

Day 14 Monday 06 April

**Fukuoka to Beppu**

Transfer to Beppu on your private coach for an exciting day all round visiting the spectacular Beppu Hells or steaming hot springs, with their fiery colours and fiery geothermal heat. This region has retained a traditional atmosphere and you have the opportunity to appreciate this with a Jigoku-mushi cuisine cooking experience. This is a traditional cooking style which uses geothermal energy. Take the opportunity also for a traditional onsen visit. Dinner tonight is at an authentic Ryokan or Japanese Inn.

**Overnight Beppu Onsen**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**



Day 15 Tuesday 07 April

**Beppu**

Today is a free day to relax and immerse yourself in your traditional, unique, and wonderful surroundings and enjoy the Takegawa Onsen area. You might choose to experience a hand or foot bath, enjoy the warm and healing waters, go for walks or forest bathe. Dinner is arranged at a ryokan.

**Overnight Beppu Onsen**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**

Day 16 Wednesday 08 April

**Beppu Onsen to Osaka**

After breakfast you depart Beppu and ride the shinkansen Bullet Train to Osaka, Japan's third largest and most vibrant city. Arriving around lunch time you are transferred to your hotel and have a free afternoon to relax or explore at your own pace.

**Overnight Osaka**  
**Breakfast**

Day 17 Thursday 09 April

**Osaka**

Enjoy a great day of sightseeing by private coach visiting multi turreted Osaka Castle, its museum and Toyotomi Hideyoshi cherry tree garden and Sumiyoshi Shrine. You also take a cruise on the fabulous Aqua Liner, a sightseeing boat with a specially designed glass roof to take in the Osaka skyline and provide all round views. Your farewell dinner tonight has been arranged in the colourful Dotonbori district famous for its explosion of neon lights, shops, restaurants and mouth watering food.

**Overnight Osaka**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**



Day 18 Friday 10 April

**Osaka**

Enjoy a relaxed breakfast then leisure time to explore the parks gardens, museums and shopping streets of Osaka. You meet for dinner together at day's end then transfer to the airport for your return flight via Singapore to Adelaide.

**Overnight in flight**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**

Day 19 Saturday 11 April

You arrive in Adelaide this afternoon.



# The Grace & Charm of Southern Japan



24 March - 11 April 2026



TTA 183 ATAS A11046

## EDUCATIONAL and CULTURAL TOURS

223 Angas Street, Adelaide SA 5000  
T (08) 8223 1272 • E [tours@wea-sa.com.au](mailto:tours@wea-sa.com.au)

PHOTOGRAPHS: Richie; Bob Owen; Jordy Meow; Vvmramontes; Kakidai; iwalk.jp; Okinawa Soba; Fg2; Gorgo; Tyoron2; Unsplash; Fixwoon; Yuki5287; Basile Morin; Tyoron2



...enriching lives through cultural exchange



# Islands of Honshu & Kyushu

Tokyo • Kyoto • Okayama • Naoshima Island • Kurashiki • Hiroshima • Miyajima Island • Yamaguchi • Fukuoka • Beppu Onsen • Kumamoto • Osaka

This delightful and sophisticated tour unveils the splendour of Sakura cherry blossoms in the spring, glorious gardens, magnificent castles and the carefully preserved culture of old Japan. Beginning in Tokyo and ending in Osaka you experience the culture and graceful traditions of oriental Japan, picture post card rural landscapes and the bustling and compactness of urban Japanese life. Sample authentic dining Izakaya style on tatami mats, age old Japanese art and tea ceremonies which reflect the intricacies, grace and beauty of Japanese culture. Be amazed by vibrant markets and spectacular museums and ride the famous Shinkansen bullet train. Highlights abound with tours to ancient Nara, the peace memorials of Hiroshima and magical Miyajima Island with its floating Torii. Join experienced WEA Tour leader Carolyn Travers as she returns to Japan to explore the grace and charm of Southern Japan at this exquisite time of year.

**Tour Leader: Carolyn Travers** is a qualified garden designer and horticulturalist. She is also an enthusiastic and caring tour leader for WEA Travel with many years of experience and a passion for Japan, gardens, art and culture.

**Tour includes:** All flights; Fully escorted Adelaide to Adelaide; Local guides; All accommodation; All Sightseeing & Entrance fees as per itinerary; Meals as per itinerary; All Coach and Rail Travel; Pre and Post tour get togethers; Study notes

Interstate passengers welcome



**19 Days \$13,950**

Twin Share plus Airline Taxes (\$241 May 2025)  
Single Supplement \$1980  
Balance Due 13 January 2026

## Day 1 Tuesday 24 March

**Adelaide to Tokyo**  
Depart Adelaide this morning with Singapore Airlines via Singapore to Tokyo.  
**Overnight in flight**  
**Meals in flight**

## Day 2 Wednesday 25 March

**Tokyo**  
Arrive in Tokyo in the morning where you are welcomed and transferred to your hotel for breakfast. Please note that rooms may not be ready at this time so you may enjoy breakfast and relax at the hotel or leave your luggage at

the concierge and take a walk while waiting. The rest of the day is free to rest or explore.  
**Overnight Tokyo**  
**Breakfast**

## Day 3 Thursday 26 March

**Tokyo**  
Today is a full day of sightseeing in fascinating Tokyo. Your touring includes the beautiful Imperial Palace Garden and Tokyo's National Museum for a privately guided tour. You'll explore the quaint Yanaka District, one of the oldest and best preserved neighbourhoods of Tokyo for a glimpse of traditional Japan and the old Edo period. Authentic arts and crafts spill from work

shops here amongst shops spanning several generations and myriad temples. Delight also in the Rikugien landscaped gardens created around themes from famous poems around the year 1700. A perfect place to absorb the ambience, grace and beauty of Japanese culture.  
**Overnight Tokyo**  
**Breakfast • Welcome Dinner**

## Day 4 Friday 27 March

**Tokyo to Kyoto**  
Today you take the Bullet Train to Kyoto the cultural capital of Japan, for a three night stay. Mt Fuji may be viewed from the train during the journey weather permitting. In the after-

noon you visit historic Kodiji Zen Buddhist temple. Built in 1606 richly decorated Kodiji sits amongst two fine gardens, a rock garden and a Tsukiyama-style garden featuring a pond and majestic pine and maple trees. You also tour Kenninji the oldest Zen Temple in Kyoto founded in 1202 by a monk who brought Zen Buddhism and tea to Japan, and the Gion Kagei Art Museum to explore Maiko culture. Dinner tonight is arranged at a local restaurant.

**Overnight Kyoto**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**

## Day 5 Saturday 28 March

**Kyoto**  
Today you may appreciate the sophistication of Japanese garden design. Visit the Tofukuji Temple where the surrounding gardens were designed in 1939 and are noted for their Japanese Maples and stunning checkerboard patterned Moss Garden. You are also treated with a visit to Shoren-in Temple, a Tendai Buddhist Temple and its glorious strolling gardens at the foot of Kyoto's Higashiyama Mountains. Often bypassed by crowds, enjoy tranquil meandering paths, the Pond of the Dragon God, vibrant spring flowers, pagodas and ancient Camphor trees. A traditional Tea Ceremony is also included in today's itinerary.

**Overnight Kyoto**  
**Breakfast**

## Day 6 Sunday 29 March

**Kyoto to Nara**  
After breakfast you travel by private coach to the ancient city of Nara, the 8th century capital of Japan. Here the Heijyokyo Palace defines the former majesty of the city. The main gate, the Toin Teie Garden and the main building have all been beautifully restored to their former glory. 8th century Todaiji Temple is the largest of the seven great temples of Nara which you visit in Nara Park. The park is noted for its free roaming deer and world famous temples and is a great location to admire Cherry blossoms. You also see the Kasuga ancient Shinto Shrine considered one of the most sacred sites in all of Japan.

**Overnight Kyoto**  
**Breakfast**

## Day 7 Monday 30 March

**Kyoto to Himeji & Okayama**  
Travel to Okayama today stopping to visit spectacular Himeji Castle a UNESCO World Heritage designated site and Japanese national treasure. It is said to be Japan's best preserved feudal castle and it dates to the early 1400s. Its enormity, elegant pastel colour and glorious cherry blossoms astound visitors from all over the world. You also see the Akashi Kikyo Bridge.

**Overnight Okayama**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**

## Day 8 Tuesday 31 March

**Naoshima Island**  
This morning you take a short ferry ride to tiny Naoshima Island. Known as Japan's Island of Art, Naoshima is a most unique destination featuring galleries and museums, sculptures such as Yayoi Kusama's whimsical Pumpkin sculpture, installations, art and architecture. You visit Tadao Ando's Chichu Art Museum, a Naoshima highlight, and The Art House project in the fishing village of Honmura which presents works by Japanese and international artists from around the world in converted houses and workshops. Enjoy exploring fabulous collections and charming cafes.

**Overnight Okayama**  
**Breakfast**



## Day 9 Wednesday 01 April

**Kurashiki**  
Departing Okayama you visit Kurashiki a lovely modern town built on the fortunes of its wealthy past. During the Edo period it was a hugely prosperous rice and sugar trading city and its Bikan District remains a living history of the Edo and Meiji periods. It is crammed with perfectly preserved Edo period shops, mills and storehouses. The city's prosperity and its scenic and architectural beauty has led to it being voted the most picturesque town in Japan. Continue to Hiroshima this afternoon where you check in to your hotel for the next two nights.

**Overnight Hiroshima**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**



## Day 10 Thursday 02 April

**Hiroshima**  
Today you have a guided tour of some of the poignant memorials in Hiroshima. Your itinerary includes the Hiroshima Memorial Peace Park, a green space between two rivers, and its Museum. You also see the UNESCO World Heritage designated site of outstanding value the Genbaku Dome or the Peace Memorial.  
**Overnight Hiroshima**  
**Breakfast**

## Day 11 Friday 03 April

**Miyajima & Yamaguchi**  
After breakfast it's a short boat ride to beautiful Miyajima Island to see the treasured UNESCO World Heritage listed Itsukushima Shinto Shrine, the floating torii in the Seto Inland Sea. In the afternoon you transfer to Yamaguchi on the southern tip of Honshu.  
**Overnight Yamaguchi**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**

## Day 12 Saturday 04 April

**Yamaguchi to Fukuoka**  
Sightsee by private coach around Yamaguchi today visiting the relatively modern Motonosumi Shrine known for its 123 dazzling red torii gates which lead down to the sea and Tsunoshima Ohashi. Cross the Kanmon Straits in the afternoon from Honshu to Kyushu the most westerly of Japan's four major islands. On the north coast of the island is the capital of Fukuoka where you check in to your hotel.

**Overnight Fukuoka**  
**Breakfast • Dinner**

## Day 13 Sunday 05 April

**Fukuoka**  
Explore the treasures of Fukuoka today with a guided tour of the Fukuoka City Museum and a visit to the revered and beautiful Dazaifu Tenmangu Shrine and gardens known for their many thousands of Asian Plum trees. You also take a cruise on the Yanagawa River.

**Overnight Fukuoka**  
**Breakfast**

