



Off the Beaten Path: A Different Side of Japan

2026 FALL GOURMET ONSEN MEGURI (DISCOVERY) TOUR #1

Enjoy your choice of Japan Airlines' "Economy," "Premium Economy," or the affordable luxury of "Business" class service. Premium Economy class customers will begin their journey with a relaxing visit to JAL's "Sakura Lounge" and the "Sakura Lounge — Hale" for Business class.

Exciting tour! Enjoy the best Japan has to offer: gourmet seasonal, multi-course Kaiseki Dinners at Japan's most famous onsen hot spring locales!

10 Nights / 12 Days • 22 Meals (10 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 7 Dinners)

Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide

Tour #1: October 22 – November 02, 2026

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

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS: Shinkansen Bullet Train Ride, Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Atomic Bomb Dome, Children's Memorial, Peace Bell, Ferry Ride to Miyajima, Itsukushima Shrine, Izumo Taisha, Hori River Cruise, Matsue Castle, AEON MALL, Adachi Museum of Art, Tottori Sand Dunes, Ine Bay, Michi-no-Eki Funaya no Sato Park, Kasamatsu Park Observatory, TeamLab Biovortex, Ryoanji Temple, Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion), Nishiki Market, Toji Temple, Chazuna, Byodoin Temple, Byodoin Omotesando & AEON MALL Rinku Sennan

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES: Momiji Manju Making, Kimono Dress-Up, Tea Ceremony, Wagashi (Traditional Japanese Sweets) Making & Matcha Grinding

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES: Atomic Bomb Dome, Itsukushima Shrine, Ryoanji Temple, Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion), Toji Temple & Byodoin Temple

ONSEN HOT SPRING RYOKANS (TRADITIONAL JAPANESE INNS):

- **Iwaso Inn (Miyajima – 2 Nights):** Featuring Japanese-style accommodations with beautiful surrounding views. Guests can relax in the indoor and outdoor onsens. Iwaso Inn is a five-minute walk from Itsukushima Shrine and Momijidani Park.
- **Hotel Gyokusen (Tamatsukuri Onsen – 2 Nights):** This ryokan offers onsens with skin beautifying properties and delicious food, surrounded by the lush nature of Izumo and Tamatsukuri. Rejuvenate in the hotel's lobby lounge overlooking the traditional Japanese garden.
- **Mercure Kyoto Miyazu Resort & Spa (Amanohashidate – 2 Nights):** Let time pass slowly as you immerse yourself in the tranquil side of Kyoto, surrounded by breathtaking scenery. The wellness facility features an open-air bath, a large indoor bath, and a sauna. Relax as you breathe in the sea breeze from the waterfront.

COMPLETE PACKAGES!

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Day 1: Thur, Oct 22 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 12:15 pm.

Day 2: Fri, Oct 23 – HANEDA – KANSAI. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, enjoy a bento box at the domestic departure gate. Depart the Haneda Domestic Airport via Japan Airlines flt #229 at 8:55 pm. Arrive at the Kansai International Airport at 10:20 pm. Walk to the hotel located within the airport. HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

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

Day 3: Sat, Oct 24 – KANSAI – HIROSHIMA – MIYAJIMA. After a sumptuous breakfast buffet at the hotel, transfer to Shin-Osaka Train Station by chartered bus. Transfer to Hiroshima Station by **Shinkansen Bullet Train**. Enjoy lunch upon arrival. After, visit the **Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Atomic Bomb Dome, Children's Memorial**, and the **Peace Bell**. After a **short ferry ride**, arrive on the island of Miyajima, considered sacred by many. This evening, enjoy a traditional, multi-course **Kaiseki Dinner** featuring Hiroshima's local and seasonal ingredients, including fresh seafood from the Seto Inland Sea. Enjoy a soak in the relaxing atmosphere of the hotel's **onsen hot springs**. You can enjoy the beauty of the primeval forests and gentle sound of mountain streams while taking a bath. IWASO INN (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 4: Sun, Oct 25 – MIYAJIMA. After breakfast, walk to the nearby vermilion torii gate of **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. **Learn how to make momiji manju**, a specialty of the area. Enjoy excellent shopping and numerous choices for lunch (on your own) down Omotesando Street, the main street of Miyajima. Return to the hotel for a different variety of **Kaiseki Dinner**. Be sure to enjoy the **onsens** before and after your dinner. (B, D)

Day 5: Mon, Oct 26 – MIYAJIMA – IZUMO – TAMATSUKURI ONSEN. After breakfast, we take a **short ferry ride** back to mainland Japan. En route to Tamatsukuri Onsen, a stop will be made for everyone to stretch their legs and get lunch (on your own). Then, visit **Izumo Taisha**, one of Japan's most important shrines. 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, during their prayers: twice for themselves and twice for their actual or desired partners. This evening, enjoy another unique **Kaiseki Dinner** at your hotel. Be sure to enjoy the **onsens** and perhaps stroll along the Tamayu River. HOTEL GYOKUSEN (2 Nights) (B, D)

Day 6: Tue, Oct 27 – TAMATSUKURI ONSEN – MATSUE – TAMATSUKURI ONSEN. Begin the day with some hands-on activities, including **dressing up in a kimono** and experiencing a **tea ceremony**. Next, take a **boat cruise on the Hori River**. After lunch, visit 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 7: Wed, Oct 28 – TAMATSUKURI ONSEN – YASUGI – TOTTORI – AMANOHASHIDATE. After breakfast, explore the **Adachi Museum of Art**, which was founded by Adachi Zenko in 1980 as a way of combining his passions for Japanese art and garden design. The museum is best known for its award winning garden, which has been named the best garden in Japan annually since 2003 by the *Journal of Japanese Gardening*. The garden can be enjoyed all times of the year and has a different appeal depending on the season. In addition to its gardens, the museum also houses a collection of nearly 1,300 twentieth century paintings and artworks, which are rotated seasonally. After lunch, visit the awesome **Tottori Sand Dunes** on our way to Amanohashidate, which is considered one of the three most scenic places in Japan. Tonight, 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 8: Thur, Oct 29 – AMANOHASHIDATE – INE – AMANOHASHIDATE. Begin the day at the **Ine Bay**. Ine is famous for its unique funaya, or boat houses. These wooden buildings sit right on the water and serve as both dock and home for the fishermen of the village. Around 230 funaya remain today, stretching along five kilometers of the coastline. Stop by **Michi-no-Eki Funaya no Sato Park**, a popular roadside station located on a hill overlooking the historic Ine Bay. It features a **panoramic observatory deck**, local seafood restaurants, and a shop, making it a key stop for viewing Ine from above. After lunch, you'll get a chance to **ride the cable car** and visit the **Kasamatsu Park Observatory** for spectacular views of Amanohashidate. Return to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 9: Fri, Oct 30 – AMANOHASHIDATE – KYOTO. After breakfast, depart for Kyoto. After lunch, 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. Transfer to the hotel, where the remainder of the day is at your 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. MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHIJO (3 Nights) (B, L)

Day 10: Sat, Oct 31 – KYOTO. First stop this morning is **Ryoanji Temple**, the site of Japan's most famous rock garden, which attracts hundreds of visitors every day. Originally an aristocrat's villa during Heian period, the site was converted into a Zen temple in 1450. Next, visit the famous **Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)**, a Zen Temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. **Nishiki Market**, also known as "Kyoto's Kitchen" is a narrow, five block long shopping street lined by more than one hundred shops and restaurants. Spend your free time here exploring, shopping, and enjoy lunch (on your own). After lunch, learn how to **make wagashi (traditional Japanese sweets)**. Then, visit **Toji Temple**. Toji's five storied pagoda stands at 57m tall, making it the tallest wooden pagoda in Japan. Since the pagoda can be seen from many places across the city, it has become both a symbol of the temple and the city itself. View the temple grounds lit up, showcasing the contrast between the red and yellow tress and the five-story pagoda. Return to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, D)

Day 11: Sun, Nov 01 – 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 12: Mon, Nov 02 – KYOTO – UJI – OSAKA – KANSAI – HONOLULU. After breakfast, check out from hotel. 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. Explore **Byodoin Omotesando**, the road leading up to the main gate of Byodoin Temple. 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 cafes 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). Enjoy time to shop and have lunch (on your own) here. Enjoy free time at **AEON Mall Rinku Sennan** 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)

UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Atomic Bomb Dome (1996), Itsukushima Shrine (1996), Ryoanji Temple (1994), Kinkakuji Temple (1994), Toji 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: 06/12/26. 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.

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