

# SunriseTours Tohoku -

## Echoes of the Samurai 1-Day Tour: Tsuruga Castle & Ouchi-juku

### Experience plan details

- This 1-day tour takes customers to a couple of Fukushima Prefecture's must-see sightseeing spots: the iconic Tsuruga-jo Castle and the idyllic Ouchi-juku post town. Look forward to freely exploring Tsuruga-jo Castle and Ouchi-juku in an efficient sightseeing tour in just a day! The tour is accompanied by an English-speaking guide.

- Built in 1384, Tsuruga-jo Castle is a symbol of Aizuwakamatsu in Fukushima Prefecture. There is a tragic history wherein a group of teenage boys from samurai families called Byakkotai once fought to protect this castle, but after seeing Aizu engulfed in flames, they took their own young lives. Behold Japan's only red-tile-roofed castle, a sight that has also been seen by the Byakkotai.

- The landscape of thatched-roof houses in Ouchi-juku evokes a feeling as if having wandered into a Japanese folk tale. In this town, the architectural styles and ways of life that have remained unchanged since the Edo period (1603-1868) are still preserved, allowing visitors to feel what it must have been like as a traveler in the past.

- Experience painting an akabeko, a traditional Aizu bobblehead toy shaped like a red cow, renowned as a talisman for warding off misfortune and bringing good luck.

- This is a private tour for 2-6 customers.

About Initiatives for Sustainable Tourism:

This tour promotes Cross-cultural Understanding, and Social Contribution as stated under Sunrise Tours' Sustainable Development Goals.

We advocate for responsible travel, and urge one and all to become responsible travelers.

Please check the following page for details.

<http://jtbgmt.com/en/g-web/sdgs>



Aizu Bukeyashiki

### Itinerary

Day	Time		Duration (min)	Itinerary	Itinerary Details/Special Items	Transportation	Meal
	Start	End					
1	7:30	7:40		Meet in front of Sendai City Tourist Information Center (JR Sendai Station 3F)	In front of Sendai City Tourist Information Center (Access: Head straight after exiting from JR Sendai Station 3F Shinkansen Central ticket gate. ) Meet at 07:30, Dep. at 07:40		
1			40	From Sendai Station, head to Koriyama Station	Take the Shinkansen (Yamabiko, reserved seat) from Sendai Station to Koriyama Station in Fukushima Prefecture.	Shinkansen	
1			70	From Koriyama Station, head to Aizu Bukeyashiki	Take the hired car from Koriyama Station to Aizu Bukeyashiki (Samurai Residence).	Hired car	

1			60	Aizu Bukeyashiki (Akabeko Painting Experience)	At the historical theme park Aizu Bukeyashiki, where visitors can experience what the life of samurai was like during the Edo period, look forward to painting akabeko, a traditional Aizu craft. Akabeko is a traditional toy loved as a talisman for warding off evil. Customers on this tour can create their own original Akabeko. Experience Japan's traditional culture while simultaneously gaining wonderful memories and a handmade souvenir.		
1			10	Transfer	Take the hired car from Aizu Bukeyashiki to Tsuruga-jo Castle.	Hired car	
1			80	Tsuruga-jo Castle	Tsuruga-jo Castle was built in 1384. In 2011, its red roof tiles have been restored as they were during the final years of the Edo period. It is Japan's only castle with an extant castle tower with red roof tiles.  Inside the castle tower is a local museum where visitors can learn the history of Aizu through displays of important cultural heritage left in the Aizu region.  A panorama of the castle town and Aizuwakamatsu City can be enjoyed from the top floor.		
1			10	Transfer	Take the hired car from Tsuruga-jo Castle to the lunch venue.	Hired car	
1			50	Lunch	Savor a delicious meal of Aizu's traditional regional cuisine.  Please refer to [Important Notes/Supplements: Regarding Meals].		Lunch
1			50	Transfer	Take the hired car from the lunch venue to Ouchi-juku.	Hired car	
1			90	Ouchi-juku	Ouchi-juku flourished as an important post town connecting Aizuwakamatsu and Imaichi in Nikko during the Edo period (1603-1868). To this day, thatched-roof houses stand along the highway as they did in the Edo period. Visitors can experience the feeling of being a traveler in the Edo period at the teahouses and inns where samurai likely took a break.		
1			90	From Ouchi-juku, head to Koriyama Station	Take the hired car from Ouchi-juku to Koriyama Station.	Hired car	
1			40	From Koriyama Station, head to Sendai Station	Take the Shinkansen from Koriyama Station to Sendai Station.	Shinkansen	
1		18:40		Sendai Station	After arriving at Sendai Station, the tour ends.		

**Min. pax number to book tour:**

2

**Min. pax number to run tour:**

2

**Included:**

English-speaking guide; Lunch; Other admission fees and transportation costs included in the tour

**Not included:**

Additional food and drink charges; Transportation expenses to the meeting location

**Remarks:**

Remarks
Planning Company: JTB Global Marketing & Travel Inc. Address: 2-3-14 Higashi Shinagawa, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo Japan Tourism Agency Registered Travel Agent (No. 1723) A member of the Japan Association of Travel Agents
<b>[Reception Method]</b> At reception, please show the reservation confirmation sheet or e-mail (printout/digital copy on mobile device) to staff.
<b>[Cancellation Charge]</b> - Cancellation fees will be charged from 10 days in advance.
<b>[Operation Conditions/Tour Conditions]</b> - If the minimum number of participants (2) is not met by 14 days before the scheduled date, the tour on that date may be canceled. - The last reception day (reservation deadline) is 14 days prior to the tour. - For requests regarding tours where answers from the tour operator are required in advance, please input in the Remarks field and contact the tour operator. - The itinerary displayed on the booking screen is the final itinerary. - Please note that participants may not join partway through the tour. Also, participants may join only from the meeting location specified in advance.
<b>[Exemptions/Itinerary Guarantee: Itinerary/Destinations]</b> - The order of activities and arrival times may differ on the day depending on reasons such as road conditions and congestion at destinations. - Depending on the number of tour participants, transportation to be used may be other than a hired car (passenger vehicle, van, minivan), small bus, taxi, or a train or route bus on some parts of the tour such as in case of heavy traffic. - Seats may not be designated. - The menu served at the lunch venue may vary due to seasonal or daily availability of ingredients.
<b>[Important Notes/Supplements: Meeting/Pick-up/Pick-up Location]</b> in front of Sendai City Tourist Information Center (JR Sendai Station 3F) / 07:30 (Access: Head straight after exiting from JR Sendai Station 3F Shinkansen Central ticket gate.) *Customers who are late for the departure time will have their reservations canceled. Please give yourself plenty of time.
<b>[Important Notes/Supplements: Guide/Tour Conductor]</b> - There is an accompanying English-speaking guide.
<b>[Important Notes/Supplements: Regarding Children/Infants]</b> - Children up to 5 years old may join free of charge, but will not be provided with Shinkansen seats. Furthermore, if there are many participants, children 0-5 years old may have to sit on the lap of a parent or guardian on board the hired car. If guaranteed seats on the Shinkansen and hired car are required for such children, please book them under the child rate.
<b>[Important Notes/Supplements: Regarding Meals]</b> - Lunch is included. Vegetarian meals are available and must be requested at the time of booking. - Allergy-friendly meals, gluten-free meals, etc. are not available. - Please input "0" if there are no customers requesting a vegetarian meal. If requests are not provided in advance, same-day changes cannot be accepted.

[Important Notes/Supplements: What to Wear/Bring]

- Snowfall is expected from November to December, and it may become extremely cold. Wearing snow boots or other shoes that protect against snow is recommended.
- Please leave large luggage such as suitcases at your hotel or a station locker prior to participating in the tour. As for medium-size suitcases whose total height, width, and length is within 140cm, each person is allowed to bring only 1 during the tour.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Bus/Hired Car Company]

- Aizu Kotsu; Aizu Noriai Jidosha; Club Jidosha; Koriyama Kanko Kotsu; Hirota Taxi; Fukushima Kanko Jidosha
- \*Depending on the number of tour participants, transportation to be used may be other than a hired car (passenger vehicle, van, minivan), small bus, taxi, or a train or route bus on some parts of the tour such as in case of heavy traffic.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Language Support]

Tour Guide Language: English

\*Drivers do not work as guides.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Regarding Luggage on Shinkansen]

It will not be possible to bring large luggage whose total height, width, and length exceeds 160 cm onto Shinkansen. If bringing large luggage, please make use of a delivery service on your own.