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# 2026 SUMMER ADVENTURE: GUNMA, NAGANO, NIIGATA & TOKYO SHOPPING

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of "Business" class service. Business class customers will begin  
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**9 Nights / 11 Days • 19 Meals (9 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 5 Dinners)**  
**Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide**  
**June 12 – 22, 2026 • Tour Manager: Anona Gabriel**

## VISIT:

Omiya, Gunma, Kawagoe, Minakami, Nagano, Matsumoto,  
Mt. Norikura, Niigata, Yudagami Onsen & Tokyo

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Shoyu Factory, Stroll Around Kawagoe, Hotaru no Sato (Firefly Viewing), Takumi no Sato,  
Daio Wasabi Nojo, Matsumoto Castle, Snow Walls of Mt. Norikura, Jigokudani Yaen Koen  
(Snow Monkey Park), Stroll Around Obuse, Northern Culture Museum, Niigata Furusato Village,  
Knife Factory at Tsubame-Sanjo, Michi-no-Eki Tsubame-Sanjo, JR Super Express Train Ride,  
Tokyo Skytree & Ameyoko Shopping

## HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:

Minakami River Rafting<sup>o</sup>, Mask Painting, Daruma Doll Painting, Kimono Dress-Up,  
Cherry Picking, Senbei (Rice Cracker) Making, Mochi Pounding & Sushi Making Class

**Non-Stop Travel  
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**DON'T MISS A THING!!**  
**WHISPER — Wireless Tour Guide System!**  
English narration directly to your ear!

\* 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: 02/02/26. NST at its discretion, may use group and individual photos on its website, print, television, and various social media. Hotaru no sato (firefly viewing) and Mt. Norikura snow wall visit is subject to weather conditions and is NOT guaranteed. † Early booking discount is per person. Purchase of NST's complete Air and Land Package is required. † All river rafting participants are required to purchase travel insurance that will cover them during the rafting experience.

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## COMPLETE PACKAGES!

Includes Roundtrip Airfare From Honolulu,  
9 Nights Hotel, 19 Meals, Tips for Local  
Tour Guides and Motorcoach Drivers,  
All Taxes & Fees

## JAPAN AIRLINES: CHOICE OF CABINS

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**Day 1: Fri, June 12** – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #783 at 1:35 pm.

**Day 2: Sat, June 13** – NARITA – OMIYA. Arrive at Narita International Airport at 4:45 pm. After entry formalities, transfer by coach to your hotel in Omiya. The remainder of the evening is at your leisure. The hotel is conveniently located a five-minute walk from the JR Omiya Station, which is one of the largest stations in the Saitama Prefecture. There will be various choices for shopping and dining at the train station. PALACE HOTEL OMIYA (1 Night)

**Day 3: Sun, June 14** – OMIYA – GUNMA – KAWAGOE – MINAKAMI. After a sumptuous breakfast buffet, visit a **shoyu factory**. Learn about how this staple of Japanese cuisine is made. Then take a **stroll around Kawagoe**. This old town has a rich history as a key supplier of commodities to the capital during the Edo Period. Enjoy time here for shopping and lunch (on your own). This evening, enjoy a **Kaiseki Dinner** featuring seasonal vegetable and Minakami specialties at your hotel. Be sure to relax in the scenic **onsen hot spring baths** – which are divided for men and women – whether indoors or outdoors. The high-quality service and facilities are sure to become some of your fondest memories of your visit to Japan. After dinner, take a walk and enjoy **hotaru no sato (firefly viewing)**. Watch as these soft bodied beetles emit light in the darkening evening. GENSEN YU-NO-YADO MATSUNOI (2 Nights) (B, D)

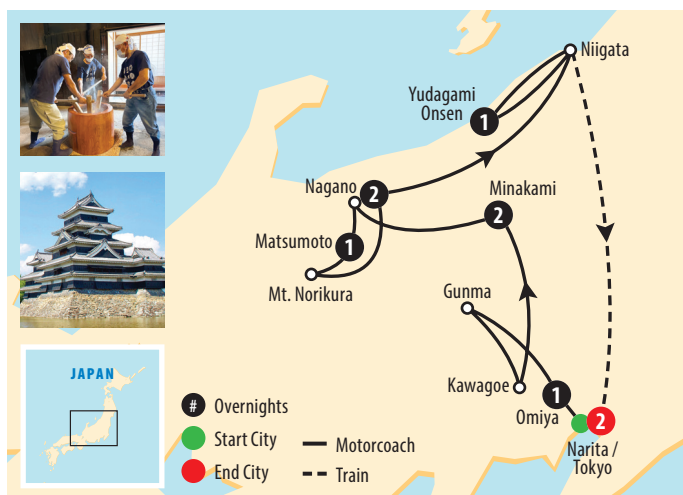
**Day 4: Mon, June 15** – MINAKAMI. You're in for a real summer time treat – **river rafting!**<sup>9</sup> From the middle of June the water level in the river drops, making it perfect for those who are not after the high thrills of the spring rafting season. Play around in and outside the boat with your Guide, and enjoy the stunning nature that surrounds you. Even with the more gentle flow there is still plenty of time out on the river to have lots of fun. If you do not want to river raft, an alternate shopping excursion will be offered at Michi-no-Eki Kawaba Denen Plaza, a large shopping and dining area. After a BBQ lunch, stop at **Takumi no Sato**, an arts and crafts village of more than two dozen workshops and stores, where you will have the opportunity to **paint a mask**. A buffet dinner will be served at your hotel. (B, L, D)

<sup>9</sup>Baggage will be sent from Minakami to Yudanaka Onsen, skipping Matsumoto. Prepare overnight bag for one night.

**Day 5: Tue, June 16** – MINAKAMI – NAGANO – MATSUMOTO. Today, let's **paint our own daruma doll!** Everywhere in the prefecture, from shops, to stations, and hotels, you will see a daruma doll. This traditional artifact is famous for making every wish come true: people make wishes, and daruma dolls give them emotional and moral support, and they will be there for them until their wishes are granted. Next, visit **Daio Wasabi Nojo** for lunch (on your own). Be sure to try the wasabi-flavored soft cream cone. After lunch, **dress-up in a kimono!** Then marvel at the superb architecture of **Matsumoto Castle** before making our way to the hotel for dinner. MATSUMOTO HOTEL KAGETSU (1 Night) (B, D)

**Day 6: Wed, June 17** – MATSUMOTO – MT. NORIKURA – NAGANO. Travel to **Mt. Norikura**. At 3,026 meters in height, it's the third highest peak in the Northern Japan Alps. Feel dwarfed by the spectacular 10 meter tall **snow walls** near the top of Mt. Norikura (weather permitting). Although it's June, the temperature will still be cold enough to keep the walls frozen – make sure to bring some warm clothes if you plan on getting off the bus to take pictures! After a bento lunch, continue on to the hotel. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. HOTEL JAL CITY NAGANO (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

**Day 7: Thur, June 18** – NAGANO. Start the day with a visit to **Jigokudani Yaen Koen** (Snow Monkey Park), home to a special troop of Japanese macaque monkeys that first came to international attention in 1970 when they were featured on the cover of *LIFE* magazine. You can observe the wild monkeys going about their daily lives, including bathing in onsen hot springs. Stop at a local restaurant for lunch. Drop by a local farm and **pick cherries** for a sweet snack. After, enjoy some time to **stroll around Obuse**, a small town in northern Nagano, renown for Edo Period (1603–1867) woodblock painter, Katsushika Hokusai (1760–1849). Best known for his ukiyo-e woodblock print *The Great Wave off Kanagawa*, Hokusai spent the later years of his life in Obuse after being invited there by Takai Kozan, a wealthy farmer and merchant. During his stay, Hokusai painted several masterpieces including the *Dragon and Phoenix* for the ceiling of the Higashimachi Festival Float, *Masculine Waves and Feminine Waves* for the ceiling of the Kanmachi



Festival Float, and *Phoenix* for the ceiling of the main hall at Gansho-in Temple. Arrive at the hotel for an evening of leisure. The Local Guide will have suggestions for dinner. (B, L)

**Day 8: Fri, June 19** – NAGANO – NIIGATA – YUDAGAMI ONSEN. Begin the day **making your very own custom-designed senbei (rice cracker)**. Next, visit the **Northern Culture Museum** where you're in for a big treat! Learn about **mochi pounding**. It's harder than it looks! Enjoy the freshly pounded mochi with your specially prepared hagama (rice cooked in traditional cast iron pot) lunch. Then spend some time at the **Niigata Furusato Village**, where there are shops selling Niigata specialties, restaurants serving local cuisine, a Niigata sightseeing information area, and a corner providing historical and cultural information of Niigata. Finish off the day with dinner at the hotel. HOTEL OYANAGI (1 Night) (B, L, D)

**Day 9: Sat, June 20** – YUDAGAMI ONSEN – NIIGATA – TOKYO. Start the day off with a visit to a **knife factory at Tsubame-Sanjo**. Tsubame-Sanjo is known all over the country as the top maker of kitchen goods, particularly kitchen knives. What makes Japanese knives so famous around the world? The knife blades give a sharper and more precise cut. This is your chance to own one of these skillfully honed knives for yourself! Enjoy lunch (on your own) at the nearby **Michi-no-Eki Tsubame-Sanjo** before making our way to Niigata Train Station. Depart on a **JR Super Express Train** for Tokyo. Upon arrival in Tokyo, transfer to your hotel where the remainder of the day is at your leisure. KEIO PLAZA HOTEL TOKYO (2 Nights) (B)

**Day 10: Sun, June 21** – TOKYO. Day at leisure. Enjoy shopping and dining in the bustling Shinjuku area, the hub of shopping and restaurants in Tokyo. The perfect day to relax and/or visit with family and friends. Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

**Day 11: Mon, June 22** – TOKYO – NARITA – HONOLULU. After a sumptuous buffet breakfast embark on a full day of discovery! Today's highlight will be a hands-on **sushi making class**, which will yield your delicious lunch. After lunch, take in the view of the surrounding city from **Tokyo Skytree**. At just over 2,000 feet tall, it is the tallest tower in Tokyo. Rising 350 meters above the ground, the Tokyo Skytree Tembo Deck offers a 360-degree panoramic view of Tokyo. Lastly, 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 WWII. Today, various products such as clothes, bags, cosmetics, fresh fish, dried food, and spices are sold along Ameyoko. Transfer to the airport for your flight home. Depart Narita International Airport via Japan Airlines flt #784 at 8:40 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 9:20 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B, L)

<sup>††</sup> 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.** 101625