



2025 SUMMER ULTIMATE TOKAIDO ROAD WITH MIYAJIMA & HIROSHIMA

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

9 Nights / 11 Days • 18 Meals (9 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 4 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes English-Speaking Local Guide
June 14 – 24, 2025 • Tour Manager: Kim Mc Cumsey

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 • Osaka

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Tokyo Skytree • Tokyo Solamachi • Asakusa Sensoji Temple • Nakamise Shopping
Ameyoko Shopping • Mt. Fuji • Owakudani • Hakone Ropeway • Lake Ashi Cruise
JR Super Express Train Ride • Ferry Ride to Miyajima Island • Itsukushima Shrine
Peace Memorial Park • A-Bomb Museum • A-Bomb Dome • Children's Memorial
AEON MALL Okayama • Kurashiki Bikan Area • Himeji Castle • Kiyomizu Temple • Heian Jingu Shrine
Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion) • Fushimi Inari Shrine • Todaiji Temple • Nara Deer Park

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:

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

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES:

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

COMPLETE PACKAGE!

Includes Roundtrip Airfare from Honolulu,
9 Nights Hotel, 18 Meals, Tips for Local Tour
Guides and Bus Drivers, All Taxes & Fees

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Day 1: Sat, June 14 – HONOLULU – Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 12:45 pm.

Day 2: Sun, June 15 – TOKYO. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, transfer by coach to your hotel in Tokyo. KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO (3 Nights)

Day 3: Mon, June 16 – TOKYO. After breakfast, visit **Tokyo Skytree** for a view of the surrounding city. At just over 2,000 feet tall, it is the tallest tower in Tokyo. Rising 350 meters above the ground, the Tokyo Skytree Tembo Deck offers a 360 degree panoramic view of Tokyo. Next, enjoy some shopping time at **Tokyo Solamachi** – located at the base of the Tokyo Skytree. 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. Enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Tue, June 17 – 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)

Day 5: Wed, June 18 – TOKYO – MT. FUJI – HAKONE. After breakfast, depart Tokyo for Hakone. En route, visit **Mt. Fuji** – where we will **ascend to the 5th station** (weather permitting) at an elevation of 7,500 feet above sea level. Continue to Hakone, where much of the area is considered an active volcanic zone since its creation from the eruption of Mt. Hakone some 3,000 years ago. After lunch, visit **Okawudani** ("Great Boiling Valley"), the source of the hot spring waters of Hakone. View the surrounding countryside from the **Hakone Ropeway**. Then transfer to the hotel for dinner. The **onsen hot springs** – 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. HAKONE SENGOKUHARA PRINCE HOTEL (1 Night) (B, L, D)

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

Day 6: Thur, June 19 – HAKONE – HIROSHIMA – MIYAJIMA. Transfer to Mishima Train Station where we will board a **JR Super Express Train** to Hiroshima. En route, enjoy a **boat ride on the beautiful Lake Ashi**. 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: Fri, June 20 – 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 in Okayama, enjoy shopping and dining (on your own) at one of the largest AEON Shopping Malls, **AEON MALL Okayama**. HOTEL GRANVIA OKAYAMA (1 Night) (B, L)

Day 8: Sat, June 21 – OKAYAMA – KURASHIKI – HIMEJI – KYOTO. After breakfast, depart Okayama. Visit **Kurashiki** and 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. Enjoy free time here to explore the area and enjoy lunch (on your own). Next we drive to Himeji to visit **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. Transfer to the hotel in Kyoto for an evening of leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions for dinner. MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHIGO (3 Nights) (B)

Day 9: Sun, June 22 – 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 1100th 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. Next, we visit **Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)**, a Zen Temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. 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 10: Mon, June 23 – KYOTO. Full day at leisure. A perfect day to fulfill your shopping list. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 11: Tue, June 24 – 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 four kilometer long tunnel of scarlet torii gates was featured on the film *Memoirs of a Geisha*. After lunch, visit the **Todaiji Temple**, the largest wooden building in Japan, which houses the largest bronze statue of Buddha at 16.3 meters high. The surrounding **Nara Deer Park** is inhabited by **over 1,000 Shika deer**. Depart Nara for the Kansai International Airport and check in for the flight home. Depart Osaka via Japan Airlines flt #792 at 9:45 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 11:05 am 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).

Have more fun with family and friends!

* 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: 02/04/25. 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.** 091024