



# 2023 SPRING BREAK ULTIMATE TOKAIDO ROAD WITH MIYAJIMA & HIROSHIMA

*Luxury hot spring onsen experience with gourmet Kaiseki Dinners  
in Hakone & Miyajima! Travel to Tokyo and return from Osaka!*

9 Nights / 11 Days • 19 Meals (9 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 4 Dinners)

Escorted from Honolulu • English-Speaking Local Guide

**Tour #1: March 10 – 20, 2023 • Tour Manager: Russell Fujioka**

**Tour #2: March 13 – 23, 2023**

## OVERVIEW:

The Tokaido (“East Sea Road”) was the most important of the Five Routes of the Edo period – connecting Edo (modern-day Tokyo) to Kyoto in Japan. Unlike the inland and less heavily traveled Nakasendo, the Tokaido traveled along the sea coast of eastern Honshu, hence the route’s name.

## VISIT:

Tokyo • Mt. Fuji • Hakone • Miyajima • Hiroshima • Okayama • Kurashiki • Himeji • Kyoto • Nara

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Harajuku Shopping • Asakusa Sensoji Temple • Nakamise Shopping  
Ameyoko Shopping • Mt. Fuji • Owakudani • Hakone Ropeway • Lake Ashi Cruise  
Shinkansen Bullet Train Ride • Ferry to Miyajima Island • Itsukushima Shrine  
Peace Memorial Park • A-Bomb Museum • A-Bomb Dome • Children’s Memorial  
AEON Mall • Kurashiki Bikan Area • Himeji Castle • Kiyomizu Temple • Heian Jingu Shrine  
Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion) • Fushimi Inari Shrine • Todaiji Temple • Nara Park

## HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES:

Sushi Making Class • Yuzen Table Mat Dyeing • Traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony

## UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES:

Mt. Fuji • Itsukushima Shrine • A-Bomb Dome • Himeji Castle  
Kiyomizu Temple • Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion) • Todaiji Temple

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**Day 1:** HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu.

**Day 2:** TOKYO. Arrive in Tokyo. After entry formalities, transfer by coach to your hotel in Tokyo. GRAND NIKKO TOKYO DAIBA (3 Nights)

**Day 3:** TOKYO. After a sumptuous buffet breakfast, embark on a full day of discovery! First visit the visually stimulating **Harajuku Shopping District**. Today's highlight will be a hands-on **Sushi Making session**, which will yield your delicious lunch. After lunch, head to **Asakusa**, the center of Tokyo's shitamachi (literally "low city") districts, where an atmosphere of the Tokyo of past decades survives. Asakusa's main attraction is **Sensoji**, a very popular Buddhist temple built in the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The temple is approached via the **Nakamise**, a shopping street that has been providing temple visitors with a variety of traditional local snacks and tourist souvenirs for centuries. Next visit **Ameyoko**, a busy market street along the Yamanote Line Tracks between Okachimachi and Ueno Stations. The name "Ameyoko" is a short form for "Ameya Yokochō" (candy store alley), as candies were traditionally sold there. Alternatively, "Ame" also stands for "America," because a lot of American products used to be available there when the street was the site of a black market in the years following World War II. Today, various products such as clothes, bags, cosmetics, fresh fish, dried food, and spices are sold along Ameyoko. Then transfer back to the hotel in Tokyo. Walk to a nearby Izakaya restaurant for dinner. (B, L, D)

**Day 4:** TOKYO. Day at Leisure. Your tour guide will plan an optional tour. Perfect day to relax and/or visit with family and friends in Tokyo. Your local guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

**Day 5:** TOKYO – MT. FUJI – HAKONE. After breakfast, travel to **Mt. Fuji** and ascend to the 5<sup>th</sup> station (weather permitting), at an elevation of 7,500 feet above sea level. After lunch, continue to Hakone where much of the area is considered an active volcanic zone since its creation from eruption of Mount Hakone some 3,000 years ago. Visit **Owakudani** ("Great Boiling Valley"), the source of the hot spring waters of Hakone. View the surrounding countryside from the **Hakone Ropeway**. Next, enjoy a **boat ride** on the beautiful **Lake Ashi**. Then transfer to the hotel to savor an authentic multi-course, seasonal, gourmet **Kaiseki Dinner**. The onsens – which are divided for men and women – allow you to **enjoy the hot springs** whether indoors or outdoors. The high-quality service and facilities are sure to become some of your fondest memories of your visit to Japan. (B, L, D)

- Tour #1: YUMOTO FUJIYA HOTEL (1 Night)
- Tour #2: THE PRINCE HAKONE LAKE ASHINOKO (1 Night)

\*Baggage will be sent from Hakone to Okayama, skipping Miyajima. Prepare an overnight bag for 1 night.

**Day 6:** HAKONE – HIROSHIMA – MIYAJIMA. Transfer to Odawara Train Station where we will board a **Shinkansen Bullet Train** to Hiroshima. Transfer to Miyajima-guchi by motorcoach. Take a short **ferry ride** to the island of Miyajima, considered sacred by many. Walk to the hotel. This evening soak in the relaxing atmosphere of the **onsen, hot spring baths**. For dinner, enjoy a traditional, multi-course **Kaiseki Dinner** featuring Hiroshima's local and seasonal ingredients including fresh seafood from the Seto Inland Sea. IWASO INN (1 Night) Japanese-Style Room with Onsen and Kaiseki Dinner (B, D)

**Day 7:** MIYAJIMA – HIROSHIMA – OKAYAMA. After breakfast, begin the morning exploring **Itsukushima Shrine**. At high tide, the vermilion torii gate looks like it's floating in the middle of the sea. The shrine complex has been selected as one of Japan's three most scenic places (nihon sankei). Board the **ferry back to Hiroshima**. After lunch, visit the **Peace Memorial Park, A-Bomb Museum, A-Bomb Dome**, and **Children's Memorial**. Depart Hiroshima for Okayama, today's final destination. Upon arrival to Okayama enjoy an evening of shopping and dining (on your own) at the **Super AEON Shopping Mall**. HOTEL GRANVIA OKAYAMA (1 Night) (B, L)

**Day 8:** OKAYAMA – KURASHIKI – HIMEJI – KYOTO. After breakfast, transfer to **Kurashiki** and begin exploring its beautiful **Bikan Area**. In merchant days, this scenic town thrived as a port for rice shipments. Several old rice granaries and examples of historic architecture still remain, in addition to the stone lined canal. Depart Kurashiki for Himeji. Upon arrival in Himeji, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting **Himeji Castle**. It is known as "White Egret Castle" and "White Heron Castle" because of its brilliant white exterior, resembling a bird taking flight. Himeji Castle is the largest and most visited castle in Japan. Depart for Kyoto. The remainder of the day is at your leisure. The local guide will have suggestions on various dining and shopping opportunities nearby. MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHUJO (3 Nights) (B, L)

**Day 9:** KYOTO. After a sumptuous Japanese/Western buffet breakfast at the hotel, embark on a full day of sightseeing beginning with a visit to **Kiyomizu Temple** (literally "Pure Water Temple"). Next visit, **Heian Jingu Shrine** which has a relatively short history, dating back just over a hundred years to 1895. The shrine was built on the occasion of the 1100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the capital's foundation in Kyoto and is dedicated to the spirits of the first and last emperors who reigned from the city, Emperor Kammu (737–806) and Emperor Komei (1831–1867). Heian is the former name of Kyoto. Today's hands-on experience is "**Surikomi Yuzen (Brush Dyed Yuzen)**." Since the patterns are dyed by placing a paper stencil over a table mat you can make an authentic piece, even if this is your first time. Lastly, we visit **Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)**, a Zen Temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Return to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, L, D)

**Day 10:** KYOTO. Full Day at Leisure. Your hotel is surrounded by department stores, specialty stores, and restaurants. A perfect day to fulfill your shopping list. Your local guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

**Day 11:** KYOTO – NARA – OSAKA – HONOLULU. On our way to Osaka experience a **traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony**. Then visit the stunning vermilion colored **Fushimi Inari Shrine**, whose 4km long tunnel of scarlet torii gates was featured on the film *Memoirs of a Geisha*. After lunch, visit **Todaiji Temple**, the largest wooden building in Japan, which houses the largest bronze statue of Buddha at 16.3 meters high. The surrounding **Nara Park** is inhabited by **over 1,000 deer**. Departing Nara for the Kansai International Airport and check in for the flight home. Depart Osaka and arrive Honolulu on the same day. Aloha and Welcome Home! (B, L)

**UNESCO World Heritage Sites:** Mt. Fuji (2013), Itsukushima Shrine (1996), A-Bomb Dome (1996), Himeji Castle (1993), Kiyomizu Temple (1994), Kinkakuji Temple (1994), Todaiji Temple (1998).

\* Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and INCLUDE ALL AIRLINE TAXES AND FEES. Airline fuel supplements, taxes and fees are subject to change and tour member is responsible for any increases. Some airline-imposed personal charges, including but not limited to baggage, priority boarding and special seating, may apply. For details visit [www.tripadvisor.com/AirlineFees](http://www.tripadvisor.com/AirlineFees). After initial deposit, a \$75 per person Non-Stop Travel (NST) Cancellation Fee will apply. Group departures may be cancelled, if there are less than 24 tour members. Final Payment to NST for "non-cruise" Air and Land Package must be made by Money Order or Personal Check. NST does not guarantee that all tour members will fly together with Tour Manager. Tour Manager assignments, number of meals offered on tour, tour price, discount, and the "final" tour itinerary are subject to change with/without notice. **NST reserves the right to correct errors or omissions including but not limited to, fares, fees and surcharges at any time.** Deposit: \$500 per person. Final Payment Due: Tour #1: 10/31/22 Tour #2: 11/03/22.

† Early Booking Discount is per person. Purchase of Non-Stop Travel's complete Air and Land Package is required.

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