



LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

Classic Japan 2020

9 days from \$11,595

Limited to 18 guests

OFFER

Save \$500 per person on select departures.

Immerse yourself in Japan's diverse culture, as you explore contemporary Tokyo, stay at a *ryokan* (traditional inn) in Hakone, savor a foodie tour in Osaka, witness sumo wrestling near Nara, and enjoy entertainment by a *geiko* (geisha) in Kyoto.

A&K Advantages

Experience the distinctive culture and history of Japan, from fast-paced, neon-lit Tokyo to serene, traditional Kyoto

View the exalted flowering cherry trees, or *sakura*, which bloom every spring; or opt for the red leaves of autumn

Ride Like a Local on a bullet train along the classic stretch past majestic Mount Fuji

Be among the few to stay at Gôra Kadan, one of the country's most exclusive *ryokans* (traditional inns), with access made possible by A&K's hallmark small group size.

Capture the spirit of Japan with the art of the tea ceremony and a sushi-making lesson

Savor Kyoto's unique cuisine and traditions during an exclusive *shabu-shabu* dinner, with entertainment by a *geiko* (as a geisha is called in Kyoto) and a *maiko* (apprentice geisha)

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE TOKYO, JAPAN

Arrive in Tokyo, Japan's exciting and modern capital. Transfer to your hotel and enjoy the expansive views over Tokyo's skyline.

The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo

DAY 2 TOKYO | SPIRITS OF EDO, AN EMPEROR & TSUKIJI

Start your day at Tsukiji Fish Market, a bustling hub of Japanese daily life where a dizzying array of seafood can be found. Continue to an exclusive local workshop that specializes in Japanese drum making, and try your hand at playing the *taiko*. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, and then visit Asakusa Kannon Temple, pausing in the tiny shops of Nakamise-dori. The colorful pagoda-style temple was completed in 645 and is dedicated to Kannon, the goddess of mercy in several East Asian spiritual traditions. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner.

The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3 TOKYO | DESIGN YOUR DAY

Start your day at the Samurai Museum, where you learn about the customs of this elite warrior class and get an up-close look at an authentic collection of their exotic armor and weaponry. Then, receive a lesson in sushi making followed by lunch. This afternoon, enjoy one of these **Design Your Day** activities.

Explore the Mori Art Museum to take in local contemporary art.

Learn About Tokyo's History at the Edo-Tokyo Museum, built to preserve the heritage of the city's last 400 years.

Indulge in a Sake Tasting, sampling some of Japan's finest sake and learning about its cultural importance. Return to your hotel for an evening at leisure.

The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 4 HAKONE | TRADITIONAL RYOKAN

Travel to Hakone, among Japan's most popular hot-spring destinations, and view the forested slopes of Hakone National Park, an area encompassing coastlines, mountains, lakes and more than 1,000 volcanic islands. Board an aerial tram rising above the wooded slopes for inspiring views of Mount Fuji. Enjoy a lunch of Japan's famed Kobe beef, before strolling the grassy hillsides of Hakone's Open Air Museum. Admire the impressive contemporary sculptures and artwork on display, including masterpieces by Henry Moore and Rodin. The museum also features one of the world's finest Picasso exhibits, presenting visitors with some 300 works by the cubist master. Tonight, enjoy unparalleled service and traditional Japanese cuisine at Gôra Kadan, a top-rated *ryokan* (traditional inn), which is also your authentic accommodation for the night.

Gôra Kadan | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 OSAKA | DOTONBORI DISTRICT DELICACIES

After breakfast at your *ryokan*, visit the Okada Museum of Art to view its stunning collection of paintings, ceramics, lacquerware and bronzes from Japan, Korea and China. Then, Ride Like a Local by bullet train to Osaka. Historically known as a merchant city, it is today renowned as Japan's undisputed culinary capital, where diners indulge in everything from octopus dumplings to Okonomi-yaki—a battered, grilled concoction of chopped cabbage, meat or seafood, and seaweed, topped with mayonnaise. This evening, set out on a foodie tour in the popular Dotonbori district, sampling dishes from the brilliantly lighted and gastronomically creative restaurants that line the street.

The St. Regis Osaka | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 6 NARA | INSIGHTS INTO A PROFOUNDLY SPIRITUAL HERITAGE

Travel to Nara, Japan's first capital, to visit Todai-ji, a temple complex and UNESCO World Heritage Site that contains the largest bronze Buddha statue in Japan. Proceed to Nara Park, home to hundreds of deer, venerated here as divine spirits, which you have the opportunity to feed by hand. Complete your Nara excursion with a visit to celebrated Kasuga Taisha Shrine and experience a Shinto ceremony firsthand. Pause for lunch at a local restaurant before proceeding to the Kehaya-za Sumo Pavilion, where you observe a demonstration of this fabled Japanese sport by two sumo wrestlers. Return to your hotel, where you enjoy dinner.

The St. Regis Osaka | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 KYOTO | THE GOLDEN PAVILION & BAMBOO GROVE

Travel into Kyoto early this morning to contemplate the iconic Zen rock garden at Ryoan-ji, the perfect spot for a meditative moment, and discover the glittering Kinkaku-ji Temple (Golden Pavilion)—covered with gold leaf, surrounded by green gardens and casting its delicate reflection in the tranquil pond beside it. After lunch, explore the Arashiyama neighborhood, including the garden of Tenryu-ji Temple. Later, bask in the magical atmosphere of Arashiyama Bamboo Grove, strolling along a winding path as sunlight filters down through towering bamboo shoots—considered by many a healing experience.

Four Seasons Hotel Kyoto | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 8 KYOTO | IN THE TRADITIONAL HOME OF A BELOVED ARTIST

Visit Shogunzaka Temple for stunning views of Kyoto and continue to the home and studio of the late Kawai Kanjiro, one of Kyoto's most famous potters. In Kanjiro's beautiful home, view his own creations as well as his personal collection of ceramics, sculptures and wood carvings. Proceed to a local temple, where you experience the art of the tea ceremony, noting its refined sense of hospitality and etiquette, which date to the time of the samurai. Tonight, savor traditional Japanese cuisine, while an attending *geiko* (as a geisha is known in Kyoto) and *maiko* (apprentice geisha) dance, sing, pour sake and share stories about life in modern Kyoto.



DAY 9 DEPART KYOTO

After breakfast, transfer to Kansai International Airport or Itami Airport, both located just outside of Osaka, for your flight home, or begin a post-tour extension to Hiroshima.

Extensions



Post-Tour Extension: Hiroshima

Visit Uji, and travel by bullet train to Hiroshima, stopping at the Peace Memorial Park and Museum.

3 days from \$3,695
Single Supplement from \$1,195

Available to add to select departure dates.
[See Dates & Prices For Details >](#)

DAY 1

Following a morning at leisure in Kyoto, embark on an afternoon exploration of the historic town of Uji, including the Byodoin Temple. Travel to Osaka and check in to your hotel this evening.

The St. Regis Osaka

DAY 2

Go by bullet train to Hiroshima. Spend the day visiting the Peace Memorial Park and Museum. See the iconic Itsukushima Shrine, before returning to Osaka by train.

The St. Regis Osaka | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3

Transfer to the airport and depart.

Dates & Prices

Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.

Dates	Prices	Single Supplement	Availability
Mar 02 - Mar 10, 2020	\$11,595	\$5,495	Available
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.</i>			
Mar 09 - Mar 17, 2020	\$11,595	\$5,495	Call for Availability
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.</i>			
Mar 16 - Mar 24, 2020	\$11,995 (was \$12,495)	\$5,995	Limited Availability
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.</i>			
Mar 20 - Mar 28, 2020	\$12,795 (was \$13,295)	\$6,295	Limited Availability
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to see the cherry blossoms of spring. Yearly timing varies slightly.</i>			
Mar 23 - Mar 31, 2020	\$13,295	\$6,295	Limited Availability
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to see the cherry blossoms of spring. Yearly timing varies slightly.</i>			
Mar 27 - Apr 04, 2020	\$13,295	\$6,295	Limited Availability
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to see the cherry blossoms of spring. Yearly timing varies slightly.</i>			
Mar 30 - Apr 07, 2020	\$13,295	\$6,295	Waitlist - Call A&K
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to see the cherry blossoms of spring. Yearly timing varies slightly.</i>			
Apr 03 - Apr 11, 2020	\$13,295	\$6,295	Waitlist - Call A&K
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.</i>			

Optional [post-tour extension](#) available on this departure.

This departure offers the best opportunity to see the cherry blossoms of spring. Yearly timing varies slightly.

Apr 06 - Apr 14, 2020	\$13,295	\$6,295	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to see the cherry blossoms of spring. Yearly timing varies slightly.			
Apr 10 - Apr 18, 2020	\$13,295	\$6,295	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to see the cherry blossoms of spring. Yearly timing varies slightly.			
Apr 13 - Apr 21, 2020	\$13,295	\$6,295	Call for Availability
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to see the cherry blossoms of spring. Yearly timing varies slightly.			
May 04 - May 12, 2020	\$12,495	\$5,995	Call for Availability
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.			
May 11 - May 19, 2020	\$12,495	\$5,995	Waitlist - Call A&K
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.			
May 14 - May 22, 2020	\$12,495	\$5,995	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.			
Sep 11 - Sep 19, 2020	\$12,495	\$5,995	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.			
Sep 28 - Oct 06, 2020	\$12,495	\$5,995	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.			
Oct 05 - Oct 13, 2020	\$12,495	\$5,995	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.			
Oct 09 - Oct 17, 2020	\$12,495	\$5,995	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.			
Oct 12 - Oct 20, 2020	\$12,995	\$6,195	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to view the red leaves of fall. Yearly timing varies slightly.			
Oct 16 - Oct 24, 2020	\$12,995	\$6,195	Call for Availability
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to view the red leaves of fall. Yearly timing varies slightly.			
Oct 19 - Oct 27, 2020	\$12,995	\$6,195	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to view the red leaves of fall. Yearly timing varies slightly.			
Oct 23 - Oct 31, 2020	\$12,995	\$6,195	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to view the red leaves of fall. Yearly timing varies slightly.			
Nov 02 - Nov 10, 2020	\$12,995	\$6,195	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to view the red leaves of fall. Yearly timing varies slightly.			
Nov 09 - Nov 17, 2020	\$12,995	\$6,195	Available
Optional post-tour extension available on this departure. This departure offers the best opportunity to view the red leaves of fall. Yearly timing varies slightly.			

Journey Details

This Journey includes long walks.

Minimum age is 10 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 8:00 a.m. on Day 2.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Day 8.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

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Offer subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time.

Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Internal and international air not included. See complete terms and conditions [here](#).