

2025 FALL Fukuoka sumo Tournament

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8 Nights / 10 Days • 14 Meals (8 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 4 Dinners) Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide November 03 – 12, 2025 • Tour Managers: Delbert & Gale Nakaoka

VISIT:

Haneda • Fukuoka • Sasebo • Nagasaki • Beppu

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Dazaifu Tenmangu • Kushida Shrine • Hakata Machiya Furusato Kan Kujukushima National Park • Kujukushima Island Cruise • Huis Ten Bosch Amusement Park Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum • Nagasaki Peace Park • Stroll Around Chinatown Glover Garden • Michi-no-Eki • Umi Jigoku (Sea Hell) Chinoike Jigoku (Blood Pond Hell) • Yufuin Yunotsubo Kaido Kokonoe "Yume" Otsurihashi • Stroll Through Hitachi Mameda Machi Fukuoka Kokusai Center • Kyushu Grand Sumo Tournament • LaLaport Fukuoka

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE:

Umegae Shuzo Sake Brewery Tour and Tasting

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but not limited to, fares, fees, and surcharges at any time. Deposit: \$500 per person. Final Payment Due: 06/26/25. NST at its discretion, may use group and individual photos on its website, print, television, and various social media. † Early booking discount is per person. Purchase of NST's complete Air and Land Package is required. †† Earn rewards every time you refer a friend. For each "new-to-NST" customer you refer, both you and your referral can receive a \$25 discount off your next NST escorted group. 031725



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Day 2: Tue, Nov 04 – HANEDA. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, walk to your hotel connected to the airport terminal. Enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel. HOTEL VILLA FONTAINE GRAND HANEDA AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

Day 3: Wed, Nov 05 – HANEDA – FUKUOKA. After a breakfast buffet at your hotel, transfer back to the Haneda airport terminal. Depart Haneda Domestic Airport via Japan Airlines flt #315 at 11:05 am and arrive at the Fukuoka Airport at 1:00 pm. Upon arrival in Fukuoka, visit Dazaifu Tenmangu, is a Shinto Shrine that enshrines Sugawara Michizane, or Tenjin, the deity of learning, culture, and the arts. As one of Japan's most important Shinto shrines, it welcomes more than 10 million visitors a year. Kushida Shrine, a Shinto shrine that was founded in 757. Affectionately referred to as "Okushi-san" by locals, this shrine is deeply loved by the citizens of Fukuoka and is the starting location of two of Fukuoka's famous summer festivals – Hakata Gion Yamasaka and Hakata Okunchi. Before leaving the shrine – look for the well surrounded by three cranes right by the shrine building. According to legend, the water from the well grants longevity and eternal youth. To do so, you must take three sips of water - praying for your own longevity with the first sip, praying for the wellbeing of your family with the second sip, and finally praying for the health of friends with the third and final sip. Next, spend some time exploring Hakata Machiya Furusato Kan, a folk museum that showcases the lifestyle and culture of life in Hakata (Fukuoka) in the Meiji and Taisho periods. Traditional crafts and local sweets are great souvenirs of your visit here. Arrive at the hotel for an evening of leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions for dining and shopping nearby. THE ROYAL PARK HOTEL FUKUOKA (1 Night) (B)

Day 4: Thur, Nov 06 – FUKUOKA – SASEBO. Japan is a nation of many islands but most travelers never get beyond the main four. At Kujukushima National Park near Sasebo in Nagasaki Prefecture, however, you can up your island quotient by taking a scenic cruise of the region's waters. The word "kujuku" literally means "99" but has come to refer to a vast number or something uncountable. In truth, there are 208 islands off the coast of Sasebo, the largest concentration of islands anywhere in Japan. If these islands look familiar, chalk it up to the fact that they featured prominently in the opening scenes of the film *The Last Samurai*. After lunch, learn about sake at Umegae Shuzo, a sake brewery that is well known for its traditional methods. Take a tour of the facilities and taste some of their award-winning sake. Continue to the hotel. After checking into the hotel, you'll receive your entrance ticket to Huis Ten Bosch (Hausu Ten Bosu) a theme park that recreates a Dutch town, conveniently located next to the hotel. This spacious resort is suffused with a European atmosphere with its picturesque canals, iconic windmills, beautiful gardens and architecture. You can explore the park at your leisure this evening. HOTEL NIKKO HUIS TEN BOSCH (1 Night) (B, L)

Day 5: Fri, Nov 07 - SASEBO - NAGASAKI. After breakfast, begin the day at the sobering Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and Nagasaki Peace Park, which commemorates the atomic bombing of Nagasaki on August 9, 1945, that destroyed wide parts of the city and killed tens of thousands of inhabitants. Take a stroll through **Chinatown**. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, visit **Glover Garden**, an open-air museum exhibiting mansions of former Western residents of Nagasaki. A nice panorama of the city can be enjoyed from the garden. Enjoy a special Shippoku Dinner at the hotel tonight. INASAYAMA KANKO HOTEL (1 Night) (B, L, D) *Baggage will be sent from Nagasaki to Fukuoka, skipping Beppu. Prepare an overnight bag for one night.

Day 6: Sat, Nov 08 – NAGASAKI – BEPPU. On our way to Beppu, make a quick stop at a Michi-no-Eki where you will find an array of farmer-direct merchandise along with other "omiyage" items. Further north we arrive in the bather's paradise — the celebrated hot spring resort of Beppu. Beppu is famous for its "hells" of dramatic pools of bubbling water, mud, and geysers. Visit two: **Umi Jigoku** or "Sea Hell" is a pond of boiling blue water and Chinoike Jigoku or "Blood Pond Hell" with its bubbling blood red waters. Enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel. Relax in the hotel onsen hot springs, before or after 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. SUGINOI HOTEL (1 Night) (B, D)



Day 7: Sun, Nov 09 - BEPPU - FUKUOKA. After breakfast, depart Beppu for Fukuoka. Located at the base of Mt. Yuku-dake, Yufuin Yunotsubo Kaido, is the main road connecting JR Yuifin Station and Lake Kinrin-ko. You'll have ample time to explore the 70 or so different stores there selling souvenirs and specialty products of the area. There are also various food and drink to choose from for lunch (on your own). After lunch, experience "A Walkway through the Skies" at Kokonoe "Yume" Otsurihashi. 173 meters above the Naruko-gawa Gorge and at a length of 390 meters, this is the largest pedestrian suspension bridge in Japan. Take a stroll through Hitachi Mameda Machi, which was developed as a place for commoners during the Tokugawa Shogunate in the Edo period. Known as Kyushu's "Little Kyoto," the historic buildings and layout of the town remain the same as it did back then. Don't miss out trying the famous citron pepper soft served ice cream while there. Arrive at the hotel in Fukuoka for an evening of leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions for dining this evening. THE ROYAL PARK HOTEL FUKUOKA (3 Nights) (B)

Day 8: Mon, Nov 10 - FUKUOKA. Enjoy a morning of leisure. This afternoon, depart the hotel for the Fukuoka Kokusai Center. Get comfortable in your reserved seats as you watch the matches on the 2nd day of the Kyushu Grand Sumo Tournament. Held every November, this is the last of Japan's six major sumo tournaments (called honbasho), held during the year – on each odd month - taking place over 15 consecutive days. While the event is broadcasted on NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation), nothing beats being able to experience the excitement of being there in person, as the crowd sits in tense silence as everyone waits for the wrestlers to choose their moment to lunge at their opponent. Cheer on your favorite wrestler. With current sumo ranking announced just two weeks prior, each wrestler is eager to battle to improve their ranking and status with winning matches. For dinner, "eat like a sumo wrestler" with a special chankonabe meal. **Chankonabe** is a type of nabemono (Japanese stew or one-pot dish) commonly eaten in vast quantities by sumo wrestlers as part of a weight-gaining diet. The dish contains a dashi or chicken broth soup base with sake or mirin to add flavor. The characteristic of this hot pot is that there is no specific recipe. And unlike other varieties of Japanese hot pot meals, meats, seafood, vegetables, and pretty much everything can be thrown into the hot pot. Chanko is a term used to refer to all types of cuisine made by sumo wrestlers (rikishi). The word chanko comes from combining "chan" meaning "parent" and "ko" meaning "child," and refers to the act of everyone - coaches and trainees alike - sharing the same meal together. After dinner, return to the hotel. (B, D)

Day 9: Tue, Nov 11 – FUKUOKA. Enjoy a morning of leisure. This afternoon, depart the hotel for the Fukuoka Kokusai Center. Get comfortable in your reserved seats as you watch the matches on the 3rd day of the **Kyushu Grand Sumo Tournament**. Return to the hotel after the day of matches, for an evening of leisure. (B)

Day 10: Wed, Nov 12 – FUKUOKA – HANEDA – HONOLULU. After a morning at leisure, depart the hotel for LaLaport Fukuoka. You'll have ample time to explore the 220 stores in this shopping mall and have lunch (on your own). Then transfer to the Fukuoka Airport for the flight home. Depart Fukuoka via Japan Airlines flt #322 at 5:00 pm. Arrive at the Haneda Domestic Airport at 6:35 pm. Depart the Haneda International Airport via Japan Airlines flt #74 at 9:00 pm and arrive Honolulu at 9:00 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

Special Assistance: You must notify NST, at time of reservation, of any disability requiring special attention, NST reserves the right to cancel your booking or terminate your vacation if your special needs or disabilities are not suitable for the vacation or if you are not traveling with a companion who will provide all the assistance you require. Wheelchair and electric scooter access outside of the USA is severely restricted 031725