

 Phil Hoffmann Travel

JAPAN DISCOVERY

PHT ESCORTED JOURNEY | 26 OCT 2024





13 DAYS | FROM ADELAIDE | **Departs 26 Oct 2024**

JAPAN DISCOVERY

What to expect

Japan may be the very definition of a cultural crossroad, a country at the cutting edge of modern technology, that still reveres and honours its ancient past. Explore both sides of Japan on this journey that moves seamlessly from modern Tokyo one minute, to the natural beauty of Mount Fuji and surrounds. Brave the Shibuya crossing, before viewing the organized chaos from above. Travel between cities on the efficient Shinkansen bullet trains. Explore the city of Kyoto, the ancient capital, which retains many of its historic temples, silk-clad geisha and classical gardens. Explore the culinary delights of Japan, making Soba noodles, visiting a Sake brewery, a foodie tour in Osaka, and a farewell Teppanyaki dinner. With such a diverse collection of experiences, this tour is sure to delight and excite!

Tour Inclusions

- Return international flights (including taxes) from Adelaide with Singapore Airlines in economy class
- 11 nights superior hotel accommodation
- Transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles
- Travel on Shinkansen bullet trains with luggage forwarding service
- Sightseeing as per itinerary with applicable entry fees
- 26 meals
- Services of local professional English speaking driver/guides
- Pre-departure function in Adelaide and tour documentation.

Fitness Level

A reasonable level of fitness is required for this tour. Tours will involve getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights, sometimes on uneven ground, and climbing some steps. On several days there will be sightseeing on foot for extended periods of time.

TOUR FROM	PP TWIN SHARE
TWIN SHARE	\$10,999*
SINGLE TRAVELER	\$12,799*

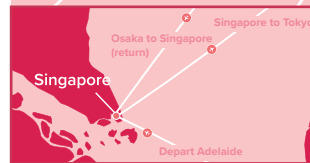
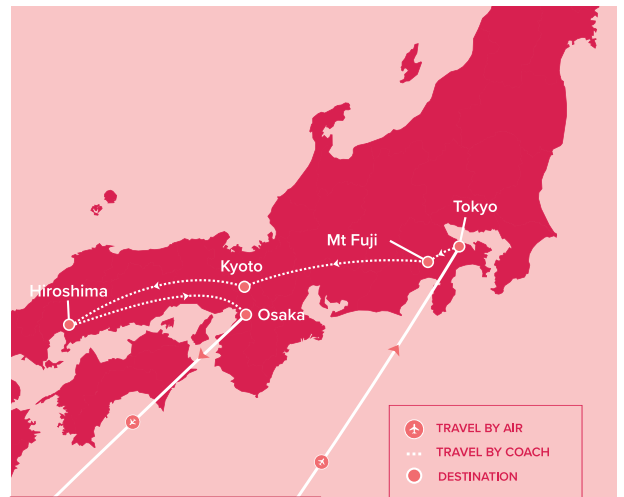
Prices based on per person, twin share ex. Adelaide

Personally Escorted by
Julie Williams*



BONUS

Choose from one of the following offers



DAY 1 | 26 OCT 2024, SATURDAY
Depart Adelaide

Stay: Paradox Merchant Court*

Travel from Adelaide to Singapore. On arrival transfer to Clarke Quay for an overnight stay.

DAY 2 | 27 OCT 2024, SUNDAY
Singapore to Tokyo

Stay: Sunshine City Prince—3 nights*

Arrive to Tokyo mid afternoon and transfer to the hotel. Welcome Dinner will be at the hotel this evening. (B,D)

DAY 3 | 28 OCT 2024, MONDAY
Tokyo

Begin exploring a small part of this fascinating city by coach tour. Stroll through the Imperial Palace East Garden before travelling to the Asakusa District, which has kept a vibe of an older Tokyo with street food stalls and traditional craft shops. Stop at the Sensoji Temple, Tokyo's oldest Buddhist Temple, before ascending the Tokyo Skytree, the third tallest building in the world, for views over the city. Later cruise on the Sumida River on a Himiko boat to Odaiba district. (B,L)

DAY 4 | 29 OCT 2024, TUESDAY
Tokyo

Spend a relaxed morning wandering around the classical landscapes of the Hamarikyu Gardens and exploring the Shinto Meiji Shrine, located in a green forest within the city. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before braving the Shibuya 'Scramble' Crossing, considered to be the worlds busiest pedestrian crossing. After experiencing from the ground level, ascend the Shibuya Sky Observation Deck to calmly watch it all unfold. Return to the hotel by coach with the rest of the afternoon at leisure. (B,L)

DAY 5 | 30 OCT 2024, WEDNESDAY
Tokyo to Mount Fuji

Stay: Fujisan Mishima Tokyu*

Travel 2 hours to the foothills of the base of Mt Fuji and the Fuji Five Lakes, formed by past volcanic eruptions. Ascent to Fuji's 5th station (if weather permits) for spectacular mountain views. After lunch visit the Itchiku Kubota Art Museum to view elaborate dyed silk creations, before visiting the western shores of Lake Sato and Iyashi no Sato Historical Village, famous for its thatched roof houses. Later transfer to Mishima and check into the hotel before an included dinner. (B,L,D)

DAY 6 | 31 OCT 2024, THURSDAY
Mount Fuji to Kyoto

Stay: Keihan Kyoto Ekiminami - 3 nights*

Today all main luggage will be forwarded to Kyoto and will be available the next day. All necessities for an overnight stay will need to be carried. Transfer to Oshino Hakkai, a scenic area of ponds full of crystal clear spring water created by melting snow from Mount Fuji. Get involved with making traditional Soba Noodles, before enjoying them for lunch. Later board a bullet

train to Kyoto, once the capital of Japan for a thousand years. Now Kyoto is full of the legacy of ancient Japan with tranquil temples, silk-clad geisha and beautiful gardens. After arriving at Kyoto rail station it is a short walk to the hotel for check-in. Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant a short walk from the hotel. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 | 1 NOV 2024, FRIDAY
Kyoto

Enjoy exploring Kyoto today, starting with a visit to the Fushimi Shrine with its thousands of torii gates. The Shrine stretches up Mount Inari (233 metres high) at a shallow incline. Later enjoy a traditional tea ceremony before heading to the Gekkeikan Sake brewery, founded in 1637, and learn about the historical techniques used to make this national brew. Later head to Togetsukyo Bridge in the district of Arashiyama. Take a stroll and a short rickshaw ride through the towering bamboo forest. The rest of the afternoon and evening is at leisure. (B,L)



DAY 8 | 2 NOV 2024, SATURDAY
Kyoto

The exploration of Kyoto continues with a visit to Ryoanji Temple (Temple of the Peaceful Garden), home to Japan's most famous Zen Garden, and Kinkakiju Temple, also known as the golden pavilion. In the afternoon head to Kiyomizu Temple, best known for its wooden stage that juts out from its main hall above the hillside. Explore Higashiyama District, which has preserved the look and feel of feudal-era Japan in a wood built historic quarter of narrow lanes with traditional shops, tea houses and restaurants. Enjoy a Kimono wearing experience before heading back to the hotel. Later enjoy a Kaiseki style dinner in Gion, Kyoto's most famous geisha district. (B,L,D)

DAY 9 | 3 NOV 2024, SUNDAY
Kyoto to Hiroshima

Stay: Granvia Hotel Hiroshima*

Today all main luggage will be forwarded to Osaka and will be available the next day. All necessities for an overnight stay will need to be carried. After breakfast, walk to the rail station and board a bullet train to Hiroshima. On arrival hop on a ferry to Miyajima Island to view the Itsukushima shrine, a giant torii gate that looks to float on the water at high tide. Explore the traditional market town on foot. After lunch visit the Peace Memorial Park

and Museum, dedicated to the devastation suffered by the city at the end of World War 2. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant just a short walk from the hotel this evening. (B,L,D)

DAY 10 | 4 NOV 2024, MONDAY
Hiroshima to Osaka

Stay: Citadines Namba Osaka—2 nights*

Travel by coach to Himeji. Visit the Himeji Castle, originally built in 1333, and upgraded over the following centuries. The well preserved site is regarded as the finest surviving castle of its type in Japan and had been declared a UNESCO Heritage site in 1993. Later continue to Osaka. (B,L)

DAY 11 | 5 NOV 2024, TUESDAY
Osaka

Begin exploring Osaka with a visit to the Osaka Castle, known for its sweeping views over the city from its hilltop perch. The castle was built between 1583 and 1585, and played a crucial role in the unification of Japan in the 16th century. Continue to the Umeda Sky Building, one of the tallest and most recognizable landmarks in the city, with is Floating Observatory offering panoramic views of the city. Later enjoy a foodie tour around the vibrant Dotonbori district, Osaka's premier entertainment and pleasure district. The rest of the afternoon will be at leisure. Later this evening enjoy a farewell Teppanyaki dinner. (B,L,D)

DAY 12 | 6 NOV 2024, WEDNESDAY
Depart Osaka

After breakfast transfer to Osaka to begin the journey to Adelaide via Singapore. (B)

DAY 13 | 7 NOV 2024, THURSDAY
Arrive Adelaide.

Arrive in Adelaide this morning.



**or similar*



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