

Affordable Luxury – Small Group Tours



Off the Beaten Path: A Different Side of Japan

2026 FALL GOURMET ONSEN DISCOVERY

Miyajima & Tamatsukuri Onsens

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12 Nights / 14 Days • 26 Meals (12 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches, 7 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
November 04 – 17, 2026 • Tour Managers: Dean & Annette Mizumura

VISIT: Kansai, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Tamatsukuri Onsen, Izumo, Matsue, Tottori, Miyazu, Ine, Amanohashidate, Uji, Osaka, Arashiyama & Kyoto

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ENJOY THE BEST JAPAN HAS TO OFFER — From Kaiseki Dinners and Onsen Hot Springs to Sacred Sites and Expressive Art! Explore the Kansai and Chugoku regions of Japan. Miyajima is home to Itsukushima Shrine, which appears to float on the water when the tide is in. Tamatsukuri is an ancient onsen resort town, dating back to at least the 8th century. Miyazu's "Bridge to Heaven," Amanohashidate, is known as one of Japan's Three Scenic Views. Osaka is a charming city best known for its food, and fun — with some history and culture peeking through. These are just some of the highlights on this tour of Japan. Join us!

2026 Fall Gourmet Onsen Meguri (Discovery)



Day 1: Wed, Nov 04 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #799 at 11:25 am.

Day 2: Thur, Nov 05 – KANSAI. Arrive at the Kansai International Airport at 3:55 pm. Walk to your hotel which is a short covered walk from the airport. Dinner has been arranged at the hotel. HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

*Baggage will be sent from Kansai to Tamatsukuri Onsen, skipping Miyajima. Prepare an overnight bag for three nights.

Day 3: Fri, Nov 06 – KANSAI – HIROSHIMA – MIYAJIMA. After breakfast, drive to the Shin-Osaka Train Station by motorcoach. Transfer to Hiroshima Station via **Shinkansen Bullet Train** with **reserved seating** in the **Green Car**. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant upon arrival in Hiroshima. After lunch, begin the sightseeing tour of Hiroshima. Visit the **Atomic Bomb Dome**, **Peace Memorial Park**, **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum**, and the **Peace Bell**. After, take a **short ferry ride** and arrive on the island of Miyajima, considered sacred by many. This evening, soak in the relaxing atmosphere of Iwaso Inn and the **onsen hot spring baths**. You can enjoy the beauty of the primeval forests and gentle sound of mountain streams while taking a bath. This evening, enjoy a traditional, multi-course **Kaiseki Dinner** featuring Hiroshima's local and seasonal ingredients including fresh seafood from the Seto Inland Sea. IWASO INN (3 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 4: Sat, Nov 07 – MIYAJIMA. After breakfast, walk to the nearby vermillion torii gate of **Itsukushima Shrine**, which at high tide, 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). **Learn how to make momiji manju**, a specialty of the area. Free time will be given to explore the excellent shopping opportunities available down the main street of Miyajima Island and enjoy lunch (on your own). After lunch, take in the view from the **Miyajima Ropeway**, the cable car and gondola system linking Miyajima township to Mt. Misen. On a clear day the ropeway provides an excellent observation point, plus access to the Wild Monkey Park, temples, and shrines. Return to the hotel for another **Kaiseki Dinner**. Be sure to enjoy the onsens before and after your dinner. (B, D)

Day 5: Sun, Nov 08 – MIYAJIMA. Begin the day with some hands-on activities, including **dressing up in a kimono**, experiencing a **Japanese tea ceremony**, and **learning how to write in calligraphy**. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to explore more of Miyajima on your own. Don't forget to try the plump steamed oysters that Miyajima is known for and make friends with the wild deer that continue to roam freely around Miyajima. (B)



© teamLab

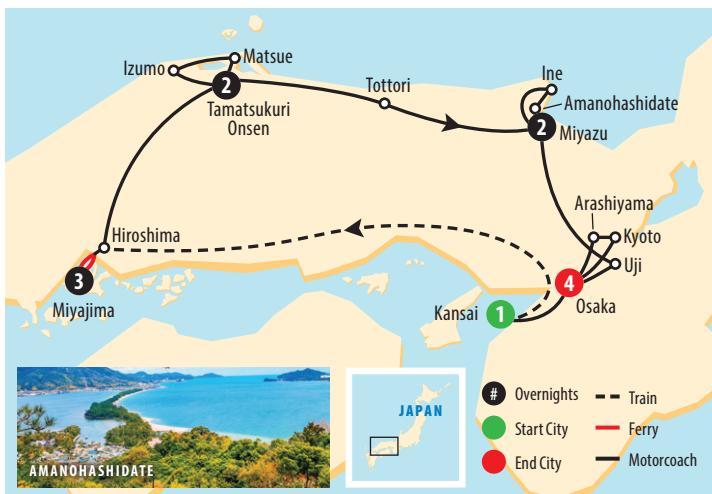
Day 6: Mon, Nov 09 – MIYAJIMA – TAMATSUKURI ONSEN. After breakfast, we make our way back to the main island of Honshu via a **short ferry ride**. En route to Tamatsukuri, a stop will be made at **Miyoshi Winery** for lunch and **wine tasting**. The tasting usually includes six wines and one liqueur, with non-alcoholic grape drinks available for non-drinkers and children. Several of Miyoshi's higher-end line of wine, called *TOMOE*, has won national and international awards. Besides wine, there are many souvenirs available at the souvenir hall, where soft-serve ice cream flavored with Miyoshi pionne grape is not to be missed. This evening, enjoy a special **Kaiseki Dinner** at your hotel. Dinner will be accompanied by an **Iwami Kagura Show**, an unforgettable kind of masked traditional performance. The stories told in these performances are usually drawn from ancient history books dating from the eighth century, or from legends and stories of monsters made famous in Noh theater. The stories are easy to follow as they often consist of heroes and villains, gods and demons, of good guys and bad guys. Many times, these dances involve intense choreographed sword-fights. However, it's not all action and drama as there are comedic interludes with some dances that approach pantomime. These interludes are sure to have you laughing and cheering. After dinner, don't forget to try the **onsens**. HOTEL GYOKUSEN (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 7: Tue, Nov 10 – TAMATSUKURI ONSEN – IZUMO – MATSUE – TAMATSUKURI ONSEN. Begin the day at **Izumo Taisha** located near the Sea of Japan. It is one of Japan's most important shrines. Izumo used to be ruled by a powerful clan in pre-historic times, and the region plays a central role in Japan's creation mythology. The main deity enshrined at Izumo Taisha is Okuninushi no Okami. According to the creation myths, Okuninushi was the creator of the land of Japan and the ruler of Izumo. He also became known as the deity of good relationships and marriage. Visitors consequently clap their hands four times instead of the usual two times during their prayers: twice for themselves and twice for their actual or desired partners. After lunch, take a **boat cruise on the Hori River**, before visiting the quaint **Matsue Castle**. Then, enjoy some free time for shopping and dining (on your own) at an **AEON MALL** before returning to the hotel for an evening of leisure. (B, L)

Day 8: Wed, Nov 11 – TAMATSUKURI ONSEN – TOTTORI – MIYAZU. After breakfast, explore the **Adachi Museum of Art**. Founded by Adachi Zenko in 1980 as a way of combining his passions for Japanese art and garden design. He hoped that viewing the gardens and artwork together would expand peoples' appreciation and interest in Japanese art. The Adachi Museum of Art is best known for its award winning garden. It has been named the best garden in Japan annually since 2003 by the *Journal of Japanese Gardening*. The garden can be enjoyed at any time of the year and shows a different character depending on the season. It can only be viewed from the museum building. In addition to the gardens, the Adachi Museum of Art also houses a collection



Japan,
Endless
Discovery.



of nearly 1,300 twentieth century paintings and artworks which are rotated seasonally. There is also a permanent exhibit of paintings by Yokoyama Taikan, as well as a ceramics exhibit. After lunch, witness the awesome **Tottori Sand Dunes** on our way to Miyazu. This evening, enjoy a rejuvenating soak in the **onsens** before or after your buffet dinner at the hotel. MERCURE KYOTO MIYAZU RESORT & SPA (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 9: Thur, Nov 12 – MIYAZU – INE – AMANOHASHIDATE – MIYAZU. First stop today is at the **Bay of Ine**. The small village is unique, consisting of 230 funaya (over water houses). Take in the view from above at the **Michi-no-Eki Observatory**. After lunch, visit **Amanohashidate**, one of the three most scenic places in Japan along with Matsushima Bay near Sendai and Miyajima Island. The coast line is a long sandbar. You'll get a chance to ride the **cable car** and visit the **Kasamatsu Park Observatory**. Return to the hotel for dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 10: Fri, Nov 13 – MIYAZU – UJI – OSAKA. After breakfast, depart for Osaka. En route, stop at **Byodoin Temple**. Together with its garden, the temple represents the "Pure Land Paradise" and was influential on later temple construction. Interestingly, Byodoin was initially built in 998 as a countryside retreat villa for the powerful politician Fujiwara no Michinaga, not as a temple. You'll have ample time to stroll the temple grounds on your own. Upon arrival at the hotel in Osaka, the remainder of the day is at your leisure. Your hotel is directly connected to the JR Osaka Station, allowing convenient access to numerous shopping and dining opportunities. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. Don't forget to check out the food and drink services available throughout the day in the Specialty Lounge, along with afternoon tea and evening cocktails. OSAKA STATION HOTEL (4 Nights) (B)

Day 11: Sat, Nov 14 – OSAKA. Full day at leisure. Your hotel connected to the JR Osaka Station – allowing easy access to Japan's convenient train system if you decide to explore more of Osaka's neighboring towns on your own today. It's also a perfect day to fulfill your shopping list at the numerous shops located in the train station. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 12: Sun, Nov 15 – OSAKA. **Osaka Castle** is one of the city's most famous landmarks, and naturally, it's also Osaka's premier tourist attraction. Visible from most panoramic viewpoints in the city, it is a stunning sight from afar, standing out in the skyline of east Osaka. The original castle was completed in 1583 and was attacked and destroyed several times, most recently during air

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raids during WWII. The present castle is a concrete reconstruction that was finished in 1995. Hope you didn't forget your Costco card. Find out how similar, yet different, the **Costco** is in Japan. Next, explore **TeamLab Botanical Garden Osaka**, which is a night open-air museum featuring a collection of artwork that uses plants, lake, and the ecosystem of Nagai Botanical Garden as part of its exhibition. After more than 50 years since the Nagai Botanical Garden has opened, it is now home to many wild birds, such as northern goshawks and owls, which are placed at the top of the food chain and thus dependent on a healthy ecosystem to exist. TeamLab's art project *Digitized Nature* explores how nature can become art. The concept of the project is that non-material digital technology can turn nature into art without harming it. As the artworks in this exhibition are influenced by the trees and birds that live in the garden, if the wildlife disappear, the artworks will also disappear. The trees and birds cannot be separated from the ecosystem such as the garden's forest or lake, so if the environment is not sustained, the trees and birds will cease to exist, and as a consequence, the artworks as well. Return to the hotel for an evening of leisure. (B)

Day 13: Mon, Nov 16 – OSAKA – ARASHIYAMA – KYOTO – OSAKA. After breakfast, transfer to Arashiyama. Enjoy **free time in Arashiyama**, where you may choose to explore the famous Arashiyama Bamboo Forests, or shop for world-famous Arashiyama bamboo products. Take a **ride on a rickshaw** around Arashiyama. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Today's hands-on experience is **yuzen dyeing**, which is one of Kyoto's traditional Kyo-Yuzen 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. Your very own original work will be a perfect memento for yourself or a gift for someone else. Return to the hotel for some leisure time before enjoying a buffet dinner at the hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 14: Tue, Nov 17 – OSAKA – KANSAI – HONOLULU. The last day in Japan is all about shopping! After a morning of leisure, depart the hotel for a special lunch. Then, visit Dotonbori and Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade, a couple of Osaka's most popular tourist destinations. **Dotonbori** runs parallel to the Dotonbori Canal and is a popular shopping and entertainment district and is also known as a food destination. Approximately 600 meters long, **Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade** and the surrounding area is Osaka's premier shopping center. The area is unique as it combines chain retail stores and trendy boutiques with department stores and top designer fashion labels. Hope you didn't get your fill of shopping yet! As the final stop will be at an **AEON MALL**, before transferring to the Kansai International Airport for the return flight home. Depart Kansai Airport via Japan Airlines flt #790 at 10:10 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:25 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B, L)

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS: Shinkansen Bullet Train Ride, Atomic Bomb Dome, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Peace Bell, Ferry Ride to Miyajima, Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima Ropeway, Iwami Kagura Show, Izumo Taisha, Hori River Cruise, Matsue Castle, AEON MALL, Adachi Museum of Art, Tottori Sand Dunes, Bay of Ine, Michi-no-Eki Observatory, Amanohashidate Ropeway (Cable Car), Kasamatsu Park Observatory, Byodoin Temple, Osaka Castle, Costco, Stroll the Arashiyama Area, Rickshaw Ride, Dotonbori & Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES: Momiji Manju Making, Kimono Dress-Up, Japanese Tea Ceremony, Calligraphy Writing, Miyoshi Winery Wine Tasting & Yuzen Dyeing

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:



HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT

(KANSAI — 1 NIGHT): The hotel is directly connected to Kansai International Airport, allowing guests to immediately begin relaxing after their flight.



IWASO INN (MIYAJIMA — 3 NIGHTS):

Located on the World Heritage Miyajima Island, Iwaso Inn features **Japanese-style accommodations** with beautiful surrounding views. Guests can relax in the **indoor and outdoor onsen hot springs**. Traditional, multi-course Kaiseki Dinners featuring seafood and local ingredients are served at the dining room. A Japanese or Western breakfast is served at Momiji restaurant. Iwaso Inn is a five-minute walk from Itsukushima Shrine and Momijidani Park.



HOTEL GYOKUSEN (TAMATSUKURI

ONSEN — 2 NIGHTS): Tamatsukuri is one of the premier onsen resorts in Shimane, widely known for its **skin beautifying effects**. Built along the Tamayu River are eighteen hotels and ryokans (traditional Japanese inns). Some of them offer a day spa, and public foot spas can be enjoyed free of charge. The area also has spiritual locations, high-quality souvenir shops, and cafés for visitors. Rejuvenate in the hotel's lobby lounge, overlooking a traditional Japanese garden, bringing out the best in the natural beauty of the pine trees and the rock garden.



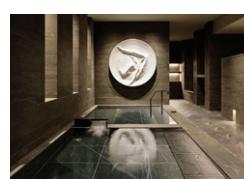
MERCURE KYOTO MIYAZU RESORT & SPA

(MIYAZU — 2 NIGHTS): Immerse yourself in an **all-inclusive stay** at Mercure. The all-inclusive plan includes **dinner, breakfast, drinks, and snacks** at the lounges, access to the public **onsen facilities**, and **activities within the hotel**. Free-flowing alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages are included at dinner. From 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm daily, unwind in the lounge, where a selection of sparkling wine, beer, as well as soft drinks, coffee, black tea, and herbal waters are available. From 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm daily, conclude your day with a nightcap at the lounge, where you can enjoy a wide range of beverages, including whisky, brandy, and Japanese spirits, in a cozy yet refined ambiance.



OSAKA STATION HOTEL (OSAKA — 4 NIGHTS):

Built on the historic grounds of Osaka's first train station, the Osaka Station Hotel opened its doors in July 2024. The hotel is **directly connected to the JR Osaka Station**, allowing convenient access to numerous shopping and dining opportunities. It's also in the same building as the **KITTE OSAKA**, a **shopping mall** with Japan-centric basement restaurants and stores selling specialty goods from far-flung prefectures. Special arrangements have been made for rooms in the "Specialty" category at the hotel, allowing Tour Members special access to the **Specialty Salon** — a special space located on the 38th floor, offering food and drink services throughout the day, including breakfast, afternoon tea, and evening cocktails, as well as check-in and check-out services, along with access to the **ofuro (Japanese bath)** facilities on the 30th floor.



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