

Treasures of Kansai, Japan: Nature, Traditions, Myths, and more (9days/8nights)

There are plenty of less-explored locations to discover in Kansai region of Japan. Come and see the beauty of this nature blessed destination. Feel the shoreline's beauty and bounties by visiting Amanohashidate & Ine, Kyoto. In Fukui and Iga, learn samurai warriors and craftsmanship. Follows the ancient roads in myths in Ise and Nara. Experience the traditions, myths, artistic, food cultures and more of the Kansai region!

Day 1: Kansai Int'l Airport » Osaka

Arrival at Kansai International Airport in Osaka, and transfer to Osaka.

Day 2: Osaka » Northern Kyoto

Visit a rural city filled with culture & nature, Ayabe and enjoy the distinct scenery and atmosphere of the region. Experience a traditional craft making and discover lifestyles rooted in the land and immerse your mind and body in rural tranquility.

Day 3: Northern Kyoto

Visit Amanohashidate, the site of one of Japan's three most beautiful views. Explore lne, a traditional fishing town and its beautiful boathouses that sit right on the bay.

Day 4: Northern Kyoto » Fukui

Explore in Fukui, the home to Zen Buddhism, Echizen pottery, popular with history buffs, Buddhist scholars, nature lovers, and those in search of culinary adventures.

Day 5: Fukui

Discover trace of the Samurai history of this region and learn about deep history & culture.

Day 6: Fukui » Shiga

Today, proceed to Shiga, home to Lake Biwa, the largest lake in Japan. Visit Hikone Castle, one of only five castles listed as a National Treasure and a beautifully preserved merchant town, Omihachiman.

Day 7: Shiga » Iga » Ise

Visit the Iga region of Mie, known as the home of ninja. Enjoy a full-on ninja experience at Iga's museum and castle.

Day 8: Ise

Explore the east side of the Kii Peninsula, best known for Ise Jingu Shrine, one of Japan's oldest and most significant shrines and its many specialty dishes, and delectable seafood. You can also meet women divers at the Ama Huts.

Day 9: Ise » Nara » Osaka

Travel to Nara, former feudal capital of Japan and home to some of the finest examples of ancient art and architecture in the country.

Stay as you need in Osaka, the gateway to the Kansai region.



For more information, please contact us!

JTB USA Inc. Phone: 1-800-882-0268 Email: asia@jtbusa.com Business Hour: Monday - Friday (except National Holidays) 9:00 - 17:30 (PST)

ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES:

Amanohashidate

Located in a protected bay along the coast of Northern Kyoto, it is one of the three most scenic spots along with Matsushima in Miyagi Prefecture and Miyajima in Hiroshima Prefecture.



Ine

A traditional fishing town and its beautiful boathouses that sit right on the bay. Ine is famous for the wooden boathouses called 'Funaya'. The funaya houses stand in a row around the bay creating a scenery unique to lne town, which somehow evokes a nostalgic feeling.







Eiheiji Temple

One of the head temples of the Soto school of Zen Buddhism. This major temple has long had a reputation for scrupulousness, and even today, monks come to practice from all around Japan.





Maruoka Castle

One of only twelve original castle towers remaining in Japan and recognized as an Important Cultural Property.



Hikone Castle

One of Japan's most famous castles, Hikone exudes a timeless and triumphant aura. This castle tower is registered as a national treasure and is one of only five castles in Japan to hold that honor.





Omihachiman

Omihachiman, located on the shores of Lake Biwa and along the Nakasendo road between Tokyo and Kyoto, has flourished as a merchant town for centuries.



Ninja Museum of Iga-Ryu (Ninja House)

The Iga-ryu Ninja Museum is a great place to learn about the skills, knowledge, and activities of ninjas.

Ise Jingu Shrine

The most sacred sanctuary of the Shinto religion in Japan, located in Ise, Mie.



Ama Huts



The port town of Osatsucho has the highest population of ama (traditional female free divers) in Japan, making it the perfect place to learn about the ancient customs of these skilled women.

Todai-ji Temple

The Habitude (Great Buddha Hall) at Todai-ji 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 (Deer 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

Founded in 768 at the foot of Mt. Mikasa, believed to be a sacred mountain and designated as a World Heritage Site.

