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2027 FALL TOKYO SUMO TOURNAMENT

Experience one of the year's premier grand 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
September 14 – 23, 2027 • Tour Manager: Eric Yosemori

OVERVIEW: Honbasho (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. The Aki Basho (Autumn/Fall Tournament) will take place from September 12 – 26 at the Ryogoku Kokugikan in Tokyo, featuring makuuchi (top division rank) and juryo (second highest rank) wrestlers. Once promoted to juryo, a wrestler becomes a salaried professional with added privileges; lower-ranked wrestlers are 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: Odawara Castle, Owakudani, Hakone Ropeway, Lake Ashi Cruise, Oshino Hakkai, Michi-no-Eki, Edo-Tokyo Museum, Ryogoku Kokugikan, Tokyo Grand Sumo Tournament, Chankonabe Meal, 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 & Agekama Making

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

COMPLETE PACKAGES!

Includes Roundtrip Airfare from Honolulu, 8 Nights Hotel, 16 Meals, Tips for Local Tour Guides and Motorcoach Drivers & All Taxes and Fees

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Day 1: Tue, Sep 14 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #71 at 4:35 pm.

Day 2: Wed, Sep 15 – HANEDA. Arrive at Haneda International Airport at 7:45 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 Haneda to Tokyo, skipping Hakone. Prepare an overnight bag for two nights.

Day 3: Thu, Sep 16 – HANEDA – YOKOHAMA – HAKONE. After breakfast, depart for Hakone. En route, stop in Yokohama and take part in a **ramen making** class and enjoy your creation for lunch. After, visit **Odawara Castle**, the closest castle keep to Tokyo, originally built in the mid-15th century. At nearly 90 feet tall, it is eastern Japan's tallest castle keep, offering panoramic views of Sagami Bay and the surrounding city. Then, try your hand at **Hakone yosegi-zaiku**, a unique woodwork technique that utilizes the natural colors of the various trees in the area to create beautiful geometric patterns. A great souvenir of this trip! Continue to your hotel in Hakone and enjoy a buffet dinner. Be sure to 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: Fri, Sep 17 – HAKONE. This morning, visit **Owakudani** (Great Boiling Valley), the source of the onsen hot spring waters of Hakone. Next, hop on the **Hakone Ropeway** and take in views of the surrounding countryside, where you may spot the first hints of color on the highest ridges and slopes. Next, take a **boat ride** on beautiful **Lake Ashi**, enjoying scenic views of Mt. Fuji and Hakone Shrine's iconic torii gate before lunch at a local restaurant. Then, try your hand at **making agekama**, also known as kamaboko, a savory Japanese fishcake made by deep-frying surimi paste (minced fish paste primarily made from white fish, like Alaskan pollock) until golden brown and crispy. Freshly fried agekama is so tasty! Return to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 5: Sat, Sep 18 – HAKONE – OSHINO – TOKYO. After breakfast, visit **Oshino Hakkai**, eight spring-fed ponds fed by melting snow from the nearby slopes of Mt. Fuji. For decades, the snow has filtered through porous lava to create crystal-clear water cherished by locals, and visitors can drink the spring water straight from the source. Next, enjoy free time at a **michi-no-eki** (roadside station), where you will have 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: Sun, Sep 19 – TOKYO. Start your day at the **Edo-Tokyo Museum**, where full-scale architectural reconstructions, detailed scale models, immersive streetscapes, and engaging displays bring Tokyo's 400-year evolution from the Edo period to the present day to life. Then, walk next door to **Ryogoku Kokugikan**, where the **TOKYO GRAND SUMO TOURNAMENT**, also known as Aki Basho (Autumn/Fall 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 box lunch as you cheer on your favorite wrestler. When the days matches are over, depart the arena for dinner at a local restaurant, where you will **"eat like a sumo wrestler"** with a **special chankonabe meal**. Chankonabe is a type of nabemono (Japanese stew or one-pot dish) commonly eaten in vast quantities by sumo wrestlers as part of a weight-gaining diet. The word chanko comes from combining "chan" meaning "parent" and "ko" meaning "child," and refers to the act of everyone – coaches and trainees alike – sharing the same meal together. Return to the hotel after dinner. (B, L, D)



Day 7: Mon, Sep 20 – TOKYO. After breakfast, visit **Meiji Shrine**, a Shinto shrine dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and Empress Shoken. The imperial couple led Japan through the Meiji Restoration, a period of rapid modernization. Then, enjoy free time in **Azabudai Hills** for shopping and dining (on your own). Azabudai Hills is home to the 1,066-foot Mori JP Tower, Tokyo's tallest building. Follow the signs to the Sky Lobby for free access to the 33rd-floor observation deck, where floor-to-ceiling windows frame sweeping views of the city and Tokyo Tower. The complex also features about 150 restaurants, cafés, and shops, plus a 4,000-square-meter underground food market with more than 30 specialty food stores. Then, explore **teamLab Borderless: MORI Building DIGITAL ART MUSEUM**, a 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, where the remainder of the day is at your leisure. (B)

Day 8: Tue, Sep 21 – TOKYO. Spend a relaxing morning at your own pace. In the early afternoon, return to **Ryogoku Kokugikan**. Get comfortable in your reserved seats as you watch more of the sumo action at the **TOKYO GRAND SUMO TOURNAMENT**. At the end of the day, return to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, D)

Day 9: Wed, Sep 22 – TOKYO. Enjoy a full day at leisure, perfect for relaxing or visiting family and friends in Tokyo. The Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 10: Thu, Sep 23 – 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). After, visit 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. Finally, explore **Ameyoko**, a bustling market street that features over 400 shops and stalls known for offering significant bargains on various products, before heading to to Haneda International Airport for the flight home. Depart Haneda via Japan Airlines flt #72 at 9:55 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:35 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

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* 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 guarantees 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: 05/07/27. 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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