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JAPAN AIRLINES

2027 SUMMER TOKYO SUMO TOURNAMENT

Watch one of the year's major sumo tournaments!

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8 Nights / 10 Days • 16 Meals (8 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 5 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
May 09 – 18, 2027 • Tour Managers: Mark & Debbie Nishiyama

OVERVIEW: Honbashi (Grand Sumo Tournaments) are held six times a year across four major cities in Japan! Each tournament lasts 15 days, typically in odd-numbered months, starting in January. The Grand Sumo Natsu Basho (Summer Tournament), will take place from May 09 – 23, at the Ryogoku Kokugikan Sumo Arena in Tokyo. This is the third major tournament of the year, featuring top-division makuuchi and juryo wrestlers. Makuuchi is the top division rank, with just 42 wrestlers, while juryo is the second highest rank, with only 28 wrestlers. Once promoted to juryo, a wrestler is considered a professional, with a substantial salary and privileges, unlike lower ranks, which are still considered "in training" and receive only a small allowance. With promotions and demotions decided by win-loss records, every match becomes an intense fight for advancement.

VISIT: Haneda, Yokohama, Hakone, Oshino & Tokyo

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS: GREEN×EXPO 2027 (International Horticultural Expo 2027), Odawara Castle, Owakudani, Hakone Ropeway, Lake Ashi Boat Ride, Oshino Hakkai, Local Shopping Mall, Edo-Tokyo Museum, Ryogoku Kokugikan Sumo Arena, Grand Sumo Natsu Basho (Summer Tournament), Meiji Shrine, Azabudai Hills, teamLab Borderless: MORI Building DIGITAL ART MUSEUM, Toyosu Senkyaku Banrai, Sensoji, Nakamise & Ameyoko

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES: Ramen Making, Hakone Yosegi-Zaiku Making & Agekama (Fried Fishcake) Making

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

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Day 1: Sun, May 09 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 12:15 pm.

Day 2: Mon, May 10 – HANEDA. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, walk to your hotel connected to the airport terminal. Enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel. HOTEL VILLA FONTAINE GRAND HANEDA AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

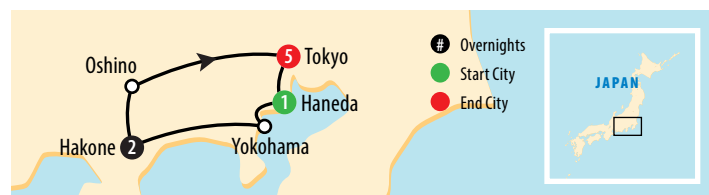
*Baggage will be sent from Hotel Villa Fontaine Grand Haneda Airport to Tokyo, skipping Hakone. Prepare an overnight bag for two nights.

Day 3: Tue, May 11 – HANEDA – YOKOHAMA – HAKONE. After breakfast, depart for Hakone. En route, stop in Yokohama and take part in a **ramen making** experience, where you will make noodles using the traditional Chinese method of green bamboo beating and learn how flour is transformed into ramen. Enjoy your creation for lunch. Then, explore **GREEN×EXPO 2027**, also known as the International Horticultural Expo 2027. The expo promotes horticulture, sustainability, and harmony with nature through inspiring models of a happier society coexisting with nature. Set across approximately 247 acres, it offers an immersive experience of rich biodiversity with millions of flowers and plants. There are five main villages, or zones, to explore: Farm and Food Village, Craft Village, Kids Village, Urban GX Village, and SATOYAMA Village. Next, visit **Odawara Castle**, the closest castle keep to Tokyo, originally built in the mid-15th century. Standing 27.2 meters high, it is eastern Japan's tallest castle keep, offering sweeping panoramic views of Sagami Bay and the surrounding city. Continue to Hakone, where much of the area is considered an active volcanic zone since its creation from eruption of Mt. Hakone some 3,000 years ago. Enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel and try out the **onsen hot springs**. The high-quality service and facilities are sure to become some of your fondest memories of your visit to Japan. HAKONE KOWAKIEN HOTEL (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 4: Wed, May 12 – HAKONE. After a delicious breakfast at the hotel, visit **Owakudani** (Great Boiling Valley), the source of Hakone's onsen hot springs. Next, hop on the **Hakone Ropeway** and view the surrounding countryside and enjoy a **boat ride** on the beautiful **Lake Ashi**. After lunch at a local restaurant, try your hand at **Hakone yosegi-zaiku**, a unique woodworking technique that utilizes the natural colors of the various trees from the area to create beautiful geometric patterns. A great souvenir of this trip! Next, **learn to make agekama**, also known as kamaboko, a savory Japanese fishcake made by deep-frying minced fish paste (primarily made from white fish, like Alaskan pollock) until golden brown and crispy. It's characterized by its bouncy texture, and can include vegetables like burdock or ginger. Freshly fried kamaboko is so tasty! Return to the hotel for dinner. Don't forget to soak in the onsen hot springs! (B, L, D)

Day 5: Thur, May 13 – HAKONE – OSHINO – TOKYO. This morning, visit **Oshino Hakkai**, eight spring-fed ponds in the Fuji Five Lake region. For decades, Mt. Fuji's snowmelt has filtered through porous lava to create crystal-clear water cherished by locals, and visitors can drink the cool water straight from the source. Then, enjoy free time at a **local shopping mall**, where you will have ample time to explore, shop, and enjoy lunch (on your own). Continue on to your hotel in Tokyo and enjoy an evening of leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions for shopping and dining nearby. KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO (5 Nights) (B)

Day 6: Fri, May 14 – TOKYO. Start your day at the **Edo-Tokyo Museum**, where Tokyo's past, when it was known as Edo until 1869, comes to life. Explore daily life during the Edo period through a rich collection of exhibits and experiences. Then, walk to the nearby **Ryogoku Kokugikan Sumo Arena**, where the **GRAND SUMO NATSU BASHO (SUMMER TOURNAMENT)** is underway. The results of these tournaments determine a wrestler's ranking and status, which in turn affect pay and privileges, so every wrestler is eager to win as many matches as possible. Settle into your reserved seats and watch the action unfold live – nothing compares to experiencing the tension and excitement in person as the crowd waits in silence for each wrestler's decisive lunge. Enjoy a bento lunch as you cheer on your favorite wrestler. When the matches end, head to dinner, where you will "eat like a sumo wrestler" with a special chankonabe meal. Chankonabe is a Japanese stew, or one-pot dish, commonly eaten by sumo wrestlers in large quantities as part of a weight-gaining diet. Made with a broth seasoned with sake or mirin, it has no fixed recipe and can include meat, seafood, vegetables, and almost anything else. The term "chanko" broadly refers to sumo cuisine as



a whole, and the word comes from combining "chan" meaning "parent" and "ko" meaning "child," reflecting the shared meal that coaches and trainees eat together. After your hearty meal, return to the hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 7: Sat, May 15 – TOKYO. After breakfast, explore **Meiji Shrine**, a prominent Shinto shrine dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and Empress Shoken, who helped transform Japan from an isolated feudal shogunate into a modern industrialized world power within a single generation. As you pass through its massive torii gates, you'll be struck by the tranquil atmosphere in the middle of the bustling city. Then enjoy free time in **Azabudai Hills**, for shopping and dining (on your own). Azabudai Hills is a massive mixed-use complex featuring approximately 150 restaurants, cafés, and shops, an underground food market with more than 30 specialty stores, and extensive green spaces. It is also home to the 325-meter Mori JP Tower, Tokyo's tallest building and the world's largest skyscraper by floor area. Head to the Sky Lobby for free access to the 33rd-floor observation deck, which offers sweeping views of Tokyo Tower and beyond. Next, explore **TeamLab Borderless: MORI Building DIGITAL ART MUSEUM**, world of artworks without boundaries. Artworks move across rooms and at times intermingle, creating one continuous world without boundaries in this immersive experience. Return to the hotel for an evening of leisure. (B)

Day 8: Sun, May 16 – TOKYO. Enjoy a morning of leisure. In the early afternoon, return to the **Ryogoku Kokugikan Sumo Arena**. Get comfortable in your reserved seats as you watch more of the exciting **GRAND SUMO NATSU BASHO (SUMMER TOURNAMENT)** matches. At the end of the day, return to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, D)

Day 9: Mon, May 17 – TOKYO. Full day at leisure. The perfect day to relax and/or visit family and friends! Enjoy shopping and dining in the bustling Shinjuku area where your hotel is located, or venture out on an adventure of your own. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 10: Tue, May 18 – TOKYO – HANEDA – HONOLULU. Begin the day at **Toyosu Senkyaku Banrai**, a shopping complex that recreates an Edo period neighborhood and showcases fresh food from the neighboring Toyosu Market. Enjoy time for shopping and lunch (on your own). If you need a break, head to the 8th floor to relax at the free foot bath garden. Then, head to the Asakusa district, where the charm of old Tokyo still lives on. Its star attraction is **Sensoji**, a beloved 7th century Buddhist temple, also known as Asakusa Kannon Temple. Leading up to the temple is **Nakamise**, a lively shopping street lined with traditional snacks and souvenirs. Next, explore **Ameyoko**, a bustling market street that features over 400 shops and stalls known for offering significant bargains on various products such as clothes, bags, cosmetics, dried seafood, spices, and more. Transfer to the Haneda International Airport for the flight home. Depart Haneda via Japan Airlines flt #72 at 9:55 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:20 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" 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: 01/05/27. 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.**

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