

Classic Japan

10 days priced from \$8,995

Limited to 18 guests

Visiting Tokyo, Nikko, Kamakura, Hakone, Kyoto and Nara

Hiroshima Post-Tour Extension

4 days priced from \$4,295

& A&K ADVANTAGES

- › Gain an in-depth perspective on Japanese culture with lengthy stays in Tokyo and Kyoto, exploring diverse neighborhoods and bustling markets on foot
- › Participate in a Shinto ceremony in the ancient Toshogu Shrine, experiencing Japan's religious rituals firsthand
- › Capture the spirit of Japan with lessons in Zen meditation and the ancient art of the traditional tea ceremony
- › Savor Kyoto's distinctive cuisine and traditions during an exclusive *kaiseki* banquet with entertainment by a *geiko* and *maiko* (apprentice geisha)
- › View the exalted flowering cherry tree or sakura, which typically blooms in spring
- › Be among the few to stay at Gôra Kadan, one of the country's most exclusive *ryokans* (traditional inns)

DAY 1: Arrive Tokyo, Japan

Arrive in Tokyo, Japan's exciting capital. Transfer to your hotel, located in the upscale Ginza district. *Imperial Hotel*

DAY 2: Tokyo | Meiji-Jingu

Visit the Imperial Palace Plaza and stroll the grounds of Meiji-Jingu, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji and his wife. Later, visit Asakusa Temple, pausing to look for keepsakes in the tiny shops of Nakamise-dori. Tonight, join fellow guests for a welcome dinner. *Imperial Hotel* | *Meals: B L D*

DAY 3: Tokyo | Nikko National Park

The Japanese have a saying: "Don't say *kekko* (wonderful) without seeing Nikko." Today, travel overland to Nikko National Park in the mountains north of Tokyo and discover this lovely region. Visit the magnificently carved 17th-century Toshogu Shrine and take part in a special Shinto ceremony with a Shinto priest or *miko* (priestess). *Imperial Hotel* | *Meals: B L*

DAY 4: Tokyo | Glamorous Ginza

Take a guided tour of Ginza, a trendy neighborhood brimming with designer boutiques, chic restaurants and art galleries. Your afternoon is at leisure to experience Tokyo's contemporary galleries, museums and fine restaurants. *Imperial Hotel* | *Meals: B*



Enjoy the cultured entertainment of a Japanese *maiko* (apprentice geisha)

DAY 5: Kamakura to Hakone | Great Buddha

Drive to Kamakura to see the Great Buddha at Kotoku-in, an iconic Japanese statue standing over 37 feet tall. Visit Hase Kannon Temple; its flower-filled garden is unusual among Japanese gardens, which normally focus on structure. After lunch, continue to the forested slopes of Hakone National Park. Cruise Lake Ashi and board a gondola on the Komagatake Ropeway for a spectacular view of Mount Fuji. Tonight, enjoy the unparalleled service and *kaiseki* cuisine at Gôra Kadan, a top-rated traditional inn where reservations are difficult to come by. *Gôra Kadan* | *Meals: B L D*

DAY 6: Kyoto | Japan's Main Stage

Board the bullet train for Kyoto, the epicenter of Japan's cultural, spiritual and artistic heritage. Kyoto boasts more than 2,000 temples and shrines, 17 of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Walk before the 1,001 statues of Kannon at Sanjusangendo Temple, visit Kodai-ji for a lesson in Zen meditation, and take part in a tea ceremony. Tonight, relax at a local *izakaya* (Japanese pub). *Kyoto Hotel Okura* | *Meals: B D*

DAY 7: Kyoto to Nara | Nara Park

Travel early this morning to contemplate the iconic Zen rock garden at Ryoan-ji and glittering Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion). Next, visit ancient Nara, Japan's first capital. Wander through

Nara Park, home to over a thousand tame deer. Continue to eighth-century Todai-ji, a temple complex that contains the world's largest wooden structure and the largest bronze Buddha in Japan. Later, return to Kyoto. *Kyoto Hotel Okura | Meals: B L*

DAY 8: Kyoto | Japanese Mingei Folk Art

This morning, visit Kiyomizu Temple and stand on its massive veranda for stunning city views. Then stroll along Gojozaka Hills, an area known for its many pottery studios, on your way to the home and studio of the late Kawai Kanjiro, one of Kyoto's most famous potters. Kanjiro's beautiful, unusual home — redesigned to resemble a country house — is filled with his own creations and his personal collection. After a Japanese-style lunch, your afternoon is at leisure. *Kyoto Hotel Okura | Meals: B L*

DAY 9: Kyoto | Geisha Culture

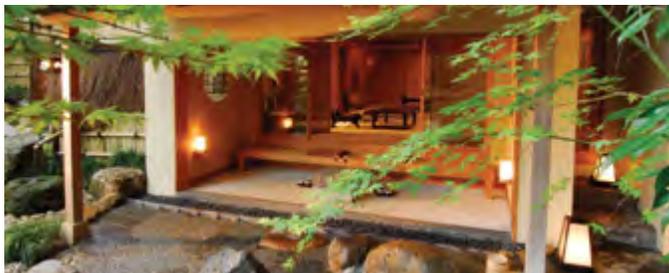
Take a guided walk through some of Kyoto's market areas, including the lively Nishiki market. Your afternoon is free to enjoy on your own, with abundant opportunities to shop for traditional arts and crafts, including textiles and ceramics. Tonight, celebrate the end of your journey with an exquisite *kaiseki* banquet, where an attending *geiko* (as a geisha is known in Kyoto) and *maiko* dance, sing, pour sake and converse about their fascinating lives. *Kyoto Hotel Okura | Meals: B D*

DAY 10: Kyoto

Transfer to Kansai or Itami Airport for your international flight home. *Meals: B*

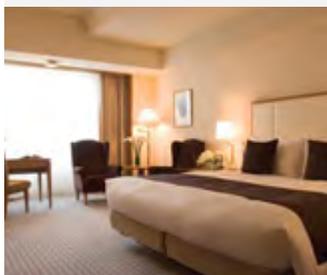
YOUR INSPIRING ACCOMMODATIONS

Here is a preview of your journey's best-in-class accommodations.



Gôra Kadan

This beautiful *ryokan* (traditional Japanese inn) is built on the grounds of the former villa of a member of the Imperial Family in Hakone National Park.



Imperial Hotel

Frank Lloyd Wright design in Tokyo's most prestigious neighborhood.



Kyoto Hotel Okura

Centrally located, walking distance to world-class shopping and dining.

Hiroshima Post-Tour Extension

4 days, priced from \$4,295



DAYS 1-2: Arrive in Hiroshima from Kyoto by bullet train. Enjoy lunch, tour Peace Memorial Park and Museum and check into your hotel. The next day, explore Itsukushima Shrine, ferry the Inland Sea, and visit Daishoin Temple and a museum. *Rhiga Royal Hotel Hiroshima | Meals: L (Day 1); B (Day 2)*

DAY 3: Tour Iwakuni Town, cross Kintaikyo (Abacus) Bridge to Iwakuni Castle and White Snake Museum. Return to Hiroshima; transfer to Osaka. *Imperial Hotel Osaka | Meals: B D*

DAY 4: Transfer to the airport and depart. *Meals: B*

Available on the Mar 27, Apr 3, Apr 17, May 8, Oct 9 and Oct 16 departures.



DATES & PRICING

All departures are guaranteed to operate.

Departure Dates	Double Occupancy	Single Supplement
Mar 13-22	\$8,995	\$3,195
Mar 27-Apr 5, Apr 3-12	\$9,295	\$3,295
Apr 17-26, May 8-17, Oct 2-11, Oct 9-18, Oct 16-25, Oct 23-Nov 1	\$8,995	\$3,195

Minimum age 10 years old.

CONTACT A&K TO ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY

- Book your international air at preferred rates through our carrier partners
- Make your journey more relaxing with pre- and post-tour hotel nights
- Safeguard your journey with the A&K Guest Protection Program