



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

# 2022 FALL SADO ISLAND, SNOW MONKEYS, HAKONE & TOKYO

*Hot springs onsen experience with seasonal Kaiseki Dinners  
in Sado Island & Nagano! Travel roundtrip from Tokyo!*

10 Nights / 12 Days • 20 Meals (10 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 6 Dinners)  
Escorted from Honolulu • English-Speaking Local Guide  
**November 14 – 25, 2022 • Tour Manager: Cliff Nakamura**

## OVERVIEW:

One of Japan's largest islands, Sado Island has an interesting history. Its culture can be seen in its unique traditional arts and entertainment. Jigokudani, home of the world famous "snow monkeys," is situated in the valley of the Yokoyu River. 200 or so Japanese Macaque monkeys inhabit the area. Hakone, famous for its hot springs, natural beauty, and the view of nearby Mt. Fuji, is one of the most popular destinations among Japanese and international tourists looking for a break from Tokyo. Tokyo is Japan's capital and the world's most populous metropolis and offers a seemingly unlimited choice of shopping, entertainment, culture, and dining to its visitors.

## VISIT:

Omiya • Niigata • Sado Island • Nagano • Matsumoto • Nagoya • Iga • Shizuoka • Hakone • Mt. Fuji • Tokyo

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

JR Super Express Train Ride • Niigata Furusato Village • Jet Foil to Sado Island • Sado Gold Mine  
Tarai-Bune Boat Ride • Shukunegi • Japanese Crested Ibis Conservation Centre • Northern Culture Museum  
Jigokudani Monkey Park (for Nagano Snow Monkeys) • Zenko-ji Temple • Matsumoto Castle • Daio Wasabi Nojo  
Japan Ukiyoe Museum • Iga-ryu Ninja Museum • Ueno Park • Toyota Museum • Owakudani  
Hakone Ropeway • Mt. Fuji • Ameyoko • Asakusa Sensoji Temple • Nakamise Shopping

## HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:

Imayo Tsukasa Sake Brewery with Tasting • Soba Noodle Making • Oyaki Making  
Sausage Making • Fruit Picking • Hakone Yosegi-Zaiku Box Making • Sushi Making Class

## UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES:

Mt. Fuji

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*Demon Drums Performance!*

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**Day 1: Mon, Nov 14** – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu.

**Day 2: Tue, Nov 15** – TOKYO – OMIYA. Arrive Tokyo. After entry formalities, transfer by coach to your hotel in Omiya. PALACE HOTEL OMIYA (1 Night)

\*Baggage will be carried by truck from Tokyo to Nagano, skipping Sado Island. Prepare an overnight bag for 2 nights.

**Day 3: Wed, Nov 16** – OMIYA – NIIGATA – SADO ISLAND. After a sumptuous breakfast buffet at hotel, walk to Omiya Station. Transfer to Niigata by **JR Super Express Train**. Sightseeing in Niigata by coach, visiting **Niigata Furusato Village** and **Imayo Tsukasa Sake Brewery**. Transfer to Niigata Port. **Ride a Jet Foil to Sado Island**. Arrive in Sado Island and transfer to hotel in Sado. Enjoy a traditional multi-course **Kaiseki Dinner**, featuring ingredients unique to Sado Island. During dinner, watch a **Oni-Daiko (Demon Drums) Performance**. Don't miss forget to **try out the onsens** – which are divided for men and women. The high-quality service and facilities are sure to become some of your fondest memories of your visit to Japan. HOTEL YAHATAKAN (2 Nights) (B, D)

**Day 4: Thur, Nov 17** – SADO ISLAND. Full day sightseeing of Sado Island by coach, including the **Sado Gold Mine**. **Make your own soba noodles** and eat your delicious creation for lunch. After lunch, take a traditional **"Tarai-Bune" boat ride**. The tarai-bune tub boats floating along the Ogi coastline are considered the symbol of Ogi. These boats are constructed out of cedar wrapped with bamboo on the outside, with a diameter of about 150 cm. Developed and used during Edo and Meiji periods, the tarai-bune tub boats, mainly operated by women, were ideal for tight turn and stability amidst the abundant reefs and coves along the Ogi Peninsula. These boats were originally used for collecting shellfish and seaweed from around the coast. Then visit the charming fishing village of **Shukunegi**. The entire village is designated as a "National Historic Site." Take a stroll along the narrow streets of Shukunegi Village to feel the history and experience the living conditions of people living during the Edo period. As this area was previously a trading port for ships going to Edo (Tokyo) and Osaka, many who lived here were ship carpenters and sailors. Here, you will be able to find the popular sankaku-ya which is a triangle-shaped house, built to fit the shape of the land available at that period of time. Enjoy a special dinner tonight at La Plage restaurant. (B, L, D)

**Day 5: Fri, Nov 18** – SADO ISLAND – NAGANO. This morning, take a tour of the **Japanese Crested Ibis Conservation Centre**. Then ride a **Jet Foil** from Ryotsu port to Niigata port. Visit the **Northern Culture Museum** before transferring to hotel in Nagano by coach. Relax in the **hot springs onsen** before enjoying dinner at the hotel. RYOKAN BIYUNOYADO (2 Nights) (B, D)

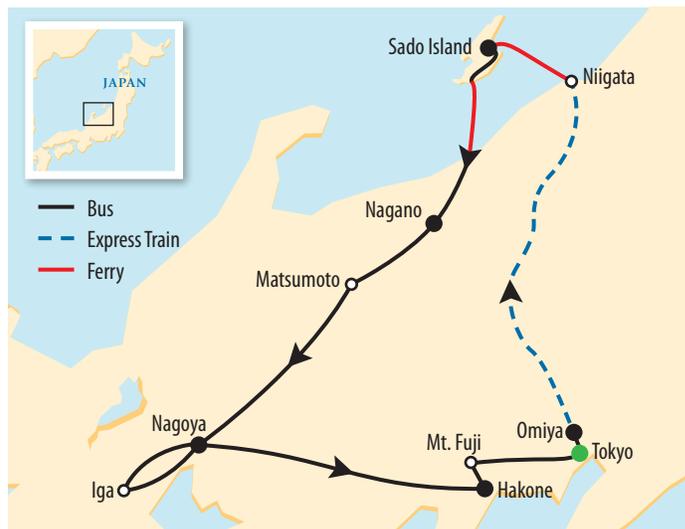
**Day 6: Sat, Nov 19** – NAGANO. Full day sightseeing in Nagano by coach, visiting **Jigokudani Monkey Park (for Snow Monkeys)** and **Zenko-ji Temple**. Also **learn how to make oyaki**, a Japanese dumpling made from fermented buckwheat dough wrapped around a stuffing of vegetables, fruits or anko bean paste before being roasted in an iron pan and then steamed or broiled before eating. Transfer back to the hotel. (B, D)

\*Baggage will be carried by truck from Nagano to Hakone, skipping Nagoya. Prepare an overnight bag for 2 nights.

**Day 7: Sun, Nov 20** – NAGANO – MATSUMOTO – NAGOYA. Full day of sightseeing of Nagano by coach, visiting **Matsumoto Castle**, **Daio Wasabi Nojo**, and the **Japan Ukiyoe Museum**. NAGOYA TOKYU HOTEL (2 Nights) (B)

**Day 8: Mon, Nov 21** – NAGOYA – IGA – NAGOYA. Transfer to Iga by coach. **Learn to make sausage** at Iga No Sato. Enjoy a BBQ lunch there. After lunch, visit the **Iga-ryu Ninja Museum**. View the autumn leaves at **Ueno Park** before returning to the hotel in Nagoya. Enjoy an evening of leisure. (B, L)

**Day 9: Tue, Nov 22** – NAGOYA – HAKONE. Transfer to Hakone by coach. Enroute, visit the **Toyota Museum**. After lunch (on your own) enjoy **fruit picking** a local fruit farm. This evening, continue



to Hakone where much of the area is considered an active volcanic zone since its creation from eruption of Mount Hakone some 3,000 years ago. Soak your body in the **healing hot springs of Hakone**. The onsens – which are divided for men and women – allow you to enjoy the hot springs whether indoors or outdoors. The high-quality service and facilities are sure to become some of your fondest memories of your visit to Japan. HAKONE SENGOKUHARA PRINCE HOTEL (1 Night) (B, D)

**Day 10: Wed, Nov 23** – HAKONE – MT. FUJI – TOKYO. After breakfast, travel to **Owakudani** (Hell Valley) and see the source of the hot spring waters of Hakone. View the surrounding countryside from the **Hakone Ropeway**. Learn how to make a **Hakone Yosegi-Zaiku box**. After lunch, visit **Mt. Fuji** and **ascend to the 5<sup>th</sup> station** (weather permitting), at an elevation of 7,500 feet above sea level. Transfer to the hotel in Tokyo. Walk to a nearby restaurant for a special Izakaya dinner. GRAND NIKKO TOKYO DAIBA (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

**Day 11: Thur, Nov 24** – TOKYO. Full day at leisure. A perfect day to shop, dine, and explore Tokyo on your own. Your local guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

**Day 12: Fri, Nov 25** – TOKYO – HONOLULU. After a sumptuous buffet breakfast embark on a full day of discovery! Today's highlight will be a hands-on **sushi making session**, which will yield your delicious lunch. After lunch visit **Ameyoko**, a busy market street along the Yamanote Line tracks between Okachimachi and Ueno Stations. The name "Ameyoko" is a short form for "Ameya Yokocho" (candy store alley), as candies were traditionally sold there. Alternatively, "Ame" also stands for "America," because a lot of American products used to be available there when the street was the site of a black market in the years following World War II. Today, various products such as clothes, bags, cosmetics, fresh fish, dried food, and spices are sold along Ameyoko. Then visit **Asakusa**, the center of Tokyo's shitamachi (literally "low city"), one of Tokyo's districts, where an atmosphere of the Tokyo of past decades survives. Asakusa's main attraction is **Sensoji**, a very popular Buddhist temple, built in the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The temple is approached via the **Nakamise**, a shopping street that has been providing temple visitors with a variety of traditional local snacks and tourist souvenirs for centuries. Transfer to the airport for the flight home. Depart Tokyo and arrive Honolulu the same day. Aloha and Welcome Home! (B, L)

UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Mt. Fuji (2013).

\* 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](http://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-cruseline" 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" tour itinerary are subject to change with/without notice. **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: 07/07/22.

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