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2027 SPRING BREAK BEST OF KYOTO, UJI, NARA & OSAKA

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6 Nights / 8 Days • 10 Meals (6 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 2 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
March 15 – 22, 2027 • Tour Manager: Cy Lozano

VISIT:

Kansai, Kyoto, Kameoka, Arashiyama, Uji, Nara & Osaka

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

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

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:

Yuzen Dyeing & Wagashi (Traditional Japanese Sweets) Making

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES:

Nijo Castle, Kinkakuji, Byodoin & Todaiji



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Day 1: Mon, Mar 15 — HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 12:05 pm.

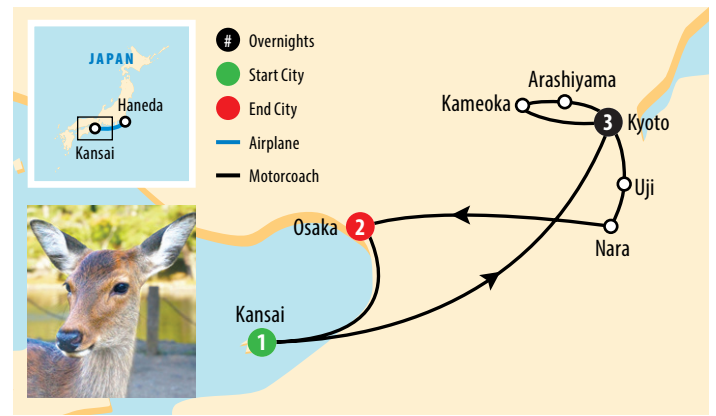
Day 2: Tue, Mar 16 — HANEDA — KANSAI. Arrive at Haneda International Airport at 4:05 pm. Enjoy a bento box at the domestic departure gate. Depart Haneda Domestic Airport via Japan Airlines flt #229 at 8:55 pm and arrive at the Kansai International Airport at 10:15 pm. After entry formalities, walk to the hotel located within the airport, where dinner has been arranged. HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

Day 3: Wed, Mar 17 — KANSAI — 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. MIYAKO HOTEL KYOTO HACHUO (3 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 4: Thur, Mar 18 — 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 5: Fri, Mar 19 — 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 6: Sat, Mar 20 — KYOTO — UJI — NARA — OSAKA. After breakfast, a full day of sightseeing is ahead. Begin the day with a visit to **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. Explore **Byodoin Omotesando**, the historic road leading up to the main gate of Byodoin. It is a prime shopping area renowned for its abundance of Uji matcha green tea shops, cafés, souvenir shops, and stores selling unique local products. Enjoy a variety of matcha-based dishes, such as matcha dumplings, matcha sweets, and matcha soba noodles. Enjoy lunch here (on your own). After, visit **Todaiji**, the largest wooden building in Japan that houses the largest bronze statue of Buddha at 16.3 meters high. Then, visit the surrounding **Nara Deer Park**, which is inhabited by over 1,000 deer. Arrive at the hotel in Osaka, where the remainder of the evening is at your leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions on various dining and shopping opportunities nearby. CENTARA GRAND HOTEL OSAKA (2 Nights) (B)

Day 7: Sun, Mar 21 — 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: Mon, Mar 22 — 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 10:10 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:25 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Nijo Castle (1994), Kinkakuji (1994), Byodoin (1994), Todaiji (1998).

The perfect introduction to Japan!

† 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.**

