



SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

Classic Japan

9 5 18

DAYS CITIES GUESTS (MAX)

A history-laden land of both continuity and contrast, Japan endlessly fascinates. From the daytime buzz and nighttime flash of cosmopolitan Tokyo to the quiet charms of traditional Kyoto, immerse yourself in a breadth of firsthand experiences, visiting ornate temples, overnighting at a sought-after ryokan and savoring culinary treasures.

- ✦ Come in spring to witness the dazzling profusion of white and pink cherry blossoms, known locally as sakura, or visit in autumn to view the vivid red leaves at their peak
✦ Feel the vitality of neon-lit Tokyo as you try your hand at taiko drums and peruse a seafood market
- ✦ Experience the timeless hospitality of Gôra Kadan, one of the country's most exclusive ryokans (traditional inns), on a stay made possible by A&K's small group size
✦ With the snow-capped majesty of Mount Fuji for a backdrop, zoom by bullet train to Osaka, where you explore the lively Dotonbori district
- ✦ Discover the art of the tea ceremony, witness sumo wrestling and take part in a special geisha dinner, encountering the rich cultural heritage of Japan at every turn



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Classic Japan

9 DAYS | FEBRUARY 20 - DECEMBER 7
FROM \$14,495 | 18 GUESTS



Day 1 | Arrive Tokyo, Japan

With approximately 40 million residents, Tokyo is a dazzling city unique in the world. From the many-angled pedestrian dashes across Shibuya Crossing to the extravagant looks worn with panache in the Harajuku district, Tokyo offers a mad whirl of eclectic energy and culture framed by the distant backdrop of iconic Mount Fuji. Settle into your hotel, located near the Imperial Palace.

🏨 FOUR SEASONS HOTEL TOKYO AT OTEMACHI

Day 2 | Tokyo — Spiritual Centers and Exclusive Workshop

Visit Asakusa Kannon Temple, a colorful pagoda-style temple completed in 645 and dedicated to Kannon, the goddess of mercy. Continue to a family-owned workshop that specializes in Japanese drum making — and try your hand at playing the taiko — on an A&K exclusive experience. After lunch at a local restaurant, explore the Edo-Tokyo Museum, built to preserve the heritage of the city's last 400 years. Next comes Meiji Shrine, a Shinto complex dedicated to an emperor. Tonight, gather for a welcome dinner.

🏨 FOUR SEASONS HOTEL TOKYO AT OTEMACHI

🍽️ BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 3 | Tokyo — Design Your Day

Peruse a local fish market, a bustling hub of Japanese daily life boasting a dizzying array of seafood. Then receive a lesson in sushi making, followed by lunch, during a chef-led culinary experience. This afternoon, enjoy one of these Design Your Day activities.

- Explore Tokyo's Art Scene with a visit to Mori Art Museum or the Museum of Contemporary Art.
- Learn the Secrets of the Samurai Warriors and test your sword skills during a private class led by a modern-day master samurai.
- Indulge in a Sake Tasting, sampling some of Japan's finest sake and learning about its cultural importance.

🏨 FOUR SEASONS HOTEL TOKYO AT OTEMACHI

🍽️ BREAKFAST, LUNCH

Day 4 | Hakone — Traditional Ryokan

Travel to Hakone, among Japan's most popular hot-spring destinations and a peaceful contrast with bustling Tokyo. Immerse yourself in the stunning beauty of Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park, boarding an aerial tram for inspiring views of Mount Fuji. Stroll the grassy hillsides of Hakone's Open Air Museum, admiring the sculptures and artworks on display, including pieces by Henry Moore and Rodin. The museum also features one of the world's finest Picasso exhibits, with over 100 works by the cubist master. Experience unparalleled service and traditional Japanese cuisine at Gōra Kadan, a top-rated ryokan (traditional inn), which is also your hotel for the night.

🏨 GORA KADAN

🍽️ BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 5 | Osaka – Dotonbori District Delicacies

At the Okada Museum of Art, view a stunning collection of paintings, ceramics, lacquerware and bronzes from Japan, Korea and China. Ride by bullet train to Osaka. Historically known as a merchant city, it is today renowned as Japan's undisputed culinary capital, where diners indulge in everything from octopus dumplings to okonomiyaki, a battered, grilled concoction of chopped cabbage, meat or seafood, and seaweed. This evening, set out to explore the popular Dotonbori District, sampling dishes from the brilliantly lighted and gastronomically creative restaurants that line the street.

🏨 FOUR SEASONS HOTEL OSAKA

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH

Day 6 | Nara – A Profoundly Spiritual Heritage

Travel to Nara, Japan's first capital, to visit Todai-ji, a UNESCO-listed temple complex that holds the largest bronze Buddha statue in Japan. Proceed to Nara Park, home to hundreds of deer, venerated here as divine spirits, which you may feed by hand. Experience a Shinto ceremony at the celebrated Kasuga Taisha Shrine, and then eat lunch. Before returning to Osaka, watch two sumo wrestlers demonstrate their renowned sport at Kehaya-za Sumo Pavilion.

🏨 FOUR SEASONS HOTEL OSAKA

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 7 | Kyoto – The Golden Pavilion and Bamboo Grove

Travel into Kyoto early this morning to contemplate the iconic Zen rock garden at Ryoan-ji, the perfect spot for a meditative moment, and discover the glittering Kinkaku-ji Temple (Golden Pavilion) — covered with gold leaf and surrounded by green gardens — casting its delicate reflection in the tranquil pond beside it. After lunch, explore the Arashiyama neighborhood, including the garden of Tenryu-ji Temple. Later, bask in the magical atmosphere of Arashiyama Bamboo Grove, strolling along a winding path as sunlight filters down through towering bamboo shoots, considered by many a healing experience.

🏨 HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO, A LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL & SPA

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH

Day 8 | Kyoto – Hillside Views and Tea Traditions

Visit Kiyomizu-dera Temple for inspiring views of Kyoto. At another temple, experience the art of the tea ceremony, noting its refined sense of hospitality and etiquette, which dates to the time of the samurai. Tonight, savor traditional Japanese cuisine while an attending geiko (the word for geisha in the Kyoto dialect) and maiko (apprentice geisha) dance, sing, pour sake and share stories about life in modern Kyoto.

🏨 HOTEL THE MITSUI KYOTO, A LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL & SPA

🕒 BREAKFAST, DINNER

Day 9 | Depart Kyoto

Take your private transfer to the airport for your departing flight or join your post-tour extension.

🕒 BREAKFAST

Extensions

+3 DAYS

Nikko Pre-Tour Extension

Discover the many splendors of Nikko, as you visit national treasures such as the glittering Toshogu Shrine and breathtaking Kegon Waterfall. Connect with Japan's spiritual side as well, by taking part in a purification ritual, a meditation, and witnessing a moving fire ceremony.



+3 DAYS

Hiroshima Post-Tour Extension

See Kyoto's famed Fushimi Inari Shrine before continuing to Osaka for an overnight stay. Ride by bullet train to Hiroshima and visit the Peace Memorial Park and Museum, and see the Itsukushima Shrine. Return to Osaka to depart.



DATES & PRICES

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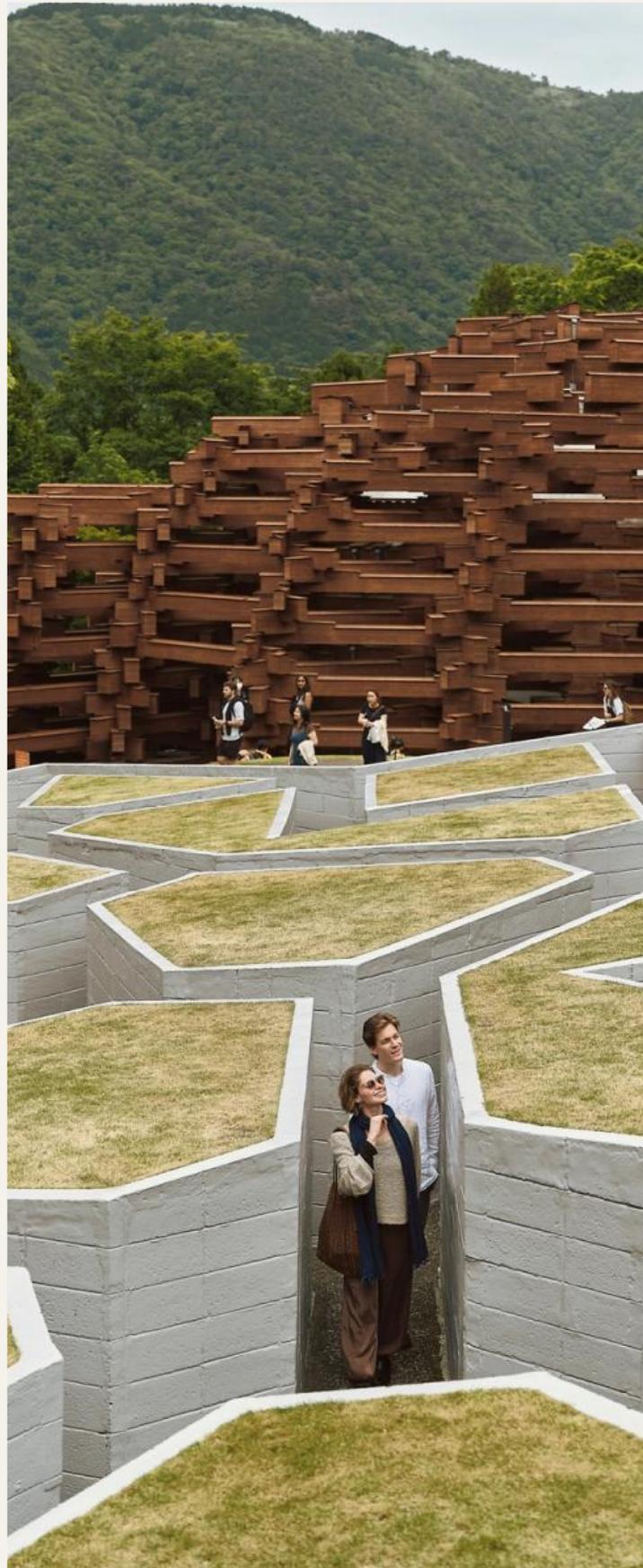
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Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.



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