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*Luxury hot spring onsen experience in Hakone!
Travel to Tokyo and return from Osaka!*

6 Nights / 8 Days • 13 Meals (6 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 3 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
Tour #2: March 17 – 24, 2025 • Tour Manager: Gwen Macion

VISIT:

Tokyo • Oshino • Hakone • Kyoto • Nara • Osaka

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Meiji Shrine • Harajuku Shopping • Asakusa Sensoji Temple • Nakamise Shopping
Ameyoko Shopping • Oshino Hakkai • Lake Ashi Cruise • Owakudani
Hakone Ropeway • Shinkansen Bullet Train Ride • Kiyomizu Temple
Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion) • Nijo Castle • Fushimi Inari Shrine
Todaiji Temple • Nara Deer Park

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:

Sushi Making • Surikomi Yuzen Table Mat Dyeing (Brush Dyed Yuzen)
Traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES:

Kiyomizu Temple • Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion) • Nijo Castle • Todaiji Temple

COMPLETE PACKAGE!

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Day 1: Mon, Mar 17 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 11:55 am.

Day 2: Tue, Mar 18 – TOKYO. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, transfer by coach to your hotel in Tokyo. Enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel. KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO (3 Nights) (D)

Day 3: Wed, Mar 19 – TOKYO. After a sumptuous buffet breakfast, embark on a full day of discovery! First visit **Meiji Shrine**, the Shinto shrine dedicated to the deified spirits of the Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shoken. Then 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 7th 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 Yokocho" ("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 streets was the site of a black market in the years following WWII. 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 for an evening of leisure. The local guide will have suggestions on various dining and shopping opportunities nearby. (B, L)

Day 4: Thur, Mar 20 – TOKYO. Day at leisure. Enjoy shopping and dining in the bustling Shinjuku Area. Perfect day to relax and/or visit with family and friends in Tokyo. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

*Baggage will be sent from Tokyo to Kyoto, skipping Hakone. Prepare an overnight bag for one night.

Day 5: Fri, Mar 21 – TOKYO – OSHINO – HAKONE. After breakfast, depart Tokyo for Hakone. Visit **Oshino Hakkai**, a set of eight ponds located in the Fuji Five Lake Region. The eight ponds are fed by melting snow from the nearby slopes of Mt. Fuji. The melted snow filtered down through porous layers of lava for 80 years, resulting in a very clear spring water that is revered by the locals. Next to one pond, visitors can drink the cool water straight from the source. Continue the journey to Hakone where much of the area is considered an active volcanic zone since its creation from eruption of Mt. Hakone some 3,000 years ago. After lunch, enjoy a boat ride on the beautiful Lake Ashi. Transfer to the hotel for a buffet dinner. The onsen hot springs – which are divided for men and women – allow you to **enjoy the onsens** whether indoors or outdoors. The high-quality service and facilities are sure to become some of your fondest memories of your visit to Japan. HAKONE HOTEL KOWAKIEN (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 6: Sat, Mar 22 – HAKONE – KYOTO. After breakfast, visit **Owakudani** ("Great Boiling Valley"), the source of the hot spring waters of Hakone. Then take in the view of the surrounding



countryside from the **Hakone Ropeway**. Then transfer to Odawara Train Station where we will board a **Shinkansen Bullet Train** to Kyoto Station. Transfer to the hotel. After check-in, explore the many restaurants and shops conveniently located near your hotel. Remainder of the day is at your leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions on various dining and shopping opportunities nearby. MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHIJO (2 Nights) (B)

Day 7: Sun, Mar 23 – 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 **Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)**, a Zen Temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. After lunch, visit **Nijo Castle**. After the Tokugawa Shogunate fell in 1867, Nijo Castle was used as an imperial palace for a while before being donated to the city and opened up to the public as a historical site. Its place buildings are arguably the best surviving examples of castle palace architecture of Japan's feudal era. 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. Return to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 8: Mon, Mar 24 – KYOTO – NARA – OSAKA – HONOLULU. Begin the day with a **traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony**. Next visit the stunning vermilion colored **Fushimi Inari Shrine**, whose four kilometer long tunnel of scarlet torii gates was featured on the film *Memoirs of a Geisha*. After a buffet lunch, visit the **Todaiji Temple** in Nara. Todaiji, the largest wooden building in Japan, houses the largest bronze statue of Buddha at 16.3 meters high. The surrounding **Nara Deer Park** is inhabited by **over 1,000 deer**. Transfer to Kansai International Airport for our return flight home. Depart Osaka via Japan Airlines flt #792 at 10:10 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:25 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B, L)

UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Kiyomizu Temple (1994), Kinkakuji Temple (1994), Nijo Castle (1994), Todaiji Temple (1998).

Create new memories with family and friends! Call and book today!!

* 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. 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/line" 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: 11/07/24. 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.** 111924