

- Loosen your muscles overnight at a traditional hot spring hotel
- Explore the bustling capital Tokyo, boisterous nightlife & hearty street food

CTS Tours provides travellers an immersive experience in Japanese culture and lifestyle to go with the sights on your unforgettable trip to Japan.

We would love our customers to experience Japanese culture & history. We will spend few nights of the tour in a traditional Japanese hotel sleeping on rice straw mattresses called "Tatami Mats". You will also visit restaurants on this tour where it is customary to remove shoes and be seated at low tables called "Kotatsu". All part of the Japanese experience!





#### Day 1 • New Zealand X Osaka

Take an international flight to Osaka via a connecting city. (Note: Some flights may depart one day after.)

#### Dav 2 · Osaka

Arrive in Osaka. Your friendly tour guide will be waiting at the airport to transfer you to the airport hotel.

#### Day 3 • Osaka 🙀 Nara 🚔 Osaka • (B, L, D)

Visit Todaiji Temple, with its Great Buddha Hall housing the world's largest bronze statue of the Buddha Vairocana. Wander through Nara Park, where over 1,200 wild sika deer roam free before travelling to Osaka. Visit Osaka Castle; which played a major role in the unification of Japan during the sixteenth century of the Azuchi-Momoyama period, before being dropped off at **Dōtonbori** to exemplify Osaka's vibrant food culture.

#### Day 4 • Osaka 🔙 Kyoto • (B, L, D)

Nijo Castle, the Kyoto residence of the Tokugawa Shogunate and Kinkakuji: Golden Pavilion, a Zen temple and World Heritage site with two floors covered entirely in thin layers of pure gold and detailed architecture incorporating three distinct architectural styles of Shinden, Samurai, and Zen. Cap off your day at Heian Jingu Shrine, and enjoy the magnificent traditional gardens and huge torii gate.

From the end of March through early April, when the cherry blossoms (sakura) are in full bloom, people gather in parks to welcome spring in a Japanese tradition known as hanami (flower viewing).

From the end of October through early November is the best season of the year for viewing vibrant crimson maple leaves in Japan. You can feel the fragile beauty of the changing seasons from observing nature.

#### 2018 Guaranteed Package Price(NZD) per person twin-share Supplement **Departures**

13 Mar\* 05 Jun 11 Sep 20 Mar\*\* 19 Jun 25 Sep\* 27 Mar\*\* 03 Jul\* 09 Oct\* \$890 03 Apr\*\* 17 Jul 23 Oct\* 17 Apr\* 31 Jul 06 Nov\* 08 May 14 Aug 13 Nov\* 22 May 28 Aug

- Economy class international airfares, taxes and fuel surcharges departing Auckland flying China Eastern Airlines or China Southern Airlines
- 8 nights 4 star hotel accommodation
- · Daily meals as indicated
- Coach transportation & transfers
- Admissions to scenic attractions
- English speaking tour guide(s)



#### **Package Exclusions:**

- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Tipping prepaid in New Zealand: NZD\$155
- Bullet Train from Kyoto to Mount Fuji with coach luggage transfer from hotel to hotel NZD\$200 (pre-paid)
- Personal expenses

#### **Price Guide:**

- \*Peak Season Surcharge: From NZD\$330
- \*\*Cherry Blossom Season Surcharge: From NZD\$550
- If staying behind, upgrade final night accommodation to hotel in Tokyo CBD: From NZD\$275/room/night, transfer to airport not included
- Early Arrival/Stay Behind Surcharge: From NZD\$275 (subject to availability and applicable fare difference)
- Post/Pre Tour Accommodation: From NZD\$380/room/night (twin-share)
- · Note: Triple-share is not available for this tour



Today, visit Togetsu Bridge, the landmark of Western Kyoto's Arashiyama District for over four hundred years. Exploring Sagano Bamboo Forest, on the outskirts of Kyoto, towering green stalks of the famously versatile plant sway in the wind, creaking eerily they collide and twist, leaves rustling. After lunch, travelling onwards to Mount Fuji by bullet train (Max. speed 320km/h).

#### Day 6 • Mount Fuji 🚍 Hakone 🚍 Shizuoka • (B, L, D)

Today, visit Oshino Hakkai. Known as the springs of Mount Fuji, the eight ponds are fed by melting snow filtering down from the slopes of nearby Mount Fuji, through porous layers of lava, resulting in very clear spring water that is revered by the locals. Later visit Mt Fuji 5th Station which is above clouds to view its enormous summit if weather permits. (Alternatively visit Gotemba Peace Park to capture a breathtaking view of Mount Fuji, and **Hakone Checkpoint**. used to be an important checkpoint on the highway connecting Kyoto to Tokyo in Edo period. Take a cruise on Lake Ashi, and savour the numerous delights of nature. Today's last stop is Owakudani valley, an active volcanic zone with hot springs and hot spring rivers.

#### Day 7 • Shizuoka 🙀 Kamakura 🙀 Tokyo • (B, L, D)

Today, visit Japanese Beer Factory to taste one of most popular Japanese beer. Then visit Odawara Castle. Also travel to Kamakura and visit Daibutsu, the great Buddha which is the second tallest bronze Buddha statue in Japan, surpassed only by the statue in Nara's todaijit temple. After, explore Tsurugaowa Hachimangu Shrine which was established by first Shogun (general) in Kamakura period which stands alone due to its vivid colouration.

#### Day 8 • Tokyo • (B)

Spend today free at your own leisure. You may spend a day in Tokyo Disneyland or DisneySea (admission \$120) or you can join Nikko Day Tour (\$250). Or alternatively, you can join our wide range of optional programs (Tea Ceremony, Pottery-making Experience, Golden Joinery, Kimono Photo Shoot, Cooking Class). All activities are not guided and transportation is self-arranged.

#### Day 9 • Tokyo • (B, L, D)

Visit Meiji Shrine in the morning, dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and his consort, Empress Shoken. Later, stroll through the Asakusa Kannon Temple, one of Tokyo's most colourful and popular temples and browse for souvenirs at Nakamise Shopping Street. Relex on Sumida River Cruise. Your last stop today is Tokyo Tower, before heading to a hotel near Narita Airport. On the next morning after breakfast, if you are flying Cathay Pacific, you will be transferred to Narita Airport (approx 10 min). If you are flying China Southern Airlines, you will be transferred to Haneda Airport (approx 70 min).

#### Day 10 • Tokyo New Zealand • (B)

 $Today\,transfer\,to\,the\,airport\,to\,board\,your\,flight\,via\,a\,connecting\,city\,to\,Auckland.$ 

#### Day 11 • New Zealand

Arrive home.

**B** = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

All prices, itineraries, airlines, hotels and cruise ships are subject to availability and change without prior notice. CTS Tours reserves the right to provide substitutes of similar standard and adjust the litinerary as we see fit to ensure the smooth running of the tour. The itinerary and sites to be visited are subject to change due to local and seasonal conditions, time and other unforeseen constraints beyond our control. Passengers must remain with the tour group at all times and must not deviate from the set itinerary. The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land.

## Hotel Accommodation All hotels based on local ratings

Osaka	Kansai Airport Washington Hotel	4 star or similar
Osaka	Osaka Daiichi Hotel	4 star or similar
Kyoto	Kyoto Shin Hankyu Hotel (off peak)	4 star or similar
Mount Fuji	Yamanakako Sun Plaza Hotel	4 star or similar
Shizuoka	Atami New Fujiya Hotel (Tatami bedding)	4 star or similar
Tokyo	Tokyo Dome Hotel	4 star or similar
Tokyo	Marroad International Hotel Narita	4 star or similar

## Visa

New Zealand passport holders Visa Exempt for a stay of up to 90 days The traveller must:

Hold a passport valid at least six months on entry with two blank visa pages Hold proof of onward/return flights

Hold all documents required for the next destination

Hold documents showing proof of purpose of trip





#### **Highlights**

- Take a cruise to Itsukushima Shrine best known for its "floating tori" on the sea, the gate to Itsukushima. The beautiful Torii Gate stands in the water when it is high tide. When it is low tide, you may walk though Torii Gate.
- Visit Atomic Bomb Dome and Museum to learn the history of Hiroshima

#### Day 1 • New Zealand X Osaka

Board an overnight flight from New Zealand via a connecting city to Osaka.

#### Day 2 • Osaka

Arrive in Osaka and transfer to your hotel.





Day 3 • Osaka Hiroshima • (B)

This morning proceed to Osaka Station for a bullet train/coach to Hiroshima.





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Today you will be exploring Itsukushima Shrine in the morning. Travel to Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Dome, one of the only remaining buildings after the explosion. Then visit Atomic Bomb Museum followed by Memorial Peace Park. Travel back to Osaka to join your core tour.

 $\mathbf{B} = \text{Breakfast}$ L = Lunch D = Dinner

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This extension can be self-guided or group tour depending on a group size.

2018 Guaranteed Package Price(NZD) Single **Departures** per person twin-share Supplement

11 Mar 03 Jun 09 Sep 18 Mar 17 Jun 23 Sep 25 Mar\* 07 Jul 07 Oct 01 Apr\* 15 Jul 21 Oct\* 15 Apr 29 Jul 04 Nov 12 Aug\* 06 May\* 11 Nov 20 May 26 Aug\*

cannot be combined with **South Korea extension** 

S220

#### **Package Inclusions:**

- 2 nights hotel accommodation
- Breakfast as indicated
- English speaking tour guide for the Hiroshima Day tour (Day 4 only)
- Return transportation between Osaka Airport and Hiroshima
- Round trip airport & hotel transfers
- · Admissions to scenic attractions
- Tipping

#### **Price Guide:**

• \*Peak Season Surcharge: NZD\$165



#### Accommodation \*All hotels based on local hotel ratings

Osaka Kansai Airport Washington Hotel 4 star or similar Hiroshima Grand Prince Hiroshima Hotel 4 star or similar



- Uncover the majestic seasonal colours along the Kurobe Alpine Route
- Spot wild snow monkeys bathing in hot springs in Jigoku Valley
- Explore ancient architectures in Nikko and Shirakawago (UNESCO World Heritage sites)
- Walk through thousands of red torii gates at Fushimi Inari Shrine
- Loosen your muscles overnight at a traditional hot spring and experience traditional tatami beds made of rice straw mattresses
- Learn the history and world leading technologies from Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology









#### Hotel Accommodation All hotels based on local ratings

Narita Marroad International Hotel Narita 4 star or similar Kinugawa Onsen Kinugawa Onsen Hotel (tatami bedding) 4 star or similar Matsushiro Royal Hotel 4 star or similar Nagano O-imachi Onsen Hotel Karamatsu-so (tatami bedding) 4 star or similar Tonami Tonami Royal Hotel 4 star or similar Route Inn Grantia Hida Takayama Hotel 4 star or similar Takayama Nagoya Nagoya Strings Hotel 4 star or similar Osaka Kansai Washington Hotel 4 star or similar



In May, 'snow walls' can reach 20m high alongside the road on the Kurobe Alpine Route. If the weather permits, we will drive between the snow walls and you will have the opportunity to walk between them.

From June to August, it is the best times to view fresh greens with warm temperature.

End of Oct through early Nov is the best time to see crimson leaves in Autumn.

**Departures** 

2018 Guaranteed Package Price(NZD)

Single per person twin-share Supplement

16 May 27 Jun

08 Aug\* 🌺 31 Oct\*

\$4,399

\$1,320

#### **Package Inclusions:**

- Flights from Tokyo to New Zealand
- 7 nights 4 star hotel accommodation
- · All meals as indicated
- Coach transportation & transfers
- Admissions to scenic attractions
- English speaking tour guide(s)

## **Package Exclusions:**

- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Tipping prepaid in New Zealand: NZD\$150
- Personal expenses

#### **Price Guide:**

- \*Peak Season Surcharge: NZD\$330
- Post/Pre Tour Accommodation: From NZD\$380/room/night (twin-share)
- Note: Triple-share is not available for this tour



# **Pre-tour Extension Package** anting South Korea 6 Night **Highlights**

- Stroll through the **Changdeokgung Palace** grounds
- Gaze into North Korean territory at the **Demilitarised zone (DMZ)**
- Immerse yourself in the bustling crowds of Myeongdong
- Explore the ancient capital of the Silla Kingdom, Gyeongju
- Experience the serenity of Seokguram Grotto

#### Immerse yourself on an incredible journey

covering two fascinating countries, Japan and South Korea.

Discover South Korea's capital city, Seoul. Seoul is Korea's financial, political, commercial and cultural centre with over 600 years of history. Travellers can explore the many archaeological sites and temples before enjoying the beautiful natural landscapes this country has to offer.





Day 1 • New Zealand X Seoul

Take an overnight flight to Seoul via a connecting city.

#### Day 2 · Seoul

You will be warmly greeted by your tour guide and transferred to your hotel.

#### Day 3 • Seoul Mount Seorak • (B, L, D)

Designated a UNESCO Biosphere Preservation District in 1982 due to the many rare species found there, Seoraksan National Park is Korea's most famous natural wilderness reserve. This morning, tour Shinheungsa Temple and take the cable car to Gwonkeumseong Fortress to experience the beautiful natural landscape on offer. Continue to Sokcho Fishing Village this afternoon.

#### Day 4 • Mount Seorak 🚍 Andong 🚍 Daegu • (B, L)

Visit the traditional village of Andong which has preserved traditional houses of the Joseon Dynasty period. The village became famous after a visit by Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom, several years ago. In Daegu, have a stroll in Dongseongno Shopping District. Dongseongno Street is a major fashion district in Daegu. The streets are packed with hundreds of stores full of personality that reflect the city's fast-paced fashion trends.

## Day 5 • Daegul 🖨 Gyeongju • (B, L)

Today, explore the many archaeological sites and temples, royal tombs and monuments of Gyeongju, the capital of the ancient Shilla Kingdom. Visit Cheomseongdae Astronomical Observatory, Royal Tumuli Park, Gyeongju National Museum, Bulguksa Temple, and Seokguram Grotto Temple.

#### Day 6 • Gyeongju 💂 Seoul • (B, L)

Visit Insadong, a street full of traditional Korean antiques and tea houses. Continue to Cheonggyecheon Stream and admire its unique beauty, before visiting Myeongdong, one of Seoul's main commercial districts. Then visit a Korean Ginseng Centre to learn about Ginseng, which has existed for thousands of years to improve people's overall health. Later, experience the city's best night view at Namsan tower.

#### Day 7 • Seoul • (B, L, D)

Cable Car to Gwonkeumseong

This morning, visit Changdeokgung Palace, one of the "Five Grand Palaces" built by the Kings of the Jeoson Dynasty, then travel to North Korea's 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, located within the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ) a 44 km drive northwest of Seoul. An entire infantry division can move through the tunnel in an hour. View North Korean territory including the Propaganda Village, People's School and Gaeseong City, the old capital city of the Goryeo Kingdom from the Dora Observation Platform. Also visit Freedom Park, dedicated to the 5 million people who left their families and homes in North Korea. North Hall contains displays of North Korean lifestyle, and the Exhibition Hall houses old tanks and planes from the Korean War.

#### Day 8 • Seoul X Osaka • (B)

Take a direct flight from Seoul to Osaka. Your friendly tour guide will be waiting at the airport to transfer you to your hotel. Spend the rest of the day at your own leisure. (Note: Baggage allowance for this flight is 1 piece max. weight 15 kg.)

**B** = Breakfast

L = Lunch

**D** = Dinner

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#### 2018 Guaranteed Package Price(NZD) Single per person twin-share Supplement **Departures**

07 Mar 30 May 05 Sep 19 Sep\*\* 14 Mar 13 Jun

21 Mar\* 27 Jun\*\* 03 Oct\* 28 Mar\* 11 Jul\* 17 Oct

11 Apr\* 25 Jul\* 31 Oct\* 02 May 08 Aug 07 Nov\*

16 May 22 Aug\*

\$1,699

\$600

Royal Tumuli Park

# **Package Inclusions:**

- International flights with taxes and fuel surcharge from Seoul to Osaka
- 6 nights hotel accommodation
- Daily meals as indicated (B, L, D)
- Coach transportation & transfers
- · Admissions to scenic attractions
- English speaking tour guide(s)

#### **Package Exclusions:**

- •Tipping prepaid in New Zealand: NZD\$80
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Personal expenses

#### **Price Guide:**

• \*Shoulder Season Surcharge: NZD\$220, \*\* Peak Season Surcharge: NZD\$440





#### Day 10 • Tokyo X Taipei

Take a flight from Tokyo to Taipei. Upon arrival, you will be warmly greeted at the airport by your tour guide and transferred to your hotel.

#### Day 11 • Taipei • (B, D)

Today's highlight is a visit to the **Presidential Building** and **Chiang Kai-Shek** Memorial Hall. Explore the National Palace Museum which has the world's largest Chinese art and antiques collection, and then on to a Taiwanese Handicraft Centre, where you can purchase Taiwanese souvenirs. This afternoon, visit Danshui - a laidback waterfront town on the northern part of Taipei city. One of the main settlements for the Spanish in the 1600s, and settled by the Japanese during World War II, this is a town filled with history and unique 1900s architecture and infrastructure. Enjoy lunch today at Danshui Old Street, where you can feast on many famous Taiwanese snacks. In the evening, explore the bustling night life of Taipei. Have a traditional Taiwanese Local Dinner after visiting the oldest temple in Taiwan, Longshan Temple. Proceed to the most colourful night market in Taiwan, Huahsi Night Market.

#### Day 12 • Taipei Sun Moon Lake • (B, D)

This morning travel to **Sun Moon Lake**, located in the middle of Taiwan, and situated 762 meters above sea level in the lofty mountains of central Taiwan. Stop at the famous Wenwu Temple (Literature Warrior Temple – dedicated to Confucius ,the Master of Pen and Kuan Ti, the Master of Sword). Then head to the pier, gently **cruise on a boat over Sun Moon Lake** and see the sights (Xuanguang Temple, Lalu island) as you relax on its tranquil waters.

# Day 13 • Sun Moon Lake 📮 Fo Guang Shan 🙀 Kaohsiung • (B, D)

After Breakfast, we will head south towards Kaohsiung. Our group will arrive at Fo Guang Shan Buddha Memorial Centre (BMC) which is our first attraction for the day. Located in Kaohsiung and completed in 2011, BMC has been enshrining the Buddha's relic, given by Tibetan Lama Kunga Dorje Rinpoche since the beginning of contraction in 2001. We will be spending most of our day at this place to enjoy the serene atmosphere, which also allows you to explore the whole area. Later we will be entering into **Kaohsiung City** and explore one of the local night markets.

#### Day 14 • Kaohsiung 🖃 Kenting 🖃 Taitung • (B, D)

The highlight today is a visit to **Kenting National Park**, Taiwan's first nationally recognised park and undoubtedly one of the most spectacular landscapes you will see. Be awestruck by the vastness of the natural reserve and stand on the most southern tip of the island at Maopitou and Eluanbi Lighthouse, also known as 'The Light of East Asia' as its light intensity is one of the most powerful along the Taiwan coast. This afternoon, head to Kenting Main Street, the heart of the area and bustling with locals, tourists, and vendors. Spend lunch time discovering the numerous stalls offering a range of local snacks and restaurants offering a variety of cuisines. Travel up the scenic Southern Link Highway to Taitung County.

#### Day 15 • Taitung 💂 Hualien • (B, D)

The highlight today is a visit to the **East Coast National Scenic Area**, known as Taiwan's Last Unspoiled Land, stretching 170 kilometers down the east coast of Taiwan. Weathering and erosion have produced a wide range of breathtaking landforms here which can only be experience first-hand. Stop at Stone Steps, Caves of the Eight Immortals and take in the views. Proceed to Hualien this afternoon.

#### Day 16 • Hualien 🖃 Taroko 🚍 Taipei • (B, L)

Today's highlight is a visit to Taroko National Park. Just 15km north of Hualien lies **Taroko Gorge**, Taiwan's top tourist destination. The park covers over 120,000 hectares and rises from sea level in the east to over 3700m further west. The aguamarine **Liwu River** cuts through the centre, forging

deep slitted valleys before joining

the sea. Take in the majestic scenery of the Taroko Gorge.

a place that has to be seen to be believed. Visit the Eternal Spring Shrine, Swallow Grotto, Shakadong trail, Marble Bridge Tienshiang and the Marble Factory. Return to Taipei City. Experience soaring heights at the tallest building in Taiwan, Taipei 101 (admission fee at your own expense).

#### Day 17 • Taipei **→** New Zealand • (B)

You will be transferred to the airport to board your homebound flight via a connecting city.

#### Day 18 • New Zealand

Arrive home.

B = Breakfast L = I unchD = Dinner

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2018 Guaranteed Departures	Package Price(NZD) per person twin-share	Single Supplement

29 Mar* 05 Apr* 12 Apr* 26 Apr* 17 May	14 Jun 28 Jun* 12 Jul* 26 Jul* 09 Aug 23 Aug 06 Sep*	04 Oct* 18 Oct 01 Nov 15 Nov	\$1,299	\$500

#### **Package Inclusions:**

- International flights, taxes and fuel surcharges (Tokyo>Taipei)
- 7 nights 4-star hotel accommodation
- Daily meals as indicated (B, L, D)
- Coach transportation & transfers
- · Admissions to scenic attractions
- English speaking tour guide(s)

#### **Package Exclusions:**

- Tipping prepaid in New Zealand: NZD\$90
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Personal expenses
- Optional Taipei 101 Observatory Fee: From NZD\$30 payable to guide

#### **Price Guide:**

- \*Peak Season Surcharge: NZD\$220
- Post tour accommodation: From NZD\$180/room/night (twin-share)

#### **Your Travel Agent**





# 🌟 Nikko Day Tour with Japanese Lunch

Nikko is the centre for Buddhism and Shinto religion. It is located in the valley and surrounded by beautiful deciduous forests and majestic waterfalls.

This optional tour will take you to the UNESCO World Heritage Site Nikko Toshogu. This area is well known for its distinctive architecture made up of a large number of wood carvings and gold leaf decorated onto the building. This design is unique and not seen elsewhere in Japan. You will also visit Kegon Waterfall (around 100m tall) which is the main natural attraction in Nikko. This is the best spot to view maple leaves during autumn.







# Tokyo Disneyland Ticket

Tokyo Disneyland is a 115-acre (47 ha) theme park at the Tokyo Disney Resort in Urayasu, Chiba, Japan, near Tokyo. Its main gate is directly adjacent to both Maihama Station and Tokyo Disneyland Station. It was the first Disney park to be built outside the United States, and it opened on 15 April 1983.

The park has seven themed areas: the World Bazaar; the four classic Disney lands: Adventureland, Westernland, Fantasyland and Tomorrowland; and two mini-lands: Critter Country and Mickey's Toontown. Many of the games and rides in these areas mirror those in the original Disneyland as they are based on American Disney films and fantasies. Fantasyland includes Peter Pan's Flight, Snow White's Scary Adventures, Dumbo the Flying Elephant and more based on classic Disney films and characters.





# 🎀 Tokyo DisneySea Ticket

Tokyo DisneySea is a 176-acre (71.22 ha) theme park at the Tokyo Disney Resort located in Urayasu, Chiba, Japan, just outside Tokyo. It opened on September 4, 2001. Tokyo DisneySea attracted an estimated 14 million visitors in 2013, making it the fourth-most-visited theme park in the world. In 2002 Tokyo DisneySea won a Thea Award from the Themed Entertainment Association for the concept, design, and construction of the theme park. The award was presented at El Capitan Theater in Hollywood, CA. The winners of the 2012-2015 Theme Park Insider Awards "Best theme park" is Tokyo DisneySea.





There are seven uniquely themed areas or "ports of call". The entrance to the park is Mediterranean Harbor, which opens up to six more nautically themed ports: American Waterfront, Lost River Delta, Port Discovery, Mermaid Lagoon, Arabian Coast,

and Mysterious Island.



Sumo is a traditional Japanese style of wrestling and Japan's national sport. The rules of the game are simple. Two wrestlers compete to force one another outside of the circular ring or touch the floor with any part of the body other than the soles of the feet. The art of sumo wrestling dates back to ancient times as form of entertainment to Shinto deities. Ceremonial rituals in accordance with Shinto beliefs are still practiced today before a match, such as purifying the ring with salt and extravagant stomps made by the sumo wrestlers to drive away evil spirits. There is no weight classification in sumo wrestling and the sheer size of many of the wrestlers is a sight to behold.

\*Only available on 9 May and 12 Sep. Please contact us for detailed information





# 🌟 Robot Restaurants

Not just any restaurant and bar, Tokyo's Robot Restaurant is most famous for its late night robot-themed dancing and battle shows. Behold an outrageous and electrifying live spectacle featuring Japanese taiko drum performances as well as mock battles between bikini-clad dancing girls, giant robotic dinosaurs, cyborgs, ninjas and a host of other bizarre characters staged in a theatrical LED-fitted room bursting with kaleidoscopic neon-lit laser beams, virtual fireworks, explosions and energetic techno music. This sensory overload is Japanese pop culture at its wackiest and is only exclusive to Japan and nowhere else.

Please choose from the times below: (\* Please be there at least 30 minutes before the show) 17:55, 19:50 or 21:45~ NZD\$110/person for show tickets. Please enquire if you wish to add a meal pack





## Tea ceremony: 30 mins



The Japanese tea ceremony is a traditional ritual influenced by the principles of Zen Buddhism in which powdered green tea, or matcha, is prepared and served to a small group in a quiet setting. Often traditional Japanese confectionary is served to balance out the bitter taste of the green tea.

#### **Hiahliahts**

- Learn the process of the Japanese tea ceremony from a qualified tea instructor.
- Learn which utensils to use to prepare green tea in a traditional Japanese room (tatami)
- Discover the customs, culture and hospitability of the Japanese people.

Optional: Wear traditional Japanese garment (kimono) and experience tea ceremony - NZD\$140





Physical considerations: Tea ceremony is performed in a kneeling position (seiza) on the floor. This puts pressure on your knees and ankles. Please be cautious of joining this optional program If you have a condition that prevents you from kneeling on the floor for a short period of time.



# Pottery-making Experience: 60 mins

Pottery is the oldest art form and earthenware traditions in Japan believed to have started around 12,000 years ago. Today, there are thousands of potters who make a living out of producing pottery-wares across the country. The pottery produced in each region varies in design because of the type of clay found there.

- Try your hand at making your own cup or bowl by using the spinning wheel and clay.
- Receive a pre-made sake cup made by the instructors as a souvenir.









# 🎇 Golden Joinery: 60 mins

Learn the art of golden joinery (kintsugi or kintsukuroi), a technique of repairing broken cups, bowls, or plate using lacquer resin laced with gold powder. As a philosophy the mended flaws become part of the object's design. The result is that the object looks more beautiful than the original after being broken and repaired.



#### **Highlights**

- Mend broken cups, bowls or plates using powdered gold.
- Take home the object you repaired as a unique souvenir.





## 🎇 Kimono Photo Shoot: 60 mins

The kimono is the traditional dress of Japan and is representative of its culture and heritage. The dress consists of a long robe with wide sleeves that is usually made of various materials and patterns. Today the kimono is only worn sparingly on formal occasions, such as weddings, funerals, tea ceremonies or other special events.

Take part in a memorable photo shoot at a studio where you can dress up in a kimono of your choice. You cantake photos with your own camera or you may choose to purchase a photo package plan from the photographers.

#### **Highlights**

- Dress up in a kimono of your choice for the photo shoot.
- Have your photo taken for free with your own camera or purchase the photos from the professional photographers.









# 🌟 Cooking Class: 120-180 mins 🛮 🦳 🚺 🦪



Japanese cuisine (washoku) is well known for its refined taste and elegant presentation. Take part in a Japanese cooking experience and learn from one of Tokyo's most popular cooking instructors whose book has been published in English. Bring home with you a set of new cooking skills and culinary techniques that will leave your friends and family impressed.

#### **Highlights**

- Learn to cook different types of Japanese foods, such as sushi, soup and various side dishes.
- Learn the ingredients, culinary techniques and methods used in creating homemade Japanese dishes.
- Enjoy your own cooked dish for lunch.

#### **Important Notice**

- Transportation is not included for all optional programs. However, the optional programs are located in the Tokyo CBD which can be accessed easily.
- You can join up to 2 programs on your free day in Tokyo.
- Optional programs are subject to availability and must be booked more than 1 month before departure.