

# Affordable Luxury – Small Group Tours



**Off the Beaten Path: A Different Side of Japan**

## 2026 SHIBATA CITY ORGANIC RICE HARVEST, YAMAGATA & NIIGATA PLUS TOKYO SHOPPING TOUR

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.

**Harvest your very own organic rice paddy in the heart of Niigata prefecture!**  
**Your organic Koshihikari rice will be delivered to Honolulu in the winter!!**

**11 Nights / 13 Days • 23 Meals (11 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 8 Dinners)**  
**Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide**  
**September 15 – 27, 2026 • Tour Managers: Darrell Chung & Arlene Oshima**

**VISIT:** Tokyo, Yonezawa, Sagae, Tendo, Yamagata City, Niigata & Shibata City

### AFFORDABLE LUXURY — SMALL GROUP TOUR EXCLUSIVES:

- Limited to 24 Pampered Tour Members
- A More Relaxed Pace of Touring
- Upgraded Hotels & Meals
- Minimum 2 Nights at Each Hotel
  - Sake, Beer & Soft Drinks with All Included Dinners
  - "Green Car" Seats on the Shinkansen Bullet Train

### COMPLETE PACKAGES!

Includes Roundtrip Airfare from Honolulu, 11 Nights Hotel, 23 Meals, Tips for Local Tour Guides and Motorcoach Drivers, All Taxes & Fees

#### JAPAN AIRLINES: CHOICE OF CABINS

*Treat yourself to a better vacation!*

##### JAL ECONOMY CLASS

**\$9,988\***

##### JAL PREMIUM ECONOMY CLASS

**\$11,888\***

**HURRY! Only 6 Seats Available at this Price!!**

##### JAL BUSINESS CLASS

**\$13,488\***

**HURRY! Only 6 Seats Available at this Price!!**

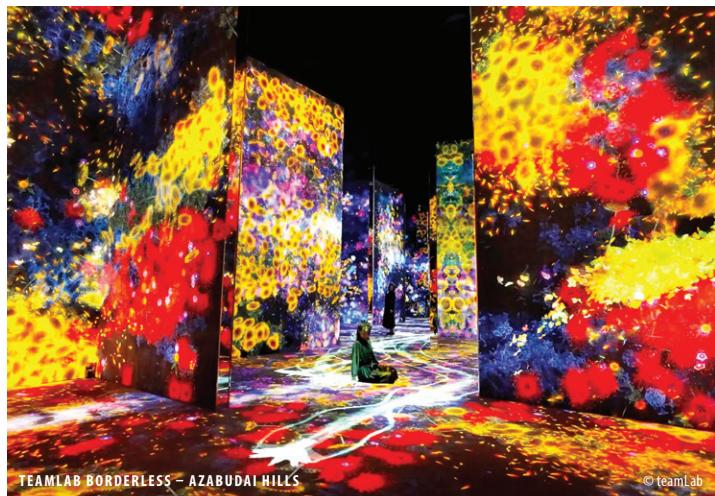
#### EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT PER PERSON

**Book by 04/30/26 & SAVE \$100†**

**Book by 05/29/26 & SAVE \$50†**

**INTRODUCING SHIBATA CITY, NIIGATA — "The Rice Capital of Japan!"**  
Celebrating organic Koshihikari rice, Shibata wagyu beef, organic sake, and one of the best natural onsen hot springs in Japan! Join Non-Stop Travel on this one-of-a-kind tour to the "Rice Capital of Japan!"

# 2026 *Shibata City Organic Rice Harvest, Yamagata & Niigata*



TEAMLAB BORDERLESS – AZABUDAI HILLS

© teamLab

**Day 1: Tue, Sep 15** – HONOLULU – Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 12:45 pm.

**Day 2: Wed, Sep 16** – HANEDA – TOKYO. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, transfer by coach to your hotel. Enjoy a Welcome Dinner at the hotel. KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO (2 Nights) (D)

**Day 3: Thur, Sep 17** – TOKYO. After a delicious breakfast buffet, depart the hotel for a full day of sightseeing. Begin the day at the **Imperial Palace East Gardens**, the former site of Edo Castle's innermost circles of defense, the honmaru ("main circle") and ninomaru ("secondary circle"). None of the main buildings remain standing today – however the moats, walls, entrance gates and several guardhouses still exist. Next, visit **Toyosu Senkyaku Banrai**, a shopping complex that recreates an Edo period neighborhood. Toyosu Senkyaku Banrai offers fresh food from the neighboring Toyosu Market and serves to showcase the best foods in Tokyo. Enjoy shopping here, exploring the offerings at the numerous stalls. If you get tired, head up to the 8<sup>th</sup> floor and relax at the foot bath garden – which is free of charge to all visitors. You'll have time to enjoy lunch (on your own) here as well. After lunch, explore **TeamLab Borderless – Azabudai Hills**. "TeamLab Borderless is a world of artworks without boundaries, a museum without a map created by art collective TeamLab. Artworks move out of rooms, relate to other works, influence each other, and at times intermingle, without boundaries. Through this group of works, one continuous world without boundaries is created. Immerse your body in borderless art. Wander, explore with intention, discover, and create a world with others." Return to the hotel for an evening of leisure. Your Local Guide will have recommendations for shopping and dining opportunities near the hotel. (B)

**Day 4: Fri, Sep 18** – TOKYO – YONEZAWA – TENDO. After a sumptuous breakfast buffet at the hotel, transfer to Tokyo Station. Depart via **Shinkansen Bullet Train**, with **reserved seating** in the **Green Car**, to Yonezawa. Upon arrival in Yonezawa, enjoy lunch featuring **Yonezawa beef**. After lunch, take a tour of **Toko Sake Brewery**, a historic brewery (since 1597) known for its high-quality sake using local rice and pure water. Explore the brewery's museum and shop, where you will learn about sake making, **taste different varieties**, and be able to purchase premium sake, umeshu (plum wine), koji and sake lees products, and even sake-based cosmetics. You're in for a treat! Transfer to the hotel, where you'll have some leisure time to explore the hotel before dinner. While there are public onsens available at the hotel, you will also have a **private open-air onsen** in your room. HOHOEMI NO YADO TAKINOYU (2 Nights) (B, L, D)



TOUR MEMBERS WITH GEIKO PERFORMERS

**Day 5: Sat, Sep 19** – TENDO – SAGAE – TENDO. Today is full of hands-on experiences! Start the day at the **Benibana Museum** to learn about **benibana (safflower) dyeing**, the rare dyeing method that uses safflower flowers rather than bark or leaves of a tree. Saffflowers have two pigments: yellow and red. The intensity of the color changes depending on how many times the cloth is dyed. The more you dye, the deeper the color. You'll have free time at **Cherryland Sagae**, the largest Michi-no-Eki (roadside rest station) in the Tohoku Region, to shop for local specialty products and enjoy lunch (on your own). Besides finding over 600 cherry-related products, you'll also find Yamagata's signature sweets and desserts, as well as a wide variety of locally produced alcoholic beverages including sake, shochu, and wine. After lunch, you'll have the chance to **paint a shogi piece**. Shogi is the traditional Japanese strategy board game known as "Japanese chess," where the goal is to checkmate the opponent's King by capturing it. It's one of the most popular board games in Japan, and even non-chess players find it fun to play. A unique souvenir of this trip! Return to the hotel, where you'll have some leisure time before dinner. (B, D)

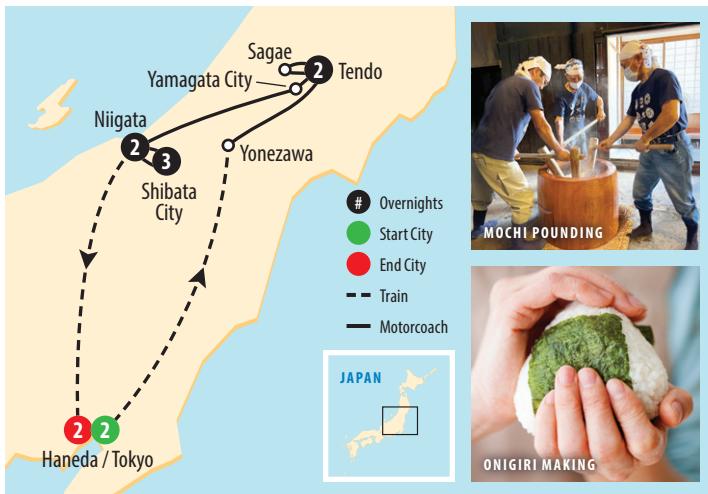
**Day 6: Sun, Sep 20** – TENDO – YAMAGATA CITY – NIIGATA. After breakfast, depart the hotel for Niigata. Visit the **Takahata Winery**, for a tour about the wine making process. The wines produced using grapes that are cultivated by local farmers and local fruits (cherries, peaches, etc) are extremely popular. The shop offers a wide selection of limited-edition wines that can only be purchased here, as well as souvenirs such as snacks that are perfect for wine. Staff with sommelier qualifications are available to answer your questions, so you will surely find your favorite wine selection here. Stop at **Michi-no-Eki Sekikawa** for a chance to stretch the legs, enjoy lunch (on your own) and get a little shopping done as well. Not only do they provide a clean and convenient rest stop, but you will find an array of farmer-direct merchandise along with other omiyage items. The Shirone area of Niigata has a long and colorful history with kites. Take a tour of the **Shirone Kite Museum**, and see the numerous kites on display from Japan and from around the world. After learning about these kites, you'll have the chance to **make your own mini-kite**. You don't even have to wait for the wind outside to pick up to test your creation as the museum is home to a wind tunnel – allowing you to fly it right away. What a great souvenir of this trip! Enjoy a **Kaiseki Dinner** at a local restaurant, before checking into the hotel in Niigata. ANA CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL NIIGATA (2 Nights) (B, D)

**Day 7: Mon, Sep 21** – NIIGATA. Rice is the heart of sake brewing, and Niigata Prefecture, renowned for its rice cultivation, is home to the largest number of sake breweries in Japan. Begin the day at **Imayo Tsukasa Sake Brewery**, a longstanding producer of sake that started brewing in the mid-Meiji Period (1868–1912). The sake crafted at Imayo Tsukasa boasts a dry yet robust flavor that harmonizes exquisitely with food. You can find some rare sakes, some that are only available in their shop. And

# Plus Tokyo Shopping



Japan,  
Endless  
Discovery.



for those that are not much of a drinker, sweet, creamy, non-alcoholic amazake is available as well. And for the "young at heart" try your luck at a special capsule toy "gacha-gacha" machine that allows everyone to win real sake or amazake, based on the color of the coin that they receive from the machine. Next, explore **Minato Marche Pier Bandai**, a food market that offers multiple food options, including fish caught in the Sea of Japan, vegetables and fruit directly delivered from farms, Niigata-produced *Koshihikari* rice, and a variety of high-quality brand sake from across the prefecture. All kinds of Niigata's specialties relating to food are here. Enjoy lunch (on your own) here. Then take a tour the **Northern Culture Museum**, which originally serving as a mansion of Ito Bunkichi, who lived in the Edo Period (1603–1868) and was one of the greatest landowners in Japan. Nowadays, the museum houses calligraphy, ceramics, lacquer ware, and documents related to Ito's family history. Don't forget to view the beautiful garden with its large pond. While there, **learn how to pound mochi**. It's not as easy as it looks! Return to the hotel for a buffet dinner and an evening of leisure. (B, D)

**Day 8: Tue, Sep 22 – NIIGATA – SHIBATA CITY.** After breakfast, depart the hotel for Shibata City. En route, stop at **Suwa Shrine**. Affectionately known as "Osuwasama," it is the main shrine of the area and has a history of over 1,300 years since its founding. The shrine was deeply revered by the daimyo (feudal lord) of the Shibata Domain, and after several relocations, the current building was built in 1756 by the 7<sup>th</sup> daimyo, Mizoguchi Naoharu. Many come to pray for good fortune, good health, academic success, protection from evil, matchmaking, and safe childbirth. Today's lunch will be kamameshi (kettle rice), a Japanese rice dish traditionally cooked in an iron pot called a kama. Many varieties exist, but most consist of rice seasoned with soy sauce or mirin, and cooked with meat and vegetables – and it is often considered a type of takikomi gohan (a mixed rice dish). After lunch, learn about rice storage at a **rice storage facility**, before arriving at the hotel in Shibata City. Relax before your **Kaiseki Dinner**. Don't forget to try out the **#1 best onsen facilities in all of Japan**. You don't want to miss out! SHIRATAMA NO YU KAHOU (3 Nights) (B, L, D)

**Day 9: Wed, Sep 23 – SHIBATA CITY – RICE HARVESTING.** Today is the day! We join the Sase Family in **harvesting our very own, organic Koshihikari rice**.\* Enjoy **onigiri making and cooking local specialties** with local farmers. Businessman and founder of the Okura Zaibatsu (Okura Financial Group), Kihachiro Okura, was born in Niigata as the son of the head of a big village in the Shibata Clan. He built a guest house in Tokyo which he named **Zoshunkaku**, which was later brought over to Shibata and reassembled. This evening

Your organic  
*Koshihikari rice*\*  
will be delivered  
to Honolulu in  
the winter!

## Non-Stop Travel Exclusive!

### COSTCO SHOPPING & FOOD COURT IN JAPAN

— *Don't forget your Costco Membership Card!*

Fill up the empty space in your suitcase with Japan exclusive items and fill your belly with unique offerings from the food court. The menu in Japan resembles the selection we're accustomed to as Costco shoppers in the US, but a closer look reveals a handful of dishes unique to Japan. You'll have to travel here if you want to order a seasonal pizza or Hokkaido soft cream. Costco will accept cash and international Visa credit/debit cards.

you will be treated to a **special banquet with Geiko performances** in this historic building. (B, L, D)  
**\*Your organic Koshihikari rice will be delivered to Honolulu in the winter. 10 pounds per Tour Member.**

**Day 10: Thur, Sep 24 – SHIBATA CITY.** Start the day **picking fruit at a local farm**. Next, visit **Tonton Ichiba** for a chance to purchase local ingredients from the Shibata area. After lunch, learn about sake at the **Aumont Sake Brewery**. Return to the hotel for some leisure time before dinner. Tonight is your last chance to soak in the healing waters of the **#1 best onsen** facilities in all of Japan. Tonight, enjoy another **Kaiseki Dinner**. (B, L, D)

**Day 11: Fri, Sep 25 – SHIBATA CITY – NIIGATA – TOKYO.** After a delicious breakfast buffet, transfer to Niigata Station by coach. Transfer to Tokyo by **Shinkansen Bullet Train** with **reserved seating** in the **Green Car**. Upon arrival in Tokyo, visit **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 7<sup>th</sup> 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. Enjoy free time to shop and explore Sensoji on your own. Transfer to the hotel for an evening of leisure. Your Local Guide will have recommendations for shopping and dining opportunities near the hotel. **KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO** (2 Nights) (B)

**Day 12: Sat, Sep 26 – TOKYO.** Day at leisure. Enjoy shopping and dining in the bustling Shinjuku area. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. Perfect day to relax and/or visit with family and friends in Tokyo. (B)

**Day 13: Sun, Sep 27 – TOKYO – HANEDA – HONOLULU.** Your last day in Japan will be filled with shopping! Begin at **Ameyoko**, a busy market street Okachimachi and Ueno Stations. The name "Ameyoko" is a short form for "ameya yokochō" ("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 street 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. Next, stop at **LaLaport Toyosu**, a mall located on Tokyo Bay that has 180 shops, including UNIQLO, 100 yen shop, DAISO, and more. Lastly, stop at **Costco Kawasaki**, before transferring to the airport for the return flight home. Depart Haneda International Airport on Japan Airlines flt #72 at 9:55 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:35 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

# Affordable Luxury – Small Group Tours



Japan.  
Endless  
Discovery.



**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:** Imperial Palace East Garden, Toyosu Senkyaku Banrai, TeamLab

Borderless – Azabudai Hills, Shinkansen Bullet Train Ride, Toko Sake Brewery, Benibana Museum, Cherryland Sagae, Takahata Winery, Michi-no-Eki Sekikawa, Shirone Kite Museum, Imayo Tsukasa Sake Brewery, Minato Marche Pier Bandai, Northern Culture Museum, Suwa Taisha Shrine, Rice Storage Facility, Zoshunkaku, Geiko Performance, Tonton Ichiba, Aumont Sake Brewery, Asakusa Sensoji Temple, Nakamise Shopping, Ameyoko Shopping, Lalaport Toyosu & Costco Kawasaki

**HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:** Benibana (Safflower) Dyeing, Shogi Piece Painting, Mini Kite Making, Mochi Pounding, Rice Harvesting, Onigiri Making and Cooking Local Specialties with Farmers & Fruit Picking

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:



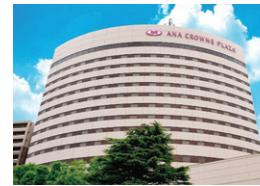
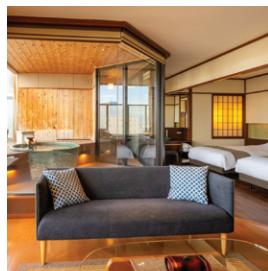
### KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO (TOKYO — 2 NIGHTS + 2 NIGHTS = 4 NIGHTS TOTAL):

The Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo is at the perfect location to explore the delights of the city of Tokyo. Just outside the Tochomae Station and only a five-minute walk from Shinjuku Station, the most popular shopping and entertainment spots, this luxury hotel provides stunning experiences which will linger with guests for a long time. Stay in a **Premier Grand Room** (located on the 35<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> floors), with stunning views of the city, where you will have **access to the Club Lounge** on the 45<sup>th</sup> floor.



### HOHOEMI NO YADO TAKINOYU (TENDO — 2 NIGHTS):

Your stay centers around harmony with nature and care for every detail. This ryokan combines traditional Japanese architecture with warm hospitality and natural materials to create a place where you can relax with peace of mind. The setting in Tendo, known for its onsens, shogi culture, and fruit orchards, brings you close to both natural beauty and deep-rooted traditions. Immerse yourself in the gentle waters of the public onsen and enjoy a blissful moment as you take in the panoramic view of Tendo's cityscape and the beautiful mountains that change with the seasons. Or relax in the peace and quiet of your own **private open-air bath** in your room.



### ANA CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL NIIGATA (NIIGATA — 2 NIGHTS):

Escape to the vibrant city of Niigata and experience a luxurious stay at ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Niigata. Immerse yourself in the city's rich culture, indulge in delicious seafood, and explore nearby landmarks like CoCoLo Niigata shopping center, Niigata Nippo Media Ship, and Pia Bandai Market. The hotel is conveniently **located just a 10-minute walk from the JR Niigata Station**.



### SHIRATAMA NO YU KAHOU (SHIBATA CITY — 3 NIGHTS):

Relax in your **Japanese-style room** that includes a wide veranda. The hotel's large public bath is equipped with an indoor bath, large sauna, cold water bath, circular cypress open-air bath, large rock bath, lying bath, and a sitting bath. The outdoor open-air bath and cooling space are equipped with infinity chairs. After getting out of the bath, you can enjoy the hotel's special shrimp miso soup and various drinks in the spacious rest area, and at the back of the large bath, there is the dedicated beauty salon and scrubbing space. It's no wonder the facilities are considered the **#1 best onsen hot spring in ALL of Japan**.



\*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](http://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 due: 05/08/26. NST at its discretion, may "non-cruiseline" 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: 05/08/26. NST at its discretion, may use group and individual photos on its website, print, television, and various social media. <sup>†</sup> Early booking discount is per person. Purchase of NST's complete Air and Land Package is required. <sup>††</sup> 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.**



Locally Owned & Operated Since 1985 — Mahalo Hawaii!

Great Memories Never End with Non-Stop Travel!

615 Piikoi Street, Suite 102, Honolulu, HI 96814

593-0700 or Toll-Free 1-800-551-1226

[www.nonstop.travel](http://www.nonstop.travel)

