# 11 DAY SOUTH KOREA AND JAPAN

## Asia Vacation Group - Worldwide Destination Operator

Established in 2015, Asia Vacation Group had been inspired passionately to bring Australians and New Zealanders to explore the beautiful landscapes of the world. We are proud to be 100% Australian/New Zealand owned and operated with our head office based in Melbourne and a main branch operated legally in Auckland.

The wanderlust for endless holidays grew powerful inside us that set out on a mission for comprehensive travel services and expanding a great network of partners across multiple continents.

New Zealand Company Owned	7 Day Change of Mind to Receive Refund	Fully Escorted by Tour guide
Relaxed Itinerary		

## **Day by Day Itinerary**

Seoul, Osaka, Tokyo

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Returned Flight from New Zealand
- Flight from Seoul to Osaka
- Shinkansen from Osaka to Tokyo
- Breakfast and Lunch each day of the tour
- 4-Star accommodation for 9 nights
- Bullet train included from Osaka to Tokyo
- Explore the mesmerising sights of South Korea, from the DMZ zone and Itaewon Street's vibrant pulse to Hwaseong Fortress, Bukchon Hanok Village's charm, Changdeokgung Palace's regal grandeur, and other cultural gems that enrich the country's landscape.
- Embark on a captivating journey through Japan's cultural wonders and natural marvels, from Nijo Castle and Todaiji Temple to Osaka Castle, Mt Fuji, Hakone Oishi Park, and Tokyo's Imperial Palace – a snapshot of Japan's diverse and enchanting treasures.

## ITINERARY

## Day 1: Seoul Arrival

Annyeong! Welcome to South Korea. Upon landing at Incheon International Airport, our representatives will greet you and ensure a smooth transfer to your hotel for check-in. Take this first day and evening to unwind. Whether you choose to kick back and relax or venture out to explore Seoul – the epicenter of South Korea's politics, economy, and culture – the choice is yours.

Meal: In-flight meals

Accommodation: President Seoul 4\* or similar

#### Day 2: Seoul

Your day kicks off with a bus transfer to Paju for a captivating DMZ tour, delving into the tensions between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone. Explore significant sites such as Imjingak Park, The Bridge of Freedom, The 3rd Tunnel, and the Dora Observatory. Following this, you will have the opportunity to discover Itaewon Street, a globally renowned hub in the heart of Seoul known for its vibrant bars, restaurants, shopping, and entertainment. Conclude your day with a transfer back to the hotel, where the evening is yours to enjoy.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: President Seoul 4\* or similar

## Day 3: Seoul

Embark on your day with a journey to Suwon, where you'll explore Hwaseong Fortress – a historical fortification encircling the centre of Suwon, the provincial capital of Gyeonggi-do, South Korea. Upon returning to Seoul, stroll

through the enchanting Bukchon Hanok Village, showcasing the unique architecture and lifestyle of the Joseon dynasty.

In the afternoon, marvel at the beauty of North Seoul Tower and then venture to Myeongdong Street, renowned as one of Seoul's prime shopping destinations. Your day concludes with a transfer back to the hotel, leaving the evening for you to enjoy at your leisure.

Meal: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation: President Seoul 4\* or similar

#### Day 4: Seoul - Osaka

Make the most of your final day in Seoul by commencing the morning with a visit to Changdeokgung Palace – a visual delight with its imposing gates, monumental halls, and the enchanting Secret Garden. Following this, explore the Invading Arts and Crafts Street, renowned for its historical arts and crafts.

In the afternoon, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Osaka. Upon arrival in Osaka, a transfer will take you to your hotel. Whether you choose to unwind and relax or wander the streets of Osaka, celebrated as Japan's food capital, the choice is yours to make the most of your time.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Sheraton Miyako Osaka 4\* or similar

## Day 5: Osaka

Begin your day with a journey to Kyoto, where you'll be captivated by the beauty of Kiyomizudera Temple, renowned for its iconic wooden terrace. Next on the itinerary is a visit to Nijo Castle, the former residence of the Shogun.

You will then explore Kinkakuji, a zen temple adorned with the top two floors coated in gold leaf. Continue your cultural exploration with a visit to Ryoanji Temple, another Zen temple celebrated for its tranquil rock garden.

Conclude your day with a transfer back to Osaka, where you'll be dropped off at the hotel, allowing you to enjoy the evening at your leisure.

Meal: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation: Sheraton Miyako Osaka 4\* or similar

## Day 6: Osaka

Commence your day with a journey to Nara, where you will first explore Todaiji Temple, a significant Buddhist temple and the head temple of all provincial Buddhist temples in Japan. The next stop is Kasuga Taisha, Nara's renowned Shinto shrine. Following this, experience Nara Deer Park, a central city park inhabited by hundreds of wild deer, often considered messengers of the gods and a national treasure.

After that you will dwelve into the charm of Naramachi, a former merchant district featuring old-style Japanese housing, creating a truly spectacular sight. Then you will venture to Kuromon Market in Osaka, a bustling produce market spanning 600 metres. Continue your exploration to Shinsaibashi & Dotonbori, the liveliest and most colourful part of Osaka, renowned for its vibrant atmosphere, shopping, and dining options.

The day concludes with a transfer back to the hotel, leaving your last night in Osaka for you to decide how you want to spend it.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Sheraton Miyako Osaka 4\* or similar

## Day 7: Osaka - Tokyo

Your last day in Osaka kicks off with your luggage being transferred to Tokyo. Begin by visiting Osaka Castle, hailed as one of the most visually spectacular creations in the country. Following this, head to the Umeda Sky Observatory to soak in breathtaking views. In the afternoon, make your way to Shin Osaka Station for your train journey to Tokyo. We would recommend you go for a window seat so that you can admire the natural beauty of Japan's countryside during the trip.

Upon reaching Tokyo, you will make your own way to your hotel, whether by metro, taxi, or a leisurely walk, taking in the vibrant atmosphere of the city. Once reunited with your luggage and checked into the hotel, the evening is yours to either rest or explore Tokyo's lively streets.

Meal: Breakfast.

Accommodation: Shinagawa Prince 4\* or similar

#### Day 8: Tokyo

Your day begins with a morning pick-up, heading first to the Edo-Tokyo Museum for an insightful journey into Tokyo's history. Next, explore Asakusa Temple, one of Tokyo's oldest Buddhist temples known for its vibrant colors. Before lunch, stroll through the nearby Nakamise shopping street, a renowned destination for traditional souvenirs, sweets, and snacks.

You will then venture to Odaiba, a popular shopping and entertainment district situated on Tokyo's man-made island in the bay. Your journey continues to Ginza, Tokyo's premier shopping district. On the way back to the hotel, take in the impressive Tokyo Tower. Once back at the hotel, the evening is yours to either relax or explore the vibrant nightlife of Tokyo.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Shinagawa Prince 4\* or similar

## Day 9: Tokyo

Following breakfast, you will be picked up and transported to Mt. Fuji 5th Station, the most popular of the mountain's five stations, situated at 2300m above sea level. Here, you can marvel at the sheer beauty of Mt. Fuji. Following this, enjoy a cruise on Ashi Lake, offering spectacular views. Your next destination is Hakone Oishi Park, a beautiful park with even more breathtaking vistas of Mt. Fuji. Conclude your day by being transferred back to Tokyo, where your last evening in Japan is yours to explore at your leisure.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Shinagawa Prince 4\* or similar

#### Day 10: Tokyo -

Commence your last day in Japan with a visit to Meiji Shrine, dedicated to the divine spirits of Emperor Meiji and Empress Shoken. Following this, indulge in a shopping excursion to Harajuku and Omotesando, vibrant hubs of Japan's fashion world. Proceed to Shibuya Crossing, immersing yourself in the lively intersection that epitomizes Tokyo.

Next, explore the Imperial Palace, the residence of the Japanese emperors. Make your way to Akihabara, renowned for Japanese electronics and recognized as the heart of Japan's otaku (diehard fan) culture. Conclude your day at Ameyoko in the Ueno Area, an atmospheric open-air market offering a diverse range of products, from fashion and cosmetics to medicines and fresh food, all at remarkably affordable prices.

Your journey concludes with a transfer to the airport for your departure, marking the end of your memorable trip. **Meal**: Breakfast.

Accommodation: On plane

## Day 11: Home Arrival

You arrive at your home today and we hope you enjoy your South Korea and Japan trip with Asia Vacation Group

# INCLUSIONS

- Returned flight from New Zealand
- 01 flights from Seoul to Osaka
- Shinkansen from Osaka to Tokyo
- 4\* hotel accommodations in central locations.
- Daily breakfasts and 2 lunches
- All entrance fees and sightseeing as mentioned in the program.
- Water bottles during tours.
- Transportation by air-conditioning vehicles.
- Escorted by professional English-speaking tour guides in each city

## **EXCLUSIONS**

• Meals and drinks that are not mentioned in the program

- Tipping for driver and tour guide (\$10/per person/day)
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance (we strongly recommend you hold a valid travel insurance policy for all domestic and overseas travel)
- Trip delay or interruption by airline schedule change
- Extra cost or missing tour caused by flight delay or cancel
- Any service not clearly mentioned in the program

# DEPARTURE DATES: PRICE IS QUOTED IN NZ\$ PER PERSON

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
<b>Monday</b> 10 Jun 2024	<b>Thursday</b> 20 Jun 2024	NZ\$6,899		Book
<b>Monday</b> 08 Jul 2024	<b>Thursday</b> 18 Jul 2024	NZ\$6,899		Book
<b>Monday</b> 12 Aug 2024	Thursday 22 Aug 2024	NZ\$6,899		Book
<b>Monday</b> 26 Aug 2024	Thursday 05 Sep 2024	NZ\$7,299		Book
<b>Monday</b> 02 Sep 2024	Thursday 12 Sep 2024	NZ\$7,499		Book
<b>Monday</b> 16 Sep 2024	<b>Thursday</b> 26 Sep 2024	NZ\$7,499		Book
<b>Monday</b> 07 Oct 2024	Thursday 17 Oct 2024	NZ\$7,499		Book
Monday 21 Oct 2024	Thursday 31 Oct 2024	NZ\$7,599		Book
<b>Monday</b> 04 Nov 2024	Thursday 14 Nov 2024	NZ\$7,599		Book
<b>Monday</b> 11 Nov 2024	Thursday 21 Nov 2024	NZ\$7,599		Book
<b>Monday</b> 06 Jan 2025	<b>Thursday</b> 16 Jan 2025	NZ\$8,399		Book
<b>Monday</b> 10 Feb 2025	<b>Thursday</b> 20 Feb 2025	NZ\$7,398		Book
<b>Monday</b> 10 Mar 2025	Thursday 20 Mar 2025	NZ\$7,799	Cherry Blossom	Book
<b>Monday</b> 24 Mar 2025	Thursday 03 Apr 2025	NZ\$7,899	Cherry Blossom	Book
<b>Monday</b> 07 Apr 2025	Thursday 17 Apr 2025	NZ\$7,899	Cherry Blossom	Book

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
<b>Monday</b> 21 Apr 2025	<b>Thursday</b> 01 May 2025	NZ\$7,499		Book
Monday 12 May 2025	Thursday 22 May 2025	NZ\$6,899		Book
Monday 26 May 2025	<b>Thursday</b> 05 Jun 2025	NZ\$6,899		Book
Monday 09 Jun 2025	<b>Thursday</b> 19 Jun 2025	NZ\$7,399		Book
Monday 14 Jul 2025	<b>Thursday</b> 24 Jul 2025	NZ\$7,599		Book
Monday 11 Aug 2025	Thursday 21 Aug 2025	NZ\$7,398		Book
Monday 08 Sep 2025	<b>Thursday</b> 18 Sep 2025	NZ\$6,899		Book
Monday 22 Sep 2025	Thursday 02 Oct 2025	NZ\$7,499		Book
Monday 06 Oct 2025	Thursday 16 Oct 2025	NZ\$7,299	Autumn Foliage	Book
Monday 20 Oct 2025	Thursday 30 Oct 2025	NZ\$7,599	Autumn Foliage	Book
Monday 10 Nov 2025	Thursday 20 Nov 2025	NZ\$7,599	Autumn Foliage	Book

## **OPTIONAL TOURS**

# **FINE PRINT**

## **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

This package includes international flights from Auckland, Christchurch, Queenstown and Wellington.

## **Interstate Surcharge**

Surcharge of \$450 for departures from Christchurch, Queenstown and Wellington.

In this packages, we will use some different airlines such as: Qantas Airlines, Malaysia Airllines or similar airlines (20kg for checked baggage per passenger and 7kg hand luggage per passenger, 01-piece check-in baggage).

- Some flights will require a minimum of 1 transit (maximum 2).
- All tickets will include 20 kilos checked baggage per person, along with 7 kilos of hand luggage.
- Despite the airlines baggage allowance, we recommend travelling with 20 kilos per person due to restrictions with internal flights (where applicable), as well as coach and train transportation. Also, you will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters is not included. If travelling over this amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable direct.
- Once ticketed, flights are non-refundable. Any changes will be subject to the airline rules, Airline change fees and an Asia Vacation Group change fee of \$250 per person.
- Full names as per passport (including all middle names) are required. Any error in the names submitted will be

- subject to an Asia Vacation Group name change fee of **\$150** plus any applicable fees charged by the airline, or the ticket may be non-refundable with the purchase of a new ticket required.
- Any airline schedule changes or cancellations are beyond our control. It is important that you, as the customer, stay up-to-date with the latest airline schedule information prior to your departure. If a schedule change results in extended transits or an earlier/later departure from your destination, any additional accommodation or alternative arrangements will be at the traveler's expense.
- Any airline 'extras' such as pre-allocated seating is at your own arrangement (additional charges apply)
- After booking, the price payable may be subject to change as a result of factors beyond the control of Asia Vacation Group. Asia Vacation Group reserves the right to increase the price payable and this will be reflected on the customer's invoice. Increases may be in relation to, but not limited to, currency fluctuations, airline taxes, airfare increases and fuel surcharges.
- Internal airfares (where applicable and included in the itinerary) will be using a local carrier and may include low-cost carriers without meals or entertainment. Checked baggage will still be included for each passenger. Any additional baggage required is payable at time of check-in.
- If you are travelling with another party on a separate booking, we cannot guarantee that the same flights will be booked for all parties, as this strictly depends on availability.
- You will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters are not included. If travelling over the recommended amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable directly.
- In the event of that you no-show on your scheduled flight, please be aware the airline will require you to pay a no show fee, Airline reissue fee plus any additional airfare and taxes. Asia Vacation Group will also charge a \$250 admin fee to assist re accommodating you on the next available flight. Please note that depending on the airline's policy, purchasing a new ticket may be required.

## Flight requests, amendments or preferences

We understand customers may wish to request changes to their included airfares. If you wish to fly with a certain airline, land at a certain time or change your flight in other ways we will gladly provide you with a personalised quote tailored to your specific requirements.

We would be more than happy to provide you with a quote for the following requests:

- Airline Preferences You may wish to fly with a particular airline
- Cabin Preferences These include upgrading to premium economy or business class
- Extensions (start and end cities must remain the same) You may request to extend your stay pre or post tour.
- Meal Requests You may request a specific meal for dietary requirements.
- Seat Requests If you would like to request particular seating. However please note, not all airlines allow the selection of pre-purchased seat arrangements.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## **Physical Requirements**

A reasonable level of fitness is required but it's more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You'll be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

#### **Tipping**

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. Tipping is \$10/person per day. Tipping is collected by agent before travelling or the day of your arrival.

## Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences however any changes are beyond our control.

## **Single Supplement**

Single supplement is \$1,295 in addition to the twin share price.

## **Paired Solo Traveler**

Not available.

## **Triple Share**

Upon your request except for cruises

## **Group Size**

10-20 people

#### **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is recommended to protect yourself against the unexpected. In addition to the support that a policy may provide, you may be asked to present a copy of your travel insurance documentation while traveling.

## **Visa & Passport information**

It is the traveler's responsibility to ensure they have a valid passport. The passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the intended date of return and must have more than 2 blank pages.

Kiwi passport holders do not need a visa to travel to Japan, for stays less than 90 days.

Kiwi passport holders can visit South Korea as tourists for stays of up to 90 days without applying for a visa.

#### Children

Children must be 5 years old or above and share a room with parents at all times. Children are charged the same price as adults.

#### **Tour Documentation**

Final documentation, including e-tickets and hotel details, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

## **Tour Length**

The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land.

#### **HOW TO EXTEND YOUR STAY**

You can enhance your holiday by arriving or departing before or after the tour. On this tour you can choose from the following options:

#### **Pre Tour Accommodation**

- \$290 per room, per night based on double/twin room share

## **Post Tour Accommodation**

- \$290 per room, per night based on double/twin room share

Please select the number of extra nights required in the 'Additional Nights Accommodation' field when making your purchase. The additional cost for these arrangements will be added to your final payment invoice and are subject to availability.

**ASIA VACATION GROUP** 

Australia Call: 1800 229 339