Affordable Luxury — Small Group Tours

Japan. Endless Discovery.

JAL JAPAN AIRLINES



***Off the Beaten Path:** A Different Side of Japan*

2027 SHIBATA CITY ORGANIC RICE HARVESTING PLUS TOKYO SHOPPING

Niigata, Yamagata & Miyagi Prefectures

Harvest your very own organic rice in the heart of Niigata Prefecture!
Your organic Koshihikari rice will be delivered to Honolulu in the winter!!

Enjoy your choice of Japan Airlines' Economy, Premium Economy, or the affordable luxury of Business class service. Premium Economy class customers will begin their journey with a relaxing visit to JAL's Sakura Lounge and the Sakura Lounge — Hale for Business class.

11 Nights / 13 Days • 27 Meals (11 Breakfasts, 8 Lunches, 8 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
September 19 – October 01, 2027 • Tour Manager: Glenn Leung

VISIT: Tokyo, Tsubame-Sanjo, Shibata City, Yonezawa, Kaminoyama Onsen, Sagae, Tendo, Sendai & Matsushima

SHIBATA CITY: "The Rice Capital of Japan!" Take part in the unforgettable harvest of your very own organic Koshihikari rice! Work alongside local farmers, prepare regional specialties such as onigiri and tonjiru, and discover a different side of Japan on this one-of-a-kind tour. Your rice will later be delivered to Honolulu, creating a lasting — and delicious — souvenir of your journey. Plus, visit one of Japan's finest natural onsen hot springs, ranked one of the top "100 Best Ryokans and Hotels Chosen by Professionals!"

AFFORDABLE LUXURY — SMALL GROUP TOUR EXCLUSIVES:

- Limited to 24 pampered tour members
- A more relaxed pace of touring
- Upgraded hotels and meals
- Minimum 2 nights at each hotel
- Sake, beer, and soft drinks with all included dinners
- Green car seats on the shinkansen bullet train

COMPLETE PACKAGES!

Includes Roundtrip Airfare from Honolulu, 11 Nights Hotel, 27 Meals, Tips for Local Tour Guides and Motorcoach Drivers & All Taxes and Fees

JAPAN AIRLINES: CHOICE OF CABINS

Treat yourself to a better vacation!

JAL ECONOMY
$11,888*

JAL PREMIUM ECONOMY
$13,388*
HURRY! *Only 6 Seats Available at this Price!!*

JAL BUSINESS
$15,388*
HURRY! *Only 5 Seats Available at this Price!!*

EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT PER PERSON

Book by 01/29/27 & ***SAVE*** $100†
Book by 03/31/27 & ***SAVE*** $50†

2027 Shibata City Organic Rice Harvesting Plus Tokyo Shopping



Non-Stop Travel Exclusive!

COSTCO SHOPPING & FOOD COURT — DON'T FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD!

Fill every inch of your suitcase with Japan-exclusive Costco finds and your belly with food court favorites you can't get back home. Think seasonal pizzas, rich Hokkaido soft cream, and other Japan-only surprises. Costcos in Japan accept cash and international Visa credit and debit cards, so you can shop and snack with ease.

Day 1: Sun, Sep 19 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 12:45 pm.

Day 2: Mon, Sep 20 – HANEDA – TOKYO. Arrive at Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, transfer by coach to your hotel. After checking in, enjoy dinner at the hotel or at a nearby local restaurant. HOTEL METROPOLITAN TOKYO MARUNOUCHI (1 Night) (D)

Day 3: Tue, Sep 21 – TOKYO – TSUBAME-SANJO – SHIBATA CITY. After a delicious breakfast buffet, walk to Tokyo Station. Depart via shinkansen bullet train with **reserved seating** in the **green car** for Niigata. Upon arrival, enjoy a Western lunch at a local restaurant before visiting a **Tsubame-Sanjo knife factory** and discover why this region's exceptionally sharp kitchen knives are renowned across Japan. Transfer to your hotel in Shibata City, which is considered to have **one of best onsen hot spring facility in *ALL* of Japan**. Relax in one of the indoor or open-air onsen hot springs before and/or after your **kaiseki dinner**, or consider a soak in the **private open-air onsen hot spring** in your Japanese-style room. SHIRATAMA NO YU KAHOU (3 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 4: Wed, Sep 22 – SHIBATA CITY. Today is the day! We join the Sase Family in **harvesting your very own organic Koshihikari rice**. Then, **cook local specialties**, like onigiri (rice ball, often wrapped in nori) or tonjiru (a savory pork and root vegetable miso soup), with local farmers and enjoy your creations for lunch. Return to the hotel for some time at leisure. This evening, savor a special bento dinner served at the historic **Zoshunkaku**, an early 20th-century house that integrates Japanese architecture with chandeliers and striking mosaic floors. During dinner, you will be **entertained by an authentic geisha**, with dancing, singing, and playing fun games! Geisha are highly trained entertainers skilled in singing, dancing, and playing music. You will also experience a memorable **kagami wari** (also known as kagami biraki), a traditional Japanese ceremony in which a sake barrel is opened with a mallet to symbolize the sharing of divine blessings. Return to your hotel after a full day of unique activities. (B, L, D)

Your organic Koshihikari rice will be delivered to Honolulu in the winter, 10 pounds per Tour Member.

Day 5: Thu, Sep 23 – SHIBATA CITY. Start the day with a visit to **Tonton Ichiba**, where you can find a variety of local delicacies from around the Shibata area. Then, head to a local farm to **pick grapes** for a sweet treat. After an Italian lunch at Takagi Farm, visit the **Aumont Sake Brewery** learn how they have been making quality sake for more than 200 years. You're sure to find a sake that matches your palate. Return to the hotel for some leisure time before a **kaiseki dinner**. Tonight is your last chance to soak in the healing **onsen hot spring** waters of the No. 1 best onsen facility in *ALL* of Japan. You don't want to miss out! (B, L, D)

Day 6: Fri, Sep 24 – SHIBATA CITY – YONEZAWA – KAMINOYAMA ONSEN. This morning, depart the hotel for Kaminoyama Onsen. En route, stop at **Takahata Winery** for lunch and enjoy an **exclusive wine tasting** featuring a selection of its wines. The winery specializes in showcasing the distinctive qualities of grapes and locally grown fruits, such as cherries and peaches, cultivated by regional farmers. Their wines have earned numerous awards in domestic and international competitions. At the winery's shop, browse a selection of limited-edition wines available exclusively on-site, along with snacks that pair perfectly with each pour. Then, explore the **Uesugi Museum** (Denkoku-no-Mori) on the former grounds of Yonezawa Castle, home to treasured artifacts of the Uesugi Clan that flourished as warriors. A highlight of the museum is the Uesugi Rakuchu Rakugai Zubyobu, a National Treasure of Japan. The six-panel folding screen depicts approximately 2,500 people from all walks of life in 16th century Kyoto. In the adjacent Matsugasaki Park, visit **Uesugi Shrine**, where Uesugi Kenshin – one of the most powerful warriors of the Sengoku era (Warring States era) – is enshrined and revered for bringing good luck, academic success, and prosperity in business. Then, watch a memorable **Uesugi Hojutsutai Show**, where reenactors shoot tanegashimas (matchlock guns). The guns were used by the samurai class and their foot soldiers, and within a few years it forever changed the way war was fought in Japan. Tonight, a special steak dinner will be served at **Uesugi Hakushaku-tei**, the former residence of the last feudal lord of the area. During dinner, watch a lively **Ai no Busho-tai Performance**, where performers dressed in kimonos demonstrate moves with their katanas (traditional Japanese sword) and dance to music. Transfer to an award-winning ryokan (traditional Japanese inn), your home for the next two nights. Enjoy a relaxing soak in the public onsen hot springs, or unwind in your own Japanese-Western style room featuring a **private semi-open-air onsen hot spring** to your heart's content. NIPPON NO YADO KOYO (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 7: Sat, Sep 25 – KAMINOYAMA ONSEN – SAGAE – TENDO – KAMINOYAMA ONSEN. Start the day at the **Kahokucho Benibana Museum** to learn about benibana (safflower) dyeing, a rare technique that uses safflowers instead of bark or leaves. Try your hand at this traditional craft through an immersive **benibana dyeing** experience. The intensity of the color changes depending on how many times the cloth is dyed– the more it is dyed, the deeper the color becomes! Then, enjoy free time


GEISHA PERFORMERS

at **Cherryland Sagae**, the largest michi-no-eki (roadside rest station) in the region and one of the area's largest cherry theme parks. You will have time to shop for local specialty products and enjoy lunch (on your own). Afterward head to Tendo, a city renowned for its craftsmanship in producing shogi pieces, and enjoy **painting your own shogi piece** for a fun, uniquely Japanese souvenir of this trip. Shogi is the traditional Japanese strategy board game known as Japanese chess, and is one of the most popular board games in the country. Return to the hotel for dinner and an evening at leisure. (B, D)

Day 8: Sun, Sep 26 – KAMINOYAMA ONSEN – SENDAI – MATSUSHIMA. This morning, we depart the hotel for Sendai. Upon arrival, **learn how to grill sasa-kamaboko**, a bamboo leaf-shaped fish cake. Enjoy your perfectly grilled sasa-kamaboko with lunch. Next, spend some time to explore the **Sendai Shopping Arcades**, a network of covered shopping streets located to the west and north of Sendai Station, commonly known as Ichibancho. It is home to over 250 stores, ranging from high-end fashion boutiques and department stores to discount chains and local souvenir shops. After, visit **Zuihoden**, the mausoleum of Date Masamune, one of Japan's most iconic and formidable feudal lords of the Sengoku era (Warring States era). Recognized as a National Treasure, Zuihoden is celebrated for its lavish Momoyama-style architecture, richly adorned with vibrant multicolored wood carvings, black lacquer, and gold leaf. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before heading to your luxury hotel in Matsushima. Relax with a soak in the hotel's indoor public onsen hot spring, or unwind in your Japanese-Western-style room, complete with a **private open-air onsen hot spring**. YOKI MATSUSHIMA (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 9: Mon, Sep 27 – MATSUSHIMA. After a delicious breakfast at the hotel, embark on an unforgettable sightseeing **cruise of Matsushima Bay**, celebrated as one of Japan's Three Most Scenic Views. This scenic journey offers an ideal way to admire the bay's many pine-clad islands and islets. Next, enjoy a Western lunch at a local restaurant before visiting **Zuiganji**, one of the region's most renowned Zen temples. Rebuilt by the feudal lord Date Masamune in the 17th century, the temple is renowned for its opulent Momoyama-era architecture, cedar-lined approach, and meditation caves. Lastly, visit the Matsushima Museum and the nearby Kanrantei tea house. The **Matsushima Museum** showcases relics of the Date clan from the feudal era, including armor, weapons, and other artifacts. At **Kanrantei**, admire the beautiful gold-leaf sliding doors and relax over a cup of tea while taking in unobstructed, picturesque views of Matsushima Bay. The remainder of the evening is at your leisure after a sumptuous Japanese dinner at the hotel. Tonight is the last night to have a rejuvenating soak in an **onsen hot spring** – don't miss out! (B, L, D)


UESUGI SHRINE

Day 10: Tue, Sep 28 – MATSUSHIMA – SENDAI – TOKYO. Depart the hotel for Sendai Station for our ride back to the capital of Japan. Transfer to Tokyo by shinkansen bullet train with **reserved seating** in the **green car**. Enjoy a bento boxed lunch onboard. Upon arrival, 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. After, transfer to the hotel located in the center of Shinjuku, the hub of shopping and restaurants in Tokyo. The remainder of the day is at your leisure. Your Local Guide will have recommendations for shopping and dining opportunities near the hotel. KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO (3 Nights) (B, L)

Day 11: Wed, Sep 29 – TOKYO. Enjoy a full day at leisure. The perfect day to relax and/or visit family and friends in Tokyo, or venture out on an adventure of your own! Your hotel is directly connected to the underground passage of Shinjuku Station's West Exit (about a five-minute walk away) and near Tochomae Station (about a two-minute walk away), offering easy access to major shopping areas and scenic attractions. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 12: Thu, Sep 30 – TOKYO. Another full day at leisure. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 13: Fri, Oct 01 – TOKYO – HANEDA – HONOLULU. Hope you didn't forget to bring your Costco card and left some extra room in your luggage, as the day begins at **Costco** for some shopping and time to check out its food court! Discover how Costco in Japan is both familiar and distinctly different. Be sure to save your appetite, though, as a delicious BBQ lunch awaits at a local restaurant. Finally, 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. After, transfer to Haneda International Airport for the flight home. Depart the airport 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, L)

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS: Tsubame-Sanjo Knife Factory, Kagami Wari, Dinner at Zoshunkaku with Authentic Geisha, Tonton Ichiba, Aumont Sake Brewery, Uesugi Museum, Uesugi Shrine, Uesugi Hojutsutai Show, Dinner at Uesugi Hakushaku-tei, Ai no Busho-tai Performance, Kahokucho Benibana Museum, Cherryland Sagae, Sendai Shopping Arcades, Zuihoden, Matsushima Bay Cruise, Zuiganji, Matsushima Museum, Kanrantei, teamLab Borderless: MORI Building DIGITAL ART MUSEUM, Costco & Ameyoko

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES: Rice Harvesting, Cooking Local Specialties with Farmers, Grape Picking, Takahata Winery Wine Tasting, Benibana Dyeing, Shogi Piece Painting & Sasa-Kamaboko Grilling

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

Non-Stop Travel Shibata City Exclusive!

DINNER AT ZOSHUNKAKU — With authentic geisha entertainment!

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:



HOTEL METROPOLITAN TOKYO MARUNOUCHI (1 NIGHT, TOKYO): Directly **connected to Tokyo Station**, this stylish boutique hotel provides a sophisticated, tranquil hideaway in the heart of Tokyo.



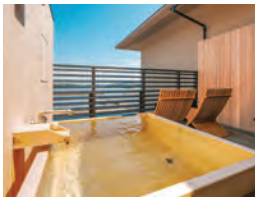


SHIRATAMA NO YU KAHOU (3 NIGHTS, SHIBATA CITY): Relax in your **Japanese-style room** that includes a wide veranda and your own **private open-air onsen hot spring** at this luxurious ryokan (traditional Japanese inn). The ryokan's large public natural onsen features an indoor bath, sauna, cold water bath, cypress open-air bath, and more. It's no wonder this ryokan is recognized as **one of the best onsens in *ALL* of Japan** by the "100 Best Ryokans and Hotels Chosen by Professionals."





NIPPON NO YADO KOYO (2 NIGHTS, KAMINOYAMA ONSEN): This welcoming ryokan features a traditional ambience with sweeping views of the Zao Mountains. Soak in the skin-beautifying waters in the public onsen hot springs or in your **Japanese-Western-style room** with its own **private semi-open-air onsen hot spring**. The ryokan has been elected one of the **top 10** of "100 Best Ryokans and Hotels Chosen by Professionals" consecutively for 40 years.





YOKI MATSUSHIMA (2 NIGHTS, MATSUSHIMA): Located near Matsushima Bay, one of Japan's Top Three Scenic Views (Nihon Sankei), this luxury hot spring hotel offers guests an unbeatable stay. Enjoy a relaxing soak in your **Japanese-Western-style room** with its own **private open-air onsen hot spring** cypress bath with views of Matsushima Bay.







KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO (3 NIGHTS, TOKYO): The hotel is perfectly located for exploring the many delights of Tokyo. **Situated just outside Tochomae Station** and only a **five-minute walk from Shinjuku Station**, one of the city's most popular shopping and entertainment areas, this luxury hotel offers unforgettable experiences that will linger long after your stay. Stay in a **Premier Grand Room**, where natural aesthetics meet refined luxury and sweeping city views, plus enjoy access to the **Club Lounge** on the 45th floor.

NON-STOP TRAVEL

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Honolulu, HI 96814

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