



2026 FALL BEST OF KYOTO, UJI & OSAKA TOUR #1

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6 Nights / 8 Days • 9 Meals (6 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 1 Dinner)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
Tour #1: September 10 – 17, 2026 • Tour Manager: Paul Ledesma

VISIT:

Kyoto, Kameoka, Arashiyama, Uji & Osaka

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Nijo Castle, Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion), TeamLab Biovortex,
Sagano Torokko Ressha (Sagano Romantic Train) Ride, Arashiyama Bamboo Forest,
Chazuna, Byodoin Temple, Byodoin Omotesando, Kuromon Ichiba Market,
Dotonbori Shopping, Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade & AEON MALL Rinku Sennan

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:

Yuzen Dyeing, Wagashi (Traditional Japanese Sweets) Making & Matcha Grinding

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES:

Nijo Castle, Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion) & Byodoin Temple

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Day 1: Thur, Sep 10 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 12:45 pm.

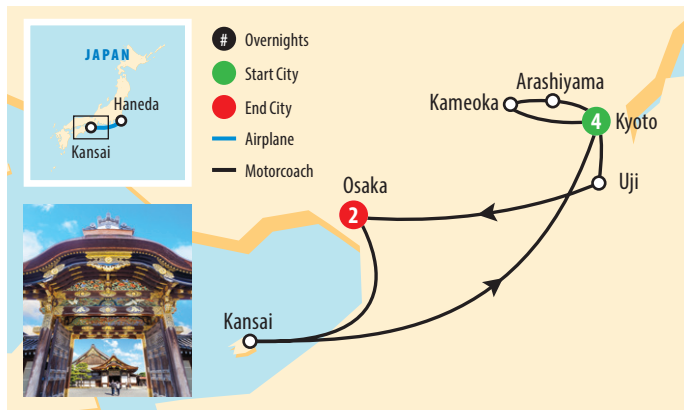
Day 2: Fri, Sep 11 – HANEDA – KANSAI – KYOTO. Arrive in the Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, transfer to the Domestic Airport for the flight to Kansai. Depart the Haneda Domestic Airport via Japan Airlines flt #229 at 8:55 pm and arrive in Kansai Domestic Airport at 10:15 pm. Transfer by coach to hotel in Kyoto. MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHUJO (4 Nights)

Day 3: Sat, Sep 12 – KYOTO. Depart the hotel for a full day of touring. When 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 historic site. Its palace buildings are arguably the best surviving examples of castle palace architecture of Japan's feudal era. Today's hands-on experience is **yuzen dyeing** (surikomi yuzen), which is one of Kyoto's traditional craft dyeing techniques. Since the patterns are dyed by placing a paper stencil over a piece of fabric, such as a tote bag, you can make an authentic piece, even if this is your first time. A great souvenir of this tour! After lunch, visit **Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)**, a Zen Temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Next, explore the wonders of **teamLab Biovortex**, a new concept by the team behind the international art collective teamLab. This venue focuses on a high-dimensional thinking athletics space based on the concept of perceiving the world with your body and thinking about it high-dimensionally. In a complex and challenging space, you will be immersed in a physically challenging four-dimensional world where time changes with the presence of your body. Return to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Sun, Sep 13 – KYOTO – KAMEOKA – ARASHIYAMA – KYOTO. After breakfast, travel to Kameoka and board the **Sagano Torokko Ressha (Sagano Romantic Train)** to Arashiyama. After lunch, you'll have the choice of several activities. Explore the famous **Arashiyama Bamboo Forests**. Or shop for world-famous Arashiyama bamboo products. **Learn how to make wagashi (traditional Japanese sweets)**. Return to Kyoto for an evening of leisure. (B, L)

Day 5: Mon, Sep 14 – 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 6: Tue, Sep 15 – KYOTO – UJI – OSAKA. After breakfast, check out from hotel. A full day of sightseeing is ahead. Begin the day at the Tea and Uji Community Center, **Chazuna**, where you will **learn how to grind green tea** leaves via a grinding millstone. You can brew your own ground matcha in a teapot and drink it. Next, visit **Byodoin Temple**. Together with its garden, the temple represents the "Pure Land Paradise" and was influential on later temple construction. Byodoin was initially built in 998 as a countryside retreat villa for the powerful politician Fujiwara no Michinaga, not as a temple. After lunch at a local restaurant, explore **Byodoin Omotesando**, the road leading up to the main gate of Byodoin Temple, where long-established tea shops are located. The air is filled with the fragrance of tea. In 2001, the Ministry of the Environment



recognized it as one of the "Top 100 Fragrant Landscapes to Pass on and Preserve." In addition to the long-established Uji tea shops, there are plenty of stores selling unique local products of Uji and souvenir shops. There are also numerous restaurants and cafés where you can leisurely enjoy a menu full of tea-based dishes, such as tea dumplings, matcha sweets, tea soba noodles, as well as Kyoto-style obanzai (traditional home-cooked dishes). One of the major attractions is the ability to enjoy authentic matcha soft serve ice cream while walking around. Try comparing the matcha soft serve from different shops and find your favorite. Enjoy time to shop and have lunch (on your own) here. Transfer to the hotel in Osaka, where the remainder of the day is at your leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions on various dining and shopping opportunities nearby. HOTEL GRANVIA OSAKA (2 Nights) (B)

Day 7: Wed, Sep 16 – OSAKA. Full day at leisure. A perfect day to fulfill the remainder of your shopping list. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 8: Thur, Sep 17 – OSAKA – KANSAI – HONOLULU. After hotel checkout, start the day with a visit to **Kuromon Ichiba Market**, a lively covered market which stretches for 580m 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 and Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade, a couple of Osaka's most popular tourist destinations. **Dotonbori** is a popular shopping and entertainment district that runs parallel to Dotonbori Canal, and is also known as a food destination. At approximately 600m long, **Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade** and the surrounding area is Osaka's premier shopping center. The unique area combines chain retail stores and trendy boutiques with department stores and top designer fashion labels. Enjoy lunch here (on your own). A final shopping stop will be made at **AEON MALL Rinku Sennan** before transferring to Kansai International Airport for the return flight home. Depart Kansai via Japan Airlines flt #790 at 10:05 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 11:00 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Nijo Castle (1994), Kinkakuji Temple (1994), Byodoin Temple (1994)

* 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" 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: 05/01/26. 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.** J16631 013026

