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Shukkeien Garden, Hiroshima

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JAPAN'S HISTORY & TRADITIONS

SUGGESTED ITINERARY ONLY

10 DAYS & 9 NIGHTS HIROSHIMA, IYA VALLEY, MIMASAKA & OSAKA

Immerse yourself in the culture of the ancient land of Japan. In Hiroshima, visit the Peace Memorial Park and sail to the island of Miya-jima, marveling at the UNESCO World Heritage Site, Itsukushima Shinto Shrine, en route. Then embark on a section of the Shikoku Temple Pilgrimage Route in the scenic Iya Valley before ending your journey in cosmopolitan Osaka. Along the way, get a taste of traditional Japanese hospitality during several nights in traditional ryokans.



JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Wander through beautiful Shukkei-en Garden in Hiroshima

Visit the Peace Memorial Park and the Peace Memorial Museum

Admire the massive red Itsukushima Shinto Shrine on your way to Miya-jima Island

Go on a spiritual pilgrimage in the Iya Valley, visiting several historic temples

Soak in the hot springs of your traditional ryokan

Admire the Ohara Museum of Art and the distinctive 17th-century architecture of Kurashiki

Walk through the past at Himeji Castle and Osaka Castle

Explore the largest food market in Osaka

COX & KINGS RECOMMENDS

Visit a knife maker outside of Osaka to learn the skill and precision of specialty Iron Chef quality knives.

EXTEND YOUR JOURNEY

Tokyo • Seoul • Beijing

Departure Date:

Through March 2020

Note: Prices listed are per person, based on double-occupancy

Price From:
*Two People

\$14,760

Day 1: Arrive Hiroshima

Upon arrival in Hiroshima, you will be welcomed by your Cox & Kings representative and escorted to your hotel. **Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel – 3 nights**

Day 2: Hiroshima

After breakfast this morning, wander through the beautiful Shukkei-en Garden, built in 17th century as a miniature version of West Lake in China. A short ferry ride takes you to the picturesque island of Miya-jima. As you approach the shore, marvel at the massive red Itsukushima Shinto Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. **(B)**

Day 3: Hiroshima

Embark on a full-day exploration of Hiroshima with your guide. Pay tribute to the victims at the Peace Memorial Park and witness the aftermath of the blast through the photographs at the Peace Memorial Museum. Later this afternoon, take in the sprawling Chuo Park, which is part of the Hiroshima Castle complex. **(B)**

Day 4: Iya Valley

Bid farewell to Hiroshima this morning and embark on a drive that takes you through the scenic countryside and over a bridge spanning the Mizushima-nada Sea on your way to the Iya Valley. Stop to visit one of the featured temples in the famed Shikoku 88 Temple Pilgrimage, which is comprised of places where Kobo Daishi, one of the greatest figures in Japanese Buddhism, studied and trained. **Hotel Iyo Onsen – 2 nights (B)**

Day 5: Iya Valley

After breakfast, set out to see more of the 88 temples. The sacred journey is said to impart travelers with blessings and spiritual merit and is also a great way to enjoy the sights of Shikoku. After your pilgrimage, return to your hotel to relax in the hot springs. **(B)**

Day 6: To Mimasaka

Depart the Iya Valley this morning after breakfast. Stop at Zentsuji, the birthplace of Kobo Daishi to explore its beautiful temple. Then visit the country's largest garden, Ritsurin-koen, which lies at the



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Itsukushima Shrine

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foot of impressive Mount Shuin. See the 12th-century battleground of Yashima before arriving at your luxury ryokan in Mimasaka. ***Kifu no Sato Ryokan – 2 nights (B)***

Day 7: Mimasaka

Admire the distinctive white walls and black tiles of the 17th-century architecture in the modern city of Kurashiki. The city is also home to the Ohara Museum of Art, which boasts the first collection of Western art to be permanently displayed in Japan. Continue to Tsuyama City, which flourished once as the capital of Mimasaka Province. **(B)**

Day 8: To Osaka

Depart Mimasaka this morning and travel to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Himeji Castle. More than 400 years old, Himeji is the only castle in the country to have preserved its original wood-and-plaster construction. Continue your journey to the

thriving city of Osaka. ***The St. Regis Osaka – 2 nights (B)***

Day 9: Osaka

Begin your day at Osaka Castle. From the top of the eight-story castle, marvel at the majestic views of Osaka. Don't miss the tea-room whose walls are covered in gold leaf, a lasting testament to Hideyoshi's fabulous wealth. Afterward, explore the largest and most popular food market. **(B)**

Day 10: Depart Osaka

Today, you will be escorted to the airport for your onward flight. **(B)**

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All hotel accommodations as per the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the itinerary (B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner)
- All transfers and transportation
- Sightseeing as described in itinerary including entrance fees and services of professional local guides

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International air travel
- Airport departure taxes
- Visa fees
- Travel insurance
- Excess baggage fees
- Personal items and alcoholic beverages
- Gratuities to your guides, drivers, porters and hotel service



Himeji Castle, Kansai

¹ Price per person in US dollars based double occupancy and subject to availability. *Price per person in US dollars based on two people traveling together, double occupancy and subject to availability. **Price per person in US dollars based on four people traveling together, double occupancy and subject to availability. Single Supplements and Solo Traveler rates are available upon request. [†]Internal Air prices are based on economy class and are subject to change until paid in full. Further restrictions may apply. Please contact your Travel Professional or Cox & Kings for more details or visit coxandkingsusa.com. CST - 2105853-50