



Tottori Sand Dunes ©Tottori Prefecture ©JNTO



Todaiji Temple

Fushimi Inari

Kasugataisha

Hidden Gems & Best of Kansai Region, Japan

Osaka, Nara, Kyoto, Hyogo, Tottori (9 days / 8 nights)

Kansai, located in the center of the main island of Japan, is steeped in ancient history, religion and culture. Traditional Japanese beauty spreads throughout Kansai. This itinerary takes you to not only iconic, mustsee spots but also nostalgic hidden gems, where you can find a different Japan. Explore Osaka Castle Park and indulge in famous culinary delights in Osaka. Discover Nara, a former capital of Japan also known as a major cradle of Japan's arts, crafts, literature and culture, not to mention industry. Visit grand temples, shrines, places and gardens in Kyoto, Japan's capital for over 1,000 years, and during that time became the repository of much of the best of Japanese art, culture, religion, and thought. Visit Hyogo in a long history of sake brewery and also see the Himeji Castle, one of the most beautiful castles in Japan. Tottori is noted for the sand dunes located 5 km. to the north in a portion of the San-in Kaigan National Park. Nestled between mountains and sea in Western Japan, Tottori is a region of unparalleled natural beauty and an ideal destination for travelers seeking off-the-beaten path.

This is a tailor-made travel program and we can craft your personalized itinerary designed based on your interests.

Day 1: Kansai Airport » Osaka
Stay at hotel in Osaka

Day 2: Osaka
Attractions in Osaka
• Osaka Castle • Dotonbori district
• Sakai City Traditional Crafts Museum
• Jikko Japanese Cutlery • Shinsekai
Stay at hotel in Osaka

Day 3: Osaka » Nara » Kyoto
Attractions in Nara
• Todaiji Temple • Nara Park
• Kasuga Taisha • Naramachi
Stay at hotel or ryokan in Kyoto

Day 4: Kyoto
Attractions in Kyoto
• Kyoto Imperial Palace • Nishiki Market
• Kiyomizu Temple • Gion district
Stay at hotel or ryokan in Kyoto

Day 5: Kyoto
Attractions in Kyoto
• Fushimi Inari Shrine • Golden Pavilion
<Arashiyama area>
• Togetsukyo Bridge • Arashiyama Bamboo Grove
• Tenryuji Temple
Stay at hotel or ryokan in Kyoto

Day 6: Kyoto » Himeji, Hyogo
Attractions in Hyogo
• Nadagogo
*Sake breweries, such as Hama Fukutsuru Ginjo, Kiku-Masamune Sake Brewery Museum, Hakutsuru Sake Brewery Museum, etc.
• Himeji Castle
Stay at hotel in Himeji

Day 7: Himeji » Misasa Hot Spring, Tottori
Attractions in Tottori
• Uradome Coast Sightseeing Cruise
• Tottori Sand Dunes and The Sand Museum



Osaka Castle (C)Osaka Conventi on & Tourism Bureau ©JNTO



kiyomizu

• Mitokusan Sanbutsuji Temple
Stay at ryokan in Misasa Hot Springs

Day 8: Misasa Hot Springs » Kaike Hot Springs, Tottori
Attractions in Tottori
• Kurayoshi's Shirakabe Storehouses
• Goshō Aoyama Manga Factory
• Yumigahama Cycling
Stay at ryokan in Kaike Hot Springs

Day 9: Kaike Hot Springs » Yonago Airport
Attractions in Tottori
• Tottori Hanakairo Flower Park
• Mizuki Shigeru Road



JTB USA Inc.
19700 Mariner Ave., Torrance, CA 90503 | <http://www.jtbusa.com>
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Tel: 1-800-882-0268 / 310-303-3742
E-mail: asia@jtbusa.com

HIGHLIGHTS:

Osaka Castle

A monumental fortification constructed, upon the order of Toyotomi Hideyoshi, to be the strongest and most beautiful castle in Japan.

Dotonbori district

Osaka's hotspot for tourists and reveler alike, Dotonbori is filled with towering neon signs, clubs, bars, and restaurants serving up local specialities.

Todaiji Temple

The Daibutsuden (Great Buddha Hall) at Todaiji Temple of the ancient city Nara is famous for the Daibutsu, or "Great Buddha", and was the largest wooden structure in the world.

Nara Park

Most commonly called the "Deer Park" by visitors due to its many deer that roam the park. There are about 1,100 tame deer roaming the park.

Kasuga Taisha Shrine

Located in a forest, it creates an atmosphere of peace and holiness unmatched by other shrines.

Nishiki Market

With a 400 year history, Nishiki Market is known as the "Kitchen of Kyoto."

Kiyomizu Temple

Situated atop a small mountain on the east side of Kyoto, Kiyomizu Temple offers a commanding view of the city. The temple's huge, lattice-supported deck is one of the most famous images of Japan.

Gion district

The traditional townhouses, known as machiya, line the streets of Gion. Many of these former residences have been transformed into restaurants, shops, and other businesses. You might even glimpse a real geisha in training, known as a maiko.

Fushimi Inari Shrine

The heard of all of Japan's Inari shrines. The seemingly endless path of vibrant range torii gate leading up Mt Inari makes for an impressive setting and is one of the most famous images of Japan.

Golden Pavilion

The spectacular gold temple that glitters right next to the mirror pond.

Arashiyama Bamboo Grove

One of Kyoto's most photographed and recognizable sights, and a walk through it will be one of your most lasting impressions of this city.

Nadagogo & Sake Breweries

Home to breweries known for producing delicious Japanese sake. The area has been famous for brewing the drink for more than 300 years.

Himeji Castle

Known as the White Heron Castle and is both a Japanese National Treasure and a World Heritage site. Its status as one of Japan's 12 remaining original castles makes this fortress a must for anyone interested the history of Japan.

Tottori Sand Dunes and The Sand Museum

The most renowned destination in Tottori. Beyond sightseeing, visitors can try a wide variety of activities.

Mitokusan Sanbutsuji Temple

Climb a path that has long served as a training site for mountain ascetics to cleanse impurities while passing ancient temples that stud the steep rocky slopes of Mt. Mitoku.

Kurayoshi's Shirakabe Storehouses

Visit the historic merchant quarters and classic white-walled warehouses and see the former seat of power for the Hoki region.

Misasa Onsen (Hot Springs)

Famous for their healing properties, the hot springs in Misasa contain a high level of radon which speeds up the metabolism and improves the immune system. This historic hot spring town is a delightful place to enjoy a leisurely stroll.

Kaike Onsen (Hot Springs)

Selected as one of Japan's 100 best spots to watch the sunrise, the view from this hot spring resort has a beautiful coastline, white sandy beaches, and green pines in the foreground and the towering form of Mt. Daisen in the background.



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Uradome Coast ©Tottori Prefecture ©JNTO



NaraPark



Arashiyama ©Yasufumi Nishi©JNTO



Takoyaki ©JNTO



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