



LUXURY
JAPAN
TRAVEL

the private collection

Definitive Japan

Tokyo, Lake Kawaguchi, Kyoto, Kinokuni Onsen and Osaka in thirteen days: the *complete* first journey through Japan, with a Tour Director beside you every day.

THIRTEEN DAYS · \$31,500 PER PERSON

Prices are per person.

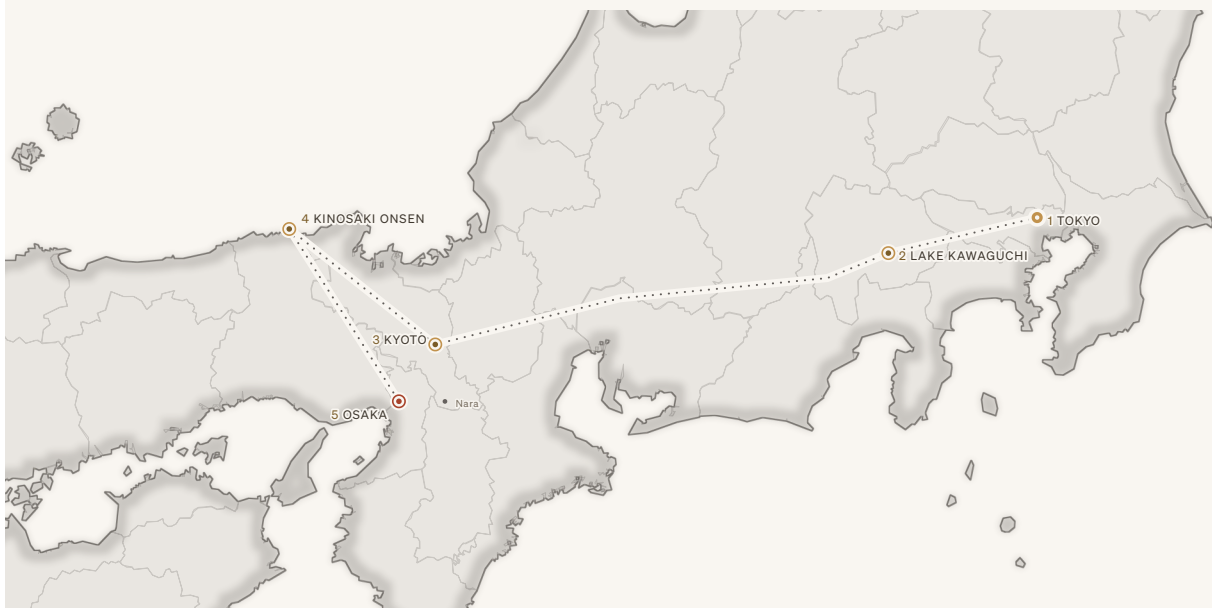


The stage of Kiyomizu-dera above the city, Kyoto, at dusk

By way of Mount *Fuji* and Kinosaki

Definitive Japan adds to Classic Japan the two nights that make the journey whole: a ryokan at Lake Kawaguchi, at the northern foot of Mount Fuji, taken between Tokyo and Kyoto. Three nights in Tokyo open the journey; three in Kyoto, two at Kinosaki Onsen and two in Osaka follow. The Shinkansen carries you in the Green Car, a private car and driver takes you up to the lake and back, the limited express crosses the Tamba hills to Kinosaki, and a private chauffeur meets you at the airport at both ends.

Nara is taken as a day from Kyoto, paired with Fushimi Inari on the same road south. Two evenings in Kyoto are left open, with your Tour Director's recommendations booked on request.



THE ROUTE BY NIGHT, TOKYO, LAKE KAWAGUCHI, KYOTO, KINOSAKI ONSEN, OSAKA

TOKYO THREE NIGHTS	Nihonbashi, the merchant quarter from whose bridge every road in Japan was once measured.
LAKE KAWAGUCHI TWO NIGHTS	A ryokan at the northern foot of Mount Fuji, with its own hot-spring baths and kaiseki at its table.
KYOTO THREE NIGHTS	Gion, the geiko district below the eastern hills, with Kiyomizu-dera a short walk above it.
KINOSAKI ONSEN TWO NIGHTS	A ryokan on the canal, in a town that has bathed in its springs since the eighth century.
OSAKA TWO NIGHTS	Beside the castle park, in the city the Edo period called the kitchen of the nation.

Thirteen *days*

Because you choose the dates, we arrange the order of the days around them: several of these places keep a regular closing day (the Imperial Palace East Gardens close on Mondays and Fridays), and the sequence is set so that each is open on the day you visit.

DAY 1 TOKYO	A private chauffeur meets you at Narita or Haneda and takes you and your luggage to your hotel in Nihonbashi. Your Tour Director joins you that evening for the welcome dinner.
DAY 2 TOKYO	Late in the morning you walk the Tsukiji Outer Market with your Tour Director, eating as you go, from rolled omelette to the tuna cut at the counter. In the afternoon the Imperial Palace East Gardens, laid out within the inner citadel of Edo Castle, then Ginza in the late afternoon, and a sushi counter for dinner.
DAY 3 TOKYO	Senso-ji and the lanes of Asakusa, with a visit to a craft studio in the district; then Meiji Jingu, whose forest of a hundred thousand trees, planted by hand a century ago, is now taken for ancient woodland. Shibuya Crossing in the early evening, three thousand people to a green light, and an izakaya for dinner.
DAY 4 LAKE KAWAGUCHI	The Green Car to Mishima, and a private car up through the foothills to the northern side of Mount Fuji and your ryokan. The afternoon is for its hot-spring baths, and dinner is kaiseki at the ryokan table.
DAY 5 LAKE KAWAGUCHI	Lake Kawaguchi, the second largest of the Fuji Five Lakes and the lowest of them at 833 metres, and its views of Mount Fuji; Oshino Hakkai, the eight spring-fed ponds whose water has filtered down through the mountain over decades; the Kachi Kachi Ropeway to the viewpoint on Mount Tenjo above the lake. Lunch by the lake, and dinner at the ryokan.
DAY 6 KYOTO	A private car to Mishima and the Green Car on to Kyoto, about two hours. An afternoon on foot in Higashiyama: Kiyomizu-dera on its wooden stage above the valley, then down the stone lanes of Sannenzaka and Ninenzaka to your hotel in Gion. Gion with your Tour Director as the lanterns are lit; the evening is yours.

DAY 7 KYOTO	Kinkaku-ji, its two upper storeys leafed in gold above the pond, then the bamboo grove at Arashiyama. In the afternoon a private tea ceremony, and kaiseki for dinner.
DAY 8 KYOTO	Fushimi Inari, where the vermillion gates climb the hill behind the shrine, then on to Nara: Todai-ji, whose Great Buddha Hall is among the largest wooden buildings in the world, and the deer park around it. Lunch in Nara, and on the way back a sake tasting in Fushimi, the brewing district on Kyoto's southern edge, built on its soft spring water. Dinner is left open, with your Tour Director's recommendations.
DAY 9 KINOSAKI ONSEN	Nishiki Market on foot with your Tour Director, tasting as you go along the covered street Kyoto has shopped in for four centuries, then the limited express north over the Tamba hills to Kinosaki Onsen, about two and a half hours. At the ryokan you change into yukata, take the first of the town's seven bathhouses, and dinner is served in the ryokan.
DAY 10 KINOSAKI ONSEN	Kinosaki at leisure with your Tour Director: the seven public bathhouses, each with its own character, and the willow-lined canal between them, walked in yukata and wooden geta as the town intends. From November to March the town's table is the Matsuba crab landed at Tsuiyama, twenty minutes away. Dinner is at the ryokan.
DAY 11 OSAKA	The limited express south to Osaka, and Osaka Castle, a short walk from your hotel, in the afternoon: Hideyoshi's fortress, its keep rebuilt in 1931 on the Tokugawa walls. Dotonbori, the canal street cut in 1615, on foot with your Tour Director in the evening, and a sushi counter for dinner.
DAY 12 OSAKA	Kuromon Market late in the morning, lunching from stall to stall through the covered arcade that has supplied the city's kitchens since the Edo period; the afternoon at ease. A farewell dinner of wagyu teppanyaki at the hotel.
DAY 13 DEPARTURE	Breakfast, and a private chauffeur to Kansai or Itami for your flight.

what is included

What the price *covers*

TWELVE NIGHTS

Mitsui Garden Hotel Nihonbashi Premier^{*}, Tokyo, three nights
Hotel Kaneyamaen^{*} or Konansou^{*}, Lake Kawaguchi, two nights
Hotel The Celestine Kyoto Gion^{*}, Kyoto, three nights
Nishimuraya Honkan^{*} or Nishimuraya Hotel Shogetsutei^{*}, Kinokuniya Onsen, two nights
Hotel New Otani Osaka^{*}, Osaka, two nights

MEALS

Breakfast every day. Ten dinners: the welcome dinner, a sushi counter in Tokyo, an izakaya evening, two dinners at the ryokan at the foot of Mount Fuji, kaiseki in Kyoto, two dinners at the ryokan in Kinokuniya, a sushi counter in Osaka and the farewell teppanyaki. Four lunches, at Tsukiji, by the lake, in Nara and at Kuromon, and the tastings at Nishiki.

TRAVEL

A private chauffeur at the airport on arrival and on departure. The Green Car on the Shinkansen from Tokyo to Mishima and from Mishima to Kyoto, and on the limited express from Kyoto to Kinokuniya and from Kinokuniya to Osaka. A private car and driver between Mishima and the ryokan, and on the days at the lake, in Tokyo, Kyoto and Nara that the rail cannot do. Luggage sent ahead between hotels.

EXPERIENCES

A private tea ceremony in Kyoto. A sake tasting in Fushimi. A craft studio visit in Asakusa. The market walks at Tsukiji, Nishiki and Kuromon with your Tour Director. The Kachi Kachi Ropeway and Oshino Hakkai. The seven public bathhouses of Kinokuniya. Every entry on the plan.

YOUR TOUR DIRECTOR

A Tour Director with you every day, from the welcome dinner to the last morning, fluent in Japanese and English, so that every reservation, check-in and conversation on the ground is handled on our side.

^{*} or similar

the price

The *price*

\$31,500 per person

One price, for a guest travelling alone or for two sharing a room. The journey is for one guest, a couple, or a party of up to four in two rooms. Prices are per person.

BOOKING

A deposit confirms your dates; the balance is due 95 days before you travel.

The journey is taken on dates of your choosing. Tell us when you would like to travel, and we confirm your dates with you and advise on the flights that land you right for the welcome dinner.

Tipping is not customary in Japan. In restaurants and hotels the service is in the bill. A gratuity for your Tour Director at the end is standard practice and welcomed.

Your enquiry

Write to us at bookings@luxuryjapantravel.com with the dates you have in mind, or enquire from the journey's page at luxuryjapantravel.com/private-collection/definitive-japan. We reply in person.

Each journey of The Private Collection is taken as it is designed here. A guest who would like a journey shaped around them is welcome on the Custom Tour of Japan.

With our compliments,

Luxury Japan Travel

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Water from the kettle, at the tea ceremony