

# Fuji-Hakone-Izu Timeless Towns Rich in History and Nature's Bounty: Shizuoka & Kanagawa (4days/3nights)

Discover the allure of Ito, a picturesque city celebrated for its breathtaking natural beauty, from serene beaches to lush mountain landscapes. Immerse yourself in Atami's historic hot springs, which have captivated bathers since the Nara period (710-794), offering a rejuvenating experience amidst scenic surroundings. Explore the historic city of Odawara, brimming with rich samurai heritage, stunning natural landscapes, and captivating cultural attractions that tell stories of its illustrious past. In Kamakura, experience the serenity of Zen temples and beautifully manicured gardens through a private tour, allowing you to find inner peace and tranquility. Visit Yokohama, a vibrant, modern city that seamlessly blends Japanese tradition with influences from China and the West, creating a unique cultural tapestry.

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

# **[SAMPLE ITINERARY]**

# Dav 1: TOKYO » ITO » ATAMI

Embark on an unforgettable journey by departing from Tokyo Station on the Shinkansen (bullet train) to Ito, a charming coastal city renowned for its breathtaking natural beauty. Discover the awe-inspiring Jogasaki Coast, with its rugged volcanic cliffs and stunning scenery. Then, ascend to Mt. Omuro, a prominent landmark in Ito, where you can elevate your experience with panoramic vistas that encompass Mt. Fuji and the Izu Islands. Conclude your day with a luxurious onsen (hot spring) experience in Atami, soaking in the therapeutic waters while basking in the serene natural surroundings.

# Day 2: ATAMI » ODAWARA

Start your day with a visit to Atami Castle, where you can enjoy stunning views of the town and the Pacific Ocean. Next, get your art fix at the MOA Museum of Art, which houses an impressive collection of works. While most visitors come to Odawara to see the iconic Odawara Castle, this coastal city also offers the Enoura Observatory, where you can enjoy stunning views of the bay. A private guide will lead you on an exclusive tour of each building, offering insightful explanations about the diverse garden theme.

# Dav 3: ODAWARA » KAMAKURA » YOKOHAMA

Start your day with a visit to Kamakura, where you can experience the serenity of Zen temples and beautifully manicured gardens through a private tour. Visit the revered Hase-dera Temple, renowned for its exquisite gardens and the iconic Kannon statue. Explore the tranguil Hokoku-ji Temple, known for its splendid bamboo grove. Take a serene walk through the bamboo forest and immerse yourself in the calming atmosphere. Conclude your day in Yokohama by exploring the vibrant nightlife and visiting iconic landmarks like the Red Brick Warehouse. Enjoy stunning night views of the city skyline, making for a memorable end to your evening.

# **Day 4: YOKOHAMA**

Start your morning with a visit to Sankeien Garden. Enjoy a private guided tour led by a knowledgeable curator, exploring the garden's historic buildings, tranquil ponds, and seasonal flowers.

After savoring every moment of your enchanting journey through these remarkable cities, continue to your next destination, ready to embark on new adventures and create even more unforgettable memories.



For more information, please contact us! JTB USA Inc. Phone: 1-800-882-0268 Email: asia@itbusa.com http://www.itbusa.com Business Hour: Monday - Friday (except National Holidays) 9:00 - 17:30 (PST)



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Jogasaki Coast

Jogasaki Coast, known for its rugged beauty and dramatic cliffs formed by volcanic activity. Walk along the Jogasaki Picnical Course and Nature Study Trail, crossing the thrilling Kadowaki Suspension Bridge and visiting the Kadowaki Lighthouse's observation deck for stunning coastal views.



## Mt. Omuro

Mt. Omuro, a prominent landmark in Ito, was formed by an eruption around 4000 years ago and is the largest scoria cone within the Izu East Volcanic Group. This entire mountain is designated as a national natural monument. Take the ropeway to the summit and enjoy panoramic views of Mount Fuji, the Izu Islands, and Sagami Bay.



## Atami Onsen (Hot Springs)

Immerse yourself in Atami's historic hot springs, which have captivated bathers since the Nara period (710-794). The healing properties of these springs fascinated Shogun Tokugawa leyasu, who even attempted to recreate them in Edo (now Tokyo). Today, a diverse array of hot springs continues to attract visitors seeking rejuvenation and relaxation in these therapeutic waters.



### **Enoura Observatory**

The Enoura Observatory is a project of the Odawara Art Foundation, founded by Japanese contemporary artist Hiroshi Sugimoto. Situated on the grounds of a former tangerine orchard, the Observatory was designed to showcase modern art while also preserving and potentially reviving endangered architectural traditions.

### **Odawara city**

Odawara is a major transportation hub and the gateway to the Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park. Particularly famous for Odawara Castle, this area is a popular tourist destination in the prefecture. Over the centuries, Odawara also served as an important post town along the Tokaido Highway, which linked Edo (now Tokyo) to Kyoto.

### **Hase-dera Temple**

Hase-dera Temple, a sister to Nara's Hasedera and one of the oldest temples in Kamakura, is said to have been established in the eighth century. It is home to a giant statue of the Kannon, or goddess of mercy.



## Hokoku-ji Temple

Find your piece of Zen at Hokokuji Temple, affectionately known as the "Bamboo Temple." This serene sanctuary is home to a bamboo grove filled with tall, sweeping plants.

#### **Oyama Afuri Shrine**

Oyama Afuri Shrine, perched on Mt. Oyama in Kanagawa, is a historic Shinto shrine dedicated to rain and agriculture deities. It offers scenic views, ancient relics, and a beautiful waterfall with pure drinking water. The shrine's name "Afuri" reflects its role in praying for rainfall.

#### **Odawara Castle**

Odawara Castle, located in Odawara City, Kanagawa, is a reconstructed Japanese castle originally built in the mid-15th century. The castle offers exhibits on its history, beautiful cherry blossoms in spring, and a view of the surrounding park and city from the top floor. Nearby, you can also find a Ninja Museum and a Samurai Museum.



#### Yugawara Onsen (Hot Springs)

Yugawara Onsen, nestled between mountains and the ocean in Kanagawa Prefecture, is a serene hot spring town renowned for its mineral-rich waters. Perfect for a tranquil retreat, visitors can luxuriate in rejuvenating onsens, explore scenic trails, and immerse themselves in vibrant local culture and festivals.



#### Yokohama city

Yokohama is a dynamic and modern city that beautifully blends Japanese tradition with influences from China and the West. Whether you're looking to savor delicious cuisine, immerse yourself in rich culture and history, or take in spectacular views, Yokohama and its surrounding areas offer something for everyone.



#### **Sankeien Garden**

Sankeien Garden, a quintessential Japanese garden adorned with historic buildings and seasonal blooms.

