

Escorted **GROUP TOUR**

YOKOSO! CENTRAL JAPAN

9 DAYS • 8 NIGHTS

TOKYO / NAGANO / KANAZAWA / TAKAYAMA / TOBA / KYOTO

Visit Japan's mountain resorts and villages. Meet the wild monkeys, and experience the indigenous culture of the area in Nagano and Takayama. Then the tour visit Ise and Kyoto, the places which are the base of Japanese mentality. Please see and learn the diversity of Japanese culture and history in this tour!

2019 Departure Dates:

Feb. 14, 28	Jul. 4, 18
Mar. 14, 28	Aug. 1, 15, 29
Apr. 11, 25	Sep. 12, 26
May. 9, 23	Oct. 10, 24
Jun. 6, 20	Nov. 7, 21

Land Costs:

Basic Category:	Superior Category:	
from \$3,170	from \$3,440	(Price as of Jan. 2019)

*Prices are per person in USD, based on double occupancy

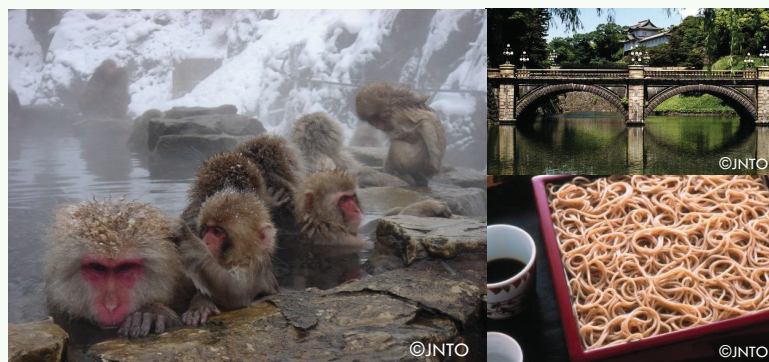
*Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests

*Prices vary depending on departure dates

*Please ask for single supplement / triple reduction

Includes:

- 8 nights accommodations
- Full service by National licensed guide
- Daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Ground transportation
- Luggage transfers
- Airport transfers



Perfect moments, always

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Itinerary:

Day 1 Tokyo Arrival

Upon arrival at Narita or Haneda airport meet your English speaking assistant. He/she will take you to the limousine bus to the hotel in Tokyo (ticket will be given from the assistant). Transfer to the hotel and check in on your own. Free at leisure after check in.

[No Meal]

Day 2 Tokyo

Meet your travel fellows and English speaking guide at the hotel lobby and start the morning tour of Tokyo. The tour will visit **Asakusa**, the downtown of Tokyo. Visit **Sensoji temple**, the oldest temple in Tokyo and **Nakamise shopping arcade** which sells traditional Japanese kimono, goods or sweets. Enjoy free time for lunch and strolling around the town of Asakusa. Then proceed to the **Imperial Palace Plaza** for photo stop, the former residence of Tokugawa shogun family in the Edo period and now current residence of the Japanese Imperial Family followed by the free time at **Ginza**, one of the most sophisticated shopping districts in Tokyo. At night transfer to Shinjuku and enjoy your dinner at the local restaurant.

[Breakfast / Dinner]

Day 3 Tokyo – Nagano – Monkey Park – Yudanaka Hot Springs

Transfer to Tokyo and take the “Hokuriku Shinkansen” super express train for Nagano, central part of Japan. Upon arrival at Nagano station start the tour with the visit to **Zenkoji temple**. It is very old Buddhist temple constructed before Buddhism was split into several sects, so every sects can be accepted at this temple. Experience “Gomagyo”, burning the sacred wooden chips to drive away evils and pray for health, peace and good fortune, enjoy “Soba”, **Japanese buckwheat noodles making**. You can taste the noodle for your lunch.



Then visit **Jigokudani Monkey Park**. It is well known as “Snow Monkey”, the wild monkeys soak in the hot springs in winter. Although they do not bathe in spring or summer because of heat you can still enjoy and watch the wild life of monkeys. On this night you will stay in Japanese style hotel called “Ryokan”. Please experience soaking public bath of hot springs and enjoy Japanese style dinner, and sleeping on “tatami” (straw mat floor) room.

[Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner]

Day 4 Yudanaka – Nagano – Kanazawa

Visit **Hokusai Ukiyoe** (Japanese art flourished in 17-19 centuries) **Museum** before going to Kanazawa. Hokusai is one of the most famous artists of Ukiyoe Japanese art. After arriving at Kanazawa by the Shinkansen visit **Omicho Market** which sales daily foods such as fish, meat, vegetable or fruits, and enjoy free time for lunch and strolling around the market. Then visit **Kenrokuen Japanese Garden**, one of the top three most beautiful Japanese gardens in Japan, and **Higashi-Chaya preserved district** where you can enjoy the atmosphere of old streets in the Edo period. After checking in to your hotel free at leisure.

[Breakfast]

Day 5 Kanazawa – Shirakawago Village – Takayama

Proceed to **Shirakawago village**, which is famous for unique and traditional “Gasshozukuri” thatched houses and registered as UNESCO World Heritage site. After lunch at the local restaurant transfer to **Takayama** and visit **Yatai Kaikan Museum** where the stalls of Takayama festival are exhibited followed by the walking tour of Kami Sannomachi Street where classical houses are well preserved, and visit the Sake Brewery. Then walk to the hotel and check in.

[Breakfast / Lunch]

Day 6 Takayama – Ise – Toba

Visit **Takayama Morning Market** before waiking to Takayama station. Transfer to Nagoya by limited express train and upon arrival take free time for lunch at Nagoya. After lunch proceed to Ise by Kintetsu limited express train. Upon arrival at Ise transfer to **Ise Jingu Shrine**, Japan’s most sacred and highest ranked shrine. After visiting the shrine and **Okage Yokocho** shopping arcade spreading in front of the shrine transfer to **Toba** and check in to your hotel.

[Breakfast]



Day 7 Toba – Kyoto

Toba is the base to explore **Ise Shima National Park** which is famous for its Rias coast and the beauty of islands on the sea, and also well known with **Mikimoto Pearl Island**. Kokichi Mikimoto established a factory for pearl cultivation and succeeded producing high quality of pearls after a long struggle. The tour visit the factory and see how Mikimoto pearl is created and also see the performance of Ama Women Divers. Then transfer to Kyoto by limited express train. Upon arrival enjoy your lunch at the local restaurant and start the afternoon tour of Kyoto. Visit **Kinkakuji Golden Pavilion**, the Buddhist temple originally constructed in 1397 by Ashikaga shogun (commander in chief of Samurai administration), and new building was built in 1955 after original has been burnt down by arson. Then enjoy Japanese culture experience such as **Tea ceremony**, **Kimono wearing** or **Japanese calligraphy** before check in to your hotel.

[Breakfast / Lunch]

Day 8 Kyoto

Start the full day tour of Kyoto from the visit to **Fushimi Inari Shrine**. The scenery where hundreds of red Torii gates are lined is quite spectacular. Then visit **Arashiyama**, which is famous for beautiful **Togetsukyo bridge** crossing Katsura River and serene **bamboo forest**. Stroll around the bridge and the bamboo forest, some free time for lunch and visit **Tenryuji**. It is the temple which belongs to Zen Buddhism sect. After a brief rest at the hotel, visit **Gion**, the dining and entertainment district of Kyoto and enjoy your dinner at the local restaurant.

[Breakfast / Dinner]

Day 9 Kyoto – Osaka Departure

Transfer to Kansai or Itami airport by shuttle taxi with your luggage. Your room is available until regular check out time.