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2027 CHERRY BLOSSOMS BEST OF KYOTO, UJI & OSAKA

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6 Nights / 8 Days • 9 Meals (6 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 1 Dinner)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
March 26 – April 02, 2027

VISIT:

Kyoto, Kameoka, Arashiyama, Uji & Osaka

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Nijo Castle, Kinkakuji (Temple of the Golden Pavilion), teamLab Biovortex Kyoto, Sagano Torokko Ressha (Sagano Romantic Train) Ride, Arashiyama, Chazuna, Byodoin, Byodoin Omotesando, Expo '70 Commemorative Park, Kuromon Ichiba Market, Dotonbori, Shinsaibashi & AEON MALL

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:

Yuzen Dyeing, Wagashi (Traditional Japanese Sweets) Making & Matcha Grinding

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES:

Nijo Castle, Kinkakuji & Byodoin

COMPLETE PACKAGES!

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Tour Guides and Motorcoach Drivers
& All Taxes and Fees

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Day 1: Fri, Mar 26 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #799 at 11:25 am.

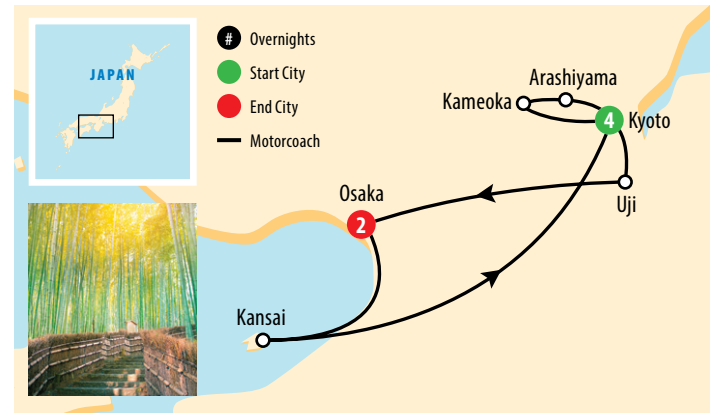
Day 2: Sat, Mar 27 – KANSAI – KYOTO. Arrive at Kansai International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, transfer by coach to the hotel in Kyoto. The Local Guide will have suggestions on various dining opportunities nearby. COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT KYOTO STATION (4 Nights)

Day 3: Sun, Mar 28 – KYOTO. After breakfast, start the day exploring **Nijo Castle**. When the Tokugawa Shogunate fell in 1867, Nijo Castle was used as an imperial palace for a while before being donated to the city and opened up to the public as a historic site. The castle buildings are arguably the best surviving examples of architecture from Japan's feudal era. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Today's hands-on experience is **yuzen dyeing**, which is one of Kyoto's traditional craft 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. A great souvenir of this tour! Next, visit the iconic **Kinkakuji (Temple of the Golden Pavilion)**, a Zen temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Finally, explore the wonders of **teamLab Biovortex Kyoto**. Step into a high-dimensional athletic arena designed to ignite your whole body and expand the way you think. In this immersive, high-energy environment, you'll navigate a physically demanding world where time bends and shifts with every move you make. Arrive at the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Mon, Mar 29 – KYOTO. Full day at leisure. The perfect day to fulfill your shopping list. Your hotel is surrounded by department stores, specialty stores, and restaurants. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 5: Tue, Mar 30 – KYOTO – KAMEOKA – ARASHIYAMA – KYOTO. After breakfast, travel to Kameoka and board the **Sagano Torokko Ressha (Sagano Romantic Train)** to Arashiyama. After lunch at a local restaurant, enjoy free time to leisurely stroll around **Arashiyama**, shop for world-famous Arashiyama bamboo products, or explore the famous Arashiyama Bamboo Forests. Then, **learn how to make wagashi** (traditional Japanese sweets). Return to Kyoto for an evening of leisure. (B, L)

Day 6: Wed, Mar 31 – KYOTO – UJI – OSAKA. After breakfast, begin the day at the Tea and Uji Community Center, **Chazuna**, where you will **learn how to grind matcha** (green tea leaves) with a grinding millstone. You can brew your own ground matcha in a teapot and drink it! Next, visit **Byodoin**. Together with its garden, the temple represents the ideology of



Buddhist Pure Land and influenced the construction of other temples. The temple is globally renowned for its Phoenix Hall (Hoodo), which is also depicted on the back of the 10-yen coin. Afterward, explore **Byodoin Omotesando**, the historic road leading to Byodoin's main gate and a prime shopping street known for Uji matcha cafés, souvenir shops, and unique local products. Enjoy time to shop and have lunch (on your own) here. Transfer to the hotel in Osaka, where the remainder of the day is at your leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions on various dining and shopping opportunities nearby. HOTEL GRANVIA OSAKA (2 Nights) (B)

Day 7: Thur, Apr 01 – OSAKA. Full day at leisure. A perfect day to fulfill the remainder of your shopping list. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 8: Fri, Apr 02 – OSAKA – KANSAI – HONOLULU. After breakfast, explore the **Expo '70 Commemorative Park**, the former site of the 1970 World Exhibition that was turned into a large public park. See over 5,000 cherry blossom trees in bloom along its paths and large lawn areas. Then, visit **Kuromon Ichiba Market**, a lively covered market stretching 580 meters through Osaka's Chuo Ward. The market is famous for its fresh seafood, fruits and vegetables, meats, dried fish, pickles, and confectionery. Next, visit Dotonbori and Shinsaibashi, a couple of interconnected districts known as one of Osaka's most popular tourist destinations. **Dotonbori** is a lively shopping and entertainment district along the Dotonbori Canal, while nearby **Shinsaibashi** is Osaka's premier shopping area, blending chain stores and trendy boutiques with department stores and top designer labels. Enjoy lunch in the area (on your own). A final shopping stop will be made at an **AEON MALL** before transferring to the Kansai International Airport for the return flight home. Depart Kansai via Japan Airlines flt #790 at 10:00 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:45 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Nijo Castle (1994), Kinkakuji (1994), Byodoin (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-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. Tour highlights and activities are subject to change. Seasonal highlights and activities, such as cherry blossoms and fall foliage, are subject to weather and/or other conditions and is NOT guaranteed. **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: 11/16/26. 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.** J17502 060126