

# Cherry Blossom Japan 10 Days

~~\$4,399.00~~ **\$2,999.00**

*Osaka, Nara, Kyoto, Nagoya, Hakone, Mt. Fuji, Tokyo*

This tour offers a great way to take in the cultural heritage, modern attractions, and natural beauty of Japan. Flying ex-Sydney on premium All Nippon Airlines, you'll start with three nights based in Osaka, exploring that city as well as Nara and Kyoto – cities famous for their well-preserved ancient temples and monuments. Travelling east to Nagoya, you'll learn about the modern transformation of Japan into a manufacturing powerhouse, at the Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology. Back to nature and culture, the tour then visits scenic Hakone and sacred Mount Fuji, before two days in Tokyo for sightseeing, shopping, or your choice of a diverse range of optional activities.

Pre-tour extensions to South Korea or Hiroshima are also available.

## Highlights:

- Explore the bustling capital **Tokyo** and experience traditional Japanese culture and heritage
- Explore the modern city **Osaka**, with its boisterous nightlife & hearty street food
- Pray for your fortunes at the beautiful **Heian Jingu Shrine**
- Feed the gentle sika deer at **Nara Park**
- Drink from clear springs at the foothills of **Mount Fuji**
- Enjoy planned activities and free time in **Tokyo**

Late March to early April is historically the best time to view cherry blossoms, but we can't guarantee that they will flower on these dates as they are highly seasonal and subject to climatic conditions.

From June to August, it is the best time to view fresh spring greens and enjoy the warm climate.

The end of Oct through early Nov is the best time to see crimson leaves in Autumn.

In stock

Category: Japan Tags: Disney Collection, Kyoto, Mount Fuji, Nara, Nara Park, Osaka

## Guaranteed Departure Dates

2018		Package Price	Single Supplement
<del>20 Mar</del>	03 Apr	Please call for availability	From <b>\$2,999</b> \$700

## Package Inclusions:

- Economy class international airfares, taxes and fuel surcharges departing Sydney on five star All Nippon Airlines
- 7 nights 4 star hotel accommodation
- Meals as indicated
- Bullet train from Osaka to Kyoto
- Coach transportation & transfers
- Admissions to scenic attractions
- English speaking tour guide(s)

## Package Exclusions:

- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)

- Tipping prepaid in Australia: AUD\$140
- Personal expenses

### Price Guide:

- **Interstate Surcharge:** Melbourne/Brisbane from \$300, Adelaide/Perth from \$600
- **Early Arrival/Stay Behind Surcharge:** From \$250 (subject to availability and applicable fare difference)
- **Pre/Post-Tour Accommodation:** From \$350/twin room/night (subject to availability)
- **Please Note:** Triple share is subject to availability
- **Please Note:** Flight itineraries are not available until approximately 2 weeks before departure and involve transits

All prices, itineraries, airlines, hotels and cruise ships are subject to availability and change without prior notice. Nexus Holidays reserves the right to provide substitutes of similar standard and adjust the itinerary as we see fit to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Passengers must remain with the tour group at all times and must not deviate from the set itinerary. The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land. Please check all information before booking. By booking, you accept all

**Booking Conditions.**

### Hotel Accommodation

Osaka	Kansai Airport Washington Hotel	★★★★ or similar
Osaka	Osaka Dai-ichi Hotel	★★★★ or similar
Nagoya	Tokyu Rei Hotel	★★★★ or similar
Mount Fuji	Yamanokako Sun Plaza Hotel	★★★★ or similar
Tokyo	Tokyo Dome Hotel	★★★★ or similar

### Optional Pre-Tour Extension

#### Enchanting South Korea 6 Nights

**From \$1,499 pp. twin share**

Seoul, Mount Seorak, Andong, Gyeongju

Immerse yourself in an incredible journey covering two fascinating countries, Japan and South Korea. Discover South Korea's capital city, Seoul. Seoul is Korea's financial, political, commercial and cultural centre with over 600 years of history. Travellers can explore the many archaeological sites and temples before enjoying the beautiful natural landscapes this country has to offer.

Tour Highlights:

- Stroll through the Changdeokgung Palace grounds
- Gaze into North Korean territory at the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ)
- Immerse yourself in the bustling crowds of Myeongdong
- Explore the ancient capital of the Silla Kingdom, Gyeongju
- Experience the serenity of Seokguram Grotto

For details, please click [here](#).

### Optional Pre-Tour Extension

#### Hiroshima 2 Nights

**From \$720 pp. twin share**

Hiroshima is a popular city for visitors to Japan, and is famous for the UNESCO World Heritage Listed Sites – Itsukushima Shrine and the Atomic Bomb Dome.

Tour Highlights:

- Take a cruise to Itsukushima Shrine, best known for its 'floating torii' on the sea, the gate to Itsukushima. The beautiful torii gate stands in the water when it is high tide. When it is low tide, you may walk through the torii gate.
- Visit the Atomic Bomb Dome and Museum to learn the history of Hiroshima.

For details, please click [here](#).

## Japan Tour Optional Programs

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Himeji Castle and Akashi Kaikyo Bridge  
Walking Day Tour

\$250

Himeji Castle is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site and is well-known for its elegant white decorations and magnificent appearance. Unlike many other Japanese castles, this early 17th century castle is an original; never damaged by war, earthquakes or fires. Its complex structure was designed as an advanced defence mechanism and continues to draw in many visitors today. After lunch, walk on the world's longest suspension bridge – Akashi Kaikyo Bridge, which is almost 4 kilometres long. Walk along the Maiko Marine Promenade underneath the bridge, which is 50m above the water.\*Lunch and return train tickets between Osaka Station and Sannomiya Station are included (your guide will meet you and send you off at Himeji Station, you will need to make your own way to/from Osaka station).

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Nikko Day Tour with Japanese-style Lunch

\$250

Nikko is a major centre for Buddhism and the Shinto religion. It is located in a valley and surrounded by beautiful deciduous forests and majestic waterfalls. This optional tour will take you to the UNESCO World Heritage Site Nikko Toshogu. This area is well known for its distinctive architecture made up of a large number of wood carvings and gold leaf decorations on the buildings. This design is unique and not seen elsewhere in Japan. You will also visit Kegon Waterfall (around 100m high) which is the main natural attraction in Nikko. This is the best spot to view maple leaves during autumn.

*Not available on the following Japan departure dates:  
2017: 17 Oct*

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Tokyo Disneyland Day Ticket

\$120

Tokyo Disneyland is a 115-acre (47 ha) theme park at the Tokyo Disney Resort in Urayasu, Chiba, Japan, near Tokyo. Its main gate is directly adjacent to both Maihama Station and Tokyo Disneyland Station. It was the first Disney park to be built outside the United States, and it opened on 15 April 1983. The park has seven themed areas: the World Bazaar; the four classic Disneylands: Adventureland, Westernland, Fantasyland and Tomorrowland; and two mini-lands: Critter Country and Mickey's Toontown. Many of the games and rides in these areas mirror those in the original Disneyland as they are based on American Disney films and fantasies. Fantasyland includes Peter Pan's Flight, Snow White's Scary Adventures, Dumbo the Flying Elephant and more based on classic Disney films and characters.

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Tokyo DisneySea Day Ticket

\$120

Tokyo DisneySea is a 176-acre (71.22 ha) theme park at the Tokyo Disney Resort located in Urayasu, Chiba, Japan, just outside Tokyo. It opened on September 4, 2001. Tokyo DisneySea attracted an estimated 14 million visitors in 2013, making it the fourth-most-visited theme park in the world. In 2002 Tokyo DisneySea won a Thea Award from the Themed Entertainment Association for the concept, design, and construction of the theme park. Tokyo DisneySea also won the 2012-2015 Theme Park Insider Award for Best Theme Park. There are seven uniquely themed areas or 'ports of call'. The entrance to the park is Mediterranean Harbour, which opens up to six additional nautically-themed ports: American Waterfront, Lost River Delta, Port Discovery, Mermaid Lagoon, Arabian Coast, and Mysterious Island.

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Robot Restaurant

\$100

Not just any restaurant and bar, Tokyo's Robot Restaurant is most famous for its late night robot-themed dancing and battle shows. Behold an outrageous and electrifying live spectacle featuring Japanese taiko drum performances as well as mock battles between bikini-clad dancing girls, giant robotic dinosaurs, cyborgs, ninjas and a host of other bizarre characters, staged in a theatrical LED-fitted room bursting with kaleidoscopic neon-lit laser beams, virtual fireworks, explosions and energetic techno music. This sensory overload is Japanese pop culture at its wackiest and is exclusive to Japan. **Please choose from the times below:** 17:55, 19:50 or 21:45~ \$100/person for show tickets. Please enquire if you wish to add a meal package. (\* **Please be there at least 30 minutes before the show**)

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Tea Ceremony (30 minutes)

\$55

The Japanese tea ceremony is a traditional ritual influenced by the principles of Zen Buddhism, in which powdered green tea, or matcha, is prepared and served to a small group in a quiet setting. Traditional Japanese confectionary is often served to balance out the bitter taste of the green tea.

Highlights:

- Learn the process of the Japanese tea ceremony from a qualified tea instructor
- Learn which utensils to use to prepare green tea in a traditional Japanese room (tatami)
- Discover the customs, culture and hospitality of the Japanese people

*Physical considerations:* The tea ceremony is performed in a kneeling position (seiza) on the floor. This puts pressure on your knees and ankles. Please be cautious of joining this optional program if you have a condition that prevents you from kneeling on the floor for a short period of time.

Optional: Wear traditional Japanese garments (kimono) and experience a tea ceremony

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Pottery Making Experience (60 minutes)

\$99

Pottery is the oldest art form in Japan, and earthenware traditions in Japan are believed to have started around 12,000 years ago. Today, there are thousands of potters who make a living out of producing pottery-wares across the country. The pottery produced in each region varies in design because of the type of clay found there.

Highlights:

- Try your hand at making your own cup or bowl by using a spinning wheel and clay.
- Receive a pre-made sake cup made by the instructors as a souvenir.

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Golden Joinery (60 minutes)

\$109

Learn the art of golden joinery (kintsugi or kintsukuroi), a technique of repairing broken cups, bowls, or plates using lacquer resin laced with gold powder. As a philosophy the mended flaws become part of the object's design. The result is that the object looks more beautiful than the original after being broken and repaired.

Highlights:

- Mend broken cups, bowls or plates using powdered gold.
  - Take home the object you repaired as a unique souvenir.
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Kimono Photo Shoot (60 minutes)

\$120

The kimono is the traditional dress of Japan and is representative of its culture and heritage. The dress consists of a long robe with wide sleeves and is usually made of various materials and patterns. Today the kimono is only worn sparingly, on formal occasions such as weddings, funerals, tea ceremonies or other special events. Take part in a memorable photo shoot at a studio where you can dress up in a kimono of your choice. You can take photos with your own camera or you may choose to purchase a photo package plan from the photographers.

Highlights:

- Dress up in a kimono of your choice for the photo shoot.
  - Have your photos taken for free with your own camera or purchase the photos from the professional photographers.
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Cooking Class (120-180 minutes)

**\$129 Popular!**

Japanese cuisine (washoku) is well known for its refined taste and elegant presentation. Take part in a Japanese cooking experience and learn from one of Tokyo's most popular cooking instructors, whose book has been published in English. Bring home with you a set of new cooking skills and culinary techniques that will leave your friends and family impressed.

Highlights:

- Learn to cook different types of Japanese food, such as sushi, soup, and various side dishes.
- Learn the ingredients, culinary techniques and methods used in creating home-made Japanese dishes.
- Enjoy your own cooked dish for lunch.

Note:

- Transportation is not included. However, optional program venues are located in the easily accessible Tokyo CBD.
- You may join up to 2 programs per day (exception: Nikko Day Tour).
- Optional programs are subject to availability and must be booked more than 1 month before departure.

## Day 1: Australia ✈️ Osaka

Take an international flight from Australia to Osaka via a connecting city.

## Day 2: Osaka

Arrive in Osaka. Your friendly tour guide will be waiting at the airport to transfer you to the convenient airport hotel to rest up for the day ahead.

## Day 3: Osaka 🚆 Nara 🚆 Osaka (B)

In Nara, visit **Todaiji** (Great Eastern Temple), with its Great Buddha Hall – the world’s largest wooden building. This impressive building houses the world’s largest (15m) bronze statue of the Buddha Vairocana. Wander through **Nara Park**, where over 1,200 wild sika deer roam free, before travelling to Osaka. Visit **Osaka Castle**, which played a major role in the unification of Japan during the the Azuchi-Momoyama period in the sixteenth century, before being dropped off at **Dōtonbori**, which exemplifies Osaka’s vibrant food culture.

## Day 4: Osaka (B)

Spend today free at your own leisure. You may spend the day visiting one of the most spectacular Japanese aquariums, **Osaka Aquarium Kaiyukan**; or taking a day trip to **Hyogo** to visit **Himeji Castle**, a unique enormous Japanese castle decorated in white. An optional day tour is available for some departure dates. Please check the attached optional program information.

## Day 5: Osaka 🚆 Kyoto 🚆 Nagoya (B)

This morning, travel to Kyoto by bullet train to visit **Heian Jingu Shinto Shrine**. Next, visit **Kinkakuji: Golden Pavilion**, a Zen temple and World Heritage site with two floors covered entirely in thin layers of pure gold and detailed architecture incorporating three distinct styles of Shinden, Samurai, and Zen. Travel to **Nagoya** to visit **Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology**. Here you will learn about the history of Toyota as a textile machinery manufacturer and how it became a successful mass exporter and manufacturer of automotive technology, including robots.

## Day 6: Nagoya 🚆 Hakone 🚆 Mt. Fuji (B,D)

Today, visit **Oshino Hakkai**. Known as the springs of Mount Fuji, the eight ponds are fed by melting snow filtering down from the slopes of nearby Mount Fuji, through porous layers of lava, resulting in very clear spring water that is revered by locals. Afterwards, visit **Gotemba Peace Park** to capture a breathtaking view of **Mount Fuji**, and **Hakone Shrine**. Standing at the foot of **Mount Hakone** along the shores of **Lake Ashi**, the shrine buildings are hidden in dense forest.

## Day 7: Mount Fuji 🚆 Tokyo (B)

Visit **Meiji Shrine** in the morning, dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and his consort, Empress Shoken. Later, stroll through the **Asakusa Kannon Temple**, one of Tokyo’s most colourful and popular temples, and browse for souvenirs at **Nakamise Shopping Street**. Your last stop today is **Tokyo Tower**, to enjoy a panoramic view of enormous Tokyo city.

## Day 8: Tokyo (B)

Spend today free at your leisure. You may spend a day in **Tokyo Disneyland or DisneySea** (admission \$120) or you can join the **Nikko Day Tour** (\$250). Alternatively, you can join our wide range of optional programs (tea ceremony, pottery-making experience, 'golden joinery', kimono photo shoot, cooking class). All activities are not guided and transportation is self-arranged.

## Day 9: Tokyo ✈ Australia (B)

Today, transfer to the airport to board your flight via a connecting city to Australia.

## Day 10: Australia

Arrive home this morning.

## Optional Pre-Tour Extension

### Enchanting South Korea 6 Nights

From \$1,499 pp. twin share

Seoul, Mount Seorak, Andong, Gyeongju

Immerse yourself on an incredible journey covering two fascinating countries, Japan and South Korea. Discover South Korea's capital city, Seoul. Seoul is Korea's financial, political, commercial, and cultural centre with over 600 years of history. Travellers can explore the many archaeological sites and temples before enjoying the beautiful natural landscapes this country has to offer.

Tour Highlights:

- Stroll through the Changdeokgung Palace grounds
- Gaze into North Korean territory at the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ)
- Immerse yourself in the bustling crowds of Myeongdong
- Explore the ancient capital of the Silla Kingdom, Gyeongju
- Experience the serenity of Seokguram Grotto

For details, please [click here](#).

## Day 1: Australia ✈ Seoul

Fly to Seoul via a connecting city.

## Day 2: Seoul

Arrive in Seoul. You will be warmly greeted at the airport by your tour guide and transferred to your hotel.

## Day 3: Seoul 🚠 Mount Seorak (B, L, D)

Designated a UNESCO Biosphere Preservation District in 1982 due to the many rare species found in the national park, **Seoraksan National Park** is Korea's most famous national park. This morning, tour **Shinheungsa Temple** and take the cable car to **Gwonkeumseong Fortress** to experience the beautiful natural landscapes on offer. Continue to **Sokcho Fishing Village** this afternoon.

## Day 4: Mount Seorak 🚗 Andong 🚗 Gyeongju (B, L)

This morning visit the traditional **village of Andong**, with its well preserved traditional houses and unique mask dancing performance. Later, travel to **Gatbawi Shrine**.

## Day 5: Gyeongju (B, L)

Today, explore the many archaeological sites and temples, **royal tombs** and **monuments of Gyeongju**, the capital of the ancient **Shilla Kingdom**. Visit **Cheomseongdae Astronomical Observatory**, **Royal Tumuli Park**, **Gyeongju National Museum**, **Bulguksa Temple**, and **Seokguram Grotto Temple**.

## Day 6: Gyeongju 🚗 Seoul (B, L)

This morning, visit **Changdeokgung Palace**, one of the "Five Grand Palaces" built by the Kings of the Jeoson Dynasty and **Insadong**, a street full of traditional Korean antique and craft shops and tea houses. Continue to **Cheonggyecheon Stream** and admire its unique beauty, before visiting **Myeongdong**, one of Seoul's main commercial districts. Then visit a Korean Ginseng Centre to learn about Ginseng, which has been used for thousands of years to improve people's overall health. This evening, experience the city's best night view at **Namsan Tower**.

## Day 7: Seoul (B, L, D)

Visit **North Korea's 3rd Infiltration Tunnel**, located within the **Demilitarised Zone (DMZ)** a 44 km drive northwest of Seoul. An entire infantry division can move through the tunnel in an hour. View North Korean territory including the **Propaganda Village**, **People's School** and **Gaeseong City**, the old capital city of the Goryeo Kingdom from the **Dora Observation Platform**. Also visit **Freedom Park**, dedicated to the 5 million people who left their families and homes in North Korea. **North Hall** contains displays of North Korean lifestyle, and the **Exhibition Hall** houses old tanks and planes from the Korean War.

## Day 8: Seoul ✈️ Osaka (B)

Take a direct flight from Seoul to Osaka. Your friendly tour guide will be waiting at the airport to transfer you to your hotel. Spend the rest of the day at your own leisure. Note: The baggage allowance for this flight is 1 piece max weight 15kg per person.

## Optional Pre-Tour Extension

### Hiroshima Self-Guided Pre-Extension 2 Nights

From \$720 pp. twin share

Hiroshima is a popular destination for travellers to Japan. Attractions include the UNESCO World Heritage-listed sites – **Itsukushima Shrine** and the **Atomic Bomb Dome and Museum**.

Tour Highlights:

- Take a cruise to **Itsukushima Shrine** – best known for its 'floating torii' on the sea, the gate to Itsukushima. The beautiful torii gate stands in the water when it is high tide. When it is low tide, you may walk through torii gate.
- Visit the **Atomic Bomb Dome and Museum** to learn the history of Hiroshima.

For details, please [click here](#).

## Day 1: Australia ✈️ Osaka

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Fly to Osaka via a connecting city.

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## Day 2: Osaka

Arrive in Osaka and take a shuttle bus to your hotel.

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## Day 3: Osaka 🚆 Hiroshima (B)

This morning proceed to Osaka Station for a bullet train to Hiroshima and spend the rest of the afternoon at your own leisure.

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## Day 4: Hiroshima 🚆 Osaka (B)

Today you will be exploring **Itsukushima Shrine** in the morning. Travel to Hiroshima **Atomic Bomb Dome**, one of the only remaining buildings after the explosion. Then visit the **Atomic Bomb Museum** followed by the **Memorial Peace Park**. Travel back to Osaka to join your core tour.