

Exclusive UCLA departure – May 7-19, 2022

Insider's Japan

13 days from \$6,584 total price from Los Angeles

(\$6,195 air & land inclusive plus \$389 airline taxes and fees)

It's a land of delicate art and bustling commerce, of rich traditions and dizzying modernity; a jumble of sights, sounds, and tastes that for visitors are truly foreign – and truly fascinating. This well-crafted tour features the highlights of Tokyo and Kyoto, engages us in local life, and takes us off the beaten path to the lovely historic cities of Takayama and Kanazawa.



Avg. High (°F)	May	Jun
Tokyo	72	75
Kyoto	75	81

Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Tokyo touring, including Imperial Palace District and Meiji Shrine • Stunning scenery of Mt. Fuji and Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park • Overnight stay in traditional *ryokan* • Takayama's ancient streets and houses • Hands-on cooking class • Culturally rich Kanazawa • Tour of Kyoto, Japan's cultural capital • Traditional tea ceremony

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Tokyo		
2-4	Tokyo	Dai-ichi Hotel Tokyo	Deluxe
5	Hakone	Hakone Setsugetsuka (<i>ryokan</i>)	Not rated
6-7	Takayama	Hida Hotel Plaza	First Class
8-9	Kanazawa	Hotel Nikko Kanazawa	First Class
10-12	Kyoto	The Thousand Kyoto	First Class
13	Depart Kyoto for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference. Unrated hotels may be too small, too new, or too remote to be listed.



A UNESCO site and "Special Place of Scenic Beauty," beloved Mount Fuji has drawn visitors for centuries.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Tokyo, Japan

Day 2: Arrive Tokyo Upon arrival in Japan's financial, commercial, and political capital, we transfer to our hotel. As guests' arrival times may vary, we have no scheduled activities or meals planned.

Day 3: Tokyo After a briefing about the journey ahead, we set out to discover a small part of this amazing city that covers a staggering 840 miles. Our sightseeing features the Meiji Shrine, a peaceful enclave of Shinto temples and gardens. We also visit the gallery of pre-eminent calligrapher Koshun Masunaga, where we learn about this ancient art of artistic writing and browse the collection. Our tour ends in Ginza, Tokyo's famed shopping, dining, and entertainment district, where we can stay to explore as we wish or return to our hotel for an afternoon at leisure. Tonight, we gather for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Day 4: Tokyo Our tour of Tokyo continues this morning at the Imperial Palace, surrounded by moats and ramparts and home of the Imperial Family. Here we visit the East Gardens, part of the innermost circle of defense of the historic Edo Castle that once stood here. We continue on to the Buddhist Asakusa Kannon, Tokyo's oldest temple (c. 645 CE), and the adjacent Nakamise shopping arcade, dating to the 17th century.

Last, we visit the Tokyo National Museum, housing an extensive collection of art and antiquities from Japan and other Asian countries. This afternoon is free for independent exploration; lunch and dinner are on our own in this city with endless dining options. *B*

Day 5: Tokyo/Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park/Hakone Japan's pastoral side is on tap as we leave Tokyo for Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park. Here sits imposing Mt. Fuji, a dormant volcano (it last erupted in 1707) with a perfectly symmetrical cone that rises to 12,388 feet. We learn about environmental and conservation efforts on the mountain at the Mt. Fuji World Heritage Center then enjoy a relaxing cruise on Ashi Lake, with Mt. Fuji in the background. Leaving the park, we travel to the town of Hakone, where we spend the night at a *ryokan*, a traditional Japanese inn where we take off our shoes upon entering, enjoy a Japanese-style *Kaiseki* dinner, and sleep on a futon. *B,D*

Day 6: Hakone/Takayama Today we travel first by bullet train then by Wide View Hida express train to lovely Takayama in the Japanese Alps, considered one of the country's most attractive towns with its 16th-century castle and old-style buildings. Our explorations center on three narrow streets in the San-machi-suji district where, in feudal times,

merchants lived amidst the authentically preserved small inns, teahouses, and sake breweries. This afternoon we attend a traditional Japanese tea ceremony here, an historic ritual of form, grace, and spirituality. *B,D*

Day 7: Takayama We pay an early visit to the riverside Miyagawa Morning Market, a blaze of dazzling colors and foodstuffs. Here we meet a local chef to gather ingredients for the lunch we will prepare together at a nearby site. After enjoying the fruits of our labors, we embark on a walking tour, visiting Takayama Jinya, an historic government house; the local sake brewery; and Takayama's old town, whose well-preserved buildings and homes date to the Edo Period (1600–1868). *B,L*

Day 8: Takayama/Shirakawago/Kanazawa We leave Takayama this morning for the UNESCO World Heritage site of Shirakawago Gassho-zukuri Village.



Geishas in traditional dress

Comprising buildings relocated from authentic villages nearby that were razed for a dam, the village is also a vibrant community whose residents work together to preserve the unique traditional architecture here known as Gassho style. Then we visit Gokayama Village to see how traditional Japanese *washi* paper is made. Late this afternoon we reach the castle town of Kanazawa, an alluring coastal city that survived the ravages of World War II. *B,L*

Day 9: Kanazawa Today's tour of this culturally rich city features renowned Kenrokuen Garden, a

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– STEVE '82, J.D. '85 AND MARIA ZIDELL

national landmark whose origins date to 1676. We also see Ishikawa Gate, the only remaining section of the town's original castle; Hakukokan, a museum celebrating the art and craft of gold leaf technology; and the Higashi Chayagai teahouse and geisha area. Last, we visit the Kutani Kosen Kiln, where artists fashion the prized, highly decorated pottery. We dine tonight at a local Japanese restaurant. *B,D*

Day 10: Kanazawa/Kyoto We depart this morning by train for Kyoto, formerly Japan's Imperial Capital and now the country's cultural and artistic center, with more than 1,600 temples, hundreds of shrines, artful gardens, and historic architecture. Upon arrival, we visit Kinkaku-ji, the beloved lakeside Temple of the Golden Pavilion set on pillars suspended over the water. Next: Ryoanji, a Zen Buddhist temple whose acclaimed dry garden epitomizes the simplicity of Zen meditation. We dine tonight at our hotel. *B,D*

Day 11: Kyoto More of Kyoto is on tap today, beginning with a visit to the otherworldly Arashiyama Bamboo Grove, the Kyoto Museum of Traditional Crafts (Fureaikan), and Nijo-jo Castle (ca. 1603). Then the remainder of the day is free for independent exploration in this traditional, yet modern city. *B*

Day 12: Kyoto We continue our encounter with Kyoto today, first at the important Fushimi Inari shrine, with its trails straddled by red *torii* gates; Sanjyusangendo Hall (ca. 1266), an important Buddhist temple housing 1,000 statues of the Thousand-Armed Kannon deity; and Nishiki Market, “Kyoto's Kitchen” of restaurants, stores, and stalls selling everything food-related. Then this afternoon is at leisure; tonight we toast our Japan adventure at a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Day 13: Depart Kyoto for U.S. This morning we travel by motorcoach to Osaka, where we board our return flight to the United States. *B*



We visit Kyoto's Temple of the Golden Pavilion on Day 10.

Tour Departs: May 7, 2022

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees

Los Angeles	\$6,584
Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle	\$6,884
Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix	\$7,084
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Miami, Orlando, Tampa, Washington, DC	\$7,184
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,695

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$389, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,595. Your \$500 deposit is fully refundable up to 95 days prior to departure. All 2022 tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Pacific flight: \$4,695 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves full days of sightseeing and significant amounts of walking on stairs and uneven surfaces. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

Post-Tour Extension

May 19-21, 2022

Hiroshima: City of Peace

3 days/2 nights for \$1,095 total price

Single Supplement: \$155

Discover the city reborn from the atomic destruction of World War II, now a modern and cosmopolitan urban center whose residents warmly welcome American visitors.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Rail transportation Kyoto/Hiroshima; Hiroshima/Osaka
- 2 nights' accommodations at Hotel Granvia Hiroshima (First Class)
- 3 meals: 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch
- Extensive included sightseeing: excursion to Miyajima Island and Daisho-in Temple; Hiroshima touring by local "Hiroden" train; visit to Peace Memorial Park and Museum; Atomic Bomb Dome
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Gratuities for dining room servers, hotel porters, and all drivers

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 11 nights' accommodations: 10 nights in Deluxe and First Class hotels; 1 night in traditional Japanese *ryokan*
- 19 meals: 11 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Rail transportation as described
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers
- \$100 frequent traveler credit towards your next UCLA/Odysseys Unlimited tour (\$200 after 3 tours; \$300 after 10 tours)