

27th October - 11th November 2024

TASTES OF JAPAN

14 days exploring the food and culture of Japan
with experienced chef and tour leader Lisa Walton

Food and wine classes and experiences

- Tsukiji Fish Market
- Sushi making class
- Kobe Beef meal
- Udon making
- Sake Makers
- Kaiseki banquet
- Shabu Shabu meal
- Traditional tea ceremony
- Okonomiyaki

Visit exciting cities and historic sites and temples

- Asakusa Sensoji Temple
- Hiroshima Peace Park
- Itchiku Kubota Kimono Museum
- Miyajima Island
- Nara Deer Park
- Arashiyama Bamboo Forest
- Shirakawa-Go village
- Shinkansen Bullet train

Enjoy local markets and shopping heaven

- Ginza luxury shopping
- Kappabachi Kitchen Street
- Nakamise Shopping Street
- Omicho Food Market
- Nakatanidou Mochi
- Hida Sashiko Takayama
- Nomura fabric store
- Ninenzaka sweet stores

Contact us

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TASTES OF JAPAN

Step into a world of wonder and enchantment in Japan, a country brimming with **cultural treasures** and **natural beauty**.



Your tour leader - Lisa Walton

Lisa is a textile artist, former chef and obsessive foodie with a passion for travel. She is an experienced tour leader who loves sharing the joy of her adventures.

Dates

Commences in Tokyo - 27th October 2024
Finishes in Osaka - 9th November 2024

Costs

\$12,490 - twin share
Single Supplement - \$2810



Japan is a destination where **history, culture,** and **cuisine** come together to create a truly unique and **unforgettable adventure.**

Contact us

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TASTES OF JAPAN

27th October - 9th November

- **Day 1 (27 October): Narita/Haneda – Tokyo**
Upon arrival at Narita or Haneda airport meet your shared shuttle driver and proceed to your hotel.
Check-in and enjoy the rest of your day or evening at leisure.

Overnight at Park Hotel Tokyo or similar.

- **Day 2 (28th October): Tokyo – Nikko – Tokyo (B, L, D)**
This morning meet your guide in the hotel lobby at 09:30 am for a brief meeting, before departing the hotel at 10:00am for a fully day tour to Nikko
Today the itinerary will be as follows;
 - Transfer to Nikko
 - Visit Kegon Waterfall
 - Yuba Kaiseki Lunch
 - Lake Chuzenji
 - Nissho Toshogu Shrine
 - Return to Tokyo and head to Gonpachi Isakaya for dinner before returning to the hotel.

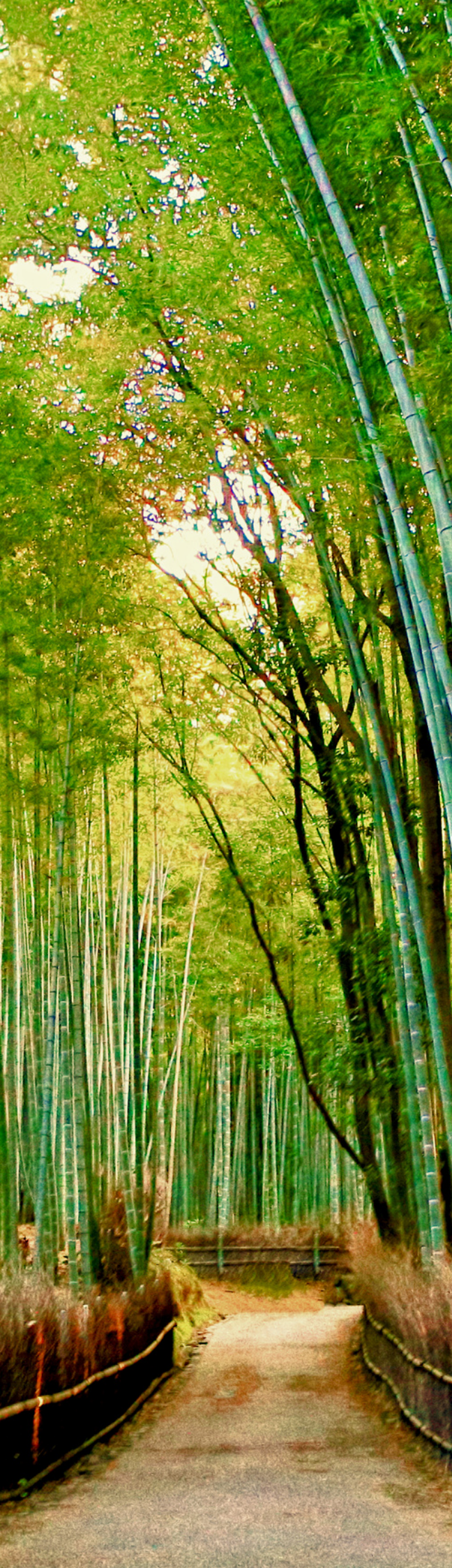
Overnight at Park Hotel Tokyo or similar.

- **Day 3 (29th October): Tokyo (B, L, D)**
Depart the hotel and spend the day experiencing the following;
 - Visit Tsukiji Outer Market and enjoy a sushi lunch
 - Kappabashi Kitchen Street
 - Sensoji Temple and Nakamise Shopping Street
 - Cooking class for early dinner at a studio in Shinjuku
 - After the cooking class enjoy a walking tour in the Shinjuku / Golden Gai area

Overnight at Park Hotel Tokyo or similar.

- **Day 4 (30th October): Tokyo – Kofu – Kawaguchiko (B, L, D)**
Check out of your hotel and transfer to Kofu which is approximately a 2 hour drive with your guide via coach.
 - Upon arrival in Kawaguchiko, head to the Chureito Pagoda before having lunch at Hoto Fudou restaurant.
 - You will then visit the Kawaguchiko Muse Museum and nearby crafts store before taking the Kawaguchi Mt. Fuji panorama rope way.
 - Final stop of the day will then be the Kubota Itchiku Kimono Museum.
 - If time permits we will also visit the Kawaguchiko Autumn Festival held along the lakeside.
 - This evening enjoy a Japanese kaiseki dinner before using the onsen facilities of your ryokan.

Overnight at Fuji Ginkei or similar



TASTES OF JAPAN

27th October - 9th November

● **Day 5 (31st October): Kawaguchiko – Matsumoto Takayama (B, L, D)**

Check out of your hotel and transfer to Takayama which is approximately a 2.5 hour drive with your guide via coach.

- On the way to Takayama we will stop by Matsumoto Castle for some sightseeing before enjoying a Hida beef lunch where you can also enjoy trying some Japanese sake or Yamatake Shochu.
- In the afternoon you will have a Takayama downtown walking tour visiting Nakabashi bridge, Takayama Jinja and Sannomachi.
- Before heading to the hotel we will visit the Yume Kojo Hida rice cracker factory where you can experience making your own rice crackers!
- Today you will enjoy dinner at your hotel with a choice of Hida Beef Steak, Hida Beef grilled with Hoba Miso, Hida Beef Sukiyaki, Hida Beef Hamburger or Yellowtail Shabu-shabu

Overnight at Tokyu Stay Hida-Takayama Musubi-no-Yu or similar.

● **Day 6 (1st November): Takayama – Shirakawago – Kanazawa (B, L, D)**

Check-out of your hotel and transfer to UNESCO's World Heritage Site Shirakawa-go with your guide by coach.

- You will visit the Shirakawa-go observatory before heading to the Wada House and strolling around the village.
- Enjoy Kaisendon for lunch at a local restaurant before transferring to Kanazawa.
- This afternoon visit the Nomura Samurai House and Higashi Chaya vintage area before enjoying dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Hotel Intergate Kanazawa or similar.

● **Day 7 (2nd November): Kanazawa – Kyoto (B, L, D)**

This morning check-out of your hotel and visit Omicho Morning market with your guide by coach.

- You will then transfer to Kanazawa station and take a bullet train (Shinkansen) to Kyoto with your guide.
- Upon arrival in Kyoto, head to Rhiga Royal hotel for a buffet lunch followed by visiting Kiyomizu-dera Temple and traditional sweet stores that line Ninenzaka.
- Lastly you will experience a tea ceremony before having Tempura dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Kyoto Tokyu Hotel or similar.

● **Day 8 (3rd November): Kyoto (B, L, D)**

Today we will have a full day of Kyoto sightseeing with your guide via coach.

- Firstly, head to Kinkakuji Golden Temple before heading to Arashiyama Bamboo Grove and Tenryuji Temple.
- Today's lunch will be Japanese Bento Box on a beautiful Yakatabune cruise.
- This afternoon visit the Yamazaki Distillery before heading to Gion corner and Hanamikoji street.
- Tonight's dinner will be Shabu Shabu with a special Maiko performance

Overnight at Hotel Vischio Kyoto or similar.

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27th October - 9th November

● Day 9 (4th November): Kyoto – Nara – Kyoto (B, L, D)

- Meet your guide in the lobby and firstly head to Nishiki Market and afterwards enjoy a lunch of inari sushi and kitsune udon. Optional visit to the Misuyabari Needle shop and Nomura Tailor for fabrics and hand made needles if you like
- Afterwards visit Fushimi Inari shrine and the famous Tori Gates before returning back to Kyoto and enjoy Sukiyaki for dinner.
- In the afternoon head out of Kyoto by coach to Nara where you will visit a Nakatanidou Mochi making store before strolling Nara Park and visiting Todaiji Temple.

Overnight at Hotel Vischio Kyoto or similar.

● Day 10 (5th November): Kyoto – Kobe – Takamatsu (B, L, D)

- This morning leave your hotel after breakfast and proceed to Kobe.
- Here we will visit the Hakutsuru Sake Brewery to enjoy tasting Sake before heading to Kobe Harbour Land for a beautiful photo of Kobe city.
- Today's lunch will be the famous Kobe beef before we head to Takamatsu via Awaji Island.
- Upon arrival in Takamatsu, check-in to the hotel and enjoy a Yakitori dinner at a local restaurant

Overnight at JR Clement Hotel Takamatsu or similar.

● Day 11 (6th November): Takamatsu – Matsuyama (B, L, D)

- This morning after breakfast please check out of your hotel and meet the guide.
- Firstly, we will head to Ritsurin Koen the largest Cultural Property Garden in all of Japan, and is an important cultural asset that has been maintained for nearly 400 years.
 - As Takamatsu is famous for Udon, today we will have a udon making experience which you can enjoy for lunch before heading to experience picking Ehime Mikans.
 - In the late afternoon proceed to Dogo Onsen and enjoy dinner, this evening we recommend you to enjoy the ryokans onsen facilities.

Overnight at Hotel Kowakuen Haruka or similar.

● Day 12 (7th November): Matsuyama – Hiroshima (B, L, D)

- This morning check out of your hotel and head with your guide to take a ferry from Matsuyama to Hiroshima, this ferry journey will go through the beautiful Setouchi sea.
- Upon arrival in Hiroshima head to the Atomic Bomb Dome and Peace Memorial Park before having a hands on experience of making Hiroshima Okonomiyaki for lunch.
- This afternoon we will head to Miyajima Island to visit the Itsukushima Shrine and see the many free roaming deer that inhabit the island,
- Return to Hiroshima and head for a dinner that includes Hiroshima Oysters.

Overnight at Sheraton Grand Hiroshima or similar.





TASTES OF JAPAN

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● Day 13 (8th November): Hiroshima – Osaka (B, L, D)

- This morning with your guide proceed to Hiroshima station and take a bullet train back to Osaka.
- Upon arrival we will head to the Shinsekai area and enjoy lunch with delicious Osaka kushikatsu.
- After lunch head to Osaka Castle for a photo stop before shopping at the downtown area of Dotonbori and Shinsaibashi.
- Tonight we will have a farewell dinner at an Osaka Yakiniku restaurant.

Overnight at Monterey Grasmere Osaka or similar.

● Day 14 (9th November): Osaka – Kansai Airport (B)

- Today check-out of your hotel and have free time at leisure until it's time to head to Kansai Airport.
- You can proceed to Kansai Airport by airport limousine bus, the bus terminal is located next door to the hotel.

INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation listed above (they are suggestions only and not confirmed at this stage)
- Shared Shuttle Transfer from Haneda/Narita to Tokyo hotel
- Private guide as specified
- Private coach as specified
- All express trains, ordinary class Shinkansen and ferry tickets
- Attraction entry fees and experiences as specified
- Meals as specified
- Luggage Transfer from Kanazawa - Kyoto & Dogo Onsen - Osaka

EXCLUSIONS

- International and domestic airfare (unless otherwise stated)
- Travel insurance
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Tips and gratuities (not routinely expected in Japan)
- Personal expenses (laundry, coin-locker, internet, telephone etc.)
- Visa (if required)

* The itinerary above is only a basic guideline and is subject to change due to operational conditions, weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances.

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