

JAPAN  
DISCOVERED  
SMALL GROUP TOUR





# TOUR DOSSIER

## Japan Discovered



*"Welcome to the start of your Unique Japan Journey!"*



*Our team are really looking forward to planning your trip to Japan. If you have any questions, at any time, feel free to get in touch".*

Please quote the following reference when contacting us:

### Japan Discovered

We can be reached on any of these numbers:



**IRL:** +353 (0)1 6787008 (9am – 5.30pm)

**UK:** +44 (0)20-3239-2519 (9am – 5.30pm)

**USA:** +1 347-688-3952 (8am – 3pm)

**Email:** [info@uniquejapantours.com](mailto:info@uniquejapantours.com)

As a result of the **Covid-19 Pandemic**, changes in accordance with WHO guidelines and advice will be implemented on all of our tours. Full updates will be sent to you in advance and can be viewed online: [uniquejapantours.com](http://uniquejapantours.com)



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# TOUR DOSSIER Japan Discovered



## 1. Why Choose Unique Japan Tours?

### 1. FULLY BONDED – FINANCIAL PROTECTION

Unique Japan Tours is a member of Total Payment Protection who fully guarantee and protect financial transactions between you and Unique Japan Tours. Your tour is fully protected no matter what country you are paying from. Full details of this will be clearly explained in our terms and conditions.



### 2. Small Groups with NO MINIMUM NUMBER POLICY

Our groups have always been intimate in size. We prefer quality over quantity. For that reason, our average group size averages at 8-12 people (maximum 16 guaranteed). Since our tours started in 2007, and unlike many other operators out there, we have never cancelled a tour because of insufficient numbers. If we get less than the minimum number to run a tour (currently set at 6 people), don't worry. We have years of experience designing a semi-escorted version of the same tour. The only difference to you will be instead of having a full-time tour leader throughout, you will be met on arrival at each destination by local guides and assistants - almost like your own private tour!! [See Inclusions on Page 14]

### 3. Local Team with 24/7 Emergency Helpline

Our local company UJT Services G.K. [also owned by Unique Japan Tours], will oversee all operations of your trip from start to finish. Our team in Tokyo are busy working behind the scenes ensuring each tour runs smoothly, in real time! So, rest assured, no matter what your problem may be, we will be with you all the way. While on our small group tours, your tour leader &/or local guides will be your key contacts for any emergencies.



### 4. 22 Years Experience in Japan

Our founder, Darina Slattery, first visited Japan in 1998, where she studied at Tokyo's Meiji Gakuin University. Today, she leads a team of Japan travel experts, working with hundreds of local suppliers in Japan directly, and selling tours to Japan globally. This **invaluable knowledge and vast network of connections** has resulted us being able to create the most amazing itineraries for people. All our tours are tried and tested ensuring our clients gain time, memories, & savings while on your trip.



### 5. OUR CREW – JAPAN TRAVEL EXPERTS

Our work ethic is **family & customer focused**. We are a team of 15 Japan travel experts located in Tokyo, London & Dublin. Our clients come from all over the world so you can expect diversity in the group which always adds a bit of colour!

Let's *Zoom/Skype/Chat* our way to finding you the best tour that suits you and your travel partners. We find speaking to you in person will save everyone time while ensuring you get the best tour suitable for you.



## Unique Japan Tours

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## 2. Tour Route & Departure Dates

### Duration: 13 Nights / 14 Days

*"A contrast of traditional and modern Japan, unforgettable experiences and visits to some of Japan's must-see UNESCO World Heritage Sites and hidden gems".*

If your dream is to see Japan's highlights while experiencing some of its culture and popular destinations, then Japan Discovered two-week tour is the perfect choice for you. Glittering cities, rural towns & villages, history & heritage, gardens & wildlife, local festivals, cultural experiences, and a taste of real local foods; just some of the best bits on this trip!



#### Margaret ★★★★★

Fantastic trip. The team were very helpful and made sure I got to see everything I wanted to. The highlights were getting to meet a beautiful young Geisha in Kyoto and getting to make my own washi paper. I hope to travel to Japan again and will definitely contact Unique Japan Tours. I recommend them 100%

#### Cheryl ★★★★★

What a fantastic holiday we had to Japan, our tour was so well organised with fantastic inclusions, enough free time to enjoy local attractions and our guide, Sakura, was outstanding. I would recommend Unique Japan tours for your trip to this amazing and fascinating country.



## TOUR DATES:

### 2020:

- October 05 – 18, 2020
- November 25 – December 07 (Autumn Leaves)
- December 27 – January 09 (Christmas/New Year)

**\*April & October Departure Dates** (Takayama Festival) are the busiest for this tour. We highly recommend you book as early as possible. Due to Covid-19, Takayama Festival will not run in 2020 on both April and October dates.

### 2021:

- March 24 – April 06 (Cherry Blossom)
- April 10 – 23\* (Takayama Festival)
- May 09 – 22 (Sumo Special)
- September 05 – 18 (Sumo Special)
- October 05 – 18\* (Takayama Festival)
- October 30 – November 12 (Autumn Leaves)
- December 27 – January 09 (Christmas/New Year)

### 2022:

- March 22 – April 04 (Cherry Blossom)
- April 10 – 23\* (Takayama Festival)
- May 08 – 21 (Sumo Special)
- September 05 – 18 (Sumo Special)
- October 05 – 18\* (Takayama Festival)
- October 30 – November 12 (Autumn Leaves)
- December 24 – January 06 (Christmas/New Year)

### Unique Japan Tours



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### 3. Tour Itinerary

<b>Itinerary in Brief</b>		<b>Accommodation</b>
<b>DAY 1</b>  Tokyo	Arrive in Tokyo Narita or Haneda Airport  Met on arrival by your driver / Transfer to Tokyo hotel  Meet your group in hotel lobby at 6pm  Welcome dinner at local restaurant (included)	<b>Shibuya Tokyu Excel Hotel</b>  <i>(or similar (4*) for 2 nights)</i>  <i>Breakfast daily</i>
<b>DAY 2</b>  Tokyo	Breakfast at your hotel  <div style="background-color: #004a80; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             ☆ TOKYO CITY SIGHTSEEING ☆              WITH LOCAL GUIDE 09:00 – 17:00           </div> Our popular Tokyo day tour includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tsukiji Outer Market</li> <li>Hamarikyu Garden</li> <li>Tokyo River Cruise to Asakusa area</li> <li>Asakusa Sensoji Temple &amp; Shopping Street</li> <li>Edo Museum or Skytree (if museum is closed)</li> </ul> Evening free time / Your tour leader will give you guidance on where to go after dark!	
<b>DAY 3</b>  Tokyo ↓↓ Yudanaka Onsen	Breakfast at your hotel  Check out and get ready to leave Tokyo!  Depending on the group size, we will take a coach or bullet train to Nagano (Journey time approx. 3 hours)  <div style="text-align: center;">             ☆ Jigokudani Snow Monkeys ☆           </div> We will visit Jigokudani Snow Monkey Park to watch wild monkey's bath in the natural hot spring bath at the foot of the mountain. You will be required to walk 1km on a mountain pathway. So, wear comfortable and appropriate shoes!  ♥ <b>Dinner &amp; Hot Springs</b> (onsen) at your ryokan  *Tonight, you will sleep on a futon mattress on tatami flooring. If you have any issues or prefer to request a bed, be sure to tell us as early as possible! Most ryokans have only a few rooms with western style beds in them (if any at all)	<b>Senjukaku Ryokan</b> <i>(or similar for 1 night / Japanese Style)</i>



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<p><b>DAY 4</b></p> <p>Yudanaka ↓ ↓ Matsumoto ↓ ↓ Takayama</p>	<p>After breakfast, check out of your ryokan and continue your journey to Matsumoto.</p> <p>Visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Matsumoto Castle (stunning original samurai castle)</li> </ul> <p>After lunch, we will take a scenic bus ride (2.5 hours) through beautiful mountain and river valleys, to Takayama.</p> <p>Check into your hotel / Free time</p>	
<p><b>DAY 5</b></p> <p>Takayama</p>	<p>Breakfast at your hotel</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>★ TAKAYAMA WALKING TOUR ★</b> <i>WITH LOCAL GUIDE 09.00 – 13:00</i></p> <p>Guided tour of Takayama including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takayama Morning Market</li> <li>• Kusakabe Folk House (Museum)</li> <li>• Takayama Yatai Kaikan (Festival Float Hall)</li> <li>• Takayama Jinya (preserved Government town hall)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">♥ April &amp; October tours will experience <b>TAKAYAMA FESTIVAL</b> ♥</p> <p>Changes to above flow/itinerary are inevitable. We will alter according to our local guides recommendation.</p>	<p><b>Takayama Wat Hotel</b> <i>(or similar for 2 nights)</i></p>
<p><b>DAY 6</b></p> <p>Takayama ↓ ↓ Gokayama ↓ ↓ Kanazawa</p>	<p>Breakfast at your hotel Check out and move to Gokayama rural region by minivan/coach</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>★ GOKAYAMA CULTURE DAY ★</b> <i>WITH LOCAL GUIDE 09.00 – 17:00</i></p> <p>♥ Cultural Activities ♥</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Washi paper making</b> (take home your work of art)</li> <li>• <b>Cookery Class</b> making Soba noodles followed by lunch</li> <li>• <b>Lunch</b> at Soba Noodle restaurant</li> <li>• Gassho Zukkuri 400-year-old <b>Farmhouse villages</b></li> <li>• Enjoy a hot <b>cup of roasted tea</b> by the original <b>open fire</b> &amp; meet the <b>local farmers &amp; workers!</b></li> </ul> <p>Transfer from Gokayama to Kanazawa by coach/minivan Check into your hotel Free time this evening ~ explore Kanazawa at night – you'll be pleasantly surprised!</p>	<p><b>Kanazawa Nikko Hotel</b> <i>(or similar for 1 night)</i></p>



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<p><b>DAY 7</b></p> <p>Kanazawa ↓ ↓ Kyoto</p>	<p>Breakfast at your hotel</p> <p>Check out and leave bags in storage</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>★ KANAZAWA Morning Tour ★</b> <i>WITH LOCAL GUIDE 09.00 – 13:00</i></p> <p><b>Visit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kenrokuen Garden (considered one of the top 3 gardens in Japan)</li> <li>- Higashi Chaya District (Geisha District)</li> <li>- Omicho Market</li> <li>- ♥Authentic Tea Ceremony</li> </ul> <p>Transfer to Kyoto by express train</p> <p>Free time Kyoto</p>	
<p><b>DAY 8</b></p> <p>Kyoto</p>	<p>Breakfast at your hotel</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>★ KYOTO City Sightseeing ★</b> <i>WITH LOCAL GUIDE 09.00 – 17:00</i></p> <p><b>Visit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nijo Castle</li> <li>• Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)</li> <li>• Lunch at local restaurant</li> <li>• Arashiyama Bamboo Forest</li> <li>• Fushimi Inari Shrine (10,000 Tori Gates)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>♥♥ Highlight: Afternoon Tea with Geisha (Maiko) ♥♥</b></p> <p>You will have the rare chance to sit and have tea with one of Kyoto's beautiful young Maiko in their mama-san's teahouse. 'Maiko' are better known as a young 'Geisha'. Training to become Geisha usually starts at a young age (some start at 13/14). Trained in various Japanese traditional arts such as Kimono wearing, flower arranging, traditional dance, shamisen (string instrument), and so on, they spend many years perfecting how to walk, talk, and breath like a Geisha. If successful in their progression, they then move to be a Geisha, usually by the age of twenty or so. Such an interesting experience that you will only find in Kyoto. This experience is not sold on the high street. This really is a special occasion on our tour that we have been proud to offer for many years. So be sure to bring your camera and be prepared to ask questions. Our Maiko are very open and love sharing and listening to your stories too.</p>	<p><b>Kyoto Hotel Okura</b> <i>(or similar for 3 nights)</i></p>





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<p><b>DAY 9</b></p> <p>Kyoto</p>	<p>Breakfast at your hotel</p> <p>Free day in Kyoto</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OPTIONAL TOURS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ancient <b>Nara</b> &amp; Modern <b>Osaka</b> (Self-Guided / No booking needed)</li> <li>2. Walking Tour of Spiritual Temples in <b>Koyasan*</b> [<i>Option to do as a self-guided tour. Your tour leader will give you details</i>]</li> <li>3. <b>GOLF*</b> in Kobe (incl. lunch, green fees, rental, &amp; transfers)</li> <li>4. <b>Kyoto Cultural Experiences*</b> e.g. Kimono Workshop, Ikebana Workshop, Cookery Class, etc.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Pre-Booking Essential before departure</i></p>	
<p><b>DAY 10</b></p> <p>Kyoto ↓ ↓ Hiroshima ↓ ↓ Miyajima Island</p>	<p>Breakfast at your hotel Transfer to Hiroshima by bullet train</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>✦ HIROSHIMA &amp; MIYAJIMA Tour ✦</b> <i>WITH LOCAL GUIDE 10.00 – 17:00</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atomic Bomb Dome</li> <li>• Peace Memorial Park &amp; Museum</li> <li>• Itsukushima Shrine</li> </ul> <p>Check into your ryokan. ❤️Dinner &amp; Onsen at your ryokan</p>	<p><b>Arimoto Miyajima</b> <i>(or similar 1-night Japanese Style)</i></p>
<p><b>DAY 11</b></p> <p>Miyajima Island ↓ ↓ Hakone</p>	<p>After breakfast, check out of your ryokan.</p> <p>Today you will travel for the most part so wear comfy clothes, charge your phones/tablets, &amp; get your book ready! Transfer by short ferry ride, two 2 ½ hour bullet train rides, and a brief car/bus ride, to your Hakone ryokan. The total journey time today will be approx. 7 hours. Use this time to catch up on your reading, photo's, or diary writing!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>♥♥♥ Ryokan Treats ♥♥♥</b></p> <p>Relax in the hot springs. Book a Massage at the Spa (extra). Dine for dinner at 7pm (included) followed by karaoke (optional).</p>	<p><b>Setsugetsuka Ryokan</b> <i>(or similar for 1-night Japanese Style)</i></p>



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<p><b>DAY 12</b> Hakone ↓ ↓ Tokyo</p>	<p>Breakfast at your ryokan</p> <p>Explore Hakone by scenic cable car and a refreshing cruise on Lake Ashi which will hopefully allow the perfect view of Mt Fuji! Also visit the Hakone Open Air Museum before returning to Tokyo.</p> <p>Transfer to Tokyo / Arrive early evening</p> <p>Free time</p>	<p><b>Grand Prince Hotel New Takanawa</b> <i>(or similar for 2 nights)</i></p>
<p><b>DAY 13</b> Tokyo</p>	<p>Breakfast at your hotel</p> <p>Free time in Tokyo</p> <p>Join our Farewell dinner (pay locally &amp; optional)</p>	
<p><b>DAY 14</b></p>	<p>Breakfast at your hotel</p> <p>Transfer to Haneda or Narita Airport by our local transfer company</p> <p>Depart Japan on your scheduled flight (arranged separately or add a few extra nights as a post tour (ask your Travel Consultant).</p>	<p><b>Tour Ends</b>📄</p> <p>Post-Tour nights available on request!</p>



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## 4. Destination Highlights

### Tokyo

One quarter of all Japanese live in Tokyo or the near vicinity and with a population of over 14 million inhabitants, Tokyo is one of the largest cities in the world. With its huge skyscrapers, underpasses, overpasses and crowds of pedestrians, Tokyo may not seem the most attractive city on the surface, but the city has a vibrant charm all its own. The street level detail is what makes Tokyo such an incredibly interesting place to explore and at every turn you will be met with an array of sights, sounds and smells to enliven the senses.



The city has many major sights to visit such as Senso-ji Temple in the old downtown area of Asakusa or the fashion hub of Shibuya from where all new trends are said to emanate. All in all, a stay in Tokyo is to experience one of the world's most vibrant and interesting cities; a capital hurtling headlong into the future whilst maintaining its links with the traditions of ancient Japan.



### Matsumoto

Matsumoto is an alpine city surrounded by the towering peaks of the Japan Alps and has an almost European feel to it. The city is most famous for its original castle which is only a short distance from the station. This is one of the only original castles in Japan and really gives you a sense of ancient Japan and how the samurai used to live and fight. The city also boasts several sake breweries, hidden in the backstreets amongst the traditional buildings, a good museum of Ukiyoe woodblock prints, and is the home of soba noodles, the local speciality which is particularly delicious. The city has a relaxed atmosphere and a cosmopolitan feel befitting of a city renowned for its musicians and authors. The famous violin teacher, Suzuki (of the Suzuki method) originated from Matsumoto and you will find a commemorative statue on the street opposite the station.





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### Nagano (*Yudanaka Onsen*)

After the hustle and bustle of Tokyo, you will move onto a rural village less than one hour by train and bus from Nagano city to a tiny place called Yudanaka Onsen in Nagano prefecture. This is home to the famous 'Snow Monkeys' – the wild monkeys that live up in the mountains but come down in the cold to get warm (and get fed!) at a natural open-air hot spring bath. Here you will stay in a beautiful local ryokan.



### Takayama

Mountains in Japan were once believed to be the sacred dwelling places of divine spirits and the Hida, Kiso and Akaishi ranges of Mountains, known collectively as the Japan Alps rise majestically in northern Honshu. Takayama, in the heart of the Hida Mountains is a delightful town, established in the 16th century as the castle town of the Kanamori family and now famous throughout Japan for its old town area of narrow streets containing many well-preserved inns, tea houses, shops and merchants houses with the latticed windows and overhanging roofs characteristic of the Edo period. The town was also renowned throughout the Edo era (1603-1868) for the very high quality of its craftsmen and many of the temples in Kyoto were built by workers from Takayama. The town has many shrines and temples of its own giving rise to the title of 'Little Kyoto'. Just on the outskirts of the town is the fascinating Hida folk village where old farmhouses from across the Hida region have been brought together and rebuilt (beam by beam) on a hillside overlooking the town. Takayama's morning market on the bank of the Miyagawa River is famous and well worth a visit to see the stands selling local farm produce, flowers and crafts. There are also some great micro sake breweries affording the chance to sample the wares of Takayama's most famous product! A stay in Takayama is a chance to get a feel for a way of life that really has all but disappeared from modern Japan.



### Gokayama

Nestled along the deep gorge of Sho River, 33 Gassho-zukkuri houses have been preserved in the historic villages of Gokayama including Ainokura and Suganuma. Your day to Gokayama will enable you to experience a variety of deep cultural activities such as washi paper making and soba noodle making.



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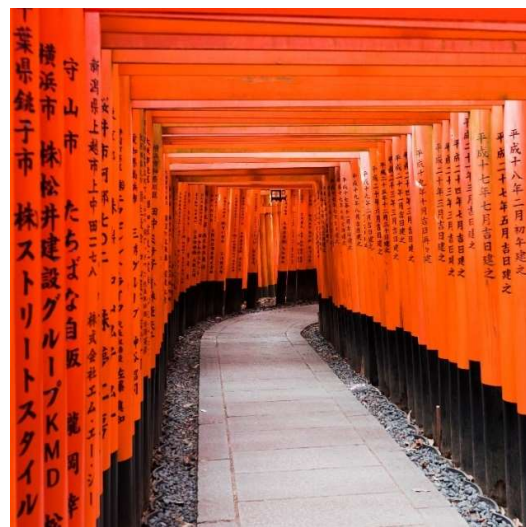


**Kanazawa** is a lovely small city close to the Japan sea coast. Until the turn of the century it was the 4th biggest city in Japan. However its wealth was built on rice production and traditional crafts such as weaving and gold leaf and with the full scale industrialisation of the country Kanazawa was somewhat left behind. Today the city is flourishing again and still maintains a lot of its old charms. There are several small geisha districts and one where you can go inside an old tea house and see where the clients were entertained and even take tea yourself (sadly no longer served by geisha!). There are also samurai house and the city's most famous sight, the beautiful Kenrokuen garden rated as one of the three best stroll gardens in the whole of Japan.



## Kyoto

Brimming with tradition, **Kyoto** is the ultimate destination for anybody who wants to soak up time-honoured Japanese culture. Home to 17 UNESCO World Heritage sites, over 1,600 Buddhist temples, and 400 Shinto shrines, this ancient city showcases the heart and soul of traditional Japan. Kyoto boasts an array of world-class gardens, majestic festivals and delicate cuisine, all of which make much of the rhythms of nature and the changing of the seasons. While on first glance visitors may find themselves struck more by the ubiquitous grid-like structure of modern metropolitan Japan, a great part of the magic of Kyoto is in picking out its treasures: sacred shrines tucked in among shopping arcades, time-honoured teahouses nestling among modern businesses and the geisha of legend sweeping down backstreets among the tourists and souvenirs. Kyoto's charm lies in these details and whether you're here for three days or three years, the closer you look, the more you'll discover.





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**Hiroshima** is a city that needs little introduction. It is of course infamous for being the site of one of two atomic bombs dropped on Japan at the end of the Second World War. Despite its tragic past, Hiroshima is now a bustling and vibrant city which has risen phoenix-like from the ashes. The Peace Park and Museum are a poignant reminder of the reason for Hiroshima's fame and everyone should spend an afternoon in this part of town. The local food is *okonomiyaki*, a kind of Japanese savoury pancake. You choose the ingredients and then cook the pancake yourself at your table.



**Miyajima Island** located just off the coast of Hiroshima, is one of Japan's most loved places with a charming rural atmosphere to match the beautiful surroundings. The island is perhaps best known for the red torii gate of Itsukushima Shrine which appears to be floating in the sea. There are many pleasant walks on Miyajima among the temples and along the bustling shopping street in the island's small village. You may also see some of the island's native fauna; the sacred deer are easy to spot as they roam freely, but you'll have to work a little harder to spot any of the resident monkey population; keep your eyes peeled! Miyajima is a wonderful place to slow down, unwind and relax, so take your time and let the magic of this island enchant you!



## Hakone / Fuji National Park

The resort town of **Hakone** is a popular place to seek refuge from the hustle and bustle of life in the world's most populous city. Renowned for its luxurious accommodation, stunning scenery, and well-renowned thermal waters, you will be rubbing shoulders with Tokyo's elite as they enjoy their retreat from the capital city!





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## 5. Tour Prices & Inclusions

### Prices:

<b>Twin/Double Sharing:</b>	€4,650		£4,200		US\$5,500		AU\$7,600
<b>Single Room Throughout:</b>	€5,750		£5,250		US\$6,800		AU\$9,400
<b>Triple Room Use (3 persons):</b>	€4,500		£4,075		US\$5,300		AU\$7,400

Prices are per person. All prices are subject to change in line with exchange rate fluctuations. Check website [www.uniquejapantours.com](http://www.uniquejapantours.com) for up-to-date guaranteed prices.

Once deposit is paid, your tour price is fixed. [Book Now](#).

### Inclusions:

#### Hotels & Ryokans (13 nights)

- ✓ 10 nights in carefully chosen 4 & 5\* western style hotels
- ✓ 3 nights in Japanese style\* ryokan or guesthouse.

\*You will be sleeping on futon in tatami matted rooms – a uniquely authentic Japanese experience. If you require a bed for health reasons, let us know early.

#### Fully Escorted (6 – 16):

You will be escorted by our friendly English- speaking tour leader who will travel with you from Day 1 to 14.

#### Semi Escorted (1 - 5):

You will met in each area by our local assistants and guides on days you don't have private guides.

#### Meals:

- ✓ Welcome Dinner at local izakaya on Day 1
- ✓ Breakfast daily
- ✓ Lunch in Gokayama (Soba Noodles)
- ✓ 3 Japanese full course meals (kaiseki) at your ryokans (taste the seasonal local produce from each region where you stay)

#### Private Tour Guides:

Whether you're on a fully escorted or a semi escorted tour, you will be met on 6 days by our local guides in:  
Tokyo, Kanazawa, Gokayama, Takayama, Kyoto, Hiroshima & Miyajima

#### Getting Around:

- ✓ Reserved Seats on all long-distance trains including bullet train seats. *For smaller groups, a 7-day Japan Rail pass may be provided (allowing full access to JR trains on 7 consecutive days).*
- ✓ Luggage transfer when using shinkansen (one bag per person / 2 times)
- ✓ Chartered vehicles, local taxis/minivans/coaches on private city tours
- ✓ Arrival & Departure Airport transfers to & from Tokyo hotel (door to door service)

#### Entrance Fees:

Included into all sights listed on itinerary



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### Cultural Experiences:

- ✓ Tokyo Sights by Day & Night including **karaoke, izakaya** nights out, Sumida **River Cruise**, urban Japanese garden, Sumo Tournament (May & September dates), etc.
- ✓ World famous **Jigokudani Snow Monkey** Park in Nagano Prefecture & Samurai castle of Matsumoto
- ✓ Overnight in **rural ryokans** experiencing unique **Japanese hospitality and onsen** (hot spring baths) & incredible R&R time!
- ✓ Kanazawa Tea houses, geisha district, visit to one of the **top 3 gardens of Japan**, local food market
- ✓ Unesco World Heritage **Kyoto**: glorious sites, traditional back-streets, stunning shrines, manicured gardens, **gorgeous geisha**, and authentic tea ceremony just some of the highlights!
- ✓ High speed **bullet train** journeys throughout
- ✓ **Scenic mountain drives** taking in the magical landscape that makes up c.75% of Japan's terrain
- ✓ **Cultural Activities in Gokayama** including: Washi Paper Making, Soba noodle making, 400-year-old farmhouse visit, tea with locals, farmers dance
- ✓ **Takayama morning market** and old worldly village feel
- ✓ April/October: **Takayama Festival** (very popular)
- ✓ **Historical ruins in Hiroshima** with tales told by local Hiroshima guides
- ✓ **Magical images of Miyajima** Island Itsukushima Shrine (Floating shrine) and giant Torii Gate
- ✓ **Fuji National Park** catching a glimpse of the monster mountain for that must-have photo!

## 6. What about our luggage?

When using bullet trains on our small group tours, we will send your large suitcases on to the next hotel (usually skipping one night). Your itinerary will clearly highlight when this will be required. On these days, you will need a small overnight bag to bring with you (similar to a carry-on bag for flights). Although this service is reliable & efficient, Unique Japan Tours cannot take any responsibility for guests' baggage. Each passenger will be required to carry your own bags at all times. Tour leaders will not be responsible for bags. Some hotels will have porter service but not all.





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## 7. Complimentary Services

### UJT's Additional **Services:**

- ✓ Unique Japan Tours Travel Consultant
- ✓ Comprehensive tailor-made travel pack
- ✓ Local Emergency Contact
- ✓ All taxes and service charges
- ✓ Financial Protection

### **Not Included:**

- Meals & Beverages (not listed on itinerary)
- International Flights (request quote)
- Tour Guide / Driver Gratuity (optional)

*"At UJT, our aim is to be open and honest with all of our travellers. We hate hidden costs so will tell you where and when you will need cash while on the go!"*

*Darina Slattery, UJT Owner/Manger*

### UJT's Essential **Travel Pack**

At Unique Japan Tours we aim to make your adventures in Japan run as smoothly as possible. To facilitate this, we will provide a detailed Travel Pack, tailor-made for your specific trip including:

- ✓ Tips, hints and information covering subjects as diverse as transport, food, language and bathing etiquette!
- ✓ Detailed step-by-step itinerary including hotel names (in both English and Japanese – good to have for taxi drivers) and daily suggested itineraries with clear details on how to make this happen!
- ✓ Customised access maps with bi-lingual train times and full instructions for every journey you will be making in Japan.
- ✓ Destination guides giving you up to date information on each place you visit.
- ✓ Local Area Maps, Vouchers, and Emergency contact details.

Any other information you have specifically requested from us.

## 8. Ready to BOOK!

To secure your place on **Japan Discovered** Tour we require a (non-refundable) booking deposit of

€250 / USD300 / GBP200 / AUD350 per person

Pay Deposit Online: <https://www.uniquejapantours.com/book-a-tour/>

**Tour Reference:** Booking Deposit

**Tour Name:** Japan Discovered



TOUR DOSSIER  
Japan Discovered



## 9. Small Group Tours Checklist

When?	What to do:	Tick when complete:
Before paying deposit:	Read and agree our full <a href="#">Terms &amp; Conditions</a>	<input type="radio"/>
When ready to book:	Pay <b>Booking Deposit</b> ( <a href="#">Payment Link</a> )	<input type="radio"/>
After paying deposit up to 7 days:	Receive pro-forma invoice outlining schedule of payments. Check it. Complete <b>Booking Form</b> and send (with copy of passport) to your travel consultant	<input type="radio"/>
After paying deposit :	Take out personal/medical <b>Travel Insurance</b> . Send your policy name and details to your travel consultant	<input type="radio"/>
After paying deposit (up to 8 weeks prior):	Book your flights as soon as you have your tour secured with us (or before if you find a good deal)  <b>Send E-Ticket</b> to your UJT Travel Consultant	<input type="radio"/>
8 weeks prior	<b>Tour Balance</b> is due 8 weeks prior to the tour starting date. Pay online or by bank transfer. Details will be on your Pro-forma invoice.	<input type="radio"/>
2-3 weeks prior	Wait for your <b>Travel Pack</b> including full pre-departure details.  We will send to the postal address you provide us with. Your travel consultant will be in touch before this time to confirm address.	<input type="radio"/>
Pre-Departure	Final check you've sent all <b>Essential Documents</b> to your travel consultant:  Flight E-Tickets, Dietary Requirements (if any), Insurance Policy Name/Number, Passport Copy, Emergency Contact Name/Number	<input type="radio"/>