

JAPAN DAY TOUR OPTIONS

All tours are private and based on a minimum of 20 participants

Monday, February 24th: FULL DAY - MATSUMOTO CASTLE & UKIYO E MUSEUM TOUR



Matsumoto's namesake castle is the oldest existing castle in Japan and is recognized as a National Treasure. The contrasting black and white plaster of the exterior stands out boldly against the magnificent backdrop of the Japanese Alps. Built with many unique architectural elements, Matsumoto Castle also features a moon viewing pavilion, indicative of the lifestyle of the feudal lords. Afterwards, visit the Ishii Miso Brewery, which was founded in 1868 (the end of the Edo era) and is still producing miso by a unique traditional and natural method. In Ishii Miso Brewery, you can see inside the brewery and have a lunch including miso soup, salad with miso dressing, rice and even ice cream made using their miso. After lunch, we begin the tour home, but first stopping at the JapanUkiyo-e (Ukiyoe) Museum; a print maker's dream, holding the largest private collection of ukiyo-e (woodblock prints), paintings screens and old books in the world. The Sakai family has collected more than 100,000 pieces over several generations. English information is limited, but there is a pamphlet you can get at the front and English DVD will be very helpful to understand how to create screens. The final stop on the tour is the Kametaya Sake Brewery where visitors will be invited to try some of the brewery's sake, and are free to browse the little shop where visitors can purchase gift boxes of various blends to take home to relatives and friends.

PSC PRICE PER PERSON: \$139.00

Wednesday, February 26th: FULL DAY - SNOW MONKEY TOUR WITH LUNCH:



Snow Monkey Tours are the most popular day tour to participate in whilst in Hakuba. The world's famous Jigokudani Wild Monkey Park is home to about 200 wild monkeys who spend their days soaking in the natural hot springs, keeping warm from the harsh winter. The park was opened in 1964 and is considered to be the only place in the world to see snow monkeys bathing in the wild. The hike to the hot-springs takes approximately 30 minutes each way. Departing from the monkey park we then make our way to the historic town of Obuse, home to the famous Japanese artist Hokusai and Masuichi Sake Brewery. Lunch is a delicious set course traditional Japanese meal with a choice of main courses including dessert and glass of Japanese rice wine Sake. The next stop is Nagano City, home to Zenkoji Temple, designated a national treasure and has a history of over 1,400 years. It is one of Japan's most revered temples and houses the first image of Buddha brought to Japan in the 7th century. The streets surrounding the temple are lined with lantern lit shops and tiered roofed stalls, souvenir shops and galleries.

PSC PRICE PER PERSON: \$129.00

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Thursday, February 27th: HALF-DAY KIMONO AND JAPANESE CULTURE EXPERIENCE



Spend the morning or afternoon as the local Japanese women do, adorn the traditional Kimono Dress and participate in a traditional Origami and Tea Ceremony followed by a special Japanese style lunch.

This is a very unique experience that is reserved only for the ladies on the trip, and can only accommodate up to 8 people per tour, so there will be two tours:

Group 1:

9:30AM Pick-up time
 10:00AM Kimono Dressing
 11:30AM Origami & Tea Ceremony
 12:00PM Lunch (Japanese Style)
 1:15PM Arrive at your hotel

Group 2:

11:30AM Pick-up time
 12:00PM Lunch (Japanese Style)
 1:00PM Kimono Dressing
 2:30PM Origami & Tea Ceremony
 3:10PM Arrive at your hotel

PSC PRICE PER PERSON: \$88.00

Saturday, February 29th: FULL DAY - MOUNT FUJI TOUR – Valid on Post-Trip Extension only:



Enjoy a full day tour from Tokyo aboard a luxury coach as you depart the city and head to the valley of Mount Fuji. The tour is complete with breath taking views, time for shopping and lunch (on your own). This is a long 10 hour tour that involves at least half that time on the coach for traveling, so make sure you bring your favorite snacks and drinks for the ride:

PSC PRICE PER PERSON: (Must have 20 for this price) \$149.00

All day tours are nonrefundable once purchased, unless canceled due to limited participation. You will be notified prior to departure from the U.S.