

Day 1: Fri, Oct 30 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flight #73 at 12:05 am.

Day 2: Sat, Oct 31 – HANEDA. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 4:05 pm. After entry formalities, walk to your hotel connected to the airport terminal. Enjoy dinner at the hotel. HOTEL VILLA FONTAINE GRAND HANEDA AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

Day 3: Sun, Nov 01 – HANEDA – FUKUOKA. After a breakfast buffet at your hotel, transfer back to the Haneda airport terminal. Enjoy a bento box at the domestic departure gate. Depart Haneda Domestic Airport via Japan Airlines flight #315 at 11:00 am and arrive at the Fukuoka Airport at 1:00 pm. Upon arrival in Fukuoka, visit **Dazaifu Tenmangu**, a Shinto shrine that worships Sugawara Michizane, or Tenjin, the deity of learning, culture, and the arts. As one of Japan's most important Shinto shrines, it welcomes more than 10 million visitors a year. Then, head to **Kushida Shrine**, a Shinto shrine affectionately referred to as "Okushi-san" by local. This shrine is deeply loved by the citizens of Fukuoka and is the starting location of two of Fukuoka's famous summer festivals: the Hakata Gion Yamasaka and Hakata Okunchi. Before leaving the shrine, look for the well surrounded by three cranes. According to legend, the water from the well grants longevity and eternal youth. To do so, you must take three sips of water, praying for your own longevity with the first sip, the wellbeing of your family with the second sip, and finally for the health of friends with the third sip. Next, spend some time exploring **Hakata Machiya Furusato Kan**, a folk museum that showcases the lifestyle and culture of life in Hakata (Fukuoka) during the Meiji and Taisho periods. Arrive at the hotel for an evening of leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions for dining and shopping nearby. THE ROYAL PARK HOTEL FUKUOKA (1 Night) (B, L)

Day 4: Mon, Nov 02 – FUKUOKA – SASEBO. Japan is a nation of many islands but most travelers never get beyond the main four. At **Kujukushima National Park** near Sasebo in Nagasaki Prefecture, however, you can up your island quotient by taking a **scenic cruise** of the region's waters. The word "kujuku" literally means "99" but has come to refer to as a vast number or something uncountable. In truth, there are 208 islands off the coast of Sasebo, the largest concentration of islands anywhere in Japan. If these islands look familiar, chalk it up to the fact that they featured prominently in the opening scenes of the film *The Last Samurai*. After lunch at a local restaurant, continue to your hotel in Sasebo. After checking in to the hotel, you'll receive your entrance ticket to **Huis Ten Bosch**, an amusement park that recreates a Dutch town, conveniently located next to the hotel. This spacious resort is suffused with a European atmosphere with its picturesque canals, iconic windmills, beautiful gardens and architecture. You can explore the park at your leisure this evening. HOTEL NIKKO HUIS TEN BOSCH (1 Night) (B, L)

Day 5: Tue, Nov 03 – SASEBO – NAGASAKI. After breakfast, learn about sake at **Umegae Shuzo**, a sake brewery that is well known for its traditional methods. Take a **tour of the facilities** and **taste some of their award-winning sake**. Next, travel to Nagasaki and take a stroll through **Chinatown**. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, visit the sobering **Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum**, an informative yet sobering look at the impact of the dropping of the "Fat Man" atomic bomb on Nagasaki and **Nagasaki Peace Park**, which commemorates the atomic bombing of Nagasaki on August 09, 1945, that destroyed wide parts of the city and killed tens of thousands of inhabitants. Tonight, enjoy a special **shippoku dinner** (Japanese culinary style that is heavily influenced by Chinese cuisine) at the hotel. While not an onsen hot spring, the large public baths at the hotel offer stunning views of the city. INASAYAMA KANKO HOTEL (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 6: Wed, Nov 04 – NAGASAKI – UNZEN – KUMAMOTO. First stop this morning is at **Unzen Jigoku** ("Unzen Hell"), where hot water and gases spout out of the earth. **Unzen Ropeway** leads part way up the mountain slope. The lower and upper ropeway stations have observation decks with views over the surrounding mountains and the Ariake Sea all the way to Kumamoto Prefecture on a clear day. Enjoy the spectacular views. After lunch, enjoy a little time shopping for omiyage before taking a **short ferry ride to Kumamoto**. The remainder of the day is at your leisure. Recommendations will be made by the Local Guide for dinner options. KUMAMOTO HOTEL CASTLE (1 Night) (B, L)

Day 7: Thur, Nov 05 – KUMAMOTO – KAGOSHIMA. Begin the day exploring **Suizenji Park**, a spacious, Japanese-style garden in Kumamoto, best enjoyed by strolling along its circular path. Built by the Hosokawa Family in the 17th century, the garden reproduces the 53 post stations of the Tokaido Road – the important road which connected Edo (historical name for modern-day Tokyo) and Kyoto during the Edo period – in miniature form, including a small Mt. Fuji. While here, you'll have the chance to find out what **wearing a kimono** is like for yourself. A great photo opportunity! Then, visit the large and well-fortified **Kumamoto Castle**, which is considered one of the three premier castles in Japan (along with Himeji Castle and Matsumoto Castle). Find a taste of the old days at **Sakura-no-Baba Josaien**, an Edo-themed complex just down the hill from Kumamoto Castle. Enjoy lunch here (on your own). Depart Kumamoto for Kagoshima via **Shinkansen Bullet Train**. Transfer to the hotel for an evening of leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions for dinner nearby. Don't forget to enjoy the **natural onsen hot springs** at



the hotel. The onsen, which are divided for men and women, can be enjoyed indoors or outdoors. The high-quality service and facilities are sure to become some of your fondest memories of your visit to Japan. KAGOSHIMA SUN ROYAL HOTEL (1 Night) (B)

Day 8: Fri, Nov 06 – KAGOSHIMA – SAKURAJIMA ISLAND – IBUSUKI. After breakfast, take a **ferry to Sakurajima Island** and **stroll around** the "Symbol of Kagoshima." One of Japan's most active volcanoes, Sakurajima smokes constantly, and minor eruptions often take place multiple times a day. **Return to Kagoshima via ferry**. Next, explore **Senganen Garden**, the home and traditional garden built by the 19th head of the Shimazu Family Clan, Mitsuhsisa, in 1658. Using the principals of "borrowed scenery," the gardens incorporates within its background the views of Sakurajima and Kinko Bay. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Continue to Ibusuki, an onsen town that is famous for its sand baths. In sand baths, guests are provided with yukata robes and are then buried by staff members in hot sand that is heated by natural steam coming up from below. After staying buried for 10 to 20 minutes, guests wash off the sand and enter a regular onsen hot spring bath. Get the chance to **try a hot sand bath** for yourself at the hotel. After a **Kaiseki Dinner**, try the hotel's **onsen hot spring spa**, which will provide unrivaled relaxation for the body and mind. IBUSUKI HAKUSUIKAN (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 9: Sat, Nov 07 – IBUSUKI – KAGOSHIMA – MIYAZAKI. After breakfast, depart the hotel for a full day of sightseeing. Start the day at the **Chiran Peace Museum**. It is a thought provoking – and to many a controversial – museum dedicated to the lives and deaths of 1,036 kamikaze (suicide pilots), who sacrificed themselves in the name of the Japanese Emperor in the latter stages of WWII. Next, explore the **Chiran Samurai Residences and Gardens**. After lunch, view the unusual rock formations of the **Oni no Sentaku Ita** ("Devil's Washboard") before arriving at the hotel for a buffet dinner. PHOENIX SEAGAIA OCEAN TOWER (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 10: Sun, Nov 08 – MIYAZAKI – BEPPU. On our way to Beppu, stop at a **Michi-no-Eki** (roadside station), where you will find an array of farmer-direct merchandise along with other omiyage items. Enjoy lunch here (on your own). Further north, we arrive in the bather's paradise: the celebrated onsen resort of Beppu. Beppu is famous for its "hells" of dramatic pools of bubbling water, mud, and geysers. Visit two of the "hells": **Umi Jigoku** ("Sea Hell"), a pond of boiling blue water, and **Chinoike Jigoku** ("Blood Pond Hell"), with its bubbling blood red waters. Enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel. Tonight is your last chance to enjoy a soak in the mineral waters of the **onsen hot springs**. SUGINOI HOTEL (1 Night) (B, D)

Day 11: Mon, Nov 09 – BEPPU – FUKUOKA. After breakfast, depart Beppu for Fukuoka. After arriving at the hotel in Fukuoka, the remainder of the day is at your leisure. THE ROYAL PARK HOTEL FUKUOKA (1 Night) (B)

Day 12: Tue, Nov 10 – FUKUOKA – HANEDA – HONOLULU. Start the day at **Ohori Park Japanese Garden** and take in the view of a typical Japanese garden with its dry landscapes and tea houses. Enjoy last-minute shopping at a spacious **AEON MALL**, where you will have free time to dine (on your own) and shop at your leisure, before making our way to Fukuoka Airport for our flight home to Honolulu. Depart Fukuoka Airport via Japan Airlines flight #322 at 4:50 pm and arrive at the Haneda Domestic Airport at 6:30 pm. Depart Haneda International Airport via Japan Airlines flight #74 at 9:00 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 9:00 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)