



2026 SUMMER NAGOYA SUMO TOURNAMENT

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9 Nights / 11 Days • 20 Meals (9 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 7 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
July 08 – 18, 2026 • Tour Manager: Bryan Wauke

VISIT:

Kansai, Wakayama, Shirahama, Kushimoto, Toba, Ise & Nagoya

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Wakayama Castle, Ota Kyusuke Miso Factory, Soy Sauce Factory, Umeboshi (Salted Plum) Factory, Senjojiki, Sandanbeki, Hachiman Kamado, Toba Ichibangai, Ise Grand Shrine (Ise Jingu Shrine), Okage Yokocho Street, Toba Aquarium, Mikimoto Pearl Island, Nagoya Castle, Toyota Automobile Museum, IG Arena, Nagoya Grand Sumo Tournament, Noritake no Mori & AEON MALL Nagoya Noritake Garden

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE:

Mug Painting

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Day 1: Wed, Jul 08 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #791 at 11:50 am.

Day 2: Thur, Jul 09 – KANSAI. Arrive at the Kansai International Airport at 3:30 pm. After entry formalities, walk to the hotel located across from the airport. Dinner has been arranged at the hotel. HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

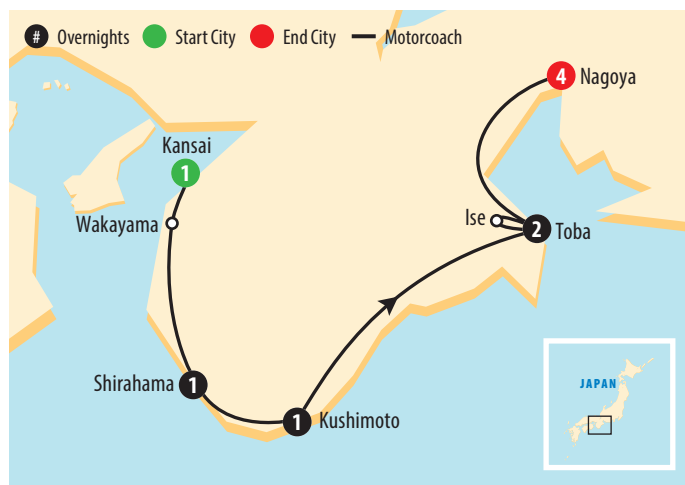
Day 3: Fri, Jul 10 – KANSAI – WAKAYAMA – SHIRAHAMA. After a sumptuous breakfast, visit **Wakayama Castle**. Built on the orders of warlord Toyotomi Hideyoshi in 1585. Unfortunately, the castle did not survive WWII and most of the present buildings are a 1958 post-war reconstruction. Only the Okaguchi Gate and stone walls remain from the original castle. After lunch at a local restaurant, learn about two ingredients essential to Japanese cuisine at the **Ota Kyusuke Miso Factory** and a **soy sauce factory**. Transfer to the hotel in Wakayama and enjoy dinner there. The remainder of the evening is at your leisure. Consider a relaxing soak in the hotel's **onsen hot spring**, which features awe-inspiring ocean views and water from the fabled Shirahama Onsen. NANKI-SHIRAHAMA MARRIOTT HOTEL (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 4: Sat, Jul 11 – SHIRAHAMA – KUSHIMOTO. Enjoy a morning at leisure before departing the hotel for shopping at an **umeboshi (salted plum) factory**, a uniquely Japanese staple. **Senjojiki**, literally "One Thousand Tatami Mats," is a vast rock plateau that stretches out into the Pacific Ocean. Take a coastal hike on the flat, multi-tiered stones and marvel at the natural beauty of the area. Head to the nearby **Sandanbeki** for naturally dramatic scenery. Watch the powerful ocean waves come crashing into the cliff face and spout salty sea spray. During the Heian Period (794–1185), the cave at Sandanbeki was a hideout for pirates cruising into the area. You can travel down into the damp, dark passageways of the cave (for a fee) and explore its hidden treasures. Transfer to your hotel in Kushimoto and enjoy dinner there. MERCURE WAKAYAMA KUSHIMOTO RESORT & SPA (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 5: Sun, Jul 12 – KUSHIMOTO – TOBA. After breakfast, depart Kushimoto for Toba. En route, stop in Mie and learn about Ama, the local women who free dive for shellfish, sea vegetables, and other marine products. Relax in the **Hachiman Kamado**, the huts used by the Ama to warm up between dives. Enjoy some freshly caught seafood for lunch while the Ama divers share stories of their adventures. Then, spend some time at **Toba Ichibangai**, the largest shopping center in Toba. Transfer to the hotel for dinner. The evening is at your leisure. TOBA KOKUSAI HOTEL (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 6: Mon, Jul 13 – TOBA – ISE – TOBA. After breakfast, travel to Ise and visit the **Ise Grand Shrine (Ise Jingu Shrine)**, the most important Shinto Shrine in the country. Dedicated to the sun goddess Amaterasu, Ise Grand Shrine is the ancestral shrine of the emperors of Japan. Next, explore **Okage Yokocho Street**, a street reproducing the crowded Ise shrine town during the end stage of the Edo Period (1603–1868). There are many shops for you to explore and enjoy lunch (on your own) here. Then, visit **Toba Aquarium**, which contains one of the largest number of species of fish and animals in Japan spread out over 12 zones. This is also the only aquarium in Japan to have a dugong in captivity. Finally, learn about pearls and pearl cultivation at **Mikimoto Pearl Island**. Return to the hotel for dinner. (B, D)

Day 7: Tue, Jul 14 – TOBA – NAGOYA. Start the day with a visit **Nagoya Castle**, which was completed in 1615 by the famed Shogun, Tokugawa Ieyasu. Although Nagoya Castle was partially destroyed in 1945, it was deemed a historically important site and designated a National Historic Site. Half a century after its destruction in the war, the palace was rebuilt using traditional construction materials and techniques. The castle was rebuilt and fully opened to the public in June 2018. The palace has been considered one of the finest examples of Shoin architecture in all of Japan. Enjoy a hitsumabushi – local specialty consisting of sliced grilled unagi (eel) and rice – lunch at a local restaurant. Next, explore the **Toyota Automobile Museum**, a large museum showcasing the history of Toyota as an automobile manufacturer. In addition to displaying its own vehicles that Toyota has manufactured over the years, numerous vehicles from



other manufacturers of various makes are also displayed. Transfer to the hotel for a buffet dinner. NAGOYA MARRIOTT ASSOCIA HOTEL (4 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 8: Wed, Jul 15 – NAGOYA. Enjoy a morning of leisure. This afternoon, depart the hotel for the **IG Arena** (also known as the Aichi International Arena). Get comfortable in your reserved seats as you watch the **Nagoya Grand Sumo Tournament** (Nagoya Basho) matches. Held every July, this is the one of Japan's six major sumo tournaments (called Honbasho), held during the year – on each odd month – taking place over 15 consecutive days. While the event is broadcasted on NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation), nothing beats being able to experience the excitement of being there in person, as the crowd sits in tense silence as everyone waits for the wrestlers to choose their moment to lunge at their opponent. Cheer on your favorite wrestler. With current sumo ranking announced just two weeks prior, each wrestler is eager to battle to improve their ranking and status with winning matches. Before returning to the hotel, enjoy a Nagoya-Meshi dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 9: Thur, Jul 16 – NAGOYA. Day at leisure. A perfect day to relax and/or visit family and friends in Nagoya. The Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 10: Fri, Jul 17 – NAGOYA. Enjoy a morning of leisure. In the afternoon, return to the **IG Arena**. Comfortably watch the matches of the **Nagoya Grand Sumo Tournament** from your reserved seats. Return to the hotel for an evening of leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions for dining and shopping nearby. (B)

Day 11: Sat, Jul 18 – NAGOYA. Begin the day at **Noritake no Mori**, where you'll take part in a hands-on **mug painting activity**. Your unique creation will be fired and shipped to Hawaii. Walk to the nearby **AEON MALL Nagoya Noritake Garden**, where you'll have ample leisure time for shopping and lunch (on your own). Transfer to the Chubu Centrair International Airport for the flight home. Depart Nagoya via Japan Airlines flt #794 at 9:35 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:10 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

* 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: 02/27/26. 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.** J16524 011926

