

Dates 7th - 24th April 2026

Japan

Vibrant culture, delectable food, breathtaking landscape and so much more!

Experience all Japan has to offer at the most spectacular time of the year! Japan is a land of true contrast; rich with centuries-old tradition, the country has ancient, ornate temples and picturesque old towns standing alongside the dazzling lights and technical innovation of ultra-modern cities.

Join us as we embark on an epic journey of this incredible journey where everything is organised for you - All you have to do is get excited for what will be a truly unforgettable experience. Tick Japan off your bucket list! We will organise a dinner evening in advance of the trip to run through it all day by day and answer any of your questions.

Along with Jase who will be with you throughout the entire journey we also have local english speaking Japanese guides who will be with us throughout. So all bases are covered - All you have to do is book now - Full details below.

DAY 1

Tuesday 7th April

Home - Auckland



Depart Whanganui at 1pm and make our way to Palmerston North airport to check in for our 3:40pm flight to Auckland. Once we arrive in Auckland we will be transferred to Auckland Heartland hotel for our first **group dinner**.

Rest up for the evening and get set for our international flight in the morning.

Departing from another destination

For those departing from another destination you will be given a personalised itinerary. All tickets and details will be provided in your personal information pack, sent prior to travel.

→ **Accommodation:** Heartland Hotel Auckland Airport



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DAY 2

Wednesday 8th April

Auckland - Tokyo



After a **delicious breakfast** at the hotel, be ready for a **7am** departure as we make our way to the International Airport to catch our mid morning flight.

The flight is 11 hours and you'll be treated to inflight entertainment along with food and drinks throughout the journey over.

Once we've safely landed and through the airport we'll be met by our english speaking Japanese guide and transferred by coach to our hotel where we'll spend the next 5 nights.

Simply relax at the hotel and grab a bite to eat or head out for a walk and start exploring!

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Metropolitan Tokyo



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DAY 3

Thursday 9th April

Tokyo



Refreshed after a good night's rest, enjoy breakfast and start the day at **9am**, boarding the bus for an exciting **sightseeing tour** of Tokyo.

Our guide is there to help us get our bearings of this incredible city while showcasing some highlights of the area.

Places of interest today include:

- Driving by the **Imperial Palace**
- **The Tsukiji Fish Market** - Japan's oldest and most famous fish market
- **Lunch** at a local restaurant
- **Senso-Ji Temple** - Tokyo's oldest-established temple, and one of its most significant.
- **Naklamise Shopping Street** - lined with tons of little shops and food stalls.

We will return to our hotel mid-afternoon where you can choose to relax or once again head out and immerse yourself in this vibrant city.

Tonight we are in for a real treat as we head out for a memorable **welcome dinner** while watching a **Sumo show!** The national sport of Japan - This will be amazing!

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Metropolitan Tokyo



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DAY 4

Friday 10th April

Tokyo - Kamakura



This morning after **breakfast** we make our way to the popular destination of **Kamakura**. Spend the day sightseeing with our guide with plenty to see and do including.

- **Kotoku-In Temple**
- **Lunch** at a local restaurant
- **Tsurugaoka Hachimiangu** - This beautiful shrine has existed for over 800 years.
- **Komachi-Dori Street** - Known for its vibrant atmosphere and blend of traditional and modern shops.

We return to the hotel where the evening is yours to stroll the safe streets, find a groovy spot for dinner and drinks or simply relax at the hotels bar/restaurant before resting up for the night.

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Metropolitan Tokyo



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DAY 5

Saturday 11th April

Tokyo - Nikko



Breakfast is onsite at the hotel again then we hop on the bus and venture north to take in the sights of Nikko.

Places of interest we see and learn about with our guide today are:

- **Nikko Toshogu Shrine**
- **Lunch** at a local restaurant
- **Lake Chuzenji** - This is a beautiful spot with waterfalls to view such as Kegon Falls

We return to the hotel where the evening is yours to stroll the safe streets, find a groovy spot for dinner and drinks or simply relax at the hotels bar/restaurant before resting up for the night.

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Metropolitan Tokyo (or similar)



DAY 6

Sunday 12th April

Tokyo



Have **breakfast** at your leisure this morning and if need be - rest up a little!
After all, you're on holiday!

Today is yours to do as you please in Tokyo - Jase and your guide will help you with ideas of things to do but by now you'll be really comfortable and happy to head out and see some of the many attractions Tokyo has on offer. Get a group together or if you have something you are keen to see and do please feel free to ask and we'll make it happen for you!

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Metropolitan Tokyo



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DAY 7

Monday 13th April

Tokyo - Hakone



Today, it's time to leave Tokyo so enjoy **breakfast** then let's hit the road!

We have a full day of sightseeing lined up with our english speaking guide leading the way. Stop in at **Owakudani**, one of most famous viewpoints in Hakone, where you can observe the intense volcanic activity from up close.

We stop for **lunch** at a popular local restaurant before an incredible afternoon visiting the **Hakone Komagadake Ropeway** which offers a scenic gondola ride from Hakone-en to the summit of Mount Komagatake, providing panoramic views of Lake Ashi, Mount Fuji, and surrounding areas. Also this afternoon we enjoy a **scenic cruise** by boat on Lake Ashi.

Then it's off to our accommodation where we can put our feet up and enjoy **dinner** on-site at the hotel.

Note: You will need an overnight bag today as all our luggage will be moved onto Takayama.

→ **Accommodation:** Hakone Kowakien Tenyu



DAY 8

Tuesday 14th April

Hakone - Takayama



After **breakfast** we head to Odawara Station and make our way to Takayama on the **Bullet Train**. The train goes via Nagoya and you'll be amazed with the speed and comfort in which you'll travel.

After arriving and having **lunch** we'll get into some more sights which include:

Yatai Kaikan Hall - A popular exhibition hall displaying traditional, hand carved floats used for biannual festivals.

Kasukabe Folk museum - in the Japanese Alps and home to many merchant houses, including that of the Kusakabe family, now transformed into a folk art museum.

We then check into our lovely accommodation and get set for another memorable **meal** together.

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Takayama Resort (or similar)



DAY 9

Wednesday April 15th

Takayama - Kanazawa



Rise and shine, have **breakfast** and get set for another magical day out.

We depart the hotel and spend the day exploring Takayama and Shirakawago by coach before reaching Kanazawa.

Start the day by visiting the famous **Takayama morning market**, one of the biggest morning markets in Japan.

Kami Sannomachi Town will be another highlight before we move onto **Shirakawago** and break for **lunch**. This mountainous village in Central Japan, is listed as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site and a must-go tourist destination. It is renowned for her steeply sloped thatched roofs Gassho-style houses which resembled hands meeting in prayer.

After this wonderfully interesting afternoon we make our way to Kanazawa and check into another top notch accommodation.

Note: You will need an overnight bag today as all our luggage will be moved onto Kyoto.

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Nikko



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DAY 10

Thursday April 16th

Kanazawa - Kyoto



After **breakfast** our day starts by having a decent look around Kanazawa once again with our english speaking guide.

Highlights include:

Nagamachi Samurai District - Located at the foot of the former Kanazawa Castle, where samurai and their families used to reside. We visit a former **Samurai Residence**.

Higashi - Chaya District - The largest among three well-preserved historical geisha districts in Kanazawa along with Nishichayagai and Kazuemachi, and the geisha still entertain here today.

We will enjoy **Lunch** at a local restaurant before making our way to Kanazawa Station to once again use the **Bullet Train** as our mode of transport. We travel through Tsuruga before reaching our next destination - **Kyoto!**

After arriving we head for our hotel, check in with some time to relax before heading out for **dinner**.

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Granvia Kyoto



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DAY 11

Friday April 17th

Kyoto



Enjoy **breakfast** and get excited as we get set to see Kyoto in all its beautiful glory!

So many highlights today including:

Nijo-jo Castle - Perhaps the starkest representation of the power the shogun, or warlords, once held over the emperor during the Edo period (1603-1867). It is one of the best-known castles in Japan

Kinkakuji Temple - A Zen temple in northern Kyoto whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf.

Lunch at a local restaurant before a unique **Tea Ceremony**.

Teramachi Shopping Street - Shops galore in this popular and bustling street!

After this amazing day out we head back to our superb accommodation where the evening is yours to do as you please. As always Jase is there to offer up some ideas and even head out on the town if you wish 😊

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Granvia Kyoto



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DAY 12

Saturday 18th April

Kyoto - Nara - Kyoto



We'll dine for **breakfast** and have another wonderful day out lined up.

Nara Park - One of Japan's oldest and most famous parks, Nara Park is not only home to friendly deer and ancient relics, but also a magical place where tradition and modernity converge. Visit **Kasuga Taisha** and many other attractions while here. We will enjoy **lunch** at a local restaurant

Naramachi District - A hidden gem that captures the essence of old Japan. This charming historical district, with its well-preserved traditional buildings and narrow streets, invites you to take a step back in time.

After another great day out we head back to our superb accommodation where the evening is yours once again to do as you please.

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Granvia Kyoto



DAY 13

Sunday 19th April

Kyoto



Another scrummy **breakfast** awaits before we hit the road again for another full-day sightseeing in Kyoto by coach with English speaking guide.

Our first stop is Arashiyama to experience the **Bamboo Forest** and **Togetsu Bridge**. Snap a few photos of this magical area particularly lovely during Autumn.

Lunch at a local restaurant today trying some Japanese Buddhist Cuisine.

A trip to Japan just wouldn't be complete without visiting a **Sake Brewery**. Sample the goods and enjoy an afternoon tipple - you know you may just find your new favourite drink!

Another highlight this afternoon will be visiting **Fushimi Inari Taisha** - famous for its thousands of vermilion torii gates, which straddle a network of trails behind its main buildings.

Return to the hotel and reflect on another memorable day and maybe another glass of sake!

→ Accommodation: Hotel Granvia Kyoto (Or similar)



Monday 20th April

Kyoto - Osaka or Hiroshima - Kyoto



Rise and shine for **breakfast** and today make a choice of what you'd like to do.

Your options today are heading to **Osaka** or **Hiroshima** for the day. Osaka will be more relaxed and easy going while Hiroshima is a fairly long day but certainly worth the effort!

You will have an English speaking Japanese guide with you for both these options so rest assured you'll be looked after throughout.

If you choose the Osaka option you will visit the **Osaka Castle, Doguyasuji** (A shopping street) and also the **Kuromon Market** before having the afternoon free to do as you please after **lunch**.

If you decide to head to Hiroshima you will once again use the **train** for transport arriving in Hiroshima before transferring to Mayajima-guchi by **bus** and then onto Miyajima where you take a **ferry** to the **Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park** and **Museum**. **Lunch** is also included again today. Spend time in this historic area before making our way back to Kyoto.

Note: Hiroshima day trip has an additional cost of \$695.00 per person

→ **Accommodation:** Hotel Granvia Kyoto



DAY 15

Tuesday 21st April

Kyoto



Have **breakfast** at your leisure this morning and if need be - rest up a little!

Today is yours to do as you please in Kyoto - Jase and your guide will help you with ideas of things to do but by now you'll be really comfortable and happy to head out and see some of the many attractions Kyoto has on offer. Get a group together or if you have something you are keen to see and do please feel free to ask and we'll make it happen for you!

→ Accommodation: Hotel Granvia Kyoto



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DAY 16

Tuesday 22nd April

Kyoto



Have **breakfast** at your leisure this morning and if need be - rest up a little!

Today is yours to do as you please in Kyoto - Jase and your guide will help you with ideas of things to do but by now you'll be really comfortable and happy to head out and see some of the many attractions Kyoto has on offer. Get a group together or if you have something you are keen to see and do please feel free to ask and we'll make it happen for you!

At the end of the day we meet back at the hotel and head out for our **farewell dinner**. While at dinner we will also be treated to a traditional **Maiko performance** which will be the perfect way to wrap up our last night on tour in Japan.

Note: You will need an overnight bag today as all our luggage will be moved onto Tokyo.

→ Accommodation: Hotel Granvia Kyoto



DAY 17

Wednesday 23rd April

Kyoto - Home



Have **breakfast** and make our way to the train station as we hop on the **bullet train** for the final time and make our way back to Tokyo to fly out in the evening.

Fly through the night and land in NZ at 9:25am then transfer over to the Domestic Terminal to catch our midday **flight** back to Palmerston North which has us arriving there at 1:15pm. The bus will be waiting to transfer us back home so you can put your feet up before deciding what to make for dinner 😊

Heading to another location

For those heading to another destination you will be given your personalised itinerary with all tickets and details provided in your personal information pack, sent prior to travel.



Total cost

Departing from Whanganui:
\$14,895

\$2,000 deposit due by November 30th

Final payment due by February 6th

Payment methods

- ✓ Cheque
- ✓ Cash
- ✓ Eftpos
- ✓ Online

Send online bank deposits to:
BNZ 02-0792-0090015-00

Please use your name and trip name as code and reference.

What's included?



Transport

- All coach travel as stated in the itinerary
- Flights
- Trains



Accommodation

- Great twin share accommodation
(single supplement available)



Food and drink

- All meals stated in **bold** in the itinerary



Activities

- All activities as stated in **bold** in the itinerary.



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How to book

Be in quick to secure your seats!



Call us

Local: (06) 3447465
Freephone: 0508 482269



Email us

info@takeiteasytours.nz

Thank you,
The Take It Easy Team

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Terms and Conditions

Cancellation policy

If after your booking has been confirmed and you wish to cancel, the following cancellation fees will apply:

- For cancellations after November 30th – loss of deposit.
- For cancellations after February 28th – 100% of total fare will apply.

Disclaimer

Take it easy tours will make every effort to provide on time service. It does not guarantee its departure and arrival times, which may be delayed by various factors including weather, traffic, road conditions, mechanical problems and any other conditions Take it easy tours can't control. Take it easy tours are not liable for any inconvenience or expense caused as a result of such delay. Take it easy tours assumes no liability or responsibility for property, delay or expense arising from or caused by weather conditions, acts of God, accident, government restrictions or regulations, from an act or omission of any individual, traffic, road conditions, mechanical problems, or any other cause or condition beyond its control. Take it easy tours reserves its right to cancel or change any tour, advertised schedule, or route without notice and assumes no liability or responsibility for any conditions beyond its control that may interrupt or cancel any tour.

