



**GOLD**  
EDUCATIONAL  
TOURS



# Timeless Japan Tour 2025

Discover cultural treasures and natural wonders



Dear Traveller,

It is with great excitement that I invite you to join us on our Timeless Japan Tour, an exclusive journey for those who seek the finer things in life. With over 20 years of experience, this tour represents a new chapter for us—blending our deep love for Japan with the luxury and sophistication you deserve.

Having lived and worked in Japan, I've come to appreciate the beauty and cultural richness that make each visit special. Our expertise in educational tourism has taught us the importance of authenticity and immersion, and it is these values that we bring to this tour, designed to offer you a truly unparalleled experience.

On this journey, you'll experience the vibrant energy of Tokyo, walk the historic Nakasendo Trail, and explore the charm of Takayama and Kanazawa. You'll also step back in time at the UNESCO World Heritage site of Shirakawa-go. The Timeless Japan Tour isn't just a trip—it's an invitation to experience Japan like never before. I look forward to sharing this adventure with you.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Jason Hutchinson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

*Jason Hutchinson, CEO*

# Discover cultural treasures and natural wonders

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# Tour Overview

**Tour Dates:** Monday 17th – Saturday 29th March 2025

**Tour Cost:** \$12,750 AUD per person (including return airfare on All Nippon Air)

*If you prefer a private room, a single supplement is available upon request for an additional fee of \$2,500 AUD*

**Duration:** 12 nights / 13 days

**Group Size:** 18 Guests

Small group, fully guided tour.

## Flight Details:

- Depart Perth on flight NH882 at 9:55pm on Monday, 17th March, arriving at Narita Airport at 8:30am on Tuesday, 18th March.
- Depart Narita Airport on flight NH881 at 11:20am on Saturday, 29th March. Arriving in Perth at 8:30pm on Saturday, 29th March.

## Cost Inclusions:

- Return Economy class airfare on All Nippon Air (ANA)
- 11 nights of hand-picked luxury accommodations
- Daily breakfast, selected lunches and dinners, including welcome and farewell dinner
- Entrance fees to gardens, museums, and attractions
- Cultural Activities and Authentic Local Experiences
- Private bus transfers between locations and activities

## Cost Exclusions:

- Visas / Passports
- Meals/drinks not stated in the itinerary
- Optional activities/tours, personal expenses/transfers not mentioned
- Travel insurance (required)
- Dining inclusions do not include drinks (unless otherwise stated). Menus are subject to change without notice.



# Tour Itinerary

<p><b>DAY 01</b> <b>TOKYO</b> 17 March Arrival in Tokyo &amp; Sightseeing</p> <p><b>D</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 02</b> <b>TOKYO</b> 18 March Sushi making in Tokyo</p> <p><b>B L D</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 03</b> <b>NAKASENDO</b> 19 March Nakasendo Trail Adventure</p> <p><b>B L D</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 04</b> <b>NAKASENDO</b> 20 March Scenic Hike to Narai</p> <p><b>B D</b></p>
<p><b>DAY 05</b> <b>KISO VALLEY</b> 21 March Kiso Valley Exploration</p> <p><b>B</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 06</b> <b>TAKAYAMA</b> 22 March Cultural Delights of Takayama</p> <p><b>B L D</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 07</b> <b>SHIRAKAWA-GO</b> 23 March Shirakawa-go UNESCO Heritage</p> <p><b>B L</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 08</b> <b>KANAZAWA</b> 24 March Artistry of Kanazawa</p> <p><b>B</b></p>
<p><b>DAY 09</b> <b>KANAZAWA</b> 25 March Leisure in Kanazawa</p> <p><b>B D</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 10</b> <b>TOKYO</b> 26 March Return to Tokyo by bullet train</p> <p><b>B</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 11</b> <b>TOKYO</b> 27 March Sightseeing in Tokyo</p> <p><b>B D</b></p>	<p><b>DAY 12</b> <b>DEPARTURE</b> 28 March Departure from Japan</p> <p><b>B</b></p>

Meals included: **B L D**

# Discover Tokyo

Begin and end your journey in  
the vibrant heart of Japan

Start in Tokyo with iconic sights, a welcome dinner, and a private tour. Experience sushi-making in Asakusa and explore at your own pace. At the end of your trip, take the bullet train from Kanazawa back to Tokyo, enjoy the nightlife, shop in Ginza, and conclude with a special farewell dinner.

**Accommodation:** Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa

# Nakasendo Trail Hike

Travel by bullet train from Tokyo to Nagoya, then take a private bus to the historic Nakasendo Trail. Hike from Magome to Tsumago, with your luggage transported for convenience. Continue with a scenic hike from Yabuhara to Narai along the Torii Pass, and relax in a traditional Ryokan with local cuisine for dinner.

**Accommodation:** Tsutaya Ryokan



## Yabuhara to Narai: 6 km Torii Pass route

- *Level: Moderate*
- *Duration: Approx. 4-5 hours*
- *Highlights: Historic "Narai of a Thousand Houses", mountain views*

## Magome to Tsumago: 9 km scenic path

- *Level: Easy to moderate*
- *Duration: Approx. 3-4 hours*
- *Highlights: Edo-period towns, waterfalls, lush nature*



## Alternative Itinerary

For those seeking a different experience, we offer an enriching alternative to the hike: Enjoy a cultural Washi-making activity and sightseeing in Tsumago, where you can visit the Tsumago-juku Honjin, a restored Edo-period inn, and the peaceful Kotoku Temple. The following day, participate in a traditional Urushi-making activity (lacquerware), then explore Narai. Here, you can wander through the historic Narai-juku, known for its well-preserved Edo-period buildings, and visit the Narai River for beautiful views and a peaceful atmosphere.

*\*Activity may change pending availability*



## Kiso Valley Exploration

Explore the charming Kiso Valley, with an optional visit to a sake brewery, before heading to Takayama via private bus for a peaceful evening in our Ryokan.

**Accommodation:** Hotel Wood Takayama

## Charming Takayama

Discover the cultural richness of Takayama, including a visit to the Hida Folk Village, and unwind with a leisurely stay at our comfortable hotel. Private bus for sightseeing.

**Accommodation:** Hotel Wood Takayama



## Shirakawa-go Heritage

Journey to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Shirakawa-go, enjoy a tour and lunch then continue to Kanazawa for a serene evening. Private bus from Shirakawa-go to Kanazawa.

**Accommodation:** Hotel Sanraku Kanazawa

## Kanazawa Delights

Immerse yourself in Kanazawa's artistry with a Katani ware and gold leaf workshop, followed by leisure time to explore the historic city. Spend a day visiting Kenrokuen Garden and enjoy dinner at a renowned restaurant.

**Accommodation:** Hotel Sanraku Kanazawa





# Luxury Accommodation

The **Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa** combines Japanese elegance with modern comfort in Tokyo's Takanawa district. Enjoy spacious rooms, authentic dining, and a serene Japanese garden, ideal for leisure travelers.



**Tsutaya Ryokan**, in Kinosaki Onsen, offers luxurious rooms, onsen baths, and exquisite seasonal cuisine. Experience impeccable service and traditional Japanese hospitality in a picturesque, serene setting.

**Hotel Wood Takayama** offers a serene escape in the heart of Takayama, Japan. Experience modern comfort and traditional charm in elegantly designed rooms, delicious local cuisine, and convenient access to scenic attractions, perfect for relaxation and cultural immersion.



**Hotel Sanraku Kanazawa** offers traditional Japanese hospitality with modern comfort. Its well-appointed rooms and prime location near cultural attractions make it ideal for travelers seeking tranquility and exploration in historic Kanazawa.

*Accommodation is subject to change and is at the discretion of the GOLD Tour Coordinator.  
If you prefer a private room, a single supplement is available upon request for an additional fee of \$2,500 AUD.*

## Begin the Journey

To book your journey, please contact Gold Educational Tours.

**Call** 08 6150 3759

**Visit** [goldeducationaltours.com.au/japan-tours/timeless-japan-tour-2025/](http://goldeducationaltours.com.au/japan-tours/timeless-japan-tour-2025/)

**Email** [japantours@goldil.com.au](mailto:japantours@goldil.com.au)

Visit our website



*Deb Werndly*

Our experienced GOLD Tour Guide, Deb, will accompany you from Perth throughout the tour. With several years of living and working in Japan, Deb brings a wealth of personal expertise to ensure an enjoyable experience for everyone.

# Terms & Conditions

## Important Destination Information

Country: Japan  
Time zone: GMT+9  
Telephone: +81  
Currency: Japanese yen (JPY)

Accessing money: Cash is widely accepted and the preferred method of payment. ATMs are readily accessible in 7-Eleven. Ask your tour leader/guide about the best place to change money once you begin your tour. Please note: some ATMs may only accept four-digit pins.

Language: Japanese

Climate: Japan has four distinct seasons: cherry blossom season in spring (March-May), cool and leafy in autumn (September-November) and humid and muggy at times in summer (June-August), with snowfall at higher altitudes during winter (December-February).

## Health and Fitness Acknowledgement

Participants must be in good health and physically fit to engage in this tour's activities. Accommodations for those unable to fully participate may be limited and could incur additional costs. Please assess your suitability carefully before booking.

Neither the tour operator nor we can provide medical assistance if you're unable to complete any part of the tour due to health or physical limitations. We are not liable for any resulting loss, damage, expense, injury, or death.

This tour includes two 8-kilometre hikes. We strongly recommend that participants have the necessary health and fitness levels to comfortably undertake these physical activities.

## Cancellation by Participants

Any cancellation must be made in writing by the person signing the agreement and is not effective until such cancellation is received by GOLD.

### Cancellation fees

Non-refundable deposit: 15% per participant of full tour cost  
91 – 150 days prior to departure: 50% of the full tour cost  
90 days prior to departure: 100% of the full tour cost  
Unless agreed by GOLD Educational Tours

## Cancellation by Gold Educational Tours

GOLD Educational Tours reserves the right to cancel the tour due to payments not being made. In such a case, GOLD will attempt to refund payments made by participants where possible.

GOLD may also agree to cancel the tour past that date due to such as terrorism, natural disasters, political instability and external events which make it unviable or unsafe to operate a planned tour.

In these circumstances, we will endeavour to provide a refund where we are able to obtain one from service providers. Otherwise claims must be made against travel insurance.

## Liability

GOLD acts only as a booking agent for accommodation, transport, and other services. GOLD will not be liable for any accident, injury, delay irregularity, loss, or any damage arising out of the provision of or failure to provide service.

All tickets, vouchers and bookings are subject to the terms and conditions endorsed on them or upon any documentation supplied by the individual provider.

Schedules, amenities, mode of transport may be subject to alteration without prior notice due to local circumstances or events which may include sickness, mechanical breakdown, flight cancellations, strikes, events emanating from other disputes, climate, or other unforeseen and unpredictable circumstances.

Additional expenses may be passed to the traveller. GOLD reserves the right to amend any of the services, facilities or prices should it become necessary in the interests of safety or other unforeseen circumstances but will endeavour to provide services equal in nature as originally planned and charged.

As the booking agent, ultimately GOLD is not liable for the failure of local service providers to provide the contracted service and compensation is not available for cancellations or changes to the tour due to circumstances beyond the control of GOLD.

Participation in the tour is accepted on the understanding that travellers appreciate possible risks. GOLD does not accept any liability from accident, injury or loss resulting from participation in the tour.

All conditions and circumstances that may affect participation in the tour must be fully disclosed.

These conditions shall be binding upon the tour participant as well as their heirs, executors, administrators and legal representatives and upon any family member or minor or other person on whose behalf the application form was signed and their respective heirs, executors, administrators and legal personal representatives.

GOLD will always handle personal information as confidential however we retain the right to monitor, retain and disclose any information as necessary to satisfy any applicable law, regulation, legal process or governmental request.

## Travel Documents

Travel documents are the responsibility of the tour participant. All participants departing from Australia on the above tour must be in possession of a valid passport. If a passport is due to expire within 6 months of the travel time, a new passport should be obtained.

Non-Australian passport holders may require a visa to enter Japan and it is their responsibility to ensure valid visas and re-entry permits which meet the requirements of immigration and other government authorities.

Any fines, penalties, payments or expenditures incurred as a result of such documents not meeting the requirements of those authorities will be the sole responsibility of the participant.

## Travel Insurance

Participants are required to organise their own travel insurance. Comprehensive travel insurance is strongly recommended to cover cancellations, medical expenses, and other travel-related issues.

## Responsibility and Liability

- The tour operator is not responsible for any loss, damage, or injury sustained during the tour except where required by law
- Participants are responsible for their personal belongings and travel documents.
- This tour includes two 8km walks. Therefore, participants are required to be physically fit and capable of walking these distances to fully enjoy and participate in the tour.

Please note that these policies are subject to change, and it is recommended to review them prior to booking.

## Payment Policy for a Group tour

### 1. Deposit:

- A non-refundable deposit of 15% per person is required at the time of booking to secure the reservation.
- The deposit must be paid within 7 days of receiving the booking confirmation.

### 2. Balance Payment:

- The remaining balance must be paid no later than 90 days before the tour departure date.

### 3. Payment Methods:

- Payments can be made via bank transfer.

### 4. Changes and Amendments:

- Requests for changes or amendments to the booking must be made in writing.
- Changes are subject to availability and may incur additional charges.

## Cancellation fees

Non-refundable deposit: 15 percent of full tour cost  
91 – 150 days prior to departure: 50% of the full tour cost  
90 days prior to departure: 100% of the full tour cost  
Unless agreed by GOLD Educational Tours.

## Local Purchases

GET is not responsible for any items you may purchase locally i.e. jewellery/furniture etc. You acknowledge that you are solely responsible for any import duty or freight costs.

## Personal Belongings & Lost Items

For security reasons, valuables should be kept to a minimum and packed in your hand luggage along with your medicines. It is your responsibility to always look after your property and you must ensure you are adequately covered by comprehensive travel insurance in the event of any loss.

## Luggage Limits

Each passenger is entitled to take one piece of luggage that does not exceed 160cm or weigh more than 23kg. Dimensions for checked baggage are calculated by adding together the width, height and depth of the piece of baggage.

An extra charge will be imposed to cover the portage handling of any additional luggage. Your tour director will advise you of the exact additional charge. Some holiday packages may have restricted luggage limits.

## Hotels

Hotel rooms in Japan are often smaller than those in Australia. In more remote places, hotel standards may not be quite as high as in major centres. GTE endeavours to utilise the most suitable accommodation available in each destination to ensure that passengers enjoy high levels of cleanliness, comfort and services. Hotel rooms are generally not available for check-in before 3:00pm and require check-out by 10:00am.

## Twin or Double Rooms

Accommodation in all hotels, regardless of the rating, is in standard rooms (sometimes named superior/deluxe) based on twins or doubles unless otherwise stated. In Japan, double beds are on request basis in hotels and may not be able to be guaranteed. If you would like your own room, there is a supplement fee of \$2,500.00 AUD. Please contact us if you would like to arrange this.

## Seat Allocation on Coach Tours

To ensure all passengers enjoy forward and window facing seats, on longer tours a daily seat rotation system may apply at the discretion of the Tour Director. We do not warrant that the seat rotation will be adjusted to suit personal preference.

## Maps Within This Tour Package

Note that maps may not be to scale.

## Images Within This Tour Package

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