

Temples, Treasures, and Teahouses

FROM MATSUE TO TAKAYAMA, WITH A CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL



TRIP DATES

2024

April 3-16, 2024

2025

April 3-16, 2025



Wilderness Travel

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Temples, Treasures, and Teahouses

FROM MATSUE TO TAKAYAMA, WITH A
CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

Our insider's journey reveals fascinating aspects of Japanese culture that few travelers ever see. We begin in Matsue on the northwest coast, exploring the city's 400-year-old feudal castle and the elegant samurai houses encircling it. In the hidden gem of Kinosaki Onsen, a traditional hot springs town filled with the culture of old Japan, we soak in classic hot springs and savor fresh-caught seafood. We'll walk the storied lanes of Kyoto, seeking off-the-beaten-path temples and gardens, with a grand finale in Takayama in the Japanese Alps, where we'll join in the fun of the cherry blossom festival. Artisan visits, onsen baths, culinary treats, and the warm hospitality of the Japanese welcome us at every turn.



Wilderness Travel

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Itinerary

DAY 1 OSAKA

Arrive in Osaka, clear formalities, and walk over to the hotel, which is located in the airport aeroplaza. We gather for our trip briefing and Welcome Dinner this evening. Overnight at the Nikko Kansai Airport Hotel...D

DAYS 2-4 MATSUE / IZUMO TAISHA SHRINE

A scenic train ride brings us to Matsue. We'll spend three nights in this city, enjoying accommodations in one of our favorite ryokans on the river—a great way to experience the Japanese way of life. Matsue is attractively located at the eastern shores of Lake Shinji near the Sea of Japan. We start our explorations with a visit to Matsue Castle, which has one of Japan's largest original castle towers. The cherry blossoms at the castle will hopefully be in bloom, enhancing our visit here. We then walk through the samurai quarters nearby to visit a finely preserved samurai home, with its striking traditional architecture and beautiful serene gardens.

On Day 3, we take a short train ride to Izumo to visit the Izumo Taisha shrine, and it will be a highlight for many. The shrine is deeply associated with Japan's creation legends and dedicated to the Shinto god Okuninushi-no-kami, the god of fortune, considered the creator of Japan. It was designated a National Treasure of Japan in 1952. The main sanctuary is built in the Taisha style, Japan's oldest style of shrine architecture. It has one of the largest shrine gates in Japan (around 75 feet high) and a 50-foot-long sacred rice straw festoon that weighs five tons. According to the Japanese mythology, Okuninushi-no-kami obtained Izumo in compensation for giving his territory to another god. There are no records of exactly when the shrine was built, but it is often considered the oldest shrine in Japan, already in existence in the early 700s, as revealed by the nation's oldest chronicles.

While in Matsue, we will also visit a local sake factory (with a tasting, of course!), tofu shop, and the Adachi Museum of Art, which has one of Japan's most beautiful landscape gardens. Overnights at Ohashikan Ryokan...B daily, D on Days 2 and 4. All lunches and dinner on Day 3 are on your own.

About Ryokans: We stay several nights at ryokans, the traditional lodging of Japan that offer charming old-world Japanese hospitality. The hosts at our ryokans consider us as family and treat us accordingly. Please note that single guests will share accommodations with another guest in the group of the same gender.

DAYS 5-6 KINOSAKI ONSEN / IZUSHI

We travel a beautiful coastal route along the Sea of Japan to under-the-radar Kinosaki Onsen, a hidden gem of a town nestled in a valley and surrounded by mountains and sea. This hot springs town is filled with the



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Length: | 14 days |
| Arrive: | Osaka, Japan |
| Depart: | Osaka, Japan |
| Lodging: | 13 nights ryokans and hotels |
| Meals: | All meals included except 10 lunches and 3 dinners (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner) |
| Activity: | Cultural Adventures, Walking |
| Trip Level: | 1 2 3 4 5 6 Walking, including some steep stairs, 6-7 hours a day, Japanese-style dining (sitting on floor) |

HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover Matsue's fantastic castle and samurai district, soak in Kinosaki's historic onsens
- Explore Kyoto, with its Zen gardens and teahouses, witness the spectacular Takayama Festival
- Enjoy overnights in traditional ryokans, the serene inns that reflect Japanese culture in miniature



Itinerary



tradition and culture of old Japan, and we'll enjoy the classic sukiya architecture and, of course, relaxing soaks in hot springs. Each onsen (hot spring) in this town is uniquely designed and heralded for its specific curative properties and legendary history. The next day we'll visit the Edo-era castle town of Izushi to sample its unique style of soba (buckwheat noodles), then head back for Kinosaki for an afternoon to explore and soak in the hot springs. Overnights at Yuraku Kinosaki Spa and Gardens (or similar)...B daily, D on Day 5, L on Day 6. Dinner on your own on Day 6.

DAYS 7-10 KYOTO

A three-hour train ride brings us to Kyoto, a lovely thousand-year-old city that is a center for Japan's superbly crafted folk arts: delicate silk, brocades, lacquer ware, earthen ware, porcelain, fans, dolls, ink drawings, paintings, and bronzes. Kyoto became the capital of Japan in 794 when Emperor Kammu inaugurated the area as the capital of peace and tranquility. It continued to be the capital throughout the Shogunate era until a Meiji emperor decided to move to Edo in 1886. To this day, Kyoto continues to be the cultural and artistic capital of Japan, preserving over 2,000 imposing shrines and temples, royal palaces, villas, elaborate gardens, and traditional folkcraft centers.

We spend our days in Kyoto among the cherry blossoms and temples, walking serene paths and exploring the smaller temples and gardens as well as visiting artisans. On Day 8, we enjoy a "Zen Day." We began with an early morning visit to Ryoan-ji—Japan's most famous rock garden. We continue on to Daitokuji, a Zen Complex that consists of nearly two dozen sub-temples and is one of the best places in Japan to see a wide variety of Zen gardens and to experience Zen culture and architecture. Founded in 1319, it remains a center for the Rinzai sect. Here we meet our local guide who will lead us through the intricacies of the seemingly simple gardens. We also visit the studio of Sara Brayer, a well-known artist who will share her stories and artistic journey. In the afternoon, we'll head to Noguchi San's studio, a 4th generation gold leaf artist who lives and works in a Meiji Era, Machiya-style home.



On Day 9 We take a day trip to Himeji Castle, home to Japan's premier example of a feudal-era fortress. Spectacular Himeji Castle was built in the mid-14th century and gradually enlarged until it was completed in 1604. Never damaged by war, earthquake, or fire, it is a national treasure and a World Heritage Site. In the afternoon of Day 10, we experience the colorful Miyako Odori, featuring geisha dancing. Overnights at Noku Hotel (or similar)...B daily, D on Days 7, 8, and 10. Dinner on your own on Day 9.

DAY 11
TAKAYAMA

This morning we travel by bullet train to Takayama, a charming old mountain town affectionately referred to as “Little Kyoto.” In early times, the Hida artisans in this area possessed fine woodworking skills. They were sent to Nara and Kyoto to work on the great temples and palaces. In feudal times, Takayama became a castle town; its lords erected many temples and shrines. Today, the elegant old culture remains much in evidence in the splendidly preserved merchant houses, traditional inns, teahouses, and sake breweries. Dinner and overnight at Honjin Hiranoya Bekkan...BD

DAY 12
TAKAYAMA

We enjoy a full day of exploring Takayama, including witnessing one of Japan’s most beautiful festivals, complete with a mikoshi (shrine) procession, elaborately decorated floats pulled through the streets, and karakuri doll performances. We return to our ryokan for dinner and overnight...BD

DAY 13
KYOTO

The train brings us back to Kyoto, and we transfer by taxi to our accommodation. The afternoon is free for shopping, temple hopping, or just wandering and taking in our last sights of the city. In the evening, we gather for a festive Farewell Dinner—with a geisha! Overnight at Noku Hotel...BD

DAY 14
OSAKA / DEPART

The Haruka train from Kyoto station to Kansai International Airport is an efficient 1.25-hour trip directly to the airport. Depart on homeward-bound flights...B



“Exactly what I hoped for.
Placed myself into the Japanese
culture as much as possible.”

Archibald B., Tucson, AZ



Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$10595 (10-12 members)

\$10995 (8-9 members)

\$11295 (5-7 members)

Single supplement: \$3395

2025 Trip Cost: Please call for details

Note: There are up to three nights where singles must share accommodations. These nights are not included in the published single supplement or forced single supplement rates.

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Due to the volatility of currency markets, we can only offer the most competitive pricing on our trips in Japan by partially tying the trip cost directly to the value of the Japanese Yen. In the late spring of 2023, when we set the rates for our 2024 program, the US Dollar equaled 136 Japanese Yen. While in most years, no price changes are ever necessary, if there were to be a significant change in exchange rates, we may be forced to raise or able to lower our trip cost; if so, your final invoice, sent two weeks before your final payment is due, will reflect the difference. Please note that the calculation will not be a straight proration. While most of the trip cost is paid in Japanese Yen, the remainder of our expenses are paid in US Dollars. The overall effect is to moderate any change; thus, if the Japanese Yen were to rise in value, the trip cost would rise less than might be expected, and if the Japanese Yen were to fall, the drop in land price would also be less than might be expected.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader and local guides
- Accommodations in comfortable ryokans and hotels
- All meals included except 10 lunches and 3 dinners
- Ground transportation using Japan Rail System
- Site and entrance fees as part of the itinerary
- Land transportation as noted

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, airport transfers, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, fees for optional activities, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by airline schedule changes or other factors; pre-trip expenses of medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcohol, laundry, etc.).

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600

90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge!

61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost

46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance

Trip Leader

Wilderness Travel Trip Leaders have a passion and a joy for creating an unforgettable journey. We are extremely proud of them and the incredible travel experiences they make possible. For more information, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on “Trip Leaders”: www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/japan/kyoto-kanazawa-tour



LUCY WHITEHEAD

Having grown up in rural Tasmania, Lucy developed a deep love of nature and the outdoors through exploring the bush around her home on horseback and hiking with her family. She began her independent exploration at a young age with a week in the South West World Heritage area at the age of 11, and a school exchange in Japan at the age of 15. She is a world traveler who has lived in Europe, Japan, and Central America. After a year of working in Japan, she studied Japanese at the University of Tasmania, and later returned to Osaka on a scholarship to study Japanese literature along with anthropology, film, and ceramics. During her seven years in Japan, she taught English, hitch-hiked around Hokkaido, climbed Mt. Fuji, and walked the Kumano Kodo. She currently lives in Tasmania, one of her favorite places in the world, and works as a guide in both Tasmania and Japan. Lucy's partner is a well-known sushi chef from the countryside of Wakayama. Together they relish camping and diving in Tasmania's pristine wilderness, dining on internationally inspired dishes using home-grown produce, and surfing and snorkeling on the coast. Lucy is fluent in Japanese and is keen to share her love of Tasmania, Japan, and all the places in between, with travelers and friends.



Accommodations



HOTEL NIKKO KANSAI AIRPORT

Osaka, Japan

Day 1 (1 night)

This hotel couldn't be more convenient for travelers transiting Osaka—it's located just a short walk from the passenger terminal and train station. Guest rooms are modern, spacious, and quiet (despite the proximity of jets landing and taking off) and there is a good breakfast buffet.



OHASHIKAN RYOKAN

Matsue, Japan

Days 2 to 4 (3 nights)

As the oldest ryokan in Matsue, Ohashikan has a long legacy of authentic Japanese traditions. The ryokan is set within walking distance from Matsue Castle and has a beautiful view of Lake Shinji and the Ohashi River. Inside, tatami-floored guest rooms have futon beds and wonderful vistas of the castle or lake. Each evening, you can choose from the colorful assortment of yukatas (robes) provided to guests and enjoy listening to traditional koto music in the lobby. Please note: single accommodations are not available at the Ohashikan Ryokan.



YURAKU KINOSAKI SPA AND GARDENS

Toyooka, Japan

Days 5 to 6 (2 nights)

Set amid tranquil Japanese gardens, this onsen ryokan is the perfect place to relax. Guest rooms are Japanese-style rooms with tatami mat floors and futon bedding. There are both indoor and open-air hot spring baths to enjoy a soak, as well as three private open-air baths built in a bamboo grove. If the hot springs aren't enough of a highlight, the cuisine surely is. All food is seasonal and locally sourced, and is absolutely delicious.



NOKU KYOTO

Kyoto, Japan

Days 7 to 10 (4 nights), Day 13 (1 night)

Noku puts us in the heart of Kyoto, right next to the Imperial Palace. While we soak up 1,000-year-old Japanese history, we also appreciate the artistry of modern Kyoto. The hotel's guest rooms are sleek and modern, embellished with art pieces reflecting the cultural essence of Kyoto, and each one has a private bathroom. Craft galleries, machiya (townhouses) and scrumptious restaurants are located just out the door. Noku Café serves fresh-roasted coffee, homemade pastries, and traditional Japanese as well as Western breakfast options, a great place to start your day in Kyoto.



HONJIN HIRANOYA BEKKAN

Takayama, Japan

Days 11 to 12 (2 nights)

Overlooking the tranquil Miya River stands Honjin Hiranoya Bekkan—the ideal place to unwind in enchanting Takayama—and whose superb attention to detail in cuisine has been honored with three stars from the Michelin Guide. The scenic property actually consists of two hotels, and we'll be staying in the lovely Bekkan guest rooms with tatami mat floors, views of the city or river, and a welcoming area to enjoy kaiseki-style meals and green tea (served in rooms by the lovely staff). For a bird's eye view of Takayama, relax in the ryokan's bathhouse on the seventh floor with full panoramas of the city and the beautiful red Nakabashi Bridge.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Temples, Treasures, and Teahouses* webpage and click on the “Lodging” tab.

Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements. If you are planning to travel independently before or after your trip, a good website for arranging public transportation within Japan is www.hyperdia.com.

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Hotel Nikko Kansai Airport
Osaka, Japan

Date & Time: Day 1, 6:00 pm

Suggested Airport for Arrival: Osaka Kansai International Airport (KIX)

Suggested Arrival Time: 4:00 pm or earlier

Upon arrival at Kansai, you will need to clear customs and immigration. There is a currency exchange on the arrival floor outside the customs area. The Nikko Kansai Airport Hotel is located within the airport's Aeroplaza, a short walk from both the passenger terminal and train station.

From Terminal 1 take the free shuttle bus (7-9 minute ride) to the aeroplaza and take the stairs to 2nd floor. From Terminal 2 walk through the center concourse that connects to JR Nankai train station, continue straight through and you will find the 2nd floor hotel entrance.

***Itami Airport** is the old Osaka International Airport, which now serves mainly domestic flights. There are airport buses from Itami to the Kansai airport, where the Nikko Kansai Airport Hotel is located. The fare is approximately 1700 yen and the trip takes about 70 minutes.

For airport bus arrival/departure times and details, please refer to the following website:

www.okkbus.co.jp/en/timetable/kix/t_itm.html

DEPARTURE

Noku Hotel
Kyoto, Japan

Date: Day 14

Suggested Airport for Departure: Kansai International Airport, Osaka (KIX) or Itami International Airport, Osaka (ITM)

Suggested Flight Departure Time: Anytime

On Day 14, you will take the train from Haruka Station to Kansai International Airport. The journey is approximately 1.25 hours.

If you are departing from Osaka International Airport Itami (ITM), you will need to allow additional time to make your way there. A bus runs between the two airports and takes approximately 1.5 hours.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Japan. Airlines with the most convenient schedules for this trip include:

All Nippon Airways

800-235-9262

www.fly-ana.com

United Airlines

800-521-0810

www.united.com

Japan Airlines

800-525-3663

www.japanair.com

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exitto Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found at www.exitototravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule so we can reserve your airport transfers. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

Trip Details

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

The trip is Level 2, Easy to Moderate, according to our trip grading system. This adventure trip features lovely walks in cities and villages. Although not physically demanding, the trip will yield greater rewards if you are in good physical condition and able to stay on your feet for 6-7 hours per day. In Kyoto, there is much to see, and a fair amount of walking is necessary to take it all in—and you will find there are many steps to climb! Japan is a land of staircases and hills and you will enjoy the trip more if you are dressed comfortably and are in good physical condition. Please remember we will be sleeping on futons and eating at floor level, so it is important that you are able to sit down on and get up off the floor without much difficulty.

We make the most of our time in Japan. After rising and eating breakfast, we leave our ryokan for a walking tour. Daily mini-lectures by our Trip Leader help provide insights into the past and future, the history, politics, geography, and the food of Japan. On some days, we visit temples and shrines, and other days, we follow the pathways of the shoguns or visit sites of breathtaking natural beauty. We ride the subways and buses, but we do most of our sightseeing on foot.

We will have a mix of free time and group time, providing the opportunity for independent exploration. Our breakfasts and some dinners are eaten together and we have the time to share our experiences and new discoveries over these meals.

The Japanese people dress well, and we'll find we are struck by the ongoing Westernization of this society and curious about the lifestyles of the modern Japanese. Our delight in the traditional aspects of Japanese life is gratified by the sights of kimono-clad women boarding the subway, the smell of incense wafting from a neighborhood temple, and the sense of aesthetics and design prevalent in daily life.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Japan is a blend of the traditional and modern, and our trip encompasses this unique mixture. We will stay at traditional ryokans as well as Japanese-style hotels. The quiet world of the ryokan is a venerable cultural institution—a way to experience a simple, timeless way of life. After being warmly welcomed, we trade our street shoes for slippers.

Once inside, we remove our slippers as we step onto the finely woven tatami mats covering our sleeping room floors. Our rooms are spacious and pleasant with low tables and comfortable futon mattresses with quilts and blankets. Ryokans have double rooms (singles are sometimes possible). Some of our rooms will have attached toilets; at other times, we share the “down the hall” facilities. Although a few ryokans have baths in the rooms, most have an ofuro (a Japanese-style bath).

Normally, a fresh cotton yukata (robe) is provided for each guest. These light kimonos can be worn anywhere in and around the ryokan and we often wear them to meals (make sure to wear the left side over the right). For many of our breakfasts and dinners, beautifully presented meals are served as we sit on the floor at low tables on our tatami mats.

JAPANESE BATHING

In Japan, bathing is a time honored tradition, a relaxing daily event. While staying in our ryokans, we will bathe as the Japanese do—using the ofuro system. In separate men and women's sides, the custom is to wash and rinse before entering the ofuro, a large tub of hot water where we can sit back with legs extended, submerged to the neck (this trip is not for the very modest!). Early Shinto was a religion of cleanliness and purification. Ritualistic bathing began during this time and has been perfected over the centuries. Either as a divine imperative or a luxury, bathing in Japan has always been regarded as more than a hygienic chore. The ofuro is the perfect way to finish a hectic day of travel. After a relaxing bath, we gather for the evening meal.

JAPANESE CUISINE

A highlight of any visit to Japan is its superb cuisine defined by fresh ingredients and artful presentation. We will have ample opportunity to sample both familiar and new dishes. We will sample many types of Japanese food, and usually the first “bite” is with our eyes, the presentation being a tantalizing array of fresh fish, beef, vegetables, tofu, miso soup and, of course, rice, all served on individual plates and bowls of exquisite sizes, patterns, and proportions. We eat with chopsticks and are usually seated at low tables on the floor. At some ryokans, you may choose between a Japanese breakfast of fish, rice, miso soup, tofu, vegetables, pickled condiments and tea, or a western breakfast

consisting of eggs, toast, salad, and coffee. Many places, however, offer only Japanese food.

During our stays in major cities, you will have some dinners and most lunches on your own, allowing you ample opportunity to sample the endless variety of Japanese food. When we are traveling, we may try an obento (box lunch), and we sample the snack foods of Japan and/or get a bowl of udon, ramen or soba (noodles) at one of the local spots. We often eat lunch at the noodle shops, the sushi bars and the small neighborhood lunch spots, avoiding the infamous high-priced meals of Japan. Napkins are not used except at western-style restaurants; bring your own handkerchief.

Keep in mind that Japanese food is very different from what we are used to, and with the limited availability of American foods, your food intake will be a big part of the Japanese adventure. Please note that vegetarian options are available, but limited. Strict vegetarian diets, vegan diets, or gluten reduced diets will be difficult to accommodate due to the pervasiveness of the fish-based stock dashi and the use of soy sauce and miso in Japanese cuisine. Gluten free cuisine will not be available.

WEATHER

Japan’s climate and temperature range is similar to the East Coast of the US, with four distinct seasons. In March and April, the weather is turning spring-like and we hope to enjoy the cherry blossoms. Viewing the blossoms is somewhat of a national pastime in Japan. However, as the

spring is a transitional season, we can expect some rain. Temperatures should range from the 50s to the 70sF. In the mountains, the weather is unpredictable and we may encounter rain or snow.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Asia Manager or email us at asia@wildernesstravel.com.

REFERENCES

We’d be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren’t listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

| Average Daily Max/Min °F | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Kyoto | 46/30 | 48/32 | 53/33 | 66/44 | 73/51 | 80/60 | 87/69 | 89/71 | 82/64 | 71/51 | 60/41 | 51/32 |
| Takayama | 37/22 | 40/21 | 48/27 | 62/37 | 72/47 | 78/58 | 84/65 | 87/66 | 78/59 | 67/47 | 55/35 | 43/27 |
| Tokyo | 50/32 | 50/34 | 55/39 | 66/48 | 73/57 | 77/64 | 84/72 | 88/75 | 81/68 | 70/57 | 63/46 | 54/37 |
| Rainfall - Inches | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kyoto | 2.2 | 2.6 | 4.3 | 5.9 | 5.7 | 9.2 | 8.0 | 5.8 | 7.9 | 5.0 | 3.2 | 2.1 |
| Takayama | 3.7 | 3.6 | 4 | 4.1 | 4.4 | 5.7 | 6.8 | 5.9 | 7.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 3.3 |
| Tokyo | 1.7 | 2.3 | 3.7 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 7.1 | 5.0 | 5.8 | 7.1 | 6.2 | 3.3 | 1.7 |

Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan.

Here's how it works:

YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST
PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

Travel Notes



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner
Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Condé Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row
Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row
Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today*
Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner
50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row
Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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