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# 2025 FALL GRAND CIRCLE SHIKOKU PLUS SHOPPING

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**Authentic onsen hot springs experiences and gourmet Kaiseki Dinners!**

**9 Nights / 11 Days • 22 Meals (9 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 7 Dinners)  
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide  
November 08 – 18, 2025**

## VISIT:

Kansai • Awajishima • Naruto • Kotohira • Takamatsu • Kochi  
Ashizuri • Dogo • Matsuyama • Kurashiki • Okayama • Osaka

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Awa Jurobe Yashiki (Puppet Theater and Museum) • Awa Dance Museum  
Naruto Whirlpool Cruise • Kotohira Shrine • Ritsurin Garden • Boat Cruise in Oboke Gorge  
Kazurabashi Bridge • Kochi Yosakoi Joho Koryukan • Kochi Castle • Katsurahama  
Shimanto River Cruise • John Mung Museum • Matsuyama Ropeway • Matsuyama Castle  
Ishiteji Temple • Stroll the Dogo Onsen Area • Imabari Towel Museum • Michi-no-Eki  
Shimanami Kaido • Kurashiki Bikan Area • Korakuen Garden • Shinkansen Bullet Train Ride  
Kuromon Ichiba Market • Dotonbori Shopping • Shinsaibashi Shopping • AEON MALL

## HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:

Indigo Dyeing • Udon Making • Washi Paper Making • Seared Bonito Making  
Mikan (Mandarin Orange) Picking • Sake Brewery Tour and Tasting

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Exclusive!**

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English narration directly to your ear!

## COMPLETE PACKAGE!

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9 Nights Hotel, 22 Meals, Tips for Local Tour  
Guides and Bus Drivers, All Taxes & Fees

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**Day 1: Sat, Nov 08** — HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #791 at 11:25 am.

**Day 2: Sun, Nov 09** — KANSAI. Arrive in the Kansai International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, walk to the hotel located within the airport. Enjoy dinner at the hotel. HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

**Day 3: Mon, Nov 10** — KANSAI — AWAJISHIMA — NARUTO. After a sumptuous Japanese/Western buffet breakfast at the hotel, embark on a full day of sightseeing. Start with a visit to the **Awa Jurobe Yashiki (Puppet Theater and Museum)** to learn about Awa Ningyo Joruri, a traditional performance art of Tokushima using puppets made of cypress wood. The lifelike movement of the dolls combined with traditional music is a unique entertainment experience. After lunch, explore the **Awa Dance Museum** before taking the **Naruto Whirlpool Cruise**. The whirlpool, which occur along the Shikoku Coast of the Naruto Strait, are created by the large volumes of water moving between the Seto Inland Sea and the Pacific Ocean between high and low tide, combined with the unique underwater geography of the narrow strait. Arrive at the hotel for a buffet dinner. AO-AWO RESORT NARUTO (1 Night) (B, L, D)

**Day 4: Tue, Nov 11** — NARUTO — KOTOHIRA — TAKAMATSU. Begin the day learning how to **dye using indigo**, a technique that is very well known in Tokushima. To ensure that the cloth had been dyed thoroughly it is soaked in a tray for about two minutes before it is thoroughly rinsed with water. Take home your dyed handkerchief as a souvenir of your trip. Next, we learn how to **make udon noodles** and enjoy your hand-made creation for lunch. After lunch, visit the **Kotohira Shrine**. Next, take a stroll around **Ritsurin Garden**, a landscape garden in Takamatsu City, built by the local feudal lords during the early Edo Period. Considered one of the best gardens in Japan, it is often suggested that Ritsurin Koen deserves a spot on the list of the "three most beautiful gardens of Japan" alongside Kanazawa's Kenrokuen, Mito's Kairakuen, and Okayama's Korakuen. Arrive at the hotel for an evening of leisure. JR HOTEL CLEMENT TAKAMATSU (1 Night) (B, L)

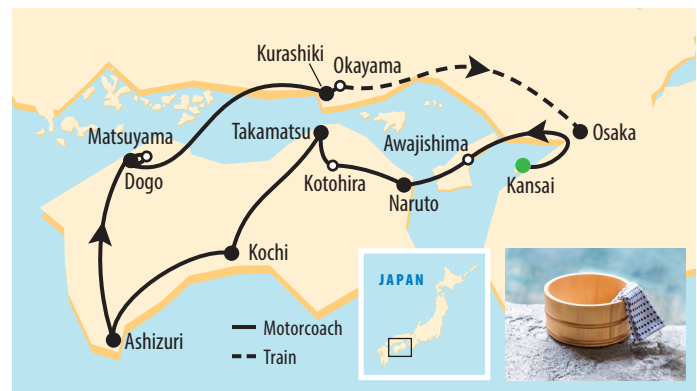
\*Baggage will be sent from Takamatsu to Dogo, skipping Kochi and Ashizuri. Prepare overnight bag for two nights.

**Day 5: Wed, Nov 12** — TAKAMATSU — KOCHI. Start the day with a **boat cruise in Oboke Gorge**. On this gentle 30 minute boat ride down the Yoshino River, guides point out interesting rocks, many of which resemble different animals, along the way. Next, visit to the **Kazurabashi Bridge**, a suspension bridge made of mountain vines, was built as a way to move people and goods across the river and as a deterrent to outsiders, which could easily be cut down if enemies approached. After lunch, **learn how to make washi paper**. A great souvenir of your trip! Then tour the **Kochi Yosakoi Joho Koryukan**, a museum that highlights the history and appeal of the summer festival that began in 1954. Enjoy dinner at the hotel tonight. OMO7 KOCHI BY HOSSHINO RESORTS (1 Night) (B, L, D)

**Day 6: Thur, Nov 13** — KOCHI — ASHIZURI. After breakfast, visit **Kochi Castle**, one of just twelve Japanese castles to have survived the fires, wars and other catastrophes of the post feudal age. Then stop at **Katsurahama**, where you will find a statue of the famous historical hero, Sakamoto Ryoma (1835–1867). He played an important role in opening up modern Japan at the end of the Edo era. Learn how to **make seared bonito**. Enjoy your creation for lunch. After lunch, take a **cruise on the Shimanto River**, then make way to your hotel to enjoy a relaxing soak in the **onsen hot springs** and delicious **Kaiseki Dinner** at your hotel. ASHIZURI KOKUSAI HOTEL (1 Night) (B, L, D)

**Day 7: Fri, Nov 14** — ASHIZURI — DOGO. Visit the **John Mung Museum** and learn how he was instrumental in the opening of Japan to foreigners. After lunch, **pick mikan (mandarin oranges)** at a local farm before transferring to Dogo and relax your body at the world-famous Dogo Onsen, **one of the oldest onsen hot springs in Japan**, with a history stretching back over 1,000 years. The area around Dogo retains the feeling of a resort town, with guests from all over the country wandering the streets in yukata robes after their bath. Don't forget to check out the nearby shopping arcade full of shops selling local products of the area. If you time your visit right, you can watch the Botchan Karakuri Clock, located at the entrance of the shopping arcade, come to life like a cuckoo clock (every hour between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm). There is also a free foot bath at the base of the clock. DOGOKAN (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

**Day 8: Sat, Nov 15** — DOGO — MATSUYAMA — DOGO. Take the **Matsuyama Ropeway**, a single-chair chairlift, a pleasant and popular way to ascend Mt. Katsuyama and visit the **Matsuyama Castle**. **Ishiteji Temple** located near Dogo Onsen to the northeast of Matsuyama's city center, is the city's



most famous temple. It is number 51 of the 88 temples on the Shikoku Pilgrimage. Pilgrims dressed in white are a frequent sight at this large temple. After lunch, take a guided **stroll of the Dogo Onsen Area**. This evening savor your second, seasonal traditional, multi-course **Kaiseki Dinner** at the hotel. (B, L, D)

\*Baggage will be sent from Dogo to Osaka, skipping Kurashiki. Prepare overnight bag for one night.

**Day 9: Sun, Nov 16** — DOGO — KURASHIKI. On our way back to Honshu today, stop and explore **Imabari Towel Museum**. Located in Japan's largest towel producing town, this unique museum is dedicated to showing off the wonders of the towel. Later, stop at a road side **Michi-no-Eki** stand for lunch (on your own). Not only do they provide a clean and convenient rest stop, local farmers and fisherman sell their products at rock-bottom prices. After lunch, travel across the **Shimanami Kaido**, the 60 kilometer long toll road that connects Japan's main island of Honshu to the island of Shikoku. Take a **tour of a sake brewery and taste some of their products**. Then continue to the hotel in Kurashiki. Enjoy dinner at the hotel. KURASHIKI KOKUSAI HOTEL (1 Night) (B, D)

**Day 10: Mon, Nov 17** — KURASHIKI — OKAYAMA — OSAKA. After breakfast visit explore the **Kurashiki Bikan Area** and enjoy lunch here (on your own). After lunch, stop at **Korakuen Garden**, a Japanese garden in Okayama, that is considered one of the "three most beautiful gardens of Japan." Next, transfer by **Shinkansen Bullet Train** to Osaka Station. The remainder of the day is free to explore department stores, specialty shops, and an expansive underground shopping oasis. HOTEL GRANVIA OSAKA (1 Night) (B)

**Day 11: Tue, Nov 18** — OSAKA — HONOLULU. After hotel checkout, start the day with a visit to **Kuromon Ichiba Market**, a lively covered market which stretches for 580 meters in Osaka's Chuo Ward. The market is famous for its fresh seafood, fruits and vegetables, meats, dried fish, pickles, and confectionery. Many stalls will prepare, cook and serve their food to you right on the spot! An excellent place to stroll, sample, and snack on a delicious variety of fresh market foods. Next, visit **Dotonbori**, one of Osaka's most popular tourist destinations, this street runs parallel to the Dotonbori canal. It is a popular shopping and entertainment district and is also known as a food destination. Next stop is **Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade**, Osaka's premier shopping center. Approximately 600 meters long, this area is unique as it combines chain retail stores and trendy boutiques with expensive department stores and top designer fashion labels. A final shopping stop will be made at an **AEON MALL** before transferring to Kansai International Airport for our return flight home. Depart Kansai via Japan Airlines flt #792 at 10:10 pm and arrive Honolulu at 10:25 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

\*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-cruiseline" 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" cruise or 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: 06/27/25. 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. **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.** 021325

