# 15 Day Highlights of Japan & South Korea

### Asia Vacation Group - World Travel Expert!

Local knowledge, adventures of a lifetime.

Discover <u>Asia</u> and the world with our team of experts, and a carefully selected, value-packed exploration of Asia's most iconic destinations. Our tours offer must-visit sights, rich experiences and quality inclusions all at an unbeatable prices. Your bucket list dreams are ticked off on these all-encompassing vacations.

Travel with the confidence. Your trip has been carefully crafted by <u>our team</u> with you in mind and it's that same team that takes you on the journey. One amazing team to help and guide you, not only as your local travel expert but also as a friend with helpfulness and sincerity.

Specialists in Asia touring since 2018, <u>Asia Vacation Group</u> is proud to be the people who craft your itinerary, help you at each step, plus guide and operate your tour.

New Zealand Company Owned	Return International Flights	7 Day Change of Mind to Receive Refund
Fully Escorted by English speaking guide		

## **Day by Day Itinerary**

Tokyo, Hamamatsu, Osaka, Shizuoka, Seoul, Jeonju, Yeosu, Gyeongju, Pyeongchang

# HIGHLIGHTS

- Return international airfares included
- Incredible sightseeing, including Kyoto's Fushimi Inari and Golden Pavilion, marvel at sacred Mount Fuji, discover the dazzling cities of Tokyo and explore South Korean including: Osaka, Seoul, Busan and the home of the 2018 Winter Olympics – Pyeongchang.
- 13 nights hotel in centrally location
- Daily breakfasts
- Comfortable, dedicated transportation throughout
- In-depth sightseeing and entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Offer 3 installment payment plan

# ITINERARY

### Day 1: Tokyo Arrival

Welcome to Tokyo – Japan!

Upon arrival into Tokyo, our driver will pick you up and transfer to the hotel for check in. Take the evening to relax after your flight and prepare for your first full day of the next day.

Meal: In-flight meals

**Accommodation**: APA Hotel & Resort Yokohama Bay Tower 3\* or Similar

Note: Some flights may depart the day earlier.

### Day 2: Tokyo - Oishi Park - Lake Kawaguchi - Mount Fuji - Hamamatsu

After breakfast, you will head to Mount Fuji. Your day starts with a stop at Oishi Park on the shores of Lake Kawaguchi, well known for its serene, flower-lined walking path and its spectacular view of Mount Fuji. Next, stop by the eight ponds at Oshino Hakkai – a small village in the Fuji Five Lake region fed by the snow melt from the nearby mountains. See traditional thatched roof farmhouses in the shadow of the iconic Mount Fuji. After your day in the Mount Fuji area we continue to Hamamatsu. Enjoy an evening at leisure and overnight at Hamamatsu.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Loisir Hotel Toyohashi 4\* or similar

## Day 3: Hamamatsu - Nara - Osaka

Today we head to Nara, famous for its many temples and its free-roaming deer. First, we visit Todaiji (Great Eastern Temple), one of Japan's most famous temples. This massive building houses one of Japan's largest bronze statues of Buddha (Daibutsu). We then wander through Nara Park, home to hundreds of friendly Sika deer.

We then continue to Osaka, where we will enjoy a walking tour of the Dōtonbori area. One of Osaka's most popular tourist destinations, this street runs parallel to the Dōtonbori canal and is a hugely popular destination for shopping, street food, bars and entertainment. At night the streets here are illuminated by hundreds of colourful neon lights and mechanised signs, including the famous running Glico Man sign and the Kani Doraku crab sign. Enjoy an evening at leisure in Osaka.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Inn & Suites Shin Osaka 3\* or similar

# Day 4: Osaka - Optional tour to Kyoto

You are free time at leisure today or buy an optional tour to Kyoto. .

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Inn & Suites Shin Osaka 3\* or similar

## Day 5: Osaka - Igaryu - Nagoya - Shizuoka

After breakfast, we depart Osaka for Shizuoka. On the way, we will visit the Ninja Museum of Igaryu where you can see a ninja trick house, ninja museum and experience a ninja show (if time permits, at own expense).

We then visit the historic 17th-century Nagoya Castle. The castle is the most iconic landmark in Nagoya and is an impressive sight. Afterwards, we continue to Shizuoka for an evening at leisure.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Associa Shizuoka 4\* or similar

### Day 6: Shizuoka - Asakusa - Nakamise Street - Tokyo

After breakfast, we return to Tokyo, where we embark on a tour of this energetic city.

In a city of such frenetic pace, a stop at the charming Asakusa neighbourhood is a refreshing taste of older Tokyo. It's home to the ancient seventh-century Sensō-ji Temple. Built in the Asuka era, it's the oldest and most important Buddhist temple in Tokyo – be prepared for crowds! It's known for its imposing entrance gate, Kaminarimon (also known as 'Thunder Gate'), with its magnificent red lantern.

We will walk along Nakamise, the shopping street connecting the front gate and main hall of the temple. It's a wonderful atmosphere, with food stalls and souvenir shops, selling authentic Japanese items like traditional crafts. You will find great souvenirs here. We'll then stop at Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building for late afternoon panoramic city views. Afterwards, we check in to our hotel for an evening at leisure.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Sunshine City Prince Hotel 3\* or Similar

# Day 7: Tokyo - Seoul

After breakfast, you are free until we drive to the airport for flight to Seoul – South Korea's Capital.

Upon arrival at Incheon International Airport which has been awarded to World's Best in Airport Service Quality by Airport Council International, met by our representative and transfer to Seoul which is the centre of politics, economy and culture in Korea. The rest of day is free at your leisure

Meal: In-flight meals.

Accommodation: Mayplace Seoul Dongdaemun 3\* or similar

## Day 8: Seoul

After breakfast, we pick up at your hotel around 08:30-09:00 am and have a Seoul full day sightseeing such as:

Jogyesa temple, Gyeongbokgung Palace (Deoksu Palace on Tue), the Royal Guard Changing Ceremony, National
Folk Museum, Korean Ginseng Center or Amethyst shop and transfer to Korean Folk village. Korean Folk Village (an hour and half drive away from Seoul) – you will experience the culture of the late Joseon Dynasty. It is huge village that has about 260 different types of house of each province. Late afternoon, return to Seoul and take a rest

**Meals**: Breakfast

**Accommodation**: Mayplace Seoul Dongdaemun 3\* or similar

### Day 9: Seoul - Gongju - Buyeo - Jeonju

After breakfast, we will pick you up and you will join other people at parking lot in front of Donghwa Duty Free Shop Building, at Gwanghwamun Intersection, Seoul and move to Gongju (130Km/ 1hr 30min) – Reveal the history Baekje Dynasty / The Tomb of King

Muryeong(UNESCO), Gongsanseong Fortress(UNESCO), a mountain castle which was established during the Baekje Period (234-678). Then, transfer to Jeonju (80Km/1 hr) to visit Jeonju Hanok Village including about 700 traditional Korean houses called Hanok. Check in your hotel and free time at leisure.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: RAMADA Jeonju Hotel 3\* or similar

# Day 10: Jeonju - Gwangju - Suncheon - Yeosu

After breakfast, you will head to Gwangju (100km/ 1hr 30min), the leading city of Honam region and birthplace of a modern democratic movement in Korea, May 18th National Cemetery (Gwangju, hometown of BTS member J-Hope and his song "Ma City" contains the May 18 Gwangju Democratization movement), then continue to Suncheon (100km/ 1hr) where you will visit Suncheon Bay National Garden and move to Yeosu (38km/ 40min), a romantic coastal city and look around the Yi Sun-shin Plaza. Check in your hotel and overnight at Yeosu.

Meal: Breakfast.

Accommodation: Ramada Plaza by Wyndham Yeosu 3\* or similar

## Day 11: Yeosu - Jinju - Busan - Gyeongju

After breakfast, you will head to visit Jinjuseong Fortress – historically linked to Japanese invasion in 1592 and next to Busan (100Km/1.5hrs). On arrival in Busan, we will pick up and transfer to Jagalchi Market and BIFF Square, Busan's old downtown with seafood, Haeundae Beach and Dongbaek Park and next transfer to Gyeongju (100Km/1hr 30min). Check in your hotel and overnight at Gyeongju.

Meal: Breakfast.

Accommodation: Commodore Hotel Gyeongju 4\* or similar

## Day 12: Gyeongju - Andong - Pyeongchang

After breakfast, you head to Seokguram Grotto (UNESCO), constructed by Kim Dae-Seong during the reign of King Gyeong-Deok (742-765) of the Silla Kingdom, Bulguksa Buddhist Temple (UNESCO) – the beauty of the temple itself and artistic touch of the stone relics are as awesome and fascinating as to be highly praised by visitors from all over the world, next to Andong (170km/ 2hr 30min), Andong Hahoe Village which has preserved the housing architecture and the village structure of the Joseon Dynasty. Moreover, the Village was naturally formed with people who actually live there. It has become world-famous for the visit of Queen Elizabeth II of The Great Britain. Move to Pyeongchang (234km/ 2hr 30min), 2018 Winter Olympic host city. Check in your hotel and free time at leisure.

Meal: Breakfast.

Accommodation: RAMADA Hotel PyeongChang 3\* or similar

# Day 13: Pyeognchang - Mt. Sorak - Seoul

After breakfast, we will drive to visit Venues of 2018 Winter Olympic Games, Sokcho (100km/ 1hr30min). Stop by Gangneung Hangho beach, BTS Bus station: Album Jackets: You never walk alone. Visit Seoraksan National Park (UNESCO Biosphere Zone), Seoraksan National Park, the peaks of the Seoraksan Mountains break through the clouds while jade-like water flows through the valleys, creating breath-taking-views and making this Korea's most famous national park. Due to the many rare species found here, UNESCO designated this national park a Biosphere Preservation District in 1982. \*Cable car to Gwongeumseong Fortress (Optional for cable car – USD20pp) and then return to Seoul.

Meal: Breakfast.

Accommodation: Mayplace Seoul Dongdaemun 3\* or similar

### Remark

During the peak season in October, the Seoraksan National Park will restrict buses and medium size bus for entries. Therefore, the bus must park at C District Square and you must walk 3.6km to the entrance from C District Square. So please be aware of that we might not be able to visit Seoraksan National Park for this tour.

### Day 14: Seoul - Home

You are free today and get ready for your flight to home.

Meals: Breakfast.

Accommodation: On plane

## Day 15: Home

You arrove at your home today and we hope you enjoy the trip with Asia Vacation Group

# INCLUSIONS

- Rerturn international flights
- Flight from Tokyo to Seoul
- Accommodations and daily breakfast in the category chosen or similar (subject to availability)
- Water bottles during tours
- Air-conditioned transportation
- All entrance and sightseeing fees as mentioned in the program
- English speaking tour guide

# **EXCLUSIONS**

- Meals and drinks are not mentioned in the program
- Tipping for driver and tour guide (suggestion: AUD10 per person/day)
- 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
- Extra Luggage transport service

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

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
<b>Saturday</b> 22 Jun 2024	Saturday 06 Jul 2024	NZ\$7,199		Book
<b>Saturday</b> 13 Jul 2024	Saturday 27 Jul 2024	NZ\$8,497		Book
<b>Saturday</b> 17 Aug 2024	Saturday 31 Aug 2024	NZ\$7,699		Book
<b>Saturday</b> 14 Sep 2024	Saturday 28 Sep 2024	NZ\$7,698		Book
Saturday 12 Oct 2024	Saturday 26 Oct 2024	NZ\$7,697		Book
Saturday 26 Oct 2024	Saturday 09 Nov 2024	NZ\$7,899		Book
<b>Saturday</b> 02 Nov 2024	Saturday 16 Nov 2024	NZ\$7,899		Book

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
Saturday 16 Nov 2024	Saturday 30 Nov 2024	NZ\$7,699		Book
Saturday 15 Mar 2025	Saturday 29 Mar 2025	NZ\$7,999		Book
Saturday 22 Mar 2025	Saturday 05 Apr 2025	NZ\$8,499		Book
Saturday 29 Mar 2025	Saturday 12 Apr 2025	NZ\$8,498		Book
Saturday 05 Apr 2025	Saturday 19 Apr 2025	NZ\$8,498		Book
Saturday 19 Apr 2025	Saturday 03 May 2025	NZ\$7,699		Book
Saturday 10 May 2025	Saturday 24 May 2025	NZ\$7,199		Book
Saturday 24 May 2025	Saturday 07 Jun 2025	NZ\$7,199		Book
Saturday 07 Jun 2025	Saturday 21 Jun 2025	NZ\$7,199		Book
Saturday 21 Jun 2025	Saturday 05 Jul 2025	NZ\$7,699		Book
Saturday 16 Aug 2025	Saturday 30 Aug 2025	NZ\$7,698		Book
Saturday 30 Aug 2025	Saturday 13 Sep 2025	NZ\$7,699		Book
Saturday 13 Sep 2025	Saturday 27 Sep 2025	NZ\$7,699		Book
Saturday 27 Sep 2025	Saturday 11 Oct 2025	NZ\$7,699		Book
Saturday 04 Oct 2025	Saturday 18 Oct 2025	NZ\$7,898		Book
Saturday 18 Oct 2025	Saturday 01 Nov 2025	NZ\$7,999		Book
Saturday 08 Nov 2025	Saturday 22 Nov 2025	NZ\$7,899		Book
Saturday 22 Nov 2025	Saturday 06 Dec 2025	NZ\$7,699		Book

# **OPTIONAL TOURS**

# **FINE PRINT**

#### **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

This package includes international flights from Auckland and **surcharge \$450** from Wellington, Queenstown, Christchurch.

In this packages, we will use some different airlines such as: Jetstar Airlines, Qantas Airlines, Malaysia Airlines or similar (20/23kg 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 23 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 personalized 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

### **Tipping**

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. Please be advised that tipping for tour guides,

drivers and bellmen are required and will be collected by your travel consultant 7 days before you depart. A gratuity of \$10 per person/day can make a big difference to locals employed in the tourism industry as they have done an impeccable job to serve you through your holiday.

#### **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is required to protect yourself against the unexpected.

We have partnered with Kiwi Holidays Insurance to offer you competitive rates for your travel insurance. You can book comprehensive or budget cover simply to arrange your policy.

### 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 \$1,850 per person in addition to the twin share price.

### **Paired Solo Traveler**

Not available.

Group size: 10-40 pax

### **Triple Share**

Upon your request except for cruises

### **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.

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

### **Tour Documentation**

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

#### Children

Children must be 2 years old or over and share a room with parents at all times. Children are the same price as adults.

# **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.

## **Cherry Blossoms**

Please note that Cherry Blossoms are weather dependent and it is not guaranteed that they will be in bloom at the time of your arrival.

# **Luggage Policy:**

- 1 Passenger is limited to carrying a maximum of 2 Suitcases with following Dimensions;
- 1 Suitcase having measurement of L 51 cm x W 31 cm x H 77 cm, with maximum weight 30 KG
- 1 Common Carry on Cabin Suitcase having L 38cm x W 23cm x H 60cm, with maximum weight of 10kg

Extra Charge for transfers is needed for any overweight and over quota luggages

### Coach

Drivers' working hours are regulated by Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Driver's daily working hours may not exceed 12 hours, including leaving/returning/standby time (average service hours: 09.00 - 20.00)

Daily driving time shall not exceed 9 hours. In addition to this, driver must have a daily rest period of at least 8 consecutive hours.

Daily driving distance shall not exceed 500 KM.

ONLY 1 piece of large suitcase per guest will be accepted to be loaded in coach trunk.

Should there the bus trunk capacity is FULL, Guests have to bear the luggage transfer cost according to their respective dimension or weight.

If over 35 pax/coach, luggage transfer truck is required on Arrival and Departure.

Regarding current official government guidelines in safe coach operation, passengers may be required to wear masks and body temperature screening will be conducted whenever it is necessary.

There is also a possibility of changing in passenger capacity per coach to keep passengers apart from each other.

government measures.

# **HOW TO EXTEND YOUR STAY**

This is availbale upon your request. Please select number of night for pre or post tour and our travel consultant will get back to you.

**ASIA VACATION GROUP** 

Australia Call: 1800 229 339