



Japan Cherry Blossom Tour



on
show
TRAVEL

☎ 1300 619 883
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The over 50s travel specialists

13 Day Japan Cherry Blossom Tour

- 13 Days / 12 Nights
- Includes Flights
- Fully Hosted
- Twin Share
- Single Supplement \$1,180pp

INCLUDES FLIGHTS

FULLY HOSTED

PRICE FROM
\$6,680pp

DURATION
13 Days

DEPARTS
25 Mar 2020

Japan

Japan is famous for its magnificent Cherry Blossom season. Our 13 day tour has been designed for those who wish to experience the magnificent floral tributes to nature, iconic sites and magnificent treasures. You will be accompanied by an experienced On Show Travel host and our local guides whose knowledge will make this trip truly unforgettable. This tour is the perfect introduction to Japan.

Inclusions:

- Return International Economy Air Ticket with Singapore Airlines and Silk Air
- Airport tax, fuel surcharge and airline levy.
- Twin-share accommodation at 4 star hotels as indicated or similar.
- Meals as stated in the itinerary (Buffet breakfasts at hotels,
- Japanese, Korean or western lunches or dinners at local restaurants or hotel restaurants).
- Bullet train tickets as indicated in the itinerary.
- All admission fees of sightseeing tours stated in the itinerary.
- Transport throughout the trip by air conditional vehicle.
- Service of professional English-speaking local guide.
- Gratuities
- On Show Travel Tour Host (Providing that minimum number of passengers bookings are achieved)

Not Included:

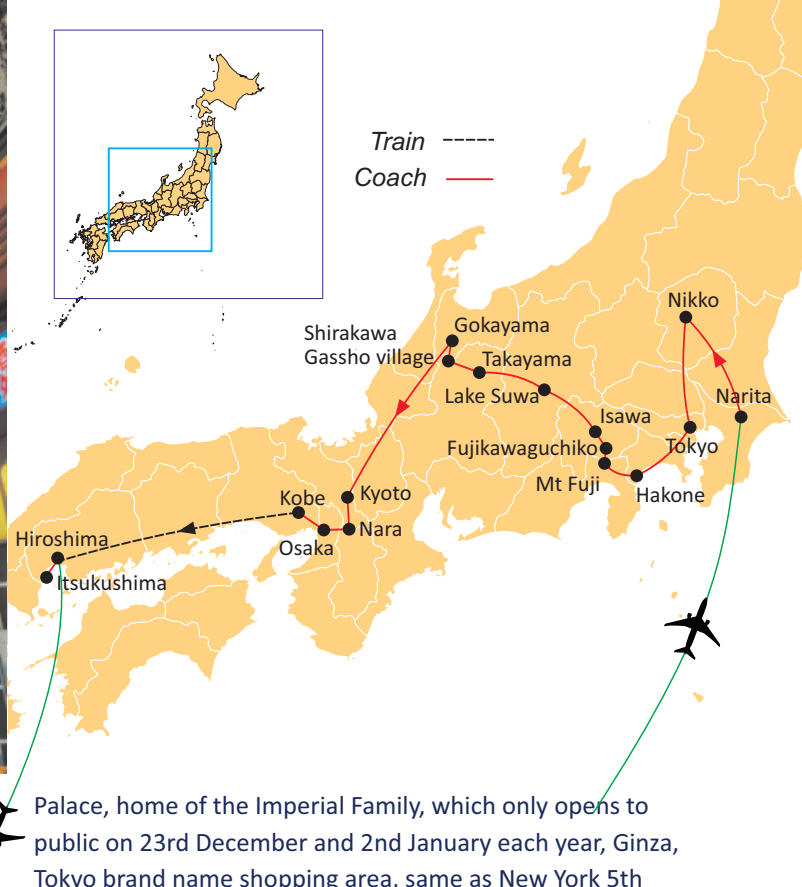
- Travel Insurance
- Items of personal nature
- Optional activities
- Meals not specified
- Beverages not specified



**Moderate Fitness
Level Required**

**This tour requires a moderate fitness level to participate.
All passengers must be able to:**

- Participate in walking tours without having to stop or sit down to rest for up to 20 minutes
- Walk up an incline equal to a flight of stairs without stopping
- Stand for 30 minutes without needing to sit down
- Walk over uneven ground, tackle cobbled creek crossings & walk through soft sand
- Get on and off transportation multiple times unaided
- Manage your own luggage



Tour Itinerary

Day 01 – 25 Mar 2019

Brisbane passengers depart at 2.30pm on flight SQ 236, arriving in Singapore at 8.45pm.

Sydney passengers depart at 3.00pm on flight SQ 222, arriving in Singapore at 9.20pm.

Melbourne passengers depart at 3.40pm on flight SQ 228, arriving in Singapore at 9.30pm.

All passengers depart Singapore at 11.55pm on flight SQ 638, arriving in Narita at 7.30am (next day) Departure from Australia with Singapore Airlines

Day 02, 26 Mar: NARITA ARRIVAL **L** **D**

Arrival at Narita Japan in the morning. You are met by our tour guide and enjoy an oriental tour. After lunch, you will be transferred to your hotel. You will have a welcoming dinner in your hotel restaurant tonight.

Accommodation: Narita Garden Hotel or similar

Day 03, 27 Mar: NARITA – NIKKO – TOKYO **B** **L**

Today you will travel to Nikko, a small city at the entrance to Nikko National Park. Visit Toshogu Shrine, Japan's most lavishly decorated shrine complex and mausoleum of Tokugawa Ieyasu, the founder of the Tokugawa Shogunate. Nikko has been a centre of Shinto and Buddhist mountain worship for many centuries, and Nikko National Park continues to offer scenic, mountainous landscapes, lakes, waterfalls, hot springs, wild monkeys and hiking trails. You will visit Kegon Water Falls and Lake Chuzenji. Stay overnight in Tokyo.

Accommodation: Tobu Levant Hotel or similar

Day 04, 28 Mar: TOKYO SIGHTSEEING **B** **L** **D**

Today's tour includes Edo Museum, Asakusa Temple, a very popular Buddhist temple, built in the 7th century, Imperial

Palace, home of the Imperial Family, which only opens to public on 23rd December and 2nd January each year, Ginza, Tokyo brand name shopping area, same as New York 5th Avenue and Shinjuku area.

Accommodation: Tobu Levant Hotel or similar

Day 05, 29 Mar: TOKYO – HAKONE – MT. FUJI – FUJIKAWAGUCHIKO **B** **L** **D**

Travel to Hakone by coach. Visit the Peace Park, Owakutani Hot Spring and have a cruise on Lake Ashi. Visit Mt. Fuji. Climb up to the 5th station by coach, about 2300 meters above the sea level. Visit the Visitor Centre. Enjoy a hot spring in your hotel in the evening.

Accommodation: Motosu View Hotel or similar

Day 06, 30 Mar: ISAWA – LAKE SUWA– TAKAYAMA **B** **L** **D**

Proceed to visit Lake Suwa. Afterwards we drive towards Takayama where we will visit Takayama Old Town. The Old Town of Takayama still stands on the east side of the Miyagawa River flowing through Takayama, and in the middle of it is Sanmachi, where Edo period houses remain. This district was designated as an area of important traditional buildings by the Japanese Government (Nationally Recognized Historical Building Preservation Area). The highlight of the trip is the Historical Government House (Takayama Jinya). The building served as The Tokugawa government's administrative building of Hida Province for 177 years (1692-1868). Of the 60 local government offices that were once spread throughout Japan, this is the only one still in existence. Enjoy a tea ceremony at Takayama area.

Accommodation: Takayama Hotel or similar

Day 07, 31 Mar: TAKAYAMA – SHIRAKAWA GASSHO VILLAGE – KYOTO **B** **L**

We will start with the visit to the Historic Villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama, one of Japan's UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Shirakawa-go (White River Old District)



is located in the village of Shirakawa. These villages are well known for their houses constructed in architectural style known as gassho-zukuri ("prayer-hands construction") style, which is characterized by a thatched and steeply slanting roof resembling two hands joined in prayer. The design is exceptionally strong and combined with the unique properties of the thatching, allowed the houses to withstand and shed the weight of the region's heavy snowfalls in winter. Afterwards we will proceed to Kyoto.

Accommodation: *Karasuma Kyoto Hotel or similar*

Day 08, 01 Apr: KYOTO (B) (L) (D)

We have late start this morning before our Sushi-making lesson, where you will have a hand-on opportunity to make your own sushi rolls. This followed by a visit to Heian Jingu Shrine which is the home of perhaps the world's most authentic and exquisite Japanese garden. We will watch a Kimono Show at Nishinjin Showroom.

Accommodation: *Karasuma Kyoto Hotel or similar*

Day 09, 02 Apr: KYOTO – NARA – OSAKA (B) (L) (D)

Today we will visit the golden pavilion (Kinkakuji). En-route we stop in Nara and visit Todai Temple (Great Buddha Temple). Continue to travel to Osaka. Visit Osaka Castle and Shinzaibashi shopping area

Accommodation: *Osaka Agora Moriguchi Hotel or similar*

Day 10, 03 Apr: OSAKA – HIROSHIMA (B) (L)

Today we visit Kobe Japanese Sake Brewery. After this visit we travel to Hiroshima by bullet train (Shinkansen). Upon arrival, check into your hotel in Hiroshima.

Accommodation: *Hiroshima Rihga Royal Hotel or similar*

Day 11, 04 Apr: HIROSHIMA – MIYAJIMA – HIROSHIMA (B) (L) (D)

After breakfast you will leave the hotel for a sightseeing tour of Hiroshima and Miyajima. You will visit the Itsukushima Shrine located upon Itsukushima Island (Miyajima). Miyajima Island is the popular name of Itsukushima Island situated near Miyajima Town in southwestern Hiroshima. It is a scenic sight in which the mountains, sea and red shrine buildings blend in harmony, and the entire island is designated as a historic site. It is one of the three most beautiful sites in Japan, along with Matsushima in Miyagi and Amanohashidate in Kyoto. Next, visit Peace Memorial Park. The Genbaku Dome (The Atomic Bomb Dome) is the symbol of Hiroshima, the city that advocates peace in the world. It is located in Hiroshima and faces Hiroshima Bay in the Seto Inland Sea. It was originally the Hiroshima Industrial Promotion Hall built in 1915. While all structures vanished in the atomic bomb explosion, only this building miraculously remained standing after the atomic bombing of 6 August 1945.

Accommodation: *Hiroshima Airport Hotel or similar*

Day 12, 05 Apr: HIROSHIMA – AUSTRALIA (B)

After breakfast, you are free until transfer to airport for your flight homewards to Australia. You fly overnight. Depart Hiroshima at 10.25am on MI867, arriving in Singapore at 3.45pm

Brisbane passengers depart Singapore at 9.30pm on SQ 235, arriving in Brisbane at 7.05am Sydney passengers depart Singapore at 8.20pm on SQ 221, arriving in Sydney at 5.55am Melbourne passengers depart Singapore at 10.00pm on SQ 227, arriving in Melbourne at 7.25am

Day 13, 06 Apr: AUSTRALIA

Arrive in Australia today. Your unforgettable Japan Cherry Blossoms tour ends.



FAQ's

Why is the tour Fitness Level rated as 'Moderate'?

The tour involves a reasonable amount of walking, especially climbing steps and stairs. Due to the infrastructure the coaches are not able to park directly in front of the attractions you will be visiting, therefore you sometimes need to walk from the where the bus parks to the entrance of the site, and/or need to climb some steps inside which can at times be up to 15 to 20 minutes walking one way. People with knee or hip injuries, who have poor balance or are otherwise unable to complete these activities independently should consider the suitability of this itinerary carefully.

This itinerary also involve very long days of travel and this combined with the local infrastructure may prove challenging at times. In order to get the most from this tour it is important to have a good level of fitness. Please ensure you are aware of the specifics required to participate in tour as outlined on the 2nd page of this brochure.

Will I be climbing a lot of steps in Japan?

Sightseeing at nearly all of the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps. These palaces were built to provide defence against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steps to slow down the advance of enemies once they were inside. The steps tend to be quite large, not level and sometimes without handrails. Hindu and Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs.

What is the standard of the hotels?

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between Australia and Japan. Please note that in Japan hotel rooms are renowned for being small and rooms booked for single use are usually smaller than a standard double or twin room, contain one small double bed (or one single bed), and are designed for one person to use. All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Hotels in Japan often do not have porters and you will be required to carry your own luggage.

Are touring days long?

Main and inner city roads in Japan have a reputation for being very congested in cherry blossom season. For this reason, it is not usually possible to return to your hotel after sightseeing before going to the restaurant for dinner.

What will happen with my bags when we travel on the train?

Japan's transport system is well known for being efficient, clean and convenient. We like to make sure that you get the opportunity to travel with the locals, making use of the city's world-renowned bullet trains that will whizz you from city to city in no time. When taking the bullet train to Hiroshima your main luggage will be transported separately due to limited space on the train. You will be required to pack a small cabin bag to take with you on the bullet train, which includes a change of clothes and other necessary items including any medication that is required as you won't have access to your luggage for 2 nights until you arrive in Osaka.

Eating in Japan?

Japanese cuisine is delicious, colourful and healthy. Meals are usually served with a bowl of rice and a bowl of miso soup and consist usually of fish, pickled vegetables and meat. Japan's other main staple is noodles, most famous being Udon and Soba. All meals (excluding drinks) are included in our fully inclusive group tours from the groups' arrival until the day of departure. Our schedule of meals is designed so that you can experience the local dishes, their individual flavours as well as the different ways they are prepared and cooked throughout Japan. Food is an important element of Japanese culture. It is a time for families and friends to come together and much of family life revolves around the dinner table. Most food is eaten with chopsticks so best get practicing as cutlery is not always available at restaurants.

Breakfast will be buffet style. Lunches are mostly pre-set options as is custom in many local restaurants. Dinner is usually buffet-style, featuring a wide selection of high quality Japanese and Western dishes. We usually find this style of dining suits the wide and varied tastes of our customers on tour. These are also pre-booked in advance prior to your arrival by your guides. This will provide greater flexibility and allow you to sample a broad range of local cuisines and dishes. All beverages will be at your own expense and are readily available.

On some days where lots of sights are covered, dinner times may be early and your tour group may head directly to the restaurant after sightseeing without stopping at your hotel to freshen up.

Do I need a Visa?

Passports must be valid for six months beyond the length of stay. Visas are not required for Australian passport holders for entry into Japan for stays of up to 90 days.

Do I need vaccinations for this journey?

There are no specific health requirements for travel to Japan, however certain vaccinations are recommended. Seniors Holiday Travel recommends that you consult your physician or travel doctor prior to departure to discuss your personal health requirements.

When will I receive my final travel documents?

A detailed itinerary and final documents will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to the tour's departure.

What is the climate like at the various times of the year?

Towards the end of March the weather becomes noticeably milder and April is often considered the best time to visit Japan as the weather is pleasantly mild. However it is best to be prepared for some cold wet days during this time of the year. Temperatures can get as low as 5 degrees during the evenings with highs of 18 degrees during the days.

If I travel alone, do I have to pay the single supplement?

If you do not want to share a hotel room with another person in the group, you will have to pay the single supplement. However, if you are willing to share we can assist in finding a fellow travel companion of the same gender to save on the single supplement.

However, this cannot be guaranteed and if we are unable to find a suitable travelling companion and you still wish to travel, then you will be required to pay the additional single supplement with your final payment.

On Show Travel accepts no responsibility for the suitability or unsuitability of the twin share companion. To avoid discrimination, we are unable to disclose details of twin share passengers until deposit is received.

A lot of companies have many expensive optional extras on their tours. Do you?

We don't believe in a lot of expensive 'optional tours'. Our itineraries are designed to make the best possible use of time and to include all the must-see sights, plus additional surprises. Therefore practically everything is included in the tour cost.

Are there internet and WiFi facilities en-route?

Most of the hotels we use have internet and WiFi facilities, though not all.

Do I need to tip?

For a hassle free journey all tips and gratuities are included in the tour cost for drivers, local guides and porters.



Why Choose OnShowTravel



Independent advice

Travel wholesalers will only tell you about their own products, but we can advise you on the benefits of a wide range of travel wholesalers, depending on what's important to you.



First-hand experience

Our team members are constantly hosting tours, taking training tours, going on 'top achiever' tours and cruises, and of course, enjoying personal holidays. This helps them to plan the very best holiday for you, tailored to what you want to experience.



Tailor made for you

You may want to create a specific itinerary, travel in a small group, explore a particular region in-depth, or include special interests, like history, art or food. Together, we can help create your dream holiday.



Full service

We'll organise your flights, car hire, accommodation, transfers and of course travel insurance. Plus, we'll provide detailed travel information and advice about your destinations



Comprehensive travel documents

We provide both electronic and hard copies of your travel documents for easy reference, something many travel agents no longer provide.

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On Show Travel Terms of Trade and Schedule of Fees

PRICES

Schedules and availability, fare conditions and prices can change at any time. Price changes may occur for reasons or matters outside our control which increase the cost of the products or service. Such factors include adverse currency fluctuations, fuel surcharges, taxes and airfare increases.

DEPOSITS

On Show Travel requires a booking deposit which is charged per person and deducted from your final balance. The deposit is non-refundable if you should cancel.

- i. 1st deposit for this tour is \$400.00 per person and is due within 7 days of booking.
- ii. Final payment is due 90 days (20/12/2019) prior to departure.

PAYMENTS

All prices are based on payment by cash, direct deposit or cheque. A Visa credit card surcharge of 1.41% and a surcharge of 0.91% for Visa debit card. A surcharge of 1.27% for Mastercard credit cards and a 0.87% for Mastercard debit card. 3% for American Express Card applies if you elect to use them for payment. If you opt to make a direct deposit into our nominated bank account it may take at least 24 hours to be processed into our account.

CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS & AMENDMENTS

Cancellation must be made in writing and all tickets issued must be returned together with the cancellation notice.

- 90 days or more prior to departure, loss of deposit plus the cost of the airline ticket if issued.
- Less than 90 days prior to departure, 100% of the tour package price. Cancellation must be made in writing for your reservation to be cancelled.

HEALTH & FITNESS/ACTIVITY LEVEL

You must ensure that you are aware of any health requirements for your travel and that you are able to participate in the activities included in your itinerary. If you are unsure about your fitness to travel, please check with your GP or specialist clinic. Payment of deposit to On Show Travel acts as a warranty that the traveller is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate in the tour. On Show Travel reserves the right to remove a traveller from a tour at the traveller's own expense, if their health/fitness interferes with the tour or other travellers' tour experience in any way. We do not, nor are we required to, provide carers or assistants for those with reduced mobility or other health needs. In particular, tour guides, coach drivers, and your fellow passengers will not act as assistants or carers in these circumstances.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is required for all travellers. On Show Travel can assist with your travel insurance needs. Please ensure you take note of the special inclusions and exclusions as they may relate to your particular circumstances.

Pre-existing medical conditions and cover for these are approved or rejected by the Insurer. If you have taken out another Travel Insurance Policy or believe you have adequate cover from a credit card policy we will require a photocopy and details of the insurance cover that you hold. Please note that if you have insurance from another source and subsequently require our assistance in processing an insurance claim, this will incur a fee of at least \$220.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION

Travel documents include (without limitation) airline tickets, hotel vouchers, tour vouchers or any other documentation used to confirm an arrangement with a service provider. Travel documents may be subject to certain conditions and/or restrictions including being non-refundable, non-changeable and subject to cancellation and/or amendment fees. These documents cannot be transferred to another person to use. All airline tickets must be issued in the name of the passport/photo id holder. An incorrect name on a booking may result in an inability to use that booking and it may be cancelled. Any errors in names, dates and timings on your documentation will be your responsibility if not advised at time of booking. As a general rule, your travel documents are issued by the service providers two weeks prior to departure. For any amendments after final payment a fee of \$55 per document plus supplier fees will be charged.

THIRD PARTY SUPPLIERS

Our tour itinerary is a guide only and although we will make every reasonable effort to adhere to the programme, we reserve the right to make any alterations as necessary. Alterations may come about due to weather conditions, strikes, public holidays, local festivals, renovations and/or upgrades or other reasons. Any additional expense incurred by the passenger is not our responsibility. Your travel arrangements are subject to the booking conditions of each travel provider you are using. On Show Travel is responsible for advising upon travel arrangements and making the bookings. On Show Travel is not responsible for cancellations of tours, loss or damage directly or indirectly caused by the airline or suppliers and other transport delays or reschedules, or insolvency, loss or damage to person, property delays, accidents, acts of war and force majeure impacting upon your travel arrangements. On Show Travel acts the wholesaler and at times only as an agent, depending on the product. Airfares included in your package holiday are provided in economy class. On Show Travel cannot be responsible for seating allocation.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Your contact information will be required by third party suppliers to accept and confirm a booking. Privacy Laws safeguard your personal details from being distributed for marketing purposes. Your information may be used by On Show Travel for the purpose of relaying travel related information about you to third parties.

You agree that our On Show Travel representative or third party suppliers may take photographs of you while you are on holiday and that these may be used in our Group Brochures and/or advertising, publicity material or online without obtaining any further consent or payments in respect of such photographs and/or films.

