

Main Itinerary

Embarking on a two-week adventure across Japan promises an exhilarating blend of cultural immersion, culinary delights, and breathtaking landscapes. Here's your meticulously crafted itinerary to maximize every moment of your journey from Beirut, Lebanon, through the diverse regions of Japan.

■ ■ Ultimate 14-Day Japan Exploration Itinerary

✈ ■ Day 1: Departure from Beirut to Tokyo

■ Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

■ Departure: 9:00 AM from Beirut–Rafic Hariri International Airport (BEY)

■ Arrival: 5:00 AM (Day 2) at Tokyo Narita International Airport (NRT)

Note: Flight duration is approximately 16 hours with a layover. Adjust rest accordingly during the flight.

■ ■ Day 2: Tokyo - The Heartbeat of Japan

■ Wake-Up: 7:00 AM (after arrival and hotel check-in)

■ Location: Tokyo

Activities:

8:00 AM: Visit the historic Asakusa District and explore Senso-ji Temple, Tokyo's oldest Buddhist temple.

10:00 AM: Stroll through Ueno Park, home to museums and beautiful cherry blossoms (seasonal).

12:00 PM: Discover the vibrant street culture of Harajuku, especially Takeshita Street.

2:00 PM: Experience the bustling Shibuya Crossing, one of the busiest pedestrian crossings in the world.

4:00 PM: Ascend Tokyo Tower for panoramic city views. ■

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6:00 PM: Explore Akihabara, Tokyo's hub for electronics and anime culture.

8:00 PM: Enjoy the nightlife in Shinjuku, visiting entertainment districts like Kabukicho.

■ Accommodation: Hotel in Shinjuku area.

■ Foods to Try Today:

Sushi Breakfast: Visit Tsukiji Outer Market for fresh sushi.

Street Snacks: Try crepes in Harajuku.

Ramen Dinner: Sample authentic tonkotsu ramen in Shinjuku.

■ Transport Plan:

Airport to Hotel: Take the Narita Express (N'EX) to Shinjuku Station.

Within Tokyo: Utilize the Tokyo Metro and JR Yamanote Line. Consider purchasing a Suica or Pasma card for convenience.

■■ Day 3: Tokyo - Modern Marvels and Traditional Charms

■ Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

■ Location: Tokyo

Activities:

8:00 AM: Visit the Meiji Shrine, dedicated to Emperor Meiji and Empress Shoken.

10:00 AM: Explore Odaiba, a futuristic man-made island with attractions like teamLab Borderless.

1:00 PM: Experience a traditional tea ceremony in the Hamarikyu Gardens.

3:00 PM: Shop in Ginza, Tokyo's upscale shopping district.

5:00 PM: Cruise along the Sumida River, enjoying views of the city skyline.

7:00 PM: Attend a kabuki performance at the Kabukiza Theatre.

■ Accommodation: Hotel in Shinjuku area.

■ Foods to Try Today:

Kaiseki Lunch: Experience a multi-course traditional Japanese meal.

Street Food: Sample taiyaki (fish-shaped cake) in Ginza.

Izakaya Dinner: Enjoy assorted yakitori (grilled chicken skewers) in a local pub.

■ Transport Plan:

Within Tokyo: Use the Tokyo Metro and JR Lines. ■
Wikipedia

Odaiba Access: Take the Yurikamome Line from Shimbashi Station.

■■ Day 4: Nikko - Spiritual Retreat

■ Wake-Up: 5:30 AM

■ Location: Nikko (Day Trip from Tokyo)

Activities:

8:00 AM: Visit the ornate Toshogu Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

10:30 AM: Explore the serene Rinno-ji Temple and its beautiful gardens.

12:00 PM: Walk across the iconic Shinkyo Bridge.

1:30 PM: Relax at Kegon Falls, one of Japan's most beautiful waterfalls.

3:00 PM: Stroll around Lake Chuzenji, enjoying the mountainous scenery.

5:00 PM: Visit the Nikko Tamo-zawa Imperial Villa Memorial Park.

■ Accommodation: Return to Tokyo; hotel in Shinjuku area.

■ Foods to Try Today:

Yuba Dishes: Nikko is famous for yuba (tofu skin) cuisine.

Matcha Sweets: Try matcha-flavored desserts at local cafes.

■ Transport Plan:

Tokyo to Nikko: Take the Tobu Limited Express from Asakusa Station to Tobu-Nikko Station (approx. 2 hours).

Within Nikko: Use Tobu Bus services to reach various attractions.

■ Day 5: Hakone – Nature, Hot Springs & Mount Fuji Views

■ Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

■ Location: Hakone (1 night stay)

■ Schedule:

8:00 AM: ■ Take the Romancecar from Tokyo to Hakone-Yumoto (~1.5 hrs)

9:30 AM: ■ Visit the Hakone Open Air Museum – outdoor art surrounded by mountains.

11:30 AM: ■ Ride the Hakone Ropeway to ■wakudani volcanic valley – try the black eggs boiled in sulfur springs!

1:00 PM: ■ Cruise across Lake Ashi on a pirate ship-style sightseeing boat.

2:30 PM: ■ Visit Hakone Shrine, tucked in the forest near the lake.

4:00 PM: ■ Check in to a traditional ryokan with onsen (hot springs).

6:00 PM: ■ Dress in yukata and enjoy a traditional multi-course kaiseki dinner.

■ Accommodation:

G■ra Kadan Ryokan or Yama No Chaya (luxury ryokans with private onsen)

■ Foods to Try Today:

Black eggs (kuro tamago) from ■wakudani

Onsen tamago (slow-cooked eggs)

Kaiseki ryori (seasonal tasting menu dinner)

Soba noodles (famous in Hakone area)

Matcha soft cream from Lake Ashi kiosks

■ Transport Plan:

Tokyo → Hakone: Odakyu Romancecar (~1 hr 30 min)

Use Hakone Freepass for ropeways, buses, and boats in the region

■ Day 6: Kyoto – Culture Capital of Japan

■ Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

■ Location: Kyoto (2 nights)

■ Schedule:

7:30 AM: ■ Take the Shinkansen (bullet train) from Odawara to Kyoto (~2 hrs)

10:00 AM: ■ Explore Fushimi Inari Shrine – hike through 10,000 iconic red torii gates.

12:30 PM: ■ Stroll through Arashiyama Bamboo Grove and visit the Iwatayama Monkey Park.

2:30 PM: ■ Enjoy matcha & wagashi in a traditional teahouse.

4:00 PM: ■ Tour Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion).

6:00 PM: ■■■■ Optional meditation experience in a Zen temple.

8:00 PM: ■ Explore Gion District at night – maybe catch a geisha performance!

■ Accommodation:

Hotel Kanra Kyoto or a machiya-style Airbnb near Gion.

■ Foods to Try Today:

Yatsuhashi (Kyoto cinnamon sweets)

Matcha parfaits & wagashi

Obanzai (Kyoto-style home-cooked dishes)

Kyo-kaiseki (Kyoto's version of kaiseki)

Tofu specialties from local shops near temples

■ Transport Plan:

Hakone (Odawara) → Kyoto: Shinkansen Hikari or Nozomi, ~2 hours

Use Japan Rail Pass if activated

In Kyoto: Use city buses + IC card (Suica or ICOCA) for local transport

■ Day 7: Kyoto Deep Dive – Temples, Gardens, and Tea

■ Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

■ Location: Kyoto

■ Schedule:

8:00 AM: **■ Visit Kiyomizu-dera Temple with panoramic views of Kyoto.**

9:30 AM: **■ Stroll Higashiyama District – shop for souvenirs and traditional crafts.**

11:00 AM: **■ Participate in a formal tea ceremony in a machiya townhouse.**

1:00 PM: **■ Visit Nijo Castle – walk the nightingale floors.**

3:00 PM: **■ Relax in the Kyoto Imperial Palace Park.**

5:00 PM: **■ Wear a kimono and take photos around Maruyama Park.**

7:00 PM: **■ Enjoy a yudofu (boiled tofu) dinner near Nanzen-ji.**

■ Accommodation:

Same as Day 6 (Kyoto)

■ Foods to Try Today:

Yudofu (Zen Buddhist tofu cuisine)

Nishiki Market street snacks: tamagoyaki, soy donuts, pickles

Sake tasting at Fushimi area

Shojin ryori (Buddhist vegetarian cuisine)

Yuba (tofu skin) from traditional shops

■ Transport Plan:

Within Kyoto: City bus, Keihan Line, or bicycle rental for scenic routes

Use Suica/ICOCA card for bus/train access

■ Day 8: Nara + Osaka – Sacred Deer & Neon Streets

■ Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

■ Location: Start in Kyoto → Nara → Osaka (1-night stay)

■ Schedule:

8:00 AM: ■ Take the Kintetsu Limited Express from Kyoto to Nara (~45 min)

9:00 AM: ■ Visit Nara Park and feed the famously bowing sika deer

10:30 AM: ■ Explore the majestic Todai-ji Temple and the Great Buddha

12:00 PM: ■ Quick visit to Isuien Garden, a scenic stroll around ponds and tea houses

1:00 PM: ■ Grab lunch at Naramachi, the old merchant district with narrow alleys and local charm

2:30 PM: ■ Head to Osaka (~45 min by Kintetsu)

4:00 PM: ■ Explore Den Den Town (Osaka's Akihabara) for vintage games, manga, and gadgets

6:00 PM: ■ Dive into the chaos of Dotonbori: street food, bright signs, and the iconic Glico Running Man

8:00 PM: ■ Optional: Catch a comedy or theater show at Namba Grand Kagetsu (if you want to experience Osaka-style humor)

■ Accommodation:

Cross Hotel Osaka (near Dotonbori) or Mitsui Garden Hotel Osaka Premier

■ Foods to Try Today:

Kakinoha sushi (pressed sushi wrapped in persimmon leaves, unique to Nara)

Mochi pounded fresh in Nara Park

Takoyaki (octopus balls – must-try in Osaka!)

Okonomiyaki (savory pancake, Osaka-style)

Kushikatsu (deep-fried skewers) in Shinsekai

Optional: Try a conveyor belt sushi (kaiten-zushi) spot for fun and variety

■ Transport Plan:

Kyoto → Nara: Kintetsu Line (~45 min) or JR Nara Line (~1 hr)

Nara → Osaka: Kintetsu Nara to Osaka-Namba (~45 min)

Within Osaka: Use ICOCA card for subways (Midosuji Line for Dotonbori/Namba)

■ Day 9: Hiroshima & Miyajima – Peace and Floating Torii

■ Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

■ Location: Osaka → Hiroshima → Miyajima → Hiroshima (overnight)

■ Schedule:

7:00 AM: ■ Take the Shinkansen (Nozomi or Sakura) from Shin-Osaka to Hiroshima (~1hr 30min)

9:00 AM: ■ Visit the Peace Memorial Park, Atomic Bomb Dome, and Peace Memorial Museum

11:00 AM: ■ Stroll along Shukkeien Garden – peaceful and serene

12:30 PM: ■ Grab lunch at Okonomimura (multi-floor okonomiyaki food hall)

2:00 PM: ■ Ferry to Miyajima Island (~30 min)

3:00 PM: ■ Visit Itsukushima Shrine and the iconic floating torii gate

4:30 PM: ■ Wander the island, feed tame deer, try momiji manju (maple-leaf cakes)

6:00 PM: ■ Watch the sunset at the torii gate – magical photo op!

7:00 PM: ■ Ferry back and train to Hiroshima center

■ Accommodation:

Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel (connected to Hiroshima Station)

■ Foods to Try Today:

Hiroshima-style okonomiyaki (layered, with noodles)

Momiji manju (maple-leaf pastry with red bean filling)

Oysters (local specialty, try grilled or deep-fried)

Lemon sour drinks (Hiroshima-grown citrus)

■ Transport Plan:

Osaka → Hiroshima: Shinkansen Sakura (~1hr 30min, use JR Pass)

Hiroshima → Miyajima: JR Sanyo Line + JR Ferry (~45 min total)

Use JR Pass for all intercity trains + JR Ferry to Miyajima

■ Day 10: Fukuoka – Food Capital of Kyushu

■ Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

■ Location: Hiroshima → Fukuoka (Hakata) (1-night stay)

■ Schedule:

8:00 AM: ■ Shinkansen to Fukuoka (Hakata Station) (~1 hr)

9:30 AM: ■ Visit Kushida Shrine, one of Fukuoka's oldest

11:00 AM: ■ Walk through Hakata Old Town and visit traditional shops

12:30 PM: ■ Explore Canal City Hakata, a massive shopping and entertainment complex

2:00 PM: ■ Visit Fukuoka Tower for views of Hakata Bay

4:00 PM: ■ Join a ramen-making workshop or factory tour at the Shin-Shin or Ichiran HQ

6:00 PM: ■ Head to the riverside yatai (food stalls) for dinner and nightlife

■ Accommodation:

The Royal Park Hotel Fukuoka or Hotel Nikko Fukuoka

■ Foods to Try Today:

Hakata ramen (Tonkotsu style) – rich pork broth, thin noodles

Mentaiko (spicy cod roe)

Motsunabe (beef intestine hot pot)

Yatai street food: yakitori, tempura, gyoza

Amaou strawberries (Kyushu variety)

■ Transport Plan:

Hiroshima → Fukuoka (Hakata): Shinkansen (~1 hr)

Within Fukuoka: Subway & buses with IC card (Suica works here)

■ Day 11: Beppu – Onsen Wonderland in Kyushu

■ Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

■ Location: Fukuoka → Beppu (1-night stay)

■ Schedule:

8:00 AM: ■ Take Limited Express Sonic train from Hakata to Beppu (~2.5 hrs)

10:30 AM: ■ Start the Beppu “Hells” Tour (Jigoku Meguri) – 7 unique hot spring spectacles!

1:00 PM: ■ Lunch at a local onsen-steamed food restaurant

2:30 PM: ■■ Soak in a traditional onsen – try Hyotan Onsen or a sand bath on the beach!

4:30 PM: ■■ Visit Mount Tsurumi via Beppu Ropeway – get panoramic views

6:30 PM: ■■■■ Relax at your ryokan with a private onsen

8:00 PM: ■ Dinner with onsen kaiseki cuisine

■ Accommodation:

Kannawaen Ryokan or Suginoi Hotel (with giant rooftop onsen!)

■ Foods to Try Today:

Jigoku mushi (meals steamed using natural hot spring steam)

Local Beppu seafood

Seki saba (mackerel) and seki aji (horse mackerel)

Onsen-pudding (steamed custard)

■ Transport Plan:

Fukuoka → Beppu: Limited Express Sonic (~2.5 hrs, JR Pass OK)

Within Beppu: Local buses or hotel shuttle

■■ Day 12: Takachiho Gorge – Myth, Nature & Caves

■ Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

■■ Location: Beppu → Takachiho (overnight stay)

■ Schedule:

7:00 AM: ■ Rent a car or private transfer (best for this rural area) – ~3.5 hr drive

11:00 AM: ■ Row a boat down the jaw-dropping Takachiho Gorge

12:30 PM: ■■ Visit Takachiho Shrine, linked to Japanese mythology

2:00 PM: ■ Stroll Amano Iwato Cave and Amanoyasugawara – mysterious cave shrines

4:00 PM: ■ Scenic photo ops around cliffs and riverside

6:30 PM: ■ Watch the Takachiho Yokagura dance performance (if available)

■ Accommodation:

Takachiho Ryokan Shikimi or a mountain inn near the gorge

■ Foods to Try Today:

Chicken nanban (Kyushu fried chicken w/ tartar)

Local soba and mountain vegetables

Kumamoto beef

Handmade tofu and miso soup

■ Transport Plan:

Beppu → Takachiho: No direct train – car rental highly recommended (or highway bus to Nobeoka + taxi)

You can return the rental car the next day in Kumamoto if needed

■■ Day 13: Tokyo – Final Blast in the Capital

■ Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

■■ Location: Takachiho → Tokyo (via Kumamoto)

■ Schedule:

6:30 AM: ■ Drive or take local transport from Takachiho to Kumamoto Station (~2 hrs)

9:00 AM: ■ Board the Shinkansen Sakura to Tokyo (~4 hrs with transfer at Shin-Osaka)

1:30 PM: ■ Drop luggage at hotel in Shibuya or Shinjuku

2:00 PM: ■■ Power shopping in Shibuya 109, Mega Don Quijote, and Parco for streetwear, cosmetics & souvenirs

4:30 PM: ■ Visit teamLab Planets for immersive digital art (or teamLab Borderless in Azabudai Hills if reopened)

6:00 PM: ■■ Take golden hour photos at Meiji Shrine or Shinjuku Gyoen gardens

8:00 PM: ■ Final dinner: Omakase sushi at a high-end sushi bar in Ginza or Shibuya

10:00 PM: ■ Wrap up at a secret rooftop bar or speakeasy (like Bar Benfiddich or Trench)

■ Accommodation:

Shibuya Excel Hotel Tokyu or Park Hotel Tokyo (last night in style!)

■ Foods to Try Today:

High-end omakase (chef's choice sushi)

Tokyo banana and final sweets shopping

Kaisen don (seafood bowl) at Uogashi Nihon-Ichi

Craft cocktails and Japanese whisky

■ Transport Plan:

Takachiho → Kumamoto: Car (~2 hrs) or bus/taxi combo

Kumamoto → Tokyo: Shinkansen (~4 hrs), JR Pass valid

In Tokyo: Use Suica/Pasmo for subway and trains

■■ Day 14: Tokyo → Beirut – Sayonara Japan ■■■

■ Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

■ Departure: Mid-morning or afternoon flight from Narita or Haneda Airport

■ Morning Activities (if time allows):

8:00 AM: ■ Grab breakfast at a local kissaten (retro Japanese café)

9:00 AM: ■ Quick stop at Asakusa for any final gifts or spiritual send-off at Senso-ji Temple

10:30 AM: ■■ Pick up last souvenirs or snacks at Tokyo Station Character Street

11:30 AM: ■ Head to the airport

✈ ■ Flight:

Tokyo (NRT or HND) → Beirut (BEY)

Likely 1 stop (via Doha, Istanbul, or Dubai), ~15–17 hrs total

■ Foods to Try Today (Airport Edition):

Ekiben (bento box) from Tokyo Station

Hokkaido milk soft cream

Sushi or wagyu sandwiches at Narita/Haneda gourmet areas

Stock up on matcha snacks and rare KitKats

■ Transport Plan:

Hotel → Airport:

From Shibuya/Shinjuku: Narita Express (N'EX) (~1 hr) or Haneda Limousine Bus (~45 min)

Use remaining balance on Suica/Pasmo or IC card

■ Trip Summary at a Glance

Day Region Highlights

- 1 ✈️ ■ Beirut → Tokyo Flight day
- 2–3 Tokyo Temples, towers, tech, tradition
- 4 Nikko UNESCO shrines, waterfalls
- 5 Hakone Mt. Fuji, pirate ship, onsen
- 6–7 Kyoto Geisha, bamboo forest, golden temple
- 8 Nara + Osaka Deer, food streets, comedy
- 9 Hiroshima + Miyajima Peace Park, floating torii
- 10 Fukuoka Ramen HQ, yatai nightlife
- 11 Beppu Hot springs, hells, mountain views
- 12 Takachiho Gorge rowboat, sacred caves
- 13–14 Tokyo Finale Art, omakase, rooftop bars, departure
- OPTIONAL ADD-ONS (If you ever extend or modify)
- Sapporo (Hokkaido) – winter/snow culture

■■ Okinawa – tropical island getaway

■ Kanazawa – samurai districts + seafood

■■■■ Kamikochi – hiking in the Alps

Alternative Itinerary

Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

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journey from Beirut, Lebanon, through the diverse regions of Japan.

Ultimate 14-Day Japan Exploration Itinerary

Day 1: Departure from Beirut to Tokyo

Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

Departure: 9:00 AM from Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport (BEY)

Arrival: 5:00 AM (Day 2) at Tokyo Narita International Airport (NRT)

Note: Flight duration is approximately 16 hours with a layover. Adjust rest accordingly during the flight.

Day 2: Tokyo - The Heartbeat of Japan

Wake-Up: 7:00 AM (after arrival and hotel check-in)

Location: Tokyo

Activities:

8:00 AM: Visit the historic Asakusa District and explore Senso-ji Temple, Tokyo's oldest Buddhist temple.

10:00 AM: Stroll through Ueno Park, home to museums and beautiful cherry blossoms (seasonal).

12:00 PM: Discover the vibrant street culture of Harajuku, especially Takeshita Street.

2:00 PM: Experience the bustling Shibuya Crossing, one of the busiest pedestrian crossings in the world.

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4:00 PM: Ascend Tokyo Tower for panoramic city views.

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6:00 PM: Explore Akihabara, Tokyo's hub for electronics and anime culture.

8:00 PM: Enjoy the nightlife in Shinjuku, visiting entertainment districts like Kabukicho.

9:30 PM: Visit Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building for free night views. Accommodation: Hotel in Shinjuku area.

Foods to Try Today:

Sushi Breakfast: Visit Tsukiji Outer Market for fresh sushi.

Street Snacks: Try crepes in Harajuku.

Ramen Dinner: Sample authentic tonkotsu ramen in Shinjuku.

Transport Plan:

Airport to Hotel: Take the Narita Express (N'EX) to Shinjuku Station.

Within Tokyo: Utilize the Tokyo Metro and JR Yamanote Line. Consider purchasing a Suica or Pasma card for convenience.

Day 3: Tokyo - Modern Marvels and Traditional Charms

Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

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Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

Location: Tokyo

Activities:

8:00 AM: Visit the Meiji Shrine, dedicated to Emperor Meiji and Empress Shoken.

10:00 AM: Explore Odaiba, a futuristic man-made island with attractions like teamLab Borderless.

1:00 PM: Experience a traditional tea ceremony in the Hamarikyu Gardens.

3:00 PM: Shop in Ginza, Tokyo's upscale shopping district.

5:00 PM: Cruise along the Sumida River, enjoying views of the city skyline.

7:00 PM: Attend a kabuki performance at the Kabukiza Theatre.

8:30 PM: Visit Omoide Yokocho in Shinjuku for yakitori and retro vibes. Accommodation: Hotel in Shinjuku area.

Foods to Try Today:

Kaiseki Lunch: Experience a multi-course traditional Japanese meal.

Street Food: Sample taiyaki (fish-shaped cake) in Ginza.

Izakaya Dinner: Enjoy assorted yakitori (grilled chicken skewers) in a local pub.

Transport Plan:

Within Tokyo: Use the Tokyo Metro and JR Lines.

Wikipedia

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Odaiba Access: Take the Yurikamome Line from Shimbashi Station.

Day 4: Nikko - Spiritual Retreat

Wake-Up: 5:30 AM

Location: Nikko (Day Trip from Tokyo)

Activities:

8:00 AM: Visit the ornate Toshogu Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

10:30 AM: Explore the serene Rinno-ji Temple and its beautiful gardens.

12:00 PM: Walk across the iconic Shinkyo Bridge.

1:30 PM: Relax at Kegon Falls, one of Japan's most beautiful waterfalls.

3:00 PM: Stroll around Lake Chuzenji, enjoying the mountainous scenery.

5:00 PM: Visit the Nikko Tamozawa Imperial Villa Memorial Park.

6:30 PM: Try a riverside footbath caf in Nikko. Accommodation: Return to Tokyo; hotel in Shinjuku area.

Foods to Try Today:

Yuba Dishes: Nikko is famous for yuba (tofu skin) cuisine.

Matcha Sweets: Try matcha-flavored desserts at local cafes.

Transport Plan:

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Tokyo to Nikko: Take the Tobu Limited Express from Asakusa Station to Tobu-Nikko Station (approx. 2 hours).

Within Nikko: Use Tobu Bus services to reach various attractions.

Day 5: Hakone Nature, Hot Springs & Mount Fuji Views

Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

Location: Hakone (1 night stay)

Schedule:

8:00 AM: Take the Romancecar from Tokyo to Hakone-Yumoto (~1.5 hrs)

9:30 AM: Visit the Hakone Open Air Museum outdoor art surrounded by mountains.

11:30 AM: Ride the Hakone Ropeway to wakudani volcanic valley try the black eggs boiled in sulfur springs!

1:00 PM: Cruise across Lake Ashi on a pirate ship-style sightseeing boat.

2:30 PM: Visit Hakone Shrine, tucked in the forest near the lake.

4:00 PM: Check in to a traditional ryokan with onsen (hot springs).

6:00 PM: Dress in yukata and enjoy a traditional multi-course kaiseki dinner.

Accommodation:

Gra Kadan Ryokan or Yama No Chaya (luxury ryokans with private onsen)

Foods to Try Today:

Black eggs (kuro tamago) from wakudani

Onsen tamago (slow-cooked eggs)

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Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

Kaiseki ryori (seasonal tasting menu dinner)

Soba noodles (famous in Hakone area)

Matcha soft cream from Lake Ashi kiosks

Transport Plan:

Tokyo Hakone: Odakyu Romancecar (~1 hr 30 min)

Use Hakone Freepass for ropeways, buses, and boats in the region

Day 6: Kyoto Culture Capital of Japan

Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

Location: Kyoto (2 nights)

Schedule:

7:30 AM: Take the Shinkansen (bullet train) from Odawara to Kyoto (~2 hrs)

10:00 AM: Explore Fushimi Inari Shrine hike through 10,000 iconic red torii gates.

12:30 PM: Stroll through Arashiyama Bamboo Grove and visit the Iwatayama Monkey Park.

2:30 PM: Enjoy matcha & wagashi in a traditional teahouse.

4:00 PM: Tour Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion).

6:00 PM: Optional meditation experience in a Zen temple.

8:00 PM: Explore Gion District at night maybe catch a geisha performance!

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9:30 PM: Catch a night walk through Pontocho Alley. Accommodation:

Hotel Kanra Kyoto or a machiya-style Airbnb near Gion.

Foods to Try Today:

Yatsushashi (Kyoto cinnamon sweets)

Matcha parfaits & wagashi

Obanzai (Kyoto-style home-cooked dishes)

Kyo-kaiseki (Kyotos version of kaiseki)

Tofu specialties from local shops near temples

Transport Plan:

Hakone (Odawara) Kyoto: Shinkansen Hikari or Nozomi, ~2 hours

Use Japan Rail Pass if activated

In Kyoto: Use city buses + IC card (Suica or ICOCA) for local transport

Day 7: Kyoto Deep Dive Temples, Gardens, and Tea

Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

Location: Kyoto

Schedule:

8:00 AM: Visit Kiyomizu-dera Temple with panoramic views of Kyoto.

9:30 AM: Stroll Higashiyama District shop for souvenirs and traditional crafts.

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11:00 AM: Participate in a formal tea ceremony in a machiya townhouse.

1:00 PM: Visit Nijo Castle walk the nightingale floors.

3:00 PM: Relax in the Kyoto Imperial Palace Park.

5:00 PM: Wear a kimono and take photos around Maruyama Park.

7:00 PM: Enjoy a yudofu (boiled tofu) dinner near Nanzen-ji.

8:30 PM: Explore the illuminated Yasaka Shrine at night. Accommodation:

Same as Day 6 (Kyoto)

Foods to Try Today:

Yudofu (Zen Buddhist tofu cuisine)

Nishiki Market street snacks: tamagoyaki, soy donuts, pickles

Sake tasting at Fushimi area

Shojin ryori (Buddhist vegetarian cuisine)

Yuba (tofu skin) from traditional shops

Transport Plan:

Within Kyoto: City bus, Keihan Line, or bicycle rental for scenic routes

Use Suica/ICOCA card for bus/train access

Day 8: Nara + Osaka Sacred Deer & Neon Streets

Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

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Location: Start in Kyoto Nara Osaka (1-night stay)

Schedule:

8:00 AM: Take the Kintetsu Limited Express from Kyoto to Nara (~45 min)

9:00 AM: Visit Nara Park and feed the famously bowing sika deer

10:30 AM: Explore the majestic Todai-ji Temple and the Great Buddha

12:00 PM: Quick visit to Isuien Garden, a scenic stroll around ponds and tea houses

1:00 PM: Grab lunch at Naramachi, the old merchant district with narrow alleys and local charm

2:30 PM: Head to Osaka (~45 min by Kintetsu)

4:00 PM: Explore Den Den Town (Osakas Akihabara) for vintage games, manga, and gadgets

6:00 PM: Dive into the chaos of Dotonbori: street food, bright signs, and the iconic Glico Running Man

8:00 PM: Optional: Catch a comedy or theater show at Namba Grand Kagetsu (if you want to experience Osaka-style humor)

9:00 PM: Chill at the Umeda Sky Building Floating Garden Observatory. Accommodation:

Cross Hotel Osaka (near Dotonbori) or Mitsui Garden Hotel Osaka Premier

Foods to Try Today:

Kakinoha sushi (pressed sushi wrapped in persimmon leaves, unique to Nara)

Mochi pounded fresh in Nara Park

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Takoyaki (octopus balls must-try in Osaka!)

Okonomiyaki (savory pancake, Osaka-style)

Kushikatsu (deep-fried skewers) in Shinsekai

Optional: Try a conveyor belt sushi (kaiten-zushi) spot for fun and variety

Transport Plan:

Kyoto Nara: Kintetsu Line (~45 min) or JR Nara Line (~1 hr)

Nara Osaka: Kintetsu Nara to Osaka-Namba (~45 min)

Within Osaka: Use ICOCA card for subways (Midosuji Line for Dotonbori/Namba)

Day 9: Hiroshima & Miyajima Peace and Floating Torii

Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

Location: Osaka Hiroshima Miyajima Hiroshima (overnight)

Schedule:

7:00 AM: Take the Shinkansen (Nozomi or Sakura) from Shin-Osaka to Hiroshima (~1hr 30min)

9:00 AM: Visit the Peace Memorial Park, Atomic Bomb Dome, and Peace Memorial Museum

11:00 AM: Stroll along Shukkeien Garden peaceful and serene

12:30 PM: Grab lunch at Okonomimura (multi-floor okonomiyaki food hall)

2:00 PM: Ferry to Miyajima Island (~30 min)

3:00 PM: Visit Itsukushima Shrine and the iconic floating torii gate

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Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

4:30 PM: Wander the island, feed tame deer, try momiji manju (maple-leaf cakes)

6:00 PM: Watch the sunset at the torii gate magical photo op!

7:00 PM: Ferry back and train to Hiroshima center

8:30 PM: Try Hiroshima-style izakaya hopping near your hotel. Accommodation:

Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel (connected to Hiroshima Station)

Foods to Try Today:

Hiroshima-style okonomiyaki (layered, with noodles)

Momiji manju (maple-leaf pastry with red bean filling)

Oysters (local specialty, try grilled or deep-fried)

Lemon sour drinks (Hiroshima-grown citrus)

Transport Plan:

Osaka Hiroshima: Shinkansen Sakura (~1hr 30min, use JR Pass)

Hiroshima Miyajima: JR Sanyo Line + JR Ferry (~45 min total)

Use JR Pass for all intercity trains + JR Ferry to Miyajima

Day 10: Fukuoka Food Capital of Kyushu

Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

Location: Hiroshima Fukuoka (Hakata) (1-night stay)

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Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

Schedule:

8:00 AM: Shinkansen to Fukuoka (Hakata Station) (~1 hr)

9:30 AM: Visit Kushida Shrine, one of Fukuoka's oldest

11:00 AM: Walk through Hakata Old Town and visit traditional shops

12:30 PM: Explore Canal City Hakata, a massive shopping and entertainment complex

2:00 PM: Visit Fukuoka Tower for views of Hakata Bay

4:00 PM: Join a ramen-making workshop or factory tour at the Shin-Shin or Ichiran HQ

6:00 PM: Head to the riverside yatai (food stalls) for dinner and nightlife

9:00 PM: Visit Fukuoka's Nakasu district for riverside nightlife. Accommodation:

The Royal Park Hotel Fukuoka or Hotel Nikko Fukuoka

Foods to Try Today:

Hakata ramen (Tonkotsu style) rich pork broth, thin noodles

Mentaiko (spicy cod roe)

Motsunabe (beef intestine hot pot)

Yatai street food: yakitori, tempura, gyoza

Amaou strawberries (Kyushu variety)

Transport Plan:

Hiroshima Fukuoka (Hakata): Shinkansen (~1 hr)

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Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

Within Fukuoka: Subway & buses with IC card (Suica works here)

Day 11: Beppu Onsen Wonderland in Kyushu

Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

Location: Fukuoka Beppu (1-night stay)

Schedule:

8:00 AM: Take Limited Express Sonic train from Hakata to Beppu (~2.5 hrs)

10:30 AM: Start the Beppu Hells Tour (Jigoku Meguri) 7 unique hot spring spectacles!

1:00 PM: Lunch at a local onsen-steamed food restaurant

2:30 PM: Soak in a traditional onsen try Hyotan Onsen or a sand bath on the beach!

4:30 PM: Visit Mount Tsurumi via Beppu Ropeway get panoramic views

6:30 PM: Relax at your ryokan with a private onsen

8:00 PM: Dinner with onsen kaiseki cuisine

8:30 PM: Check out Beppu's illuminated Steam Town atmosphere. Accommodation:

Kannawaen Ryokan or Suginoi Hotel (with giant rooftop onsen!)

Foods to Try Today:

Jigoku mushi (meals steamed using natural hot spring steam)

Local Beppu seafood

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Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

Seki saba (mackerel) and seki aji (horse mackerel)

Onsen-pudding (steamed custard)

Transport Plan:

Fukuoka Beppu: Limited Express Sonic (~2.5 hrs, JR Pass OK)

Within Beppu: Local buses or hotel shuttle

Day 12: Takachiho Gorge Myth, Nature & Caves

Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

Location: Beppu Takachiho (overnight stay)

Schedule:

7:00 AM: Rent a car or private transfer (best for this rural area) ~3.5 hr drive

11:00 AM: Row a boat down the jaw-dropping Takachiho Gorge

12:30 PM: Visit Takachiho Shrine, linked to Japanese mythology

2:00 PM: Stroll Amano Iwato Cave and Amanoyasugawara mysterious cave shrines

4:00 PM: Scenic photo ops around cliffs and riverside

6:30 PM: Watch the Takachiho Yokagura dance performance (if available)

Accommodation:

Takachiho Ryokan Shikimi or a mountain inn near the gorge

Foods to Try Today:

Chicken nanban (Kyushu fried chicken w/ tartar)

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Local soba and mountain vegetables

Kumamoto beef

Handmade tofu and miso soup

Transport Plan:

Beppu Takachiho: No direct train car rental highly recommended (or highway bus to Nobeoka + taxi)

You can return the rental car the next day in Kumamoto if needed

Day 13: Tokyo Final Blast in the Capital

Wake-Up: 6:00 AM

Location: Takachiho Tokyo (via Kumamoto)

Schedule:

6:30 AM: Drive or take local transport from Takachiho to Kumamoto Station (~2 hrs)

9:00 AM: Board the Shinkansen Sakura to Tokyo (~4 hrs with transfer at Shin-Osaka)

1:30 PM: Drop luggage at hotel in Shibuya or Shinjuku

2:00 PM: Power shopping in Shibuya 109, Mega Don Quijote, and Parco for streetwear, cosmetics & souvenirs

4:30 PM: Visit teamLab Planets for immersive digital art (or teamLab Borderless in Azabudai Hills if reopened)

6:00 PM: Take golden hour photos at Meiji Shrine or Shinjuku Gyoen gardens

8:00 PM: Final dinner: Omakase sushi at a high-end sushi bar in Ginza or Shibuya

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10:00 PM: Wrap up at a secret rooftop bar or speakeasy (like Bar Benfiddich or Trench)

11:00 PM: Late night walk in Shibuyas Center Gai or Don Quijote for last-minute gifts. Accommodation:

Shibuya Excel Hotel Tokyu or Park Hotel Tokyo (last night in style!)

Foods to Try Today:

High-end omakase (chef's choice sushi)

Tokyo banana and final sweets shopping

Kaisen don (seafood bowl) at Uogashi Nihon-Ichi

Craft cocktails and Japanese whisky

Transport Plan:

Takachiho Kumamoto: Car (~2 hrs) or bus/taxi combo

Kumamoto Tokyo: Shinkansen (~4 hrs), JR Pass valid

In Tokyo: Use Suica/Pasmo for subway and trains

Day 14: Tokyo Beirut Sayonara Japan

Wake-Up: 6:30 AM

Departure: Mid-morning or afternoon flight from Narita or Haneda Airport

Morning Activities (if time allows):

8:00 AM: Grab breakfast at a local kissaten (retro Japanese caf)

9:00 AM: Quick stop at Asakusa for any final gifts or spiritual send-off at Senso-ji Temple

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Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

10:30 AM: Pick up last souvenirs or snacks at Tokyo Station Character Street

11:30 AM: Head to the airport

Flight:

Tokyo (NRT or HND) Beirut (BEY)

Likely 1 stop (via Doha, Istanbul, or Dubai), ~1517 hrs total

Foods to Try Today (Airport Edition):

Ekiben (bento box) from Tokyo Station

Hokkaido milk soft cream

Sushi or wagyu sandwiches at Narita/Haneda gourmet areas

Stock up on matcha snacks and rare KitKats

Transport Plan:

Hotel Airport:

From Shibuya/Shinjuku: Narita Express (NEX) (~1 hr) or Haneda Limousine Bus (~45 min)

Use remaining balance on Suica/Pasmo or IC card

Trip Summary at a Glance

Day Region Highlights

1 Beirut Tokyo Flight day

23 Tokyo Temples, towers, tech, tradition

4 Nikko UNESCO shrines, waterfalls

5 Hakone Mt. Fuji, pirate ship, onsen

67 Kyoto Geisha, bamboo forest, golden temple

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Updated 14-Day Japan Itinerary

8 Nara + Osaka Deer, food streets, comedy

9 Hiroshima + Miyajima Peace Park, floating torii

10 Fukuoka Ramen HQ, yatai nightlife

11 Beppu Hot springs, hells, mountain views

12 Takachiho Gorge rowboat, sacred caves

1314 Tokyo Finale Art, omakase, rooftop bars, departure

OPTIONAL ADD-ONS (If you ever extend or modify)

Sapporo (Hokkaido) winter/snow culture

Okinawa tropical island getaway

Kanazawa samurai districts + seafood

Kamikochi hiking in the Alps

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16-Day Adventure Itinerary

16-Day Japan Adventure - No Flights Edition

Day 1: Arrival in Tokyo

Arrival at Narita/Haneda Airport. Check-in and explore Shinjuku.

Suggested: Arrive by afternoon

Day 2: Tokyo Exploration

Visit Senso-ji (8:00 AM), Harajuku (10:30 AM), Shibuya (12:30 PM), Tokyo Tower (3:00 PM), Shinjuku

nightlife (7:00 PM).

Day 3: Nikko Day Trip

Take early train (7:00 AM) to Nikko. Visit Toshogu Shrine, Kegon Falls, Lake Chuzenji. Return by 7:00 PM.

Day 4: Hakone Getaway

Take Romancecar (8:00 AM). Visit Open Air Museum, Owakudani Ropeway, Lake Ashi Cruise. Onsen by 6:00 PM.

Day 5: Kyoto Temples

Shinkansen to Kyoto (7:30 AM). Fushimi Inari (9:00 AM), Gion (6:00 PM).

Day 6: Kyoto Culture

Arashiyama Bamboo Grove (7:00 AM), Kinkaku-ji (9:00 AM), Higashiyama walk (2:00 PM).

Day 7: Nachi Falls

Take JR Kuroshio to Kii-Katsuura (7:00 AM). Visit Nachi Taisha and falls. Stay overnight.

Day 8: Kurashiki + Hiroshima

Train to Okayama (8:00 AM), visit Kurashiki Bikan (10:00 AM). Continue to Hiroshima by 3:00 PM.

Day 9: Miyajima Island

Ferry to Miyajima (8:30 AM). Visit Itsukushima Shrine, hike Mt. Misen, return by sunset.

Day 10: Fukuoka Ramen Tour

Shinkansen to Fukuoka (9:00 AM). Visit Kushida Shrine, yatai dinner by the river.

Day 11: Aso Kuju National Park

Train + car rental to Aso (8:00 AM). Explore crater, Daikanbo view point, stay nearby.

16-Day Japan Adventure - No Flights Edition

Day 12: Beppu Onsen

Drive/train to Beppu (9:00 AM). Jigoku Hells Tour, sand bath, rooftop onsen.

Day 13: Takachiho Gorge

Car to Takachiho (7:00 AM). Boat ride (9:00 AM), visit Amano Iwato Shrine.

Day 14: Return to Tokyo via Kumamoto

Drive to Kumamoto (7:00 AM), Shinkansen to Tokyo (~4.5 hrs). Arrive by evening.

Day 15: Final Tokyo Day

Shopping in Shibuya, visit Meiji Shrine, teamLab art, final omakase dinner.

Day 16: Departure

Pack up, head to Narita/Haneda. Last-minute souvenir run at Tokyo Station.

Best Times to Visit

■ Tokyo

Place Best Time to Visit Why

Senso-ji Temple Before 8:00 AM Tour buses show up by 9

Shibuya Crossing Late night (~11 PM) or early AM Fewer people, amazing night photos

Harajuku / Takeshita St Weekday mornings before 10:30 AM It's packed by lunch

Tokyo Skytree / Tokyo Tower Before 10:00 AM or ~8:00 PM Avoid lines and get cleaner skyline views

Akihabara Mornings (around 10 AM when shops open) or evenings after 8 PM Midday = busiest

■ Kyoto

Place Best Time to Visit Why

Fushimi Inari Before sunrise (6–7 AM) You'll have the torii gates to yourself ■

Arashiyama Bamboo Grove 6:30–7:30 AM Magical light + no tourists or rickshaws

Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion) Right at 9:00 AM (opening) Gets packed immediately

Gion District Early evening (around 5–6 PM) Best time to spot geisha, fewer tourists than midday

Kiyomizu-dera Opening (8:00 AM) Amazing light, no crowds at the viewing balcony

■ Hakone

Place Best Time Why

Hakone Ropeway / Lake Ashi Cruise Start before 9:30 AM Buses and tours arrive later

Onsen Before dinner (4–6 PM) or early morning More peaceful, no queue

■■ Nikko

Place Best Time Why

Toshogu Shrine Before 9:00 AM Avoid day-trip crowds from Tokyo

Kegon Falls / Lake Chuzenji Before noon Milder light, less traffic on mountain roads

■ Hiroshima / Miyajima

Place Best Time Why

Peace Memorial Park Morning before 10:00 AM or late afternoon School groups come mid-morning

Itsukushima Shrine (Miyajima) Before 9:00 AM or after 5:00 PM Day trippers dominate mid-day; sunset is magical

■ Beppu / Fukuoka

Place Best Time Why

Jigoku Hells (Beppu) Right at 8:00 AM Beat the crowds and school trips

Yatai Food Stalls (Fukuoka) After 8:00 PM Locals + late night vibe, but go early if you want a seat!

■ Aso Kuju / Takachiho / Nachi Falls

These spots are naturally less crowded, but to really maximize the peace:

Place Best Time Why

Takachiho Gorge (boating) 9:00 AM or 4:00 PM Mornings = soft light; evenings = fewer people

Nachi Falls + Pagoda View Before 9:30 AM Tour buses arrive later

Mount Aso Crater View Early morning (8–10 AM) Weather is clearer and fewer hikers

*■ Sapporo (Hokkaido)

Place Best Time Why

Sapporo Beer Museum / Factory Late afternoon (after 3:00 PM) Lunch crowds are gone, nice to wind down

Nature Spots (like Noboribetsu) Morning (~9 AM) Day trippers arrive later, better weather light

Packing List

■ FINAL JAPAN PACKING LIST

Minimal • Washable • Smart for Winter (Tokyo, Hakone, Kyoto, etc.)

■ CLOTHING (Smart, Layered, & Washable)

Tops

3–4 base-layer shirts (long/short sleeve – rotate & wash)

1–2 casual T-shirts (lounging, layering)

1–2 sweaters or dressier shirts (temple visits, nicer dinners)

Bottoms

2 pairs warm pants (jeans or lined chinos)

1 joggers (for long trains, cozy evenings)

1 thermal leggings (Hakone, Takachiho, cold days)

Underwear & Socks

4–5 pairs underwear (rotate + laundry)

4–5 pairs socks (1 should be wool/thermal for cold hikes)

1 pair compression socks (for the flight)

Warm Accessories

1 pair touchscreen gloves

1 scarf

1 warm beanie

Outerwear

1 waterproof hiking shoes (main shoes – worn daily)

1 rain jacket or shell (packable)

1 insulated winter coat (wear it on the plane)

1 hoodie or fleece (mid-layer)

Shoes

1 pair slide sandals (ryokan, onsen, hotel)

■ TOILETRIES & GROOMING (Compact Essentials Only)

Toothbrush + toothpaste

Deodorant

Face wash + moisturizer

Lip balm (SPF recommended)

Razor or trimmer

Travel shampoo + conditioner

Nail clipper + tweezers

Pocket tissues (public restrooms may not have any)

Pocket hand sanitizer

■ LUGGAGE & GEAR

Main Bag (Backpack or Carry-on Suitcase)

All clothing from above

Compression bag (for laundry)

Onsen towel

Swim trunks (for mixed onsen)

Sleep mask + earplugs

Notebook or travel journal

Reusable water bottle

Reusable chopsticks

Daypack (for flights, city days)

Passport + visa (if needed)

Printed JR Pass + itinerary

Hotel details (in English & Japanese)

Flight info

Cash: ¥300,000 (~\$2,000)

Power bank

Phone + charger

Universal adapter

Earphones / noise-canceling headphones

Snacks (protein bars, gum)

Umbrella (compact)

SIM card or Pocket Wi-Fi

Travel insurance info (PDF + email copy)

✈️ ■ WHAT TO WEAR ON FLIGHT

Save space and keep warm on your long-haul

Base-layer shirt

Hoodie/fleece

Winter coat (wear it)

Warm pants or joggers

Thermal socks + compression socks

Waterproof hiking shoes (main shoes)

Beanie + scarf

Face mask (optional but handy in transit)

Eating Plan

Ultimate Japan Eating Plan

[Meal] Ultimate Eating Plan by Region & Day

[Location] Tokyo (Days 2-4, 13-14)

Style: Iconic eats + nightlife + casual bites

Breakfast: Kissaten café or konbini (egg sandwich/onigiri)

Lunch:

- Day 2: Sushi at Tsukiji Market
- Day 3: Kaiseki or izakaya lunch near Ginza/Odaiba
- Day 13: Kaiten sushi or kaisen don at Uogashi Nihon-Ichi

Dinner:

- Ramen in Shinjuku (Ichiran/Ippudo)
- Yakitori in Omoide Yokocho
- Omakase in Ginza/Shibuya

Snacks: Taiyaki, matcha soft cream, Harajuku crepes

[Location] Nikko (Day 4)

Style: Light & local

Lunch: Yuba dishes (tofu skin)

Sweets: Matcha ice cream, mochi

Pro Tip: Pack konbini snacks for the day

[Location] Hakone (Day 5)

Style: Onsen comfort + local delicacies

Must-Tries: Black eggs, onsen tamago, soba noodles

Dinner: Kaiseki ryori at ryokan

Dessert: Matcha soft cream

[Location] Kyoto (Days 6-7)

Style: Elegant + seasonal + tofu-forward

Breakfast: Matcha parfait, wagashi

Lunch:

- Day 6: Obanzai or matcha café

- Day 7: Nishiki Market snacks

Dinner:

- Yudofu dinner

- Shojin ryori

Snacks: Yatsushashi, tofu soft serve

[Location] Nara + Osaka (Day 8)

Style: Street food paradise

Nara Lunch: Kakinoha sushi, mochi

Osaka Dinner: Takoyaki, okonomiyaki, kushikatsu, taiyaki

[Location] Hiroshima + Miyajima (Days 9-10)

Style: Soulful, seafood-focused

Lunch: Okonomimura

Miyajima Snacks: Momiji manju, oysters

Dinner: Hiroshima izakaya, lemon sours

[Location] Fukuoka (Day 10)

Style: Ramen capital

Lunch: Tonkotsu ramen

Dinner: Yatai stalls - yakitori, gyoza, mentaiko

Dessert: Amaou strawberries

[Location] Beppu (Day 11)

Style: Onsen-infused

Lunch: Jigoku mushi

Dinner: Kaiseki at ryokan

Snack: Onsen-pudding

[Location] Takachiho (Day 12)

Style: Rural comfort

Lunch: Chicken nanban, soba

Dinner: Kumamoto beef

Snack: Tofu or veg tempura

[Drinks] Treats to Try Anywhere:

Matcha lattes, Japanese whisky, Hokkaido soft cream, rare KitKats & Pocky

[Budget] Budget: \$270 total (mix of konbini + 1 solid meal/day). 2-3 premium meals okay within \$2,000 cap.

Budget Plan

■ Final Budget Summary – 14 Days in Japan (Excl. Flights)

Category Details Cost (USD)

■ Accommodation Hostels, capsule hotels, business hotels (~\$50/night avg) \$650

■ JR Pass (7-day) Covers major intercity travel \$275

■ Local Transport IC cards + Hakone Freepass \$110

■ Food (Konbini-style) 2 konbini meals + 1 budget restaurant meal daily \$270

■ Attractions Entry to temples, parks, museums, etc. \$120

■ Gifts/Souvenirs Snacks, stationery, keychains, small gifts \$150

■ Grand Total: \$1,575

✓■ Fits perfectly into your \$1,500–\$1,700 budget

✓■ Balanced: smart on essentials, flexible on fun

✓■ Still room for a few surprises or comfort upgrades if needed

14-Day Japan Budget Itinerary (with written URLs)

Day 1: Arrival in Tokyo

Accommodation

Khaosan Tokyo Origami (\$40)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/khaosan-tokyo-origami.html>

Meals

- Konbini lunch (~\$5.50)

- Ichiran Ramen dinner (~\$9)

Transportation

- Narita Express (~\$28)

Activities

- Senso-ji Temple (Free)

Day 2: Tokyo

Accommodation

Khaosan Tokyo Origami (\$40)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/khaosan-tokyo-origami.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4.50)

- Sushiro lunch (~\$11)

- Konbini dinner (~\$5.50)

Transportation

- Tokyo Metro 1-Day (~\$5.50)

Activities

- Meiji Shrine (Free)

- Akihabara (Free)

Day 3: Tokyo to Hakone

Accommodation

Emblem Flow Hakone (\$50)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/emblem-flow-hakone.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$3.50)

- Udon lunch (~\$9)

- Konbini dinner (~\$5.50)

Transportation

- Romancecar (~\$21)

- Hakone Freepass (~\$45)

Activities

- Open-Air Museum (~\$14.50)

Day 4: Hakone to Kyoto

Accommodation

Piece Hostel Kyoto (\$45)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/piece-hostel-kyoto.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$3.50)
- Tendon lunch (~\$7)
- Konbini dinner (~\$6)

Transportation

- Shinkansen (JR Pass)
- Kyoto Bus (~\$4.50)

Activities

- Fushimi Inari Shrine (Free)
- Gion stroll (Free)

Day 5: Kyoto

Accommodation

Piece Hostel Kyoto (\$45)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/piece-hostel-kyoto.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4.50)
- Udon lunch (~\$9)
- Konbini dinner (~\$5.50)

Transportation

- IC card top-up (~\$4.50)

Activities

- Kinkaku-ji (~\$4.50)
- Arashiyama (Free)
- Monkey Park (~\$5.50)

Link: <https://monkeypark.jp/>

Day 6: Kyoto -> Nara -> Osaka

Accommodation

Capsule Hotel ASTIL Dotonbori (\$40)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/capsule-astil.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$3.50)
- Naramachi lunch (~\$9)
- Takoyaki dinner (~\$7)

Transportation

- Kintetsu train (~\$9)

Activities

- Todai-ji Temple (~\$5.50)
- Dotonbori (Free)

Day 7: Osaka

Accommodation

Capsule Hotel ASTIL Dotonbori (\$40)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/capsule-astil.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4)
- Okonomiyaki lunch (~\$8)
- Konbini dinner (~\$5)

Transportation

- IC card (~\$5)

Activities

- Osaka Castle (~\$4)

Day 8: Osaka to Hiroshima

Accommodation

K's House Hiroshima (\$45)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/k-s-house-hiroshima.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4)

- Okonomimura lunch (~\$10)

- Konbini dinner (~\$6)

Transportation

- Shinkansen (JR Pass)

Activities

- Peace Memorial Museum (~\$2.50)

- Shukkeien Garden (~\$2.50)

Day 9: Miyajima Day Trip

Accommodation

K's House Hiroshima (\$45)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/k-s-house-hiroshima.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4)

- Street food lunch (~\$10)

- Konbini dinner (~\$6)

Transportation

- JR Ferry + train (JR Pass)

Activities

- Itsukushima Shrine (~\$3)

Link: <https://www.miyajima.or.jp/english/itsukushima.html>

Day 10: Hiroshima -> Fukuoka

Accommodation

The Millennials Fukuoka (\$45)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/the-millennials-fukuoka.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4)

- Ramen lunch (~\$9)

- Konbini dinner (~\$6)

Transportation

- Shinkansen (JR Pass)

Activities

- Canal City (Free)

Day 11: Fukuoka -> Beppu

Accommodation

Beppu Guest House (\$40)

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4)

- Onsen-steamed lunch (~\$10)

- Konbini dinner (~\$6)

Transportation

- Sonic Limited Express (JR Pass)

Activities

- Jigoku Meguri (~\$6)

Day 12: Beppu -> Tokyo

Accommodation

Khaosan Tokyo Origami (\$40)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/khaosan-tokyo-origami.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4)

- Udon lunch (~\$9)

- Konbini dinner (~\$6)

Transportation

- Beppu -> Tokyo (Shinkansen, JR Pass)

Activities

- teamLab Planets (~\$25)

Link: <https://planets.teamlab.art/tokyo/>

Day 13: Tokyo Shopping & Exploration

Accommodation

Khaosan Tokyo Origami (\$40)

Link: <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/khaosan-tokyo-origami.html>

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4)

- Kaiten sushi lunch (~\$10)

- Final dinner (~\$15)

Transportation

- IC card (~\$5)

Activities

- Shopping and Meiji Shrine (Free)

Day 14: Departure

Accommodation

None

Meals

- Konbini breakfast (~\$4)

- Airport bento (~\$10)

Transportation

- Narita Express (~\$28)

Activities

- Final stroll, Character Street (Free)

\$2000 Upgraded Budget

Private Japan Trip Itinerary - Accommodation Upgrade Edition

You've reworked your original \$1,600 Japan budget to fully utilize a new \$2,000 cap, focusing all extra funds into peaceful, private, non-shared accommodation across all cities. This plan is curated for a calm, solo travel experience with no hostels, parties, or dorms.

Final Budget Allocation

Accommodation | Original: \$650 | New: \$925 | Private rooms only, upgraded across the board

JR Pass + Transport | Original: \$385 | New: \$385 | No change

Food | Original: \$270 | New: \$270 | No change

Attractions | Original: \$120 | New: \$120 | No change

Souvenirs | Original: \$150 | New: \$150 | No change

Total | Original: \$1,575 | New: \$1,950 | \$50 buffer remains

Accommodation Plan (Private, Chill, No Shared Spaces)

City Nights Stay Price/Night Total

Tokyo 4 Hananosato Kita-Koiwa \$48 \$192

Hakone 1 TBD - Private Ryokan \$80 \$80

Kyoto 2 RESI STAY THE KYOTO \$67 \$134

Nara/Osaka 2 Minpaku Ko or Hotel Sunlife \$42 \$84

Hiroshima 2 OUCHI HOTEL Fujimi \$47 \$94

Fukuoka 1 Skyroom Ijiri \$27 \$27

Beppu 1 FLORAhouse \$58 \$58

Takachiho 1 Takachiho Ryokan \$70 \$70

Tokyo (Final) 1 Hananosato Kita-Koiwa \$48 \$48

This accommodation plan ensures all your stays are in private rooms with calm, quiet environments.
Perfect

for a solo traveler who values peace, local charm, and a solid rest after full days of exploring Japan.

Accommodation Links

Tokyo:

■■■■ ■■■■ (\$48 - night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-H6kiYW7>

Enzo Tokyo (\$44 - night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-4YNIIAM>

Hakone:

Not available right now.

Kyoto:

RESI STAY THE KYOTO (\$67 - night): <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/resi-stay-the-kyoto.html>

Osaka:

Hotel Osaka Castle (\$52 - night): <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/osaka-castle.html>

BESTIE by DOYANEN (\$40 - night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-ZpDCcp>

Hotel Sunlife (\$42 - night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-aSXefg>

■■ ■ (\$40 - night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-aPj3dY>

■■■■■ELLY-four (\$54 - night): <https://www.booking.com/hotel/jp/da-ban-nan-bo-elly.html>

Hiroshima:

OUCHI HOTEL Fujimi (\$47 - night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-6tdigo6>

Fukuoka:

skyroom ijiri (\$27 - night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-OpWeNgF>

Beppu:

■■■■■■■■302 (\$48 - night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-EzGr5nY>

FLORAhouse(58- night): <https://www.booking.com/Share-22IAkZi>
