



The Japanese Legend: Contrasts of Tradition & Modernity

10 Days

In a volcanic Island chain, surrounded by an ocean, the Japanese built their cultural and national identity. The transition from being open to the world to being closed to it has shaped Japan's unique character. And even today, modern and technological Japan remains rigid and reserved, and it zealously preserves its unique tradition. A visit to Japan is an encounter with many contrasts almost everywhere; ancient temples alongside modern skyscrapers, fancy gardens and hi-tech gadgets, old samurai castles located in vibrant, modern cities. Japan is a western society that stands firmly in the east. Our tour includes Tokyo with its skyscrapers, wooden houses and traditional gardens, and the natural reserve Nikko with its abundance of temples – both Shinto and Buddhist. At Hakone, located on the edge of a volcanic lake, we can soak in a typical Japanese Onsen. Kyoto – Japan's imperial capital for over 1,000 years, and Takayama – ancient cultural center of the Japanese Alps. The Land of the Rising Sun brings us calm at dawn, hustle and bustle at midday, and placidity at night. *Yokoso!*



ITINERARY

Day 1: Monday Tokyo:

Arrival to Tokyo airport (NRT), meet and greet transfer to the hotel (A short time to freshen up), and then we'll go out together. Dinner at Chabad Japan.

Day 2: Tuesday: Tokyo, Toyosu Fish Market, Team Lab Borderless, Shibuya District

Today we'll begin with a visit to Tokyo's famous Toyosu fish market, where about 2000 tons of different species from the sea are sold every day. We will continue to visit Team Lab Borderless, the world's first digital art museum. We will continue to take a cruise on Sumida River, and we will visit the Buddhist temple of Asakusa Kannon - the most important in Tokyo. The entire complex as well as the lane leading to the temple is packed with stands selling a variety of typical Japanese items, and it is a fascinating experience to be among Tokyo's locals. We will enjoy seeing the Nakamise Shopping Arcade and continue to visit the Shibuya Area. Shibuya is one of the most popular areas of Tokyo, one of the most desirable for entertainment, and for fashion shopping. Dinner at Chabad Japan.

Day 3: Wednesday: Tokyo, Owakudani, Cruise on Lake Ashi, the Hakone Open Air Museum

After breakfast we will go to visit the Owakudani viewpoint from which we may see active volcanoes. We will take a cruise on Lake Ashi and we'll see the large vermillion Hakone shrine. We'll ascend by cable car to Owakudani Valley and we will visit the Hakone Open Air Museum, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will drive back to Tokyo. Dinner at Chabad Japan.

Day 4: Thursday Ginza, Shitamachi Museum, Meiji Shrine, Shinjuku

After breakfast we will start our day with a visit to the bustling business district of Ginza. We will continue to visit The Shitamachi Museum, which traces the history and culture of the Edo (old Tokyo) era. We will continue our day by visiting the **Meiji Shrine**, a Shinto shrine in Shibuya, Tokyo, which is dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shōken. We then will visit the Shinjuku district that is best known for its lavish nightlife. Dinner at Chabad Japan.

Day 5: Friday: Tokyo - Kobe, Nunobiki Gardens by Cable Car

After breakfast we transfer to Tokyo station from which we will take a bullet train to Shin Kobe Station. After arriving in Kobe, we will visit the Nunobiki gardens by cable car and then drive to our hotel. Preparations for Shabbat and Shabbat dinner.

Day 6: Shabbat: Kobe

We'll spend a wonderful, peaceful and relaxing Shabbat with the small Jewish community of Kobe. After Shacharit and Kiddush/Lunch, we'll take a stroll through the neighborhood near our hotel.

Day 7: Sunday: Kobe, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Peace Memorial Park & Museum

After breakfast we will take a bullet train from Kobe Station to Hiroshima. We shall arrive in Hiroshima and board a ferry and sail to the island of Miyajima (the Temple Island), or its full name, Itsukushima. This is a historical site which is considered one of the three most beautiful sites in Japan. We'll return to Hiroshima to visit the Peace Memorial Park & Museum. Later we will transfer to Hiroshima Station and take a bullet train from Hiroshima Station to Shin Kobe Station. Upon arrival at Kobe Station we shall go to the Jewish community center for dinner.

Day 8: Monday: - Kyoto, Kiyomizu-dera, Nishiki Market, Kinkaku-ji

After breakfast we will make our way to Kyoto to start our Kyoto city tour. We will visit Kiyomizu-dera. The temple is part of the Historic Monuments of ancient Kyoto, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will continue on to visit the Nishiki Market which is renowned as the place to obtain many of Kyoto's famous foods and goods. We continue our day by visiting the Kinkaku-ji Temple (the Golden Pavilion) Then we will attend a Tea Ceremony with a Geisha, We will continue the journey with a visit to Gion street, the famous geisha district. We will take the bus back to Kobe. Dinner at Chabad Japan

Day 9: Tuesday: Nijo Castle, Kimono Factory, Bamboo Forest

After breakfast we will visit the legendary Nijo Castle, an original Shogun castle built by Tokugawa Eiyasu, the founder of Japan's longest ruling Shogun dynasty. Then we will visit the Nishiji Textile Center -Kimono Factory. Later, we will see Arashiyama Area, Togetsu Bridge & Tenryuji Temple. We will visit the Bamboo Forest, Arashiyama Bamboo Grove, Sagano Bamboo Forest. We will take the bus back to Kobe. Dinner at Chabad Japan

Day 10: Wednesday: Osaka, Sake Museum

After breakfast we will drive to the Osaka Sake Museum and then visit the Osaka castle. We will visit the Umeda sky building. If time permits, we will stroll along the Umeda area and as per the flight time we will transfer to the airport for the flight back home.

Tour Code	Departs	Returns	Duration	Person in DBL room	Single Supp.	Tour Guide
ETOK2403	24 MAR 2025	02 APR 2025	10 Days	\$5250	\$1140	Mrs. Irit Eliraz
ETOK1108	11 AUG 2025	20 AUG 2025	10 Days	\$5590	\$1350	Mrs. Irit Eliraz
ETOK1011	10 NOV 2025	19 NOV 2025	10 Days	\$5590	\$1350	Mrs. Irit Eliraz

Price Includes:

- Air-conditioned tourist coach
- Half Board throughout plus supplies to make sandwiches for lunch
- English-speaking local guides and a professional experienced guide from the staff of Shai Bar Ilan
- Entrance to all sites mentioned in the itinerary
- Tips for local service providers
- Tourist class hotels or first class hotels throughout

Price Excludes

- International flights
- Taxes and surcharges
- Tourist tax 1000 YEN per person (approx. \$10 per person) will be paid on departure from Japan
- Private expenses (drinks laundry & dry cleaning shopping etc.)
- Travel Insurance
- Tip for Israeli guide (Recommended: \$5 per person per day)

❖ Important to Know:

- ➔ There may be changes to the order of places visited. We will make every effort to visit every place mentioned in the itinerary.
- ➔ The tour organizers have no control over airline services such as seating, special meal requests, changes in departure times or delays. These remain the sole responsibility of the airline company.

Kashrut on Tours

Kosher food is provided to our travelers on all our tours. We work with the local Rabbinat to provide Hashgacha for all local ingredients and fresh meat and poultry. In some cases, we fly in kosher food from Israel and other sources, depending on the destination of the tour. We do not guarantee Pat Israel and Chalav Israel for all destinations. In many destinations we have our own crockery and cutlery. Where we don't, we provide disposables at the meals. When we cook in hotel kitchens, we ensure proper Kashering and we use our own kitchenware on kashered and covered surfaces. All this is done under the strict supervision of our trained staff/guides that function as our Mashgichim. Our travelers enjoy gourmet meals prepared by our team including fresh local fish, fruit, and vegetables. This is an integral part of Jewish travel. We make great efforts to assure that our travelers will experience local foods first-hand, while maintaining stringent observance of Kashrut laws on all occasions.

Deposit, Cancellation Fees & Policy:

A \$500 USD Deposit per person must be received at the time of booking in order to confirm your reservation. Payment in full is due 90 days before departure. A minimum number of participants are required to operate tour dates. If a minimum number has not been reached prior to tour departure and the tour is cancelled you will receive a FULL refund.

- 60 days before departure bookings are refundable less a \$100 administration fee
 - 59-30 days prior to departure: 25% of total.
 - 29-15 days prior to departure: 50% of total
 - Less than 14 working days prior to departure: 100% of total - no refund
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- We strongly recommend purchasing Travel Insurance.