



Japan Manga Tour 2024

7 – 15 March 2024

The holiday of a lifetime for fans of manga, anime and all aspects of Japanese pop culture. As well as visits to Akihabara and Nakano Broadway, we take you to the Ghibli Museum where the work of this wonderful Japanese animation studio can be admired! Experience Tokyo in all its neon glory with the original Manga Tour. We don't just visit Japan – we live it!

Tokyo

Home to over 12 million people, the vast metropolis of Japan's capital must be seen to be believed. Tokyo embraces the modern and ancient like no other city on earth and offers something for everyone who wants to delve into the Japanese phenomenon: the towering skyscrapers and frenzied neon of Shinjuku, the pop culture and gadget paradise of Akihabara, the sophisticated chic of Ginza, the biggest and liveliest fish market in the world, the old downtown area of Asakusa, and the tranquil, understated beauty of Meiji Shrine. Not to mention superb restaurants and great bars as well as fabulous shopping and museums befitting the capital of the world's second-largest economy.



Kyoto

Kyoto is where you will find the Japan of silent temples nestling in bamboo groves, gardens of finely raked sand and bewitching geisha. This city is home to over 2,000 temples and shrines, exquisite crafts and some of the best cuisine in the country. In short, Kyoto is the heartbeat of traditional Japan.

Not to be missed are Kinkaku-ji, Ginkaku-ji and Kiyomizu temples, although be aware that these do become crowded. For a more peaceful, intimate temple experience we recommend the temple complex of Daitoku-ji, in particular Daisen- in sub-temple, and the Arashiyama area to the west of the city.

Hiroshima, Miyajima Island

Hiroshima is an attractive, cosmopolitan city which has risen from the ashes of the world's first atomic bomb attack on 6 August 1945. The hypocentre of the explosion is now the Peace Memorial Park, a beautiful expanse of greenery housing monuments to the tragedy. The park is flanked by the A-Bomb Dome, the former Industrial Promotion Hall which is the only surviving building from the blast, and the Peace Memorial Museum which tells of the bomb and the devastation of Hiroshima. A superb network of trams will transport you around the city to some of Hiroshima's other attractions, namely Hiroshima Castle and Hiroshima Museum of Art. You can also use the tram to take the scenic route to Miyajima island.



Japan Manga Tour 2024

The Itinerary

7 – 8 March: UK-Tokyo

Fly overnight from London Heathrow on 7 March to Tokyo. (Non-UK passengers will have to make their own flight arrangements). Upon arrival the next day (8 March), you will be transferred to your hotel in Tokyo by private coach.

9 March: Ghibli Museum, Nakano Broadway

After breakfast, we will visit the superb Ghibli Museum in Mitaka, designed by one of the world's top animators, Hayao Miyazaki – Academy Award winner for "Spirited Away". Then we go on to Nakano Broadway – the mega-mall home to Mandarake and countless other manga and memorabilia speciality stores.

10 March: Shinjuku, Harajuku, Meiji Shrine, Yoyogi Park

Today we start with an orientation of Shinjuku visiting local hotspots and stopping off at a Manga Café. We then go on to wacky Harajuku and beautiful Meiji Shrine nearby. As it's a Sunday, you'll be able to soak up the atmosphere of Yoyogi Park where young Japanese get dressed up in their finest gear as...1950s rockers, punks and Cosplay dolls! Enjoy the bands in the park as we then move on to Omotesando and Takeshita Street – a great place for souvenir shopping.

11 March: Tokyo Tower, Asakusa, River Cruise, Odaiba

Today we visit the iconic Tokyo Tower – Godzilla's favourite haunt – where you will gain access to the Special Observatory. We then go on to bustling Sensoji Temple in Asakusa – beloved by all Tokyoites. We then enjoy a pleasure cruise from Asakusa pier along the Sumida River to Odaiba, a popular shopping and entertainment district on a man-made island in Tokyo Bay where you will find a giant statue of Gundam.



12 March: Shibuya and Ikebukuro

Today we visit Shibuya and its iconic pedestrian crossing, considered to be one of the busiest crossings of the world! In Shibuya there are many department stores, and you will have some time to explore the area. Later today we head to Ikebukuro the largest Pokemon Centre in Sunshine City Mall, Ikebukuro. In Sunshine City shopping mall, you can also enjoy the indoor theme park – Namjatown.

13 March: Akihabara

After breakfast we visit Akihabara – Tokyo's "Electric Town" and home to dozens of anime, manga, and electronic goods stores.

14 March: Free Day/Optional Tour

Today is yours to enjoy at leisure, or you may want to join one of our Optional trips. The first is a day out to the magical world of Tokyo Disneyland. Alternatively, how about a fully guided tour to Mt. Fuji and the beautiful nearby resort of Hakone, returning to Tokyo by Bullet Train? You can also stay in Tokyo and visit a few more sights!

15 March: Return to the UK

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Narita Airport (Tokyo New International Airport) by private coach from where you will depart for the UK.

**Not ready to go home yet?!
Continue reading for our fabulous
1 week extension package!
Extension Itinerary**

15 March: Tokyo-Hiroshima

Check out of your Tokyo hotel with the rest of the Manga Group. We will provide you

with a 7-Day Japan Rail Pass for travel over the next few days. This gives you unlimited access to the entire Japan Rail (JR) network, including the world-famous Bullet Train (Shinkansen) services. Head straight to Hiroshima on the Bullet train and continue by local train and ferry to the lovely island of Miyajima. Check into your ryokan for 1 night. A ryokan is a traditional Japanese inn where you'll sleep on a futon on a tatami mat floor. A delicious Japanese dinner (included) will be served to you. Enjoy the sights of this peaceful island. You can walk round the island in the evening wearing your cotton yukata (a robe provided in your room).

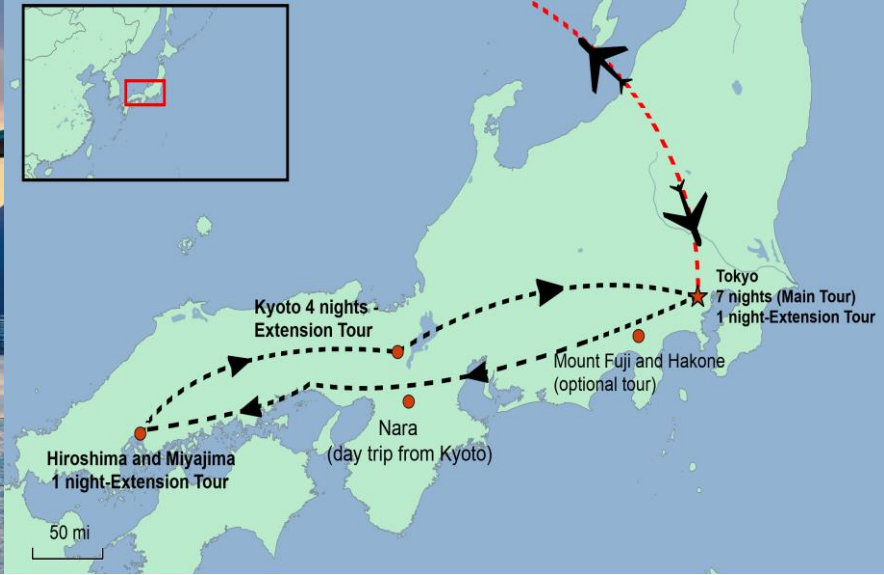
16 March: Miyajima & Hiroshima sightseeing

Head to Kyoto after breakfast at your ryokan, head back to the mainland and visit Hiroshima's moving Peace Memorial Park, Museum and Atomic Bomb Dome. There are also several anime- and game-related merchandise shops including the Pokemon Centre, Yellow Submarine and the Jump Shop that you might want to visit before heading via the Bullet Train to Kyoto, the cultural heart of Japan. Check into your superbly located, spotless 3* hotel for 4 nights.

17 March: Kyoto sightseeing

Join a seated coach tour for sightseeing in Kyoto. The tour is guided, lunch is included, and sights include Nijo Castle, the beautiful Golden Pavilion (featured in Blue Exorcist) and Kiyomizu-dera (which appears in Love





Hina & Negima), a lovely mountainside temple boasting stunning views over the city.

18 March: Nara sightseeing

Self-guided excursion to the nearby city of Nara, Japan's first permanent capital and home to eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites. We recommend visiting Todaiji where you can see Japan's largest Buddha statue, Nara Park which is home to hundreds of sacred deer and is featured in Lucky Star, and Kasuga Taisha, Nara's most celebrated shrine.

19 March: Osaka sightseeing

Using your Japan Rail Pass why not venture to Osaka, Japan's lively second city. Head to Namba, commonly known as Osaka's "mini-Akiba", home to an abundance of anime merch shops. Next you might like to head to Den-Den Town near Nipponbashi, where you can rummage for vintage Japanese electronics.

20 March: Kyoto to Tokyo

After breakfast, explore Kyoto further – we recommend visiting the Kyoto International Manga Museum, Fushimi Inari Shrine which is famous for its thousands of vermilion torii gates and is featured in Inari, Konkon, Koi Iroha, Arashiyama with its beautiful bamboo forests, or Toei Kyoto Studio Park. Later today head back to Tokyo for your final night in Japan.

21 March: Return to UK

Sadly, it's time to say goodbye to Japan... until next time! Transfer to Tokyo Narita Airport for your flight home.

Price Includes:

- International scheduled return Economy class flights from London.
- 7 nights' hotel accommodation at a centrally-located 3* hotel in Tokyo on a bed and breakfast daily.
- Private air-conditioned coach transfers to/from Tokyo airport for those travelling on the scheduled group flights.
- Sightseeing and entrance fees to all temples, shrines, museums and other attractions (except for the entrance ticket to Namjatown) on tour including access to the Main Observatory at Tokyo Tower.
- All subway and train fares.
- Services of a knowledgeable Japan Journeys Guide throughout.

Extension Price Includes:

- 5 nights hotel accommodation at a centrally located 3* hotel in Kyoto and Tokyo on a bed and breakfast daily
- 1 night ryokan (shared) accommodation on Miyajima*, dinner and breakfast included.
- 7-Day Ordinary Class Japan Rail Pass.
- Seat on coach for guided sightseeing in Kyoto on 17 March 2024

Not Included In Price:

- Travel Insurance (Available on our website)
- Entrance ticket to Namjatown
- Lunches & Dinners
- Optional Tours

Not included in Extension Price:

- Admission fees other than those included in sightseeing tour on 17 March 2024

Price	Land-Only Price	Extension Price
£2,995.00	£2,195.00	£1,395.00
per person based on Twin/Double room occupancy.	per person based on Twin/Double room occupancy.	per person based on Twin/Double room occupancy.
Single room supplement	<i>(not including flights, non-UK passengers only)</i>	Extension Single room supplement*
£299.00		£250.00

All price estimates are based on a minimum of 20 persons travelling. All price estimates are based on current rates of exchange. To make a booking, a deposit of **£250.00 per person** is required. The balance of the price of the trip must be made 12 weeks prior to departure.

*Single travellers will share a room (with passengers of the same sex) for one night in the ryokan on the island Miyajima Island as is customary at a Japanese ryokan. We will endeavour to accommodate you with another single traveller of the same sex, please ask us about this. There is no guarantee we can find you a suitable sharer.

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