

**Affordable Luxury — Small Group Tours**



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JAPAN AIRLINES



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

## 2026 CHERRY BLOSSOMS GOURMET ONSEN MEGURI (DISCOVERY)

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.

*Enjoy the best Japan has to offer! Gourmet seasonal, multi-course Kaiseki Dinners at Japan's most famous onsen hot spring locales!*

12 Nights / 14 Days • 26 Meals (12 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches, 7 Dinners)  
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide  
March 18 – 31, 2026 • Tour Manager: Cora Kinney

**VISIT:** Kansai, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Izumo, Tamatsukuri, Matsue, Tottori, Miyazu, Ine, Amanohashidate, Osaka, Arashiyama & Kyoto

### **Non-Stop Travel Exclusive!**

#### **COSTCO SHOPPING & FOOD COURT IN JAPAN —**

**Don't forget your Costco Membership Card!** Fill up the empty space in your suitcase with Japan exclusive items. And fill your belly with unique offerings from the food court. The menu in Japan resembles the selection we're accustomed to as Costco shoppers in the US. But a closer look reveals a handful of dishes unique to Japan. You'll have to travel here if you want to order a seasonal pizza or Hokkaido soft cream. Costco will accept cash and international Visa credit/debit cards.

#### **AFFORDABLE LUXURY — SMALL GROUP TOUR EXCLUSIVES:**

- Limited to 24 Pampered Tour Members
- A More Relaxed Pace of Touring
- Upgraded Hotels & Meals
- Minimum 2 Nights at Each Hotel
- Sake, Beer & Soft Drinks with All Included Dinners
- "Green Car" Seats on the Shinkansen Bullet Train

### **COMPLETE PACKAGE!**

Includes Roundtrip Airfare from Honolulu, 12 Nights Hotel, 26 Meals, Tips for Local Tour Guides and Motorcoach Drivers, All Taxes & Fees

#### **JAPAN AIRLINES: CHOICE OF CABINS**

*Treat yourself to a better vacation!*

##### **JAL ECONOMY CLASS**

**\$11,488\***

##### **JAL PREMIUM ECONOMY CLASS**

**\$12,488\***

**HURRY! Only 6 Seats Available at this Price!!**

##### **JAL BUSINESS CLASS**

**\$14,888\***

**HURRY! Only 6 Seats Available at this Price!!**

#### **EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT PER PERSON**

Book by 10/31/25 & **SAVE \$100<sup>†</sup>**

Book by 11/26/25 & **SAVE \$50<sup>†</sup>**

# 2026 Cherry Blossoms Gourmet Onsen



**Day 1: Wed, Mar 18** — HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #791 at 11:25 am.

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**Day 2: Thur, Mar 19** — KANSAI. Arrive at the Kansai International Airport at 3:55 pm. Walk to your hotel which is a short covered walk from the airport. Dinner has been arranged at the hotel. HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

\*Baggage will be sent from Kansai to Tamatsukuri, skipping Miyajima. Prepare an overnight bag for three nights.

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**Day 3: Fri, Mar 20** — KANSAI — HIROSHIMA — MIYAJIMA. After breakfast, transfer to Shin-Osaka Train Station by chartered bus. Transfer to Hiroshima Station by **Shinkansen Bullet Train** with **reserved seating** in the **Green Car**. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant upon arrival in Hiroshima. After lunch, start a full day of sightseeing by chartered bus. Visit the **A-Bomb Dome, Peace Memorial Park, Peace Memorial Museum**, and the **Peace Bell**. After a short **ferry ride** arrive on the island of Miyajima, considered sacred by many. This evening soak in the relaxing atmosphere of Iwaso Inn and the **onsen hot spring baths**. You can enjoy the beauty of the primeval forests and gentle sound of mountain streams while taking a bath. This evening enjoy a traditional, multi-course **Kaiseki Dinner** featuring Hiroshima's local and seasonal ingredients including fresh seafood from the Seto Inland Sea. IWASO INN (3 Nights) (B, L, D)

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**Day 4: Sat, Mar 21** — MIYAJIMA. After breakfast, walk to the nearby vermilion torii gate of **Itsukushima Shrine**, which at high tide, looks like it's floating in the middle of the sea. The shrine complex has been selected as one of Japan's three most scenic places (nihon sankei). **Learn how to make momiji manju**, a specialty of the area. Free time will be given to explore the excellent **shopping** opportunities available down the main street of Miyajima Island and enjoy lunch (on your own). After lunch, take in the view from the **Miyajima Ropeway** — the cable car and gondola system linking Miyajima township to Mt. Misen. On a clear day the ropeway provides an excellent observation point, plus access to the Wild Monkey Park, temples, and shrines. Return to the hotel for a different variety of **Kaiseki Dinner**. Be sure to enjoy the **onsen hot spring baths** before and after your dinner. (B, D)

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**Day 5: Sun, Mar 22** — MIYAJIMA. Begin the day with some hands-on activities, including **dressing up in a kimono** and experiencing a **tea ceremony**, and learning how to **write**



**in calligraphy**. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to explore more of Miyajima on your own. Don't forget to try the plump steamed oysters that Miyajima is known for. And make friends with the wild deer that continue to roam freely around Miyajima. (B)

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**Day 6: Mon, Mar 23** — MIYAJIMA — IZUMO — TAMATSUKURI. After breakfast, we make our way back to Honshu via a short **ferry ride**. Enroute to Tamatsukuri, a stop will be made at a **Michi-no-Eki** (a roadside station) for lunch on your own. Then take a tour of the **Tatara Sword Factory**, where you will learn how traditional tatara swords are made. Tatara is the technique used in Japan to produce the pure steel needed to make Japanese swords. The traditional materials used are iron, sand, and coal — which are still used today. This evening enjoy a special **Kaiseki Dinner** at your hotel. Dinner will be accompanied by an **Iwami Kagura Show** — an unforgettable kind of masked traditional performance. The stories told in these performances are usually drawn from ancient history books dating from the 8<sup>th</sup> century, or from legends and stories of monsters made famous in Noh theater. The stories are easy to follow as they often consist of heroes and villains, gods and demons, of good guys and bad guys. Many times, these dances involve intense choreographed sword-fights. However, it's not all action and drama as there are comedic interludes with some dances that approach pantomime. These interludes are sure to have you laughing and cheering. After dinner, don't forget to try the **onsen hot springs** facilities. HOTEL GYOKUSEN (2 Nights) (B, D)

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**Day 7: Tue, Mar 24** — TAMATSUKURI — MATSUE — TAMATSUKURI. Begin the day at **Izumo-Taisha** located near the Sea of Japan. It is one of Japan's most important shrines. Izumo used to be ruled by a powerful clan in pre-historic times, and the region plays a central role in Japan's creation mythology. The main kami (deity) enshrined at Izumo-Taisha is Okuninushi no Okami. According to the creation myths, Okuninushi was the creator of the land of Japan and the ruler of Izumo. He also became known as the deity of good relationships and marriage. Visitors consequently clap their hands four times instead of the usual two times during their prayers: twice for themselves and twice for their actual or desired partners. After lunch, take a **boat cruise on the Hori River**, before visiting the quaint **Matsue Castle**. Then enjoy some free time for shopping and dining (on your own) at an **AEON MALL** before returning to the hotel for an evening of leisure. (B, L)



# Meguri (Discovery)



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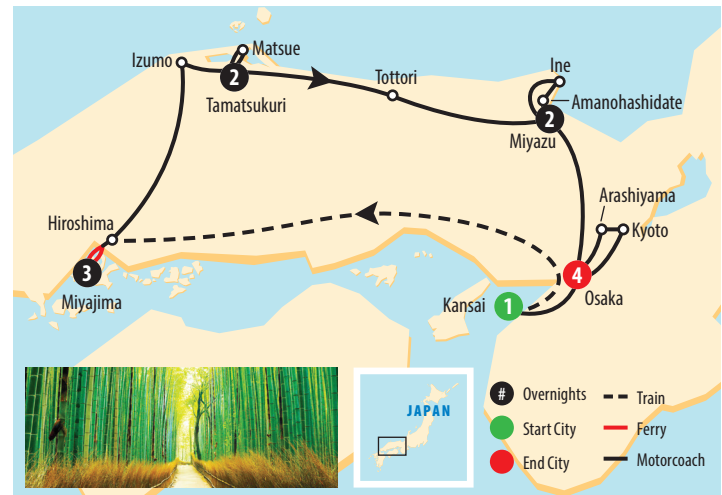


**Day 8: Wed, Mar 25 – TAMATSUKURI – TOTTORI – MIYAZU.** After breakfast, explore the **Adachi Museum of Art**. Founded by Adachi Zenko in 1980 as a way of combining his passions for Japanese art and garden design. He hoped that viewing the gardens and artwork together would expand peoples' appreciation and interest in Japanese art. The Adachi Museum of Art is best known for its award winning garden. It has been named the best garden in Japan annually since 2003 by the *Journal of Japanese Gardening*. The garden can be enjoyed at any time of the year and shows a different character depending on the season. It can only be viewed from the museum building. In addition to the gardens, the Adachi Museum of Art also houses a collection of nearly 1,300 twentieth century paintings and artworks which are rotated seasonally. There is also a permanent exhibit of paintings by Yokoyama Taikan, as well as a ceramics exhibit. After lunch, witness the awesome **Tottori Sand Dunes** on our way to Miyazu. Enjoy a rejuvenating soak in the **onsen hot springs** before or after your buffet dinner at the hotel. **MERCURE KYOTO MIYAZU RESORT & SPA (2 Nights)** (B, L, D)

**Day 9: Thur, Mar 26 – MIYAZU – INE – AMANOHASHIDATE – MIYAZU.** First stop today is at the **Bay of Ine**. The small village is unique, consisting of 230 funaya (over water houses). After lunch, visit **Amanohashidate**, one of the three most scenic places in Japan along with Matsushima Bay near Sendai and Miyajima Island. The coast line is a long sandbar. You'll get a chance to **ride the cable car** and visit the **Kasamatsu Park Observatory**. Return to the hotel for dinner. (B, L, D)

**Day 10: Fri, Mar 27 – MIYAZU – OSAKA.** After breakfast, depart for Osaka. Enroute, stop at an **AEON MALL**, where you will have leisure time for shopping and dining (on your own). Upon arrival at the hotel in Osaka, the remainder of the day is at your leisure. Your hotel is directly connected to the JR Osaka Station – allowing convenient access to numerous shopping and dining opportunities. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. **OSAKA STATION HOTEL (4 Nights)** (B)

**Day 11: Sat, Mar 28 – OSAKA – ARASHIYAMA – KYOTO – OSAKA.** After breakfast, transfer to Arashiyama. Enjoy free time in Arashiyama, where you may choose to explore the famous Arashiyama Bamboo Forests, or shop for world-famous Arashiyama bamboo products. Take a **ride on a rickshaw** around Arashiyama. Today's hands-on experience is **surikomi yuzen (brush dyed yuzen)**, which is one of Kyoto's traditional craft "Kyo-Yuzen dyeing" 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. Your very own original work will be a perfect memento for yourself or a gift for someone else. Return to the hotel for some leisure time before enjoying a buffet dinner at the hotel. (B, L, D)

**Day 12: Sun, Mar 29 – OSAKA.** Full day at leisure. Your hotel connected to the JR Osaka Station – allowing easy access to Japan's convenient train system if you decide to explore more of Osaka's neighboring towns on your own today. It's also a perfect day to fulfill your shopping list at the numerous shops located in the train station. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

**Day 13: Mon, Mar 30 – OSAKA.** Today will be dedicated to cherry blossom viewing. Begin at **Osaka Castle**, which has over 4,000 cherry trees scattered across its 261 acres. During peak cherry blossom season, you'll be treated to an expansive cloud of soft pink blossoms blooms from the Somei Yoshino variety of cherry trees, which make up the majority of trees here. After lunch, take a **river cruise on the Okawa River** and view the numerous cherry trees growing along the river bank. Then explore the **Expo 70 Commemorative Park**, the former site of the 1970 World Exhibition, which was turned into a large public park with over 5,000 cherry trees planted along its paths and around its large lawn areas. Return to the hotel for an evening of leisure. (B, L)

**Day 14: Tue, Mar 31 – OSAKA – KANSAI – HONOLULU.** The last day in Japan is all about shopping! After breakfast, begin the day at **Dotonbori**, one of Osaka's most popular tourist destinations. This street runs parallel to the Dotonbori Canal, and is a popular shopping and entertainment district -- known as a food destination. **Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade** and the surrounding area is Osaka's premier shopping center. Approximately 600 meters long, this area is unique as it combines chain retail stores and trendy boutiques with expensive department stores and top designer fashion labels. Hope you didn't forget your Costco card! As the final stop after lunch, will be at **Costco**, before transferring to the Kansai International Airport for the return flight home. Depart Kansai Airport via Japan Airlines flt #792 at 10:10 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:45 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B, L)

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**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:** Shinkansen Bullet Train Ride, A-Bomb Museum, Peace Memorial Park, Peace Memorial Museum, Peace Bell, Ferry Ride to Miyajima, Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima Ropeway, Michi-no-Eki, Tataru Sword Factory, Izumo-Taisha, Hori River Cruise, Matsue Castle, AEON MALL, Adachi Museum of Art, Tottori Sand Dunes, Bay of Ine, Amanohashidate Ropeway (Cable Car), Kasamatsu Park Observatory, Stroll the Arashiyama Area, Rickshaw Ride, Osaka Castle, Okawa River Cruise, Expo 70 Commemorative Park, Dotonbori, Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade & Costco Shopping

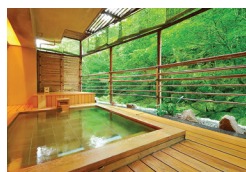
**HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:** Momiji Manju Making, Kimono Dress-Up, Tea Ceremony, Learn to Write in Calligraphy & Yuzen Dyeing

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:



### KANSAI — HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI

**AIRPORT (1 NIGHT):** The hotel is directly connected to Kansai International Airport – allowing guests to immediately begin relaxing after their flight.



### MIYAJIMA — IWASO INN (3 NIGHTS):

Located on the World Heritage Miyajima Island, Iwaso Inn features Japanese-style accommodations with beautiful surrounding views. Guests can relax in the indoor and outdoor hot-spring baths. Traditional multi-course Kaiseki Dinners featuring seafood and local ingredients are served at the dining room. A Japanese or Western breakfast is served at Momiji restaurant. Iwaso Inn is a five-minute walk from Itsukushima Shrine and Momijidani Park.



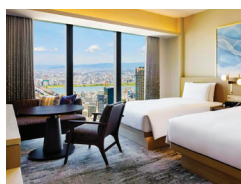
### TAMATSUKURI — HOTEL GYOKUSEN

**(2 NIGHTS):** Tamatsukuri Onsen is one of the premier onsen resorts in Shimane, widely known for its beautifying effects on skin. Eighteen hotels and Japanese-style ryokan inns are built along both sides of the Tamayu River. Some of them offer a day spa; and public foot spas can also be enjoyed free of charge. The area also has spiritual locations, high-quality souvenir shops, and cafes for visitors. Rejuvenate in Hotel Gyokusen's lobby lounge, overlooking a traditional Japanese garden, bringing out the best in the natural beauty of the pine trees and the rock garden.



### MIYAZU — MERCURE KYOTO MIYAZU

**RESORT & SPA (2 NIGHTS):** Immerse yourself in an all-inclusive stay at Mercure. The all-inclusive plan includes dinner, breakfast, drinks and snacks at the lounges, access to the onsen hot springs (public bathing facilities), and activities within the hotel. Free-flowing alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages are included at dinner. From 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm daily, unwind in the lounge, where a selection of sparkling wine, beer, as well as soft drinks, coffee, black tea, and herbal waters are available complimentary. From 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm daily, conclude your day with a nightcap at the lounge, where you can enjoy a wide range of beverages, including whisky, brandy, and Japanese spirits, in a cozy yet refined ambiance.



### OSAKA — OSAKA STATION HOTEL (4 NIGHTS):

Built on the historic grounds of Osaka's first train station, the Osaka Station Hotel opened its doors in July 2024. The hotel is directly connected to the current JR Osaka Station — allowing convenient access to numerous shopping and dining opportunities. It's also in the same building as the new Kitte Osaka shopping mall, with its Japan-centric basement restaurants and stores selling specialty goods from far-flung prefectures. Special arrangements have been made for rooms in the "Specialty" category at the hotel — allowing tour members special access to the Specialty Salon — a special space located on the 38<sup>th</sup> floor, offering food and drink services throughout the day, including breakfast, afternoon tea, and evening cocktails, as well as check-in and check-out services, along with access to the ofuro (Japanese bath) facilities on the 30<sup>th</sup> floor.



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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](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-cruiseline" 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. **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: 11/07/25. NST at its discretion, may use group and individual photos on its website, print, television, and various social media. Cherry blossoms are subject to weather conditions and are NOT guaranteed. † 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.** 090925

