



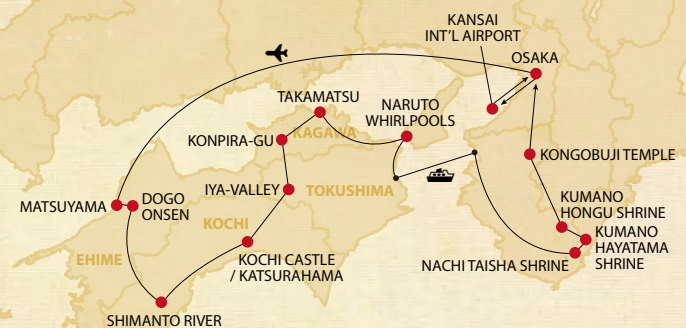
# WESTERN SPIRITUAL ESCAPE

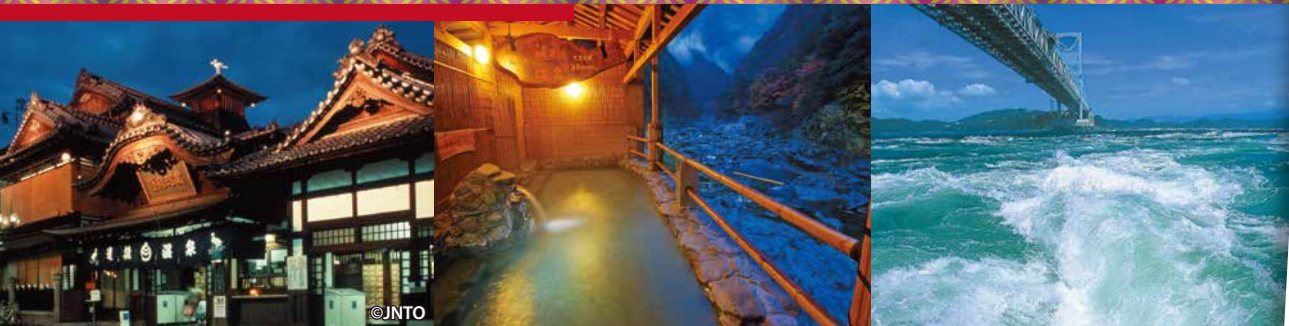
11 DAYS · 10 NIGHTS



Travel across **Shikoku**, Japan's fourth largest island, visiting each of its four prefectures: **Kagawa**, **Tokushima**, **Kochi**, and **Ehime**.

Enjoy the river breeze from the boat's deck as you cruise down one of Japan's last pristine rivers, the **Shimanto River**, before simulating **Kobo Daishi's** quest for inner peace as you visit his birthplace. Cross the ocean by ferry to enter the realm of **Kumano Kodo**, the UNESCO site pilgrimage route, to bask in the replenishing properties of negative ions that flourish in the region. Complete your trip with a visit to Kobo Daishi's final resting place in **Koyasan**.





# WESTERN SPIRITUAL ESCAPE

## Itinerary:

### Day 1 • Osaka Arrival - Osaka

Arrival at Kansai International Airport in Osaka and transfer to your hotel in Osaka.

Overnight: **Westin Osaka** or similar

### Day 2 • Osaka - Matsuyama

After breakfast, head to Osaka-Itami Airport and board a flight to Matsuyama.

Upon arrival, proceed to Ehime prefecture and visit Dogo Onsen Honkan (Main Building), a wooden public bath house built during the Meiji era in 1894.

Also visit "Ishiteji Temple". This temple has 7 national treasures built about 700 years ago.

Overnight: **Funaya** or similar  
[Breakfast / Dinner]

### Day 3 • Shimanto River - Kochi

Today will be a long day of travel by car.

After breakfast, drive out to Kochi prefecture. Enjoy Shimanto River, which is Japan's last pristine river, and known for its rocky outcrops. The final stretch after the cruise to your hotel will be a scenic drive of approx. 3 hours.

Overnight: **Hotel Nikko Kochi Asahi Royal** or similar  
[Breakfast]

### Day 4 • Kochi - Iya Valley

After breakfast head to Tokushima prefecture. After visit to Kochi Castle and Katsurahama.

After sightseeing, proceed to Iya Valley. Enjoy for short boat ride through Oboke and Koboke Gorges down the Yoshino River.

Enjoy the scenery that has been designated as a special place of scenic beauty.

Overnight: **Hotel Iya Onsen** or similar  
[Breakfast / Dinner]

### Day 5 • Takamatsu

After breakfast, proceed to Takamatsu (Kagawa). Visit Kotohira-gu Shrine, the main Shrine of multiple Kōpira shrines found around Japan that are dedicated to sailors and seafaring.

Located on the wooded slope of Mount Zozu in Kotohira, the approach to Kōpirasan is an arduous series of 1,368 stone steps.

The location of Zentsuji temple is the birthplace

of one of the most revered figures of Japanese Buddhism, the high priest Kobo Daishi, or Kukai.

The temple the Sohonzan (the head temple of a Buddhist sect) of the Shingonshu Zentsuji sect.

Kobo Daishi built this temple himself in 807 when he returned from China. Taking six years to complete.

Overnight: **JR Hotel Clement Takamatsu** or similar  
[Breakfast]

### Day 6 • Tokushima

After breakfast, head to Tokushima prefecture. Visit the Naruto Whirlpools, created by unique underwater geography of the narrow strait and the large volume of water moving between the Seto Inland Sea and the Pacific Ocean.

In the evening, visit the Awa Odori Kaikan to enjoy Awa Dance Performance.

Overnight: **JR Hotel Clement Tokushima** or similar  
[Breakfast]

### Day 7 • Tokushima - Kumano

After breakfast, proceed to Tokushima Port. Take a ferry to Wakayama Port, then transfer to the Kumano area.

Overnight: **Hana Irodori no Yado Kayuu** or similar  
[Breakfast / Dinner]

### Day 8 • Kumano

After breakfast, explore the Kumano area.

The ancient Kumano region is nestled in the verdant mountains of Wakayama Prefecture — the spiritual heartland of Japan.

This lush and rugged area has been considered the abode of the gods and worshipped for centuries.

Visit Nachi Taisha Shrine, Nachi Water fall, Kumano Hayatama Shrine.

Overnight: **Hana Irodori no Yado Kayuu** or similar  
[Breakfast / Dinner]

### Day 9 • Kumano - Mt.Koya

After breakfast, prepare to walk along the pilgrimage route of Kumano Kodo, walking about 3.5 hours with a Japanese story teller to Kumano Hongu Shrine.

After visiting the shrine, proceed to Mt. Koya.

Overnight: **Soji-in** or similar  
[Breakfast]

### Day 10 • Mt. Koya

In the early morning, attend a Buddhist sermon by the local monks (Japanese only).

After breakfast, enjoy local sightseeing visiting Kongobuji Temple, Daito Pagoda and Okunoin. After sightseeing, head to Osaka.

Overnight: **The Westin Osaka** or similar  
[Breakfast]

### Day 11 • Osaka

After breakfast, transfer to Osaka International airport. From Osaka airport, take your flight back to the US.



CST#2031531-50

For more information, please contact us!



LUXURY  
ESCAPES

**Luxury Escapes by JTB 1-888-364-7118**

Monday - Friday (Except National Holidays) 7:00am-5:30pm (PST)

Email: [Luxuryescapes@jtbusa.com](mailto:Luxuryescapes@jtbusa.com) [www.jtbusa.com/luxury](http://www.jtbusa.com/luxury)



Perfect moments, always