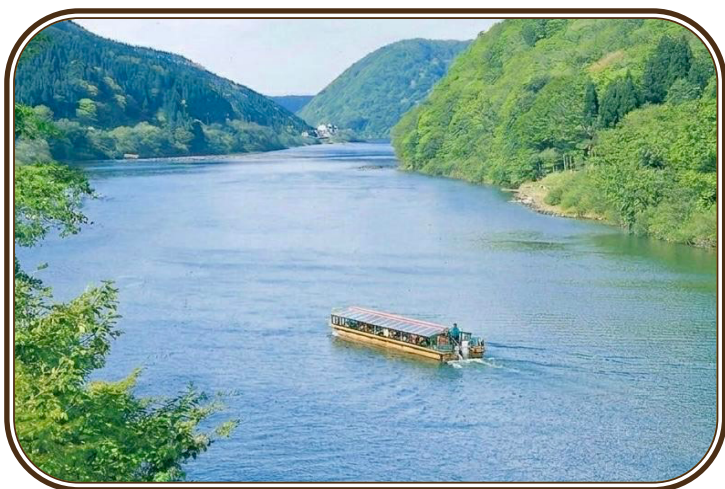


Join Panda Travel in...



2027 Yamagata, Miyagi and Tokyo Tour

(GPI3706)



May 12 - 21, 2027

8 Nights/ 10 Days

*Omiya - Ashikaga - Utsunomiya -
Yamagata - Yonezawa - Tsuruoka - Atsumi
Onsen - Sakata - Sendai - Tokyo*

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

JAL economy class

☐ **\$4,588***

per person-triple occupancy

☐ **\$4,588***

per person-double occupancy

☐ **\$5,288***

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: (Wed) May 12 – Honolulu Depart Honolulu

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

Day 2: (Thu) May 13 – Haneda-Omiya Palace Hotel Omiya (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Arrive at **Haneda Airport**. Meet your English-speaking guide in the arrival lobby and transfer to **Palace Hotel Omiya** for the night.

Day 3: (Fri) May 14 – Omiya-Ashikaga-Utsunomiya-Yamagata (B/L) Hotel Metropolitan Yamagata (Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ **9:00am** – Meet your guide in the hotel lobby. Your suitcase will be delivered by chartered truck from Omiya to our hotel in Yamagata (same-day arrival).

→ **10:30am** – Celebrate the spectacular **Wisteria Festival** at **Ashikaga Flower Park**, a famous sightseeing spot for fuji (wisteria) with its enormous, 160-year-old tree canopy in its magnificent cascading shades of purple. Another must-see is the 263 ft. tunnel of white fuji flowers, alongside a striking display of yellow kingusari (laburnum). The pale red and great wisteria are also usually in full bloom during this time.

→ A **bento lunch** will be provided at Ashikaga Flower Park.

→ **1:45pm** – Built on an old mining site that once served as a major source of wealth in the area, the **Oya History Museum** preserves the history of Oya stone mining. Explore the vast underground caverns resembling ancient Roman ruins, illuminated with colorful light displays and art installations. These subterranean spaces are frequently used as locations for movies, music videos, and theater performances.

→ **3:15pm** – Arrive at **Utsunomiya Station** and board the **Bullet Train** (Tsubasa 143 departing at 3:49pm) bound for Yamagata.

→ **5:45pm** – Upon arrival, we'll walk from Yamagata Station directly to **Hotel Metropolitan Yamagata**. Conveniently connected to the station, our hotel is steps away from abundant shopping and dining options.

Day 4: (Sat) May 15 – Yamagata-Yonezawa-Yamagata (B/L) Hotel Metropolitan Yamagata (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

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

→ **9:45am** – First, a visit to **Yonezawa City Uesugi Museum**, which houses an impressive collection of cultural relics that preserve the legacy of the powerful Uesugi samurai clan. A highlight of the museum is the National Treasure Uesugi-bon Rakuchu Rakugai-zu Byobu, 16th-century folding screens depicting daily life in Kyoto painted by Kano Eitoku. Visitors can also engage with interactive theater exhibits dedicated to Uesugi Yozan, the revered 9th-generation lord who famously revived the domain's economy.

→ **11:00am** – Discover the art of **Benibana-zome**, a traditional textile technique that coaxes brilliant shades of red, pink, and orange from natural safflower petals. Long cherished as a heritage craft of Yamagata Prefecture, the botanical process comes to life at the Wakuwaku-kan workshop, where local experts will guide you in **hands-on crafting** to design a unique souvenir to take home.

→ **2:00pm** – Following a delicious **Yonezawa beef lunch**, we'll visit the **Toko Sake Brewery Museum** to learn about the legendary Kojima Sohonten brewery. Founded in 1597, the Kojima Sohonten brewery earned the prestige of serving as the official sake supplier of the Uesugi clan, the ruling lords of Yonezawa. The facility, which houses historic, giant fermentation vats and brewing tools, is the largest sake brewing museum in Tohoku and offers samples of famous regional sake.

→ **3:30pm** – Now we'll visit **Michi-no-Eki Yonezawa**, a premier roadside marketplace. Browse an extensive collection of Yamagata crafts, regional snacks, and local sakes, perfect for picking up unique gifts and tasting local treats all under one roof.

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

Day 5: (Sun) May 16 – Yamagata-Tsuruoka-Atsumi Onsen (B/L/D) Tachibanaya - Enjoy Onsen

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ **9:00am** – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for **Atsumi Onsen**, a 1,200-year-old hot spring town located along the Atsumi River in Tsuruoka City.

→ **10:30am** – Our morning begins with a boat cruise (Basho

Line) down the scenic **Mogami River**. As we drift gently down the water, sit back and take in the serene forest views of the surrounding gorge. To make the trip even more special, your local boatman will guide the way with traditional river songs passed down through generations.

→ **1:45pm** – After a **Japanese-style lunch** at a local restaurant, we'll make our way to the **Matsugaoka Craft Park**. This historic site dates back over 150 years, when former samurai became farmers and established a local silk cooperative. Today, these preserved wooden buildings form a quiet cultural village. It is a lovely place to walk, view traditional crafts, and learn about local history.

→ **3:45pm** – Onto our next adventure, the famous **Tohoku Epon Aquarium Kamosui**. Reopened on April 1, 2026, the aquarium proudly holds the Guinness World Record for the largest collection of jellyfish and an expanded display of 100 different species.

→ **5:45pm** – Check in at **Tachibanaya**, one of Atsumi Onsen's oldest and most prestigious hot spring ryokans. Before dinner, feel free to relax and enjoy the views of the award-winning strolling garden and carp pond from the public areas.

→ **6:30pm** – A multi-course **Japanese dinner** will be served.

Day 6: (Mon) May 17 – Atsumi Onsen-Sakata-Atsumi Onsen (B/D)

Tachibanaya - [Enjoy Onsen](#)

***optional tour:** 5:30-8:30am (Exact time TBA)

Atsumi Onsen Morning Market - Operating since the Edo period, this 260-year-old market offers a lively glimpse into local life.

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **9:00am** – **Meet your guide at the hotel lobby and depart for Sakata**, an Edo-period coastal trading hub.

→ **10:00am** – Our day begins at **Hatsumago Sake Museum Kuratanbo-kan**, maker of the famous "Hatsumago" (First Grandchild) brand. Visitors can explore historical brewing artifacts and enjoy tastings of exclusive, limited-edition sakes available only on-site.

→ **11:15am** – Next, a moment at the trailblazing **Oranda Senbei Factory**. Walk the 500-meter observation corridor at this facility operated by Sakata Beika, the company that transformed Japan's snack industry by being the first to mass-produce an ultra-thin rice cracker using 100% locally grown Shonai rice. Excitingly, visitors can sample these snacks fresh off the production line conveyor belts and browse factory-exclusive flavors like grilled corn and "nibosen" (dried sardines).

→ **12:30pm** – Pick up lunch on your own from the many

selections available at the **Sakata Fish Market**. Located on the Port of Sakata, this bustling seaside market is the perfect spot to witness the region's ocean bounty, teeming with freshly caught seasonal fish, local delicacies, and marine goods straight from the Sea of Japan.

→ **2:00pm** – Take your seats for a traditional **maiko show** at **Somaro**, a restored red tea house that embodies Sakata's entertainment history. The Sakata Maiko, who are uniquely trained as full-time professional staff to safeguard the city's classic regional dances, will perform them alongside traditional music.

→ **4:15pm** – Along the way, we'll stop by **Michi-no-eki Atsumi Sharin**, a coastal roadside station known for its unique boat-shaped roof design. Take a scenic break by the Sea of Japan while sampling fresh seafood, delighting in regional soft-serve ice cream, and shopping for local souvenirs.

→ **5:15pm** – **Return to hotel**, followed by a **Japanese-style dinner** at **6:30pm**.

Day 7: (Tue) May 18 – Atsumi Onsen-Sendai (B/L)

Hotel Metropolitan Sendai East (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:00am** – **Meet your guide at the hotel lobby and depart for Sendai via Yamagata.**

→ **8:45am** – Our morning begins with a visit to the **Shonai Kanko Bussan-kan**. This popular local marketplace features the Shonai region's finest specialties, fresh seasonal fruits, and regional snacks. Take some time to explore the shops and pick up authentic Yamagata souvenirs.

→ **12:30pm** – Arrive at **Tendo Tower**, a cultural and tourist attraction in Tendo City famed for its miniature garden, its souvenir shop specializing in shogi (Japanese chess) sets, and its local crafts. Then it's time to roll up your sleeves for a **hands-on soba-making workshop**, where you'll mix, knead, and cut your own buckwheat noodles from scratch under expert guidance. Afterward, savor your freshly made creation as a well-earned **lunch**.

→ Next, sit back and relax on the drive to Sendai.

→ **4:00pm** – Check in at **Hotel Metropolitan Sendai East**. The remainder of the evening is yours at leisure. Conveniently located just steps away from Sendai Station, the hotel offers access to a neighborhood packed with many shops, department stores, and restaurants.

Day 8: (Wed) May 19 – Sendai-Tokyo (B)

Hotel Metropolitan Ikebukuro (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ Your suitcase (2 pcs per person) will be delivered by chartered truck from Sendai to your hotel in Tokyo (same day arrival).

→ 8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby and walk to Sendai Morning Shopping Street.

→ 8:45am – Our day begins at the **Sendai Asaichi Morning Market**, affectionately known as “Sendai’s kitchen.” This cultural hub brings locals and visitors together to sample Miyagi’s exceptional seafood, sourced from one of Japan’s top three fishing spots, in addition to fresh regional produce and local confections.

→ 10:00am – We’ll head to Sendai Station and board the Hayabusa 12 **bullet train**, departing at 10:31am for Ueno Station.

→ 12:15pm – Upon arriving at Ueno, we’ll dive right into high-energy **Ameyoko Shopping Street**. Packed with everything from hidden bargains to street-food delicacies, Ameyoko offers an exciting experience for all ages. Happy hunting!

→ 2:15pm – Next, we’ll explore Asakusa’s iconic **Sensoji Temple** and **Kaminarimon Gate** (aka “Thunder Gate”) with its massive, unmistakable red lantern. This is a “must-see” in every guidebook and welcomes over 30 million visitors annually. At the top of the temple steps, follow local custom: clap twice, bow your head, and toss a coin into the offering rack to wish for good fortune. As you wander the temple grounds, you’ll pass through the **Nakamise Shopping Arcade**, a lively stretch lined with good luck charms, traditional sweets, and Japanese snacks perfect for omiyage.

→ 4:30pm – Check in at **Hotel Metropolitan Ikebukuro** for our 2-night stay. Located near Ikebukuro Station, the hotel offers easy access to a variety of shops, restaurants, and the Sunshine City Shopping Mall.

Day 9: (Thu) May 20 – Tokyo/Free day (B)

Hotel Metropolitan Ikebukuro (Free Wi-Fi)

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

Day 10: (Fri) May 21 – Tokyo-Haneda-Honolulu

→ Breakfast at hotel.

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

→ 10:00am – Reopened in March 2026 after its first major renovation since 1993, the **Edo Tokyo Museum**

brings Tokyo’s transformation from feudal Edo to modern megalopolis to life through newly updated and expanded exhibits across 6 immersive floors. Standout additions include a full-scale Nihonbashi bridge replica, an expanded Edo streetscape with authentic period market stalls, a walkable interior replica of the traditional Nakamura-Za Theater, and a stunning third floor plaza redesigned by acclaimed architect Shohei Shigematsu.

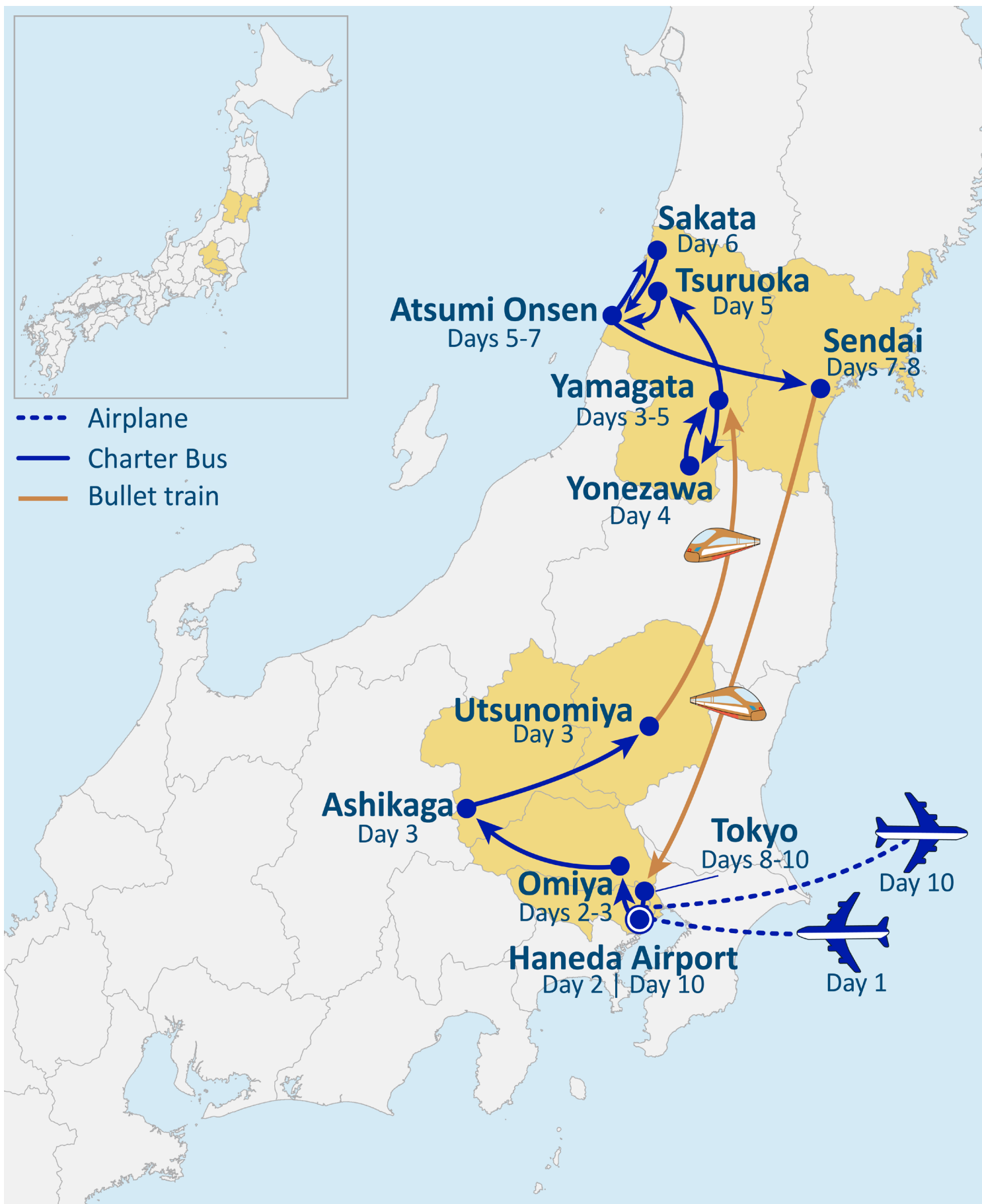
→ 12:30pm – Now a visit to the **Tsukiji Outer Market**. Once the world’s largest fish market, Tsukiji’s beloved outer market still buzzes with energy, offering fresh street food, seasonal produce tastings, and artisan knife shops that have supplied Tokyo’s top chefs for generations. The inner auction relocated to Toyosu in 2018, but this bucket-list destination’s flavor and character are very much alive.

→ 2:30pm – Enjoy some last minute shopping at **Divercity Shopping Center**. Located on the artificial island of Odaiba, this unique and massive landmark is one of the best shopping, dining, and entertainment complexes in Tokyo. Don’t forget to take a moment to snap a photo in front of the famous, nearly 65 foot high Gundam Statue.

→ Transfer to Haneda Airport 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 **February 8, 2027**. Any changes made after this date will be subject to additional fees.
- » Final payment is due by **March 12, 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.