BetterTrip
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8-Day Japan Culture & Shinkansen Adventure

Tour Code: JC08D

Embark on an unforgettable 8-day cultural journey through Japan, where ancient traditions meet modern wonders. From the neon lights of Tokyo to the serene temples of Kyoto, the friendly deer of Nara, and the vibrant streets of Osaka, this tour offers the perfect balance of history, culture, and local experiences.

Ride the iconic Shinkansen bullet train, relax in a traditional onsen ryokan at the foot of Mt. Fuji, take part in a calming matcha tea ceremony, and uncover hidden stories on a unique night walk through Osaka. With free time to explore at your own pace — and the option to add a private guided tour in Kyoto — this itinerary is designed to let you experience Japan your way, while still enjoying all the highlights.

Whether it's strolling through bamboo groves, tasting street food in Osaka, or watching the sunset behind a thousand red torii gates, every day brings a new discovery.

Route

Tokyo - Mt Fuji - Kyoto - Nara - Osaka

Day 1

Arrival in Tokyo
Upon your arrival at Narita or Haneda Airport, our friendly receptionist will be on-site to assist you with your transfer to the hotel. To ensure a seamless transfer, please provide your flight number in advance. Depending on other guests' arrival times, some waiting may be required. Upon arrival, our friendly guide will meet you at the airport and assist with your transfer to the hotel.

Included Meals
No meals

Accommodation
3-4 Star hotel in Tokyo or similar

Hotel Check-in
The hotel check-in is available after 3 PM. If you arrive before this time, you are welcome to leave your luggage with the hotel staff while you explore the area or relax in the hotel lobby. When you return, kindly present your passport at the reception desk to complete your check-in.

Day 2

Tokyo
Your cultural journey begins at Meiji Shrine, a peaceful oasis in the middle of the city. Drive past buzzing Harajuku, the Imperial Palace, and electric Akihabara before reaching Asakusa, where you'll step back in time at Senso-ji Temple and stroll along Nakamise Street.

Recharge with a calming matcha tea ceremony and a delicious Izakaya-style lunch. Later, admire Tokyo from above at Tokyo Skytree and (if the weather plays nice) hop on a Tokyo Bay cruise. End your day cruising through lively districts like Roppongi or Shinjuku, catching sight of the glowing Tokyo Tower.

Included Meals
Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation
3-4 Star hotel in Tokyo or similar

Day 3

Tokyo - Mt. Fuji
Leave the city behind and head to the stunning Lake Kawaguchi area. Take in postcard views at Chureito Pagoda, soak up nature at Oishi Park, and ride the Panoramic Ropeway for sweeping mountain vistas.

In the evening, check into a cozy onsen ryokan. Slip into the steaming hot springs and savor a traditional Japanese dinner — the perfect way to end a magical day.

Included Meals
Breakfast & Dinner

Accommodation
Mt. Fuji Onsen Ryokan or similar

Day 4

Mt. Fuji - Kyoto
This morning, board the iconic Shinkansen bullet train (Green Cabin class) and zoom your way to Kyoto. After checking into your hotel near Kyoto Station, the rest of the day is free — take it easy or explore at your own pace.

Included Meals
Breakfast

Accommodation
3-4 Star hotel in Kyoto or similar

Day 5

Kyoto Free Day
Enjoy a free day to wander Kyoto your way.

For those who want more, join an optional private guided tour to see the spiritual Fushimi Inari Shrine, breathtaking Kiyomizu-dera Temple, and charming Ninenzaka heritage streets. In the evening, lose yourself in the lantern-lit lanes of Gion, spotting geishas, before heading to Pontocho Alley for dinner along the riverside.

Included Meals
Breakfast

Accommodation
3-4 Star hotel in Kyoto or similar

Extra Activities You Can Join

PRICE
$370.00 AUD

Kyoto Private Guided Tour
Make the most of your free day in Kyoto with an exclusive **Private Guided Tour**. Your local expert will take you on a cultural journey through some of the city's most iconic and enchanting sites:

- **Fushimi Inari Shrine** – wander through thousands of bright red torii gates at one of Japan's most spiritual landmarks.
- **Kiyomizu-dera Temple** – marvel at this UNESCO World Heritage site, with sweeping views over Kyoto from its famous wooden stage.
- **Ninenzaka** – stroll along these beautifully preserved heritage streets, lined with traditional shops and teahouses that capture Kyoto's old-world charm.

Note
The optional tour is not included in the main package and must be paid for on-site. The listed price is per person. Operation of the tour is subject to a minimum group size being met.

Day 6

Kyoto - Nara - Osaka

Begin with the serene Arashiyama Bamboo Grove and the iconic Togetsukyo Bridge in Kyoto. Then it's off to Nara, home to the majestic Todai-ji Temple and its friendly, free-roaming deer in Nara Park. Visit the historic Kasuga Taisha Shrine before arriving in Osaka.

In the evening, dive into the neon lights, street food, and bustling vibes of Dotonbori and Shinsaibashi.

Included Meals

Breakfast

Accommodation

3-4 Star hotel in Osaka or similar

Day 7

Lost Osaka Night Tour

Spend the morning exploring Osaka at leisure, then gear up for an unforgettable evening: the **"Lost Osaka: Night Walk Through Shadows & Stories" tour**.

Step into hidden alleys, preserved Taisho-era neighborhoods, and hear fascinating stories about Osaka's lesser-known history. Taste local street food from two stalls and uncover layers of the city's past — from the Yakuza to wartime tales — all guided by an expert storyteller. *(Note: the homeless district is not entered.)*

Included Meals

Breakfast

Accommodation

3-4 Star hotel in Osaka or similar

Day 8

Depart Osaka

Enjoy breakfast before your departure. Depending on your flight time, squeeze in some last-minute shopping or a stroll before transferring to the airport. Say goodbye to Japan — until next time!

Included Meals

Breakfast

Accommodation

N/A

Things To Know

What's Included

- Airport transfers upon arrival and departure
- One-way Shinkansen ticket from Mt.Fuji to Kyoto in Green Cabin class
- 6 nights' accommodation in quality 3-4 Star hotels
- 1 night's accommodation in traditional onsen ryokan
- Daily breakfast, 1 lunch and 1 dinner as outlined in the itinerary
- All sightseeing and entrance fees included as outlined in the itinerary
- Guided tours in Tokyo, Mt. Fuji, Nara, and Osaka

- Guided “Lost Osaka” night tour
- Pre-arranged transport between cities
- Matcha tea ceremony experience
- Lzakaya-style lunch experience
- Travel App for real-time booking update

What’s Not Included

- International airfare and taxes
- Visa fees
- Optional tours & activities
- Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Tips & gratuities for guides and drivers
- Personal expenses like beverages, laundry, and phone calls
- Costs incurred due to flight delays or airline schedule changes
- Any items or services not clearly listed in the itinerary

Optional Activities

Day 05 - Kyoto Private Guided Tour - $370 AUD per person

Traveller Eligibilities

- Valid for Children 8 years old and over.
- Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors are allowed.

Group Size Requirement

- Minimum: 2 individuals
- Maximum: 48 individuals

Fine Print

Payment Terms

To secure your booking, full payment is required at the time of reservation. After creating your booking, you will be directed to your invoice, where you can select your preferred payment method.

Schedule Of Fees

Voluntary Changes: Please note that any changes or upgrades requested after the booking is confirmed will be subject to a fee of AUD220 per person per change, in addition to any applicable supplier costs. This fee covers modifications to flights, hotels, tour dates, or any other services included in your package. To ensure smooth processing, we kindly request that you provide us with a minimum of 72 hours notice for all voluntary changes.

Cancellations & Refunds: Please note that in the event of tour cancellation, a cancellation fee of AUD550 per person will be charged, in addition to any relevant supplier costs. Refund requests must be submitted in writing and will take up to 6 weeks to process. It is important to note that no refunds can be issued once the tour has commenced (for the flight-inclusive package, no refunds can be issued once the flights have been ticketed).

Name Correction Fees: A fee of AUD220 per person applies to name corrections on documents, along with any supplier costs. Kindly note that name corrections must be requested at least 72 hours prior to departure and are subject to approval from the supplier.

Document Change Fees: A fee of AUD220 per person will be charged for any passport changes, in addition to any applicable supplier costs. Please note that train tickets and admission access must be linked to your travel passport details. Any changes to passport information must be requested at least 14 days before departure and are subject to approval from the supplier.

Supplier Fees: In the event that the tour you have purchased is unable to proceed or a travel supplier is unable to fulfil the tour due to external circumstances (such as a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our suppliers and is unrecoverable. This could be due to non-refundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins, or unrecoverable payments with our land/accommodation partners. As your agent, Better Trip is committed to covering these costs and will make every effort to recover all funds committed and/or paid for your tour. However, please note that this may not be possible in every circumstance. If refunds are unavailable from our suppliers, we will strive to obtain a travel credit with the best possible terms and communicate these options to you. If Better Trip cannot obtain a refund, travel service credit, or only a partial refund, this cost will be passed on to the customer as a supplier fee. It is important to note that this fee is not intended to generate revenue but to cover the payments our suppliers withhold during the recovery process.

Participation Requirement
All group tour packages are offered at discounted rates on the condition that travellers participate in the full group itinerary, including sightseeing, cultural activities, and designated shopping stops. Partial participation (e.g., using only transport or selected activities) is not allowed under this pricing, and those wishing to opt out must book a land-only or customised private package at the applicable rate. Requests to use only parts of the package, such as flights and hotels, will not be accepted, and we reserve the right to cancel such bookings under the standard cancellation policy.

Travel Documents
To ensure a smooth journey, it is imperative that you possess a valid passport and have obtained all necessary visas, permits, and certificates for the countries you plan to visit. Please note that passports are mandatory for all travellers when departing from Australia. For a permanent resident to travel on a foreign passport, you must also hold an Australian Re-entry Visa. Additionally, many countries require foreign nationals entering their borders to possess a passport with a minimum of six months validity. Remember, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the accuracy of your documentation lies with you as the individual traveller. Any fines, penalties, or expenses incurred due to incorrect documentation will be solely your responsibility.

Travel Insurance
Travel insurance is a requirement for all our travellers and should be obtained at the time of booking. Your travel insurance should cover personal accidents, death, medical expenses, and emergency repatriation, with a recommended minimum coverage of US$200,000 for each category. We also strongly recommend coverage for cancellation, curtailment, personal liability, luggage loss, and personal effects. On the first day of your trip, you must provide proof of your travel insurance. Please note that joining the trip will not be possible without it. If you would like our assistance obtaining travel insurance, please CLICK HERE.

Airport Transfers
Some of our packages include airport transfers in one or both directions for your arrival or departure from your destination. To determine if transfers are included, please refer to the “What’s Included” section of your selected package. If you arrange pre- or post-tour accommodations independently and the tour includes transfers, please note that these transfers will be forfeited. Transfers are provided only in conjunction with the tour dates and any pre- or post-tour accommodations booked through Better Trip, when available. Additionally, our standard airport transfers operate on a group basis, which may involve waiting times of up to 2 hours. To avoid any potential delays, we recommend booking a private transfer for a more prompt and personalized service. For more information, please contact us at bookings@bettertrip.com.au.

Default Flights
If this package includes default flights, they have been carefully predetermined by our product team in collaboration with the airline partners. Please note the following conditions:

- The default flights cannot be changed or refunded at any time. If these flights are not used, any unused segments will be forfeited without a refund.
- Flight carriers and schedules will be available approximately three months before the tour date.
- For customised flight requests, including changes to flight times, airlines, or classes, a re-quote will be provided at the prevailing market price, and additional charges may apply.

- If you have booked a flight-inclusive package and choose not to use the default flights, please notify us at least 72 hours before departure. Failure to do so will be considered a no-show, and the entire tour will be cancelled without a refund.

If you have any further questions or require assistance, please contact us at bookings@bettertrip.com.au.

Important Information

Fitness Requirements
To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience, participants in our tours should have a moderate level of fitness, including the ability to walk for extended periods and navigate varying terrains. The tour may involve physical activities such as hiking and walking tours, so we recommend being comfortable with exertion for several hours. If you have any pre-existing medical conditions, please consult a healthcare professional before booking. Regular physical activity leading up to the tour is encouraged to enhance your experience. Your safety is our top priority, so if you feel unwell during the tour, please inform your local guide.

Accommodation
Accommodations included in your tour package will be specified in your itinerary. While we strive to provide the listed accommodations, substitutions may be necessary due to availability. For bedding configurations, we offer double or twin options for travellers sharing a room, based on availability. Solo travellers who have purchased the single supplement will have the option of a single bed. Check-in is typically between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM, and check-out usually occurs between 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM; early or late check-in/out may be available upon request, but is not guaranteed. Standard amenities will be provided, although additional services may incur extra charges. We are not liable for any loss or damage to personal property during your stay, so we recommend securing travel insurance for unforeseen events. Lastly, guests are responsible for adhering to any health and safety guidelines set by the accommodation providers.

Underage Travellers
All travellers under the age of 18 must have written consent from a parent or legal guardian to participate in the tour and must be accompanied by a responsible adult who will ensure their safety and well-being. Accommodation arrangements must comply with the policies of the accommodation provider, which may have age restrictions regarding room occupancy. Parents or guardians are responsible for informing us of any medical conditions or special requirements for the minor, and we recommend that all minors have appropriate travel insurance. Some of our packages are exclusively available for adult travellers aged 18 and over. All travellers are expected to adhere to our code of conduct; inappropriate behaviour may result in removal from the tour without a refund. Additionally, some activities may have age restrictions, and it is the responsibility of the accompanying adult to ensure all activities are suitable for the minor.

Tipping
For some of our packages, tipping is not included in the tour price. In certain situations, tipping is compulsory and must be paid in cash, in local currency, directly to the local guide during the tour. Please refer to the “What's Not Included” section of your booking for the recommended tipping amounts for guides, drivers, and other service personnel. These amounts are designed to reflect the level of service provided. As tipping customs may vary by country, we encourage you to familiarise yourself with local practices in advance. By joining our tours, you acknowledge and accept this tipping policy.

Itinerary Modification
The itinerary presented in your tour package is subject to modification due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Better Trip, such as weather conditions and operational requirements. In the event of any changes, we will notify you via email with relevant advice or instructions as soon as possible. While we will strive to provide suitable alternative arrangements, we cannot guarantee that all aspects of the original itinerary will remain unchanged. It is the traveller’s responsibility to stay informed of updates prior to departure, and by booking with us, you acknowledge and accept that itinerary modifications may occur.

For more details please visit our website - [Terms and Conditions]**.**