



2027 CHERRY BLOSSOMS TREASURES OF SOUTHERN JAPAN

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10 Nights / 12 Days • 22 Meals (10 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 6 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
March 21 – April 01, 2027 • Tour Manager: Calvin Sung

OVERVIEW: Southern Japan offers a relaxed, less-crowded alternative with subtropical and mild climates, rich onsen hot spring culture, and standout regional cuisine from Hakata ramen to kurobuta tonkatsu and ultra-fresh coastal seafood.

VISIT: Kansai, Himeji, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Arita, Beppu, Yawatahama, Matsuyama, Takamatsu, Naruto & Osaka

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS: Himeji Castle, Itsukushima Shrine, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Ohori Park Japanese Garden, Fukuoka Tower, Sake Brewery, Dazaifu, Kawabata Dori Shopping Arcade, Kujukushima National Park Scenic Cruise, Glover Garden, Nagasaki Peace Park, Local Arita Kiln, "Hells" of Beppu, Michi-no-Eki Yawatahama Agora Marche, Ishiteji, Matsuyama Castle, Ritsurin Garden, AEON MALL Takamatsu, Naruto Whirlpools Cruise, Uzo no Michi, Expo '70 Commemorative Park, Kuromon Ichiba Market, Dotonbori, Shinsaibashi & AEON MALL

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES: Strawberry Picking, Udon Noodle Making & Aizome Dyeing

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES: Himeji Castle & Itsukushima Shrine

Non-Stop Travel Exclusive!

WHISPER: WIRELESS TOUR GUIDE SYSTEM — Don't miss a thing! English narration directly to your ear!

* 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" 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: 11/11/26. 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.

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COMPLETE PACKAGES!

Includes Roundtrip Airfare from Honolulu,
 10 Nights Hotel, 22 Meals, Tips for Local
 Tour Guides and Motorcoach Drivers
 & All Taxes and Fees

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Day 1: Sun, Mar 21 — HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #799 at 11:25 am.

Day 2: Mon, Mar 22 — KANSAI. Arrive at the Kansai International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, walk to the hotel located within the airport, where dinner has been arranged. **HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT** (1 Night) (D)

*Baggage will be sent from Kansai to Hiroshima, skipping Miyajima. Prepare an overnight bag for one night.

Day 3: Tue, Mar 23 — KANSAI — HIMEJI — HIROSHIMA — MIYAJIMA. After a sumptuous buffet breakfast, visit **Himeji Castle**, the largest and most visited castle in Japan. There are approximately 1,000 cherry blossom trees on the castle grounds, creating a striking visual contrast between the castle's pristine white walls and the pink blossoms. Depart Himeji for Hiroshima on the JR super express and enjoy a bento lunch onboard. Then, take a short ferry ride to the island of Miyajima, considered sacred by many. At high tide, the vermilion torii gate of **Itsukushima Shrine** looks like it's floating in the middle of the sea. This evening, soak in the serene atmosphere of Iwaso Inn's incomparable **onsen hot spring baths** and savor a traditional multi-course **Kaiseki Dinner** featuring local, seasonal ingredients including fresh seafood from the Seto Inland Sea. **IWASO INN** (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 4: Wed, Mar 24 — MIYAJIMA — HIROSHIMA. Enjoy a morning at leisure and lunch (on your own) before boarding the ferry back to Hiroshima, where we visit the sobering **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park** and **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum**. After arriving at the hotel, the remainder of the day is at leisure. **HOTEL GRANVIA HIROSHIMA SOUTH GATE** (1 Night) (B)

Day 5: Thur, Mar 25 — HIROSHIMA — FUKUOKA. After breakfast, walk to the nearby Hiroshima Train Station and ride the JR super express train to Fukuoka. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting **Ohori Park Japanese Garden**, which features a central pond, dry landscape garden, and traditional teahouse. Then continue to **Fukuoka Tower**, Japan's tallest seaside tower at 234 meters. Transfer to your hotel for an evening at leisure. **THE ROYAL PARK HOTEL FUKUOKA** (2 Nights) (B, L)

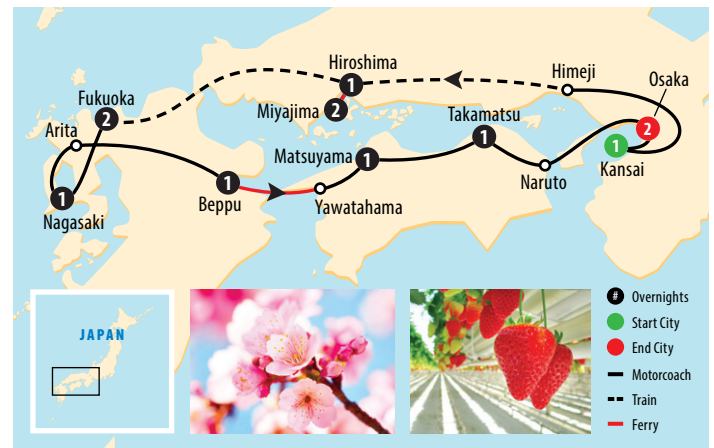
Day 6: Fri, Mar 26 — FUKUOKA. After a sumptuous breakfast buffet, begin the day at a **sake brewery**, where you will tour their facilities, learn how sake is made, and sample some of their tasty products. Then, visit **Dazaifu**, a small, quiet city on the outskirts of Fukuoka with a number of temples and shrines. You'll have free time here to explore, shop, and enjoy lunch (on your own). After, go to a local farm and **pick strawberries** at the peak of ripeness. A great afternoon treat! Finally, stop at **Kawabata Dori Shopping Arcade**, Fukuoka's oldest shopping street with over a hundred shops. Return to the hotel for an evening of leisure. (B)

Day 7: Sat, Mar 27 — FUKUOKA — NAGASAKI. Japan is a nation of many islands, but most travelers never go beyond the main four. At **Kujukushima National Park**, take a **scenic cruise** among the numerous islands, the largest concentration of islands anywhere in Japan. After lunch at a local restaurant, visit **Glover Garden**, an open-air museum featuring the oldest wooden Western-style building in Japan. Then visit the **Nagasaki Peace Park**, a memorial complex commemorating the atomic bombing. Tonight, enjoy a special shippoku dinner (Japanese culinary style that is heavily influenced by Chinese cuisine). **INASAYAMA KANKO HOTEL** (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 8: Sun, Mar 28 — NAGASAKI — ARITA — BEPPU. Today, head to the birthplace of one of Japan's most famous pottery styles, Aritayaki, and visit a **local Arita kiln**. We now drive east to the celebrated onsen hot spring resort of Beppu, famous for its dramatic pools of bubbling water, mud, and geysers known as "hells." Visit some of the nine **hells of Beppu**, striking springs ideal for viewing rather than bathing. Enjoy dinner at the hotel. **SUGINOI HOTEL** (1 Night) (B, L, D)

*Baggage will be sent from Beppu to Osaka, skipping Dogo Onsen and Takamatsu. Prepare an overnight bag for two nights.

Day 9: Mon, Mar 29 — BEPPU — YAWATAHAMA — MATSUYAMA. After breakfast, board a ferry to Yawatahama. Upon arrival, make a brief stop at **Michi-no-eki Yawatahama Agora Marche** to rest and shop for souvenirs before continuing to **Ishiteji**, Matsuyama's most famous temple and Temple



No. 51 on the Shikoku 88 Temple Pilgrimage. Arrive at the ryokan (traditional Japanese inn) in the Dogo Onsen district of Matsuyama, famed for its 3,000-year history. Enjoy free time to explore the nearby Dogo Shotengai (covered shopping street) filled with shops selling local specialties, and time your visit to see the Botchan Karakuri Clock come to life (hourly between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm) while relaxing at the free foot bath at its base. Relieve your fatigue with a soothing soak in the world-famous **onsen hot springs** before and/or after savoring a **Kaiseki Dinner** at the hotel. **DOGO-KAN** (1 Night) (B, D)

Day 10: Tue, Mar 30 — MATSUYAMA — TAKAMATSU. Begin the day with a visit to **Matsuyama Castle**, one of 12 original wooden castles that has survived the feudal era. Then, take an **udon making** lesson and enjoy your delicious creation for lunch. Next, visit **Ritsurin Garden**, a masterpiece of ponds and pavilions set against the majestic Mt. Shiun, renowned for its 1,000+ meticulously manicured pine trees and hundreds of cherry blossom trees that make it one of the area's premier viewing spots. Enjoy some time shopping at **AEON MALL Takamatsu** before arriving at the hotel for an evening of leisure. **JR HOTEL CLEMENT TAKAMATSU** (1 Night) (B, L)

Day 11: Wed, Mar 31 — TAKAMATSU — NARUTO — OSAKA. In the morning, learn how to **aizome dye**, a traditional art of natural indigo dyeing. A great memento of your trip! Next, view the **Naruto Whirlpools** on a **sightseeing cruise**, where powerful tides between the Seto Inland Sea and the Pacific Ocean, funneled through the narrow Naruto Strait, create one of Japan's most dramatic natural whirlpools. After lunch, see the whirlpools from a different perspective at **Uzu no Michi**, an enclosed walkway beneath the **Onaruto Bridge** offering dramatic overhead views of the water, then continue across the large suspension bridge itself. This evening, walk from the hotel to a nearby restaurant for dinner. **HOTEL INTERGATE OSAKA UMEDA** (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 12: Thur, Apr 01 — 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 famous for its seafood, produce, meats, confectionery, and more. 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 Dotonbori Canal, while nearby **Shinsaibashi** is a premier shopping area, blending chain stores, 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 our 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: Himeji Castle (1993), Itsukushima Shrine (1996).

†† 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.**

