



LUXURY TAILOR MADE TRAVEL

Signature Japan 2020

9 days from \$15,995

Private Journey

Immerse yourself in Japan's diverse culture, as you stroll a seafood market in Tokyo, stay at a *ryokan* (traditional inn) in Hakone, savor a foodie tour in Osaka, visit a venerated temple and shrine in Nara, and experience a Japanese tea ceremony in Kyoto, on this revealing independent journey.

A&K Advantages

Explore the Tsukiji Fish Market in Tokyo, where you receive a lesson in sushi-making

Travel at 175 mph on a bullet train along the classic stretch past majestic Mount Fuji

Experience the beauty of the flowering cherry tree, or *sakura*, when you travel in late March or early April

Be among the few to stay at Gōra Kadan, one of the country's most exclusive *ryokans* (traditional inns)

Visit Kyoto's meticulously manicured Golden Pavilion

Capture the spirit of Japan with the art of the tea ceremony in Kyoto

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE TOKYO, JAPAN

Arrive in Tokyo, Japan's exciting capital. Transfer to your hotel, located in the upscale Roppongi district.

The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo

DAY 2 TOKYO | AN EMPEROR & THE SAMURAI

Today, visit the Asakusa Kannon Temple, one of Tokyo's most colorful and popular Buddhist temples. Next, stop by a Japanese drum shop in Asakusa, where you learn about Japanese drums and try your hand playing the *taiko*. Stop for lunch at a local restaurant, and then proceed to the Meiji Shrine, which is dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and his consort, Empress Shoken. Pass under its large cypress torii gates to enjoy the peaceful, park-like atmosphere of its expansive 175-acre grounds. Then, round out your afternoon with a trip to 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. Afterward, return to your hotel with the remainder of your day at leisure.

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

DAY 3 TOKYO | DESIGN YOUR DAY

Start your day at Tsukiji Fish Market, a bustling hub of Japanese daily life and the source of most Tokyo

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inhabitants' seafood, where you receive a lesson in sushi-making followed by lunch. This afternoon, enjoy one of these **Design Your Day** activities:

Explore the MORI Digital Art Museum, facilitated by the assistant curator, to witness its genuinely dazzling displays.

Visit the Edo Tokyo Museum, arriving via Tokyo's famous subway system, to tour this amazing institution, established to preserve the historic heritage of the city of Tokyo, and its precursor Edo, over the last 400 years.

Set out on a Japanese Saké Tasting Adventure, exploring the city by its world-renowned subway system and sampling the subtle and delicate flavor profiles of traditional Japanese alcohols while learning about their cultural importance. Return to your hotel for an evening at leisure.

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

DAY 4 HAKONE | STAY AT A 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 lunch at a local restaurant 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 at Gôra Kadan, an exclusive *ryokan* (traditional inn).

Gôra Kadan | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 OSAKA | BULLET TRAIN & DOTONBORI DELICACIES

After breakfast at your *ryokan*, head to 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, enjoy a wonderful foodie tour in the Dotonbori district, sampling dishes from the brilliantly lit and culinarily creative restaurants that line the street.

The St. Regis Osaka | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 6 NARA | INSIGHTS INTO A PROFOUNDLY SPIRITUAL HERITAGE

Travel early this morning to ancient Nara, Japan's first capital. Visit Todai-ji, a temple complex and UNESCO World Heritage Site that contains the largest bronze Buddha statue in Japan. Continue to Nara Park, home to hundreds of tame deer, venerated here as divine spirits, which you have the opportunity feed by hand. Complete your Nara excursion with a visit to celebrated Kasuga Taisha Shinto Shrine.

The St. Regis Osaka | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 7 KYOTO | THE GOLDEN PAVILION & BAMBOO GROVE

Travel to Kyoto early this morning to contemplate the iconic Zen rock garden at Ryoan-ji and glittering Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion). Covered in gold leaf that casts a shimmering reflection in the tranquil pond beside it, the temple exhibits three different styles of architecture — shinden, samurai and zen — one on each floor. After lunch, explore the Arashiyama Bamboo Grove, strolling along a winding path as sunlight filters down through towering bamboo shoots, considered by many a healing experience. Proceed to nearby Tenryu-ji Temple and its wonderful gardens before continuing to your hotel.

Four Seasons Hotel Kyoto | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 8 KYOTO | TRADITIONAL HOME OF A BELOVED ARTIST

This morning, visit Shogunzaka Temple for stunning views of Kyoto, and then 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.

Four Seasons Hotel Kyoto | Meals: Breakfast

DAY 9 DEPART OSAKA

Transfer to Kansai International Airport or Itami Airport, both located just outside of Osaka, for your international flight home.

Dates & Prices

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

Dates	Prices	Single Supplement	Availability
Mar 07 - Mar 15, 2020	\$15,995	\$4,195	Available
Mar 14 - Mar 22, 2020	\$16,995	\$5,395	Available
Mar 21 - Mar 29, 2020	\$16,995	\$5,395	Available
Apr 04 - Apr 12, 2020	\$17,495	\$5,595	Available
Apr 11 - Apr 19, 2020	\$17,495	\$5,595	Available
May 09 - May 17, 2020	\$17,495	\$5,595	Available
May 23 - May 31, 2020	\$16,495	\$4,395	Available
Jun 06 - Jun 14, 2020	\$16,495	\$4,395	Available
Jun 20 - Jun 28, 2020	\$16,495	\$4,395	Available
Jul 04 - Jul 12, 2020	\$16,495	\$4,395	Available
Jul 18 - Jul 26, 2020	\$16,495	\$4,395	Available
Aug 22 - Aug 30, 2020	\$16,495	\$4,395	Available
Sep 05 - Sep 13, 2020	\$16,495	\$4,395	Available
Sep 19 - Sep 27, 2020	\$16,995	\$5,395	Available
Oct 03 - Oct 11, 2020	\$16,995	\$5,395	Available
Oct 17 - Oct 25, 2020	\$16,995	\$5,395	Available
Oct 24 - Nov 01, 2020	\$16,995	\$5,395	Available
Nov 07 - Nov 15, 2020	\$16,995	\$5,395	Available
Nov 14 - Nov 22, 2020	\$16,995	\$5,395	Available

Journey Details

No minimum age.

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