

Japan

at Cherry Blossom Time

*15 day tour beginning in Tokyo on **31 March 2018** and visiting Kamakura, Mt Fuji, Lake Suwa, Hakone, Takayama, Shirakawago, Kanazawa, Kyoto, Nara, Miyajima and Hiroshima.*



For bookings contact your travel agent or

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Travel Exotic Asia With Us

Japan at Cherry Blossom Time

In springtime in Japan the parks and gardens abound with many varieties of flowering trees.

Sat 31 Mar - Arrive Tokyo

A transfer is included for those arriving Tokyo's Narita Airport between 0700 and 0830. The remainder of the day is at leisure to rest or explore. Stay four nights at the **Hotel New Otani**.

Sun 01 Apr - Tokyo

A city sights tour begins with a visit to the Koishikawa Korakuen Park, a peaceful garden begun in 1629 and influenced by Chinese design. Stroll in Ueno Onshi Park before a visit to the Edo Tokyo Museum. In the afternoon visit Chdori-ga-fuchi, a moat in the Kogyogaien Gardens, then it is time for shopping in the famous Ginza district. (B)

Mon 02 Apr - Tokyo

Visit Meiji Jingu Shrine and the historic entertainment district of Asakusa to see the Sensoji Temple and to browse in Nakamise Arcade. Travel to the top of the Tokyo Sky Tree (350m) for views over the city then return to the hotel by 1.30pm. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

Tue 03 Apr - Kamakura excursion

Take an excursion to Kamakura to see the Daibutsu, or great Buddha statue, visit Hase Temple and walk along the Dankazura, a raised stone walkway through an avenue of cherry blossom trees leading to the Hachimangu Shrine. Also visit Komyohi Temple. (B,L)

Wed 04 Apr - Tokyo - Mt. Fuji - Lake Suwa

Transfer by coach to Tokyo station for the bullet train ride to Odawara then transfer by coach to Lake Ashi for a cruise on the beautiful lake. Lunch is at a local restaurant before travelling on by coach to the 5th station for views of Mt Fuji, the highest peak in Japan, weather conditions permitting. Continue on to Lake Suwa to stay one night at a ryokan, the **Hotel Beniya** in Japanese rooms. (B,L,D)

Thu 05 Apr - Lake Suwa - Takayama

Travel by coach to Takayama today. Visit the Matsuri-no-mori museum before enjoying a Tea Ceremony and the museum at Chya-no-yu-no-mori. Stay at **Associa Takayama Resort** for two nights. (B,D)

Fri 06 Apr - Takayama

Take a half day tour of Takayama, visiting the Miyagawa morning markets, Takayama Jinya and a local sake brewery, followed by time to explore the quaint old streets of Sannomachi. (B)

Sat 07 Apr - Takayama - Shirakawago - Kanazawa

The charming village of Shirakawago is visited with its traditional thatched roof houses. Visit the Miboro Dam before lunch at the Shirakawago and Observatory. Visit Wada House, a typical Gassho-zukuri style house built in the form of hands in prayer. There is free time to wander in the heritage village of Ogimachi. Continue to Kanazawa for a two night stay at the **ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel**. (B,L)

Sun 08 Apr - Kanazawa

Tour Kanazawa today with a visit to Kenroku-en, a highly revered private garden. The local Omicho markets are next, followed by a visit to the Nomura Samurai residence. Enjoy a Gold Leaf experience, where gold is beaten to a very thin sheet and used for decoration. Spend some guided time at the Higashi Chaya district – a traditional neighbourhood with tea houses where geisha perform. (B,D)

Mon 09 Apr - Kanazawa - Kyoto

Walk to Kanazawa station to catch the express train to Kyoto. Begin a coach tour to see the sights of Kyoto, Japan's cultural capital. In a beautiful garden setting, visit the stunning Kinkaku-ji or Golden Pavilion, with its top floors covered in gold leaf. Also visit the Ryoanji Temple and the Kyoto National Museum. Check in to the **Hotel Granvia Kyoto** for a three night stay. (B)



Tue 10 Apr - Kyoto

A full day of sightseeing includes a visit to Nijo Castle and time to stroll along Sannen-zaka laneway lined with traditional shophouses. Visit the Sanjyusangendo, a Tendai Buddhist temple in Higashiyama District. Explore Gion, the city's most famous entertainment district and the centre of its traditional arts. Experience one of these as you dress up in a traditional kimono. (B,L)

Wed 11 Apr - Nara excursion

Travel to Nara and immerse yourself in culture of the first permanent capital and birthplace of much of the Japan's traditional arts and literature. Visit Todaiji Temple to see the Great Buddha statue, the Deer Park, Kasuga Shrine and Kofukuji Temple. (B)

Thu 12 Apr - Kyoto - Hiroshima

Travel by train to Hiroshima. Lunch is at your hotel before setting off by coach to tour the city, visiting the Hiroshima Peace Park and the very moving Peace Museum and the Atomic Bomb Dome. Stay two nights at the **Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel**. (B,L)

Fri 13 Apr - Miyajima excursion

Travel to Miyajima Island by train and ferry. Take a guided walking tour to see the Itsukushima Shrine and striking red torii gate and the glorious cherry blossoms. (B)

Sat 14 Apr - Hiroshima - Kansai airport to exit

Check out before noon today and travel by bullet train and express train via Shin-Osaka to Kansai Airport Station ready for homebound flights departing between 11pm and midnight. Transfers for flights at other times may incur an additional transfer cost. (B)

Tour Price:

15 day tour: \$10,490 per person, twin share, land only
Single supplement: \$2,655

Price includes:

- 14 nights in well located 4 and 5 star hotels
- 14 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners
- Exquisite cultural experiences
- Transfers (subject to arrival and departure times) and internal transportation, tourist class seats on trains. Separate road transport of luggage when travelling by train.
- English speaking guides, sightseeing as listed and entrance fees
- Australian tour escort, subject to a minimum of 9 passengers

Tour prices and inclusions are based on a minimum of 9 passengers.
This tour is operated by InterAsia Tours – your specialist in Asia since 1989.