

Sado Island Tour

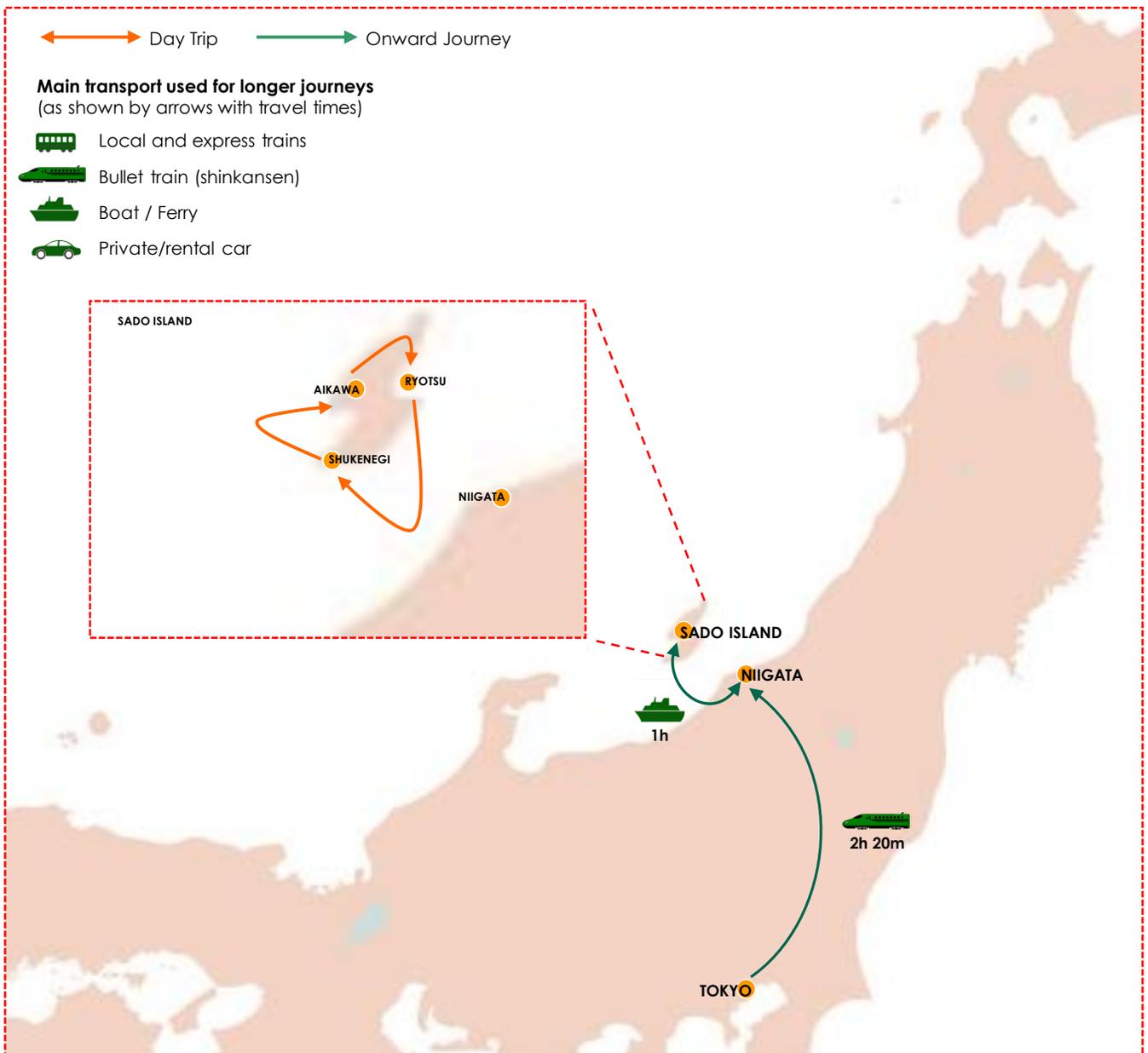
Quote Details

- **Tour members:** 2 adults
- **Route to include:** Tokyo & Sado Island
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights (1 night hotel, 2 nights ryokan)

In a Nutshell

Travel to the island of Sado, off the northern coast of Japan. Enjoy the stunning natural scenery and peace, while discovering the interesting – and at times dark – history of the island.

Highlights will include an experience of taiko drumming with the renowned professional taiko drumming group, Kodo.





Tour Itinerary

Day	Suggested Schedule	Special Arrangements	Transport	Accommodation	Meals
Day 1	<p>ARRIVAL</p> <p>You will be met at arrivals and transferred by private car to your hotel in Tokyo.</p> <p>After a chance to freshen up, to give you everything you need to travel confidently in Japan – from walking maps to phrase sheets to good advice – one of our Tokyo staff members will meet you in the lobby of your hotel for your orientation session, after which you'll be free to relax at your leisure.</p>	<p>Airport meeting</p> <p>Airport to hotel transfer (private car)</p> <p>Orientation</p>	Private car	<p>Park Hotel</p> <p>TOKYO</p> <p>Double Room</p>	-
Day 2	<p>TOKYO – SADO ISLAND</p> <p>Take the bullet train from Tokyo to Niigata and then a taxi on to Niigata Port for the high speed ferry. After arriving at Ryotsu Port on Sado Island, pick up your rental car and continue on to your ryokan.</p> <p>Relax and enjoy the hot spring baths before a traditional Japanese dinner.</p>	<p>Bullet train tickets Tokyo to Niigata</p> <p>Jetfoil Ferry Niigata to Ryotsu Port</p>	<p>Bullet Train</p> <p>Jetfoil Ferry tickets</p> <p>Rental Car</p>	<p>Azuma Ryokan</p> <p>SADO ISLAND</p> <p>Japanese Style Room</p>	BD
Day 3	<p>SADO ISLAND</p> <p>Spend the day exploring south west Sado. Start with a visit to Sado Taiko Centre for a Taiko drumming experience and to hear about the incredible Kodo drummers. After lunch with the Kodo staff, you can visit the old fishing village Shukunegi and the astonishing museum with its a full size merchant sailing vessel. Time permitting, visit the Gold mines near Aikawa.</p>	<p>Kodo session</p>	Rental car	<p>Azuma Ryokan</p> <p>SADO ISLAND</p> <p>Japanese Style Room</p>	BD
Day 4	<p>SADO ISLAND – TOKYO</p> <p>Drive along the north coast taking in the stunning scenery on your way to Ryotsu port. A walk up on top of Ohno-game (Big field turtle) gives spectacular views towards Futatsu-game (Two-turtle) islands.</p> <p>If there is time you can drive up one of the mountain roads on North Sado for amazing panoramic views over the island. Travel back by ferry to Niigata and take the bullet train back to Tokyo.</p>	<p>Jetfoil Ferry Ryotsu Port to Niigata</p> <p>Bullet train tickets Niigata to Tokyo</p>	<p>Rental car</p> <p>Jetfoil Ferry Tickets</p> <p>Bullet train</p>	-	B



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TOKYO	<p>Tokyo offers possibilities that no other city can rival: karaoke in glass-walled rooms, more Michelin stars than Paris, and the world's busiest fish market and train station.</p> <p>Japan's capital is a truly mesmerizing place, and giant TV screens, flashing neon, and cutting edge technology make Tokyo one of the most futuristic and thrilling places on earth.</p> <p>The old downtown (<i>shitamachi</i>) still exists alongside the modern city. Tiny station eateries, ancient temples, geisha districts, and traditional shopping streets – seemingly unchanged in the last century – rub shoulders with super-luxury hotels, sleek skyscrapers, and high-tech shops.</p> <p>Tucked in amongst the concrete and the tangles of massively efficient train and metro lines, there are also pockets of tranquillity to be found in Tokyo's abundant parks and gardens, which provide a welcome respite from the fast pace of the metropolis.</p>	 
Orientation Session	<p>In order for your holiday to be as enjoyable and stress-free as possible, we have included a private and personalised orientation session, where you will be given everything you need to travel confidently on your own in Japan.</p> <p>One of our English-speaking staff members will meet you in the lobby of your hotel and will go through your itinerary with you, day by day, and answer any questions you may have. You'll also receive your "welcome pack" of additional information, such as tourist maps of each destination, suggested walking routes, and detailed information on any special activities you may have booked, as well as a Japanese phrase sheet, which should help you travel in Japan more easily!</p>	
Day 2	<p>TOKYO – SADO ISLAND</p> <p>Take the bullet train from Tokyo to Niigata and then a taxi on to Niigata Port for the high speed ferry. After arriving at Ryotsu Port on Sado Island, pick up your rental car and continue on to your ryokan.</p> <p>Relax and enjoy the hot spring baths before a traditional Japanese dinner.</p>	
Shinkansen (Bullet Train)	<p>The Shinkansen, or Bullet train, is an amazing experience in itself – travelling so smoothly at such a speed.</p> <p>Watching the landscape whizz by, you realise how mountainous Japan is, and how this inaccessibility has protected the vegetation and wildlife from human impact – nearly two thirds of the land is still forested.</p> <p>Surprisingly, the extreme landscape did not deter construction of the Shinkansen line for the 1964 Olympics. It was carefully engineered to use the most direct routes, tunnelled through mountains and on tracks over suburban areas, and, can be faster than flying between major cities.</p>	
SADO ISLAND	<p>Popular for its stunning natural scenery, green hills and cliffs dotted with strange shaped rocks and small islands, Sado Island also has an interesting, though dark, history. Because of its relatively secluded location, the island was used as a place of political exile for elements showing a tendency to oppose the system in power. Some of the most famous people sent to exile on Sado include Hozumi no Asomi Oyu, a poet criticizing the Emperor, Emperor Juntoku disgraced in Joukyu War, Buddhist Monk Nichiren Daishonin, the founder of Nichiren sect of Buddhism, or Zeami Motokiyo, a dramatist and founder of Noh theatre, sent to exile for no particular reason.</p> <p>In the early Edo period, however, gold and silver were discovered on Sado island, and the significance of the island changed dramatically. More and more people, mostly homeless people from cities, were sent here to work under harsh conditions. The gold they extracted became a major source of revenue for the Tokugawa shogunate.</p>	

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Day 3	<p>SADO ISLAND</p> <p>Spend the day exploring south west Sado. Start with a visit to Sado Taiko Centre for a Taiko drumming experience and to hear about the incredible Kodo drummers. After lunch with the Kodo staff, you can visit the old fishing village Shukunegi and the astonishing museum with its a full size merchant sailing vessel. Time permitting, visit the Gold mines near Aikawa.</p>	
Kodo Taiko	<p>The world famous Kodo Taiko group, which debuted at the 1981 Berlin Festival, has its roots on Sado Island, but received international acclamation for its creativity in exploring the limitless possibilities of Taiko – traditional Japanese drums. The group says that the sound of the great taiko resembles a “heartbeat” and what it tries to achieve is playing the taiko simply, with a heart of a child. After all, one of the meanings of “Kodo” is “children of the drum”. Do not miss an opportunity to enjoy the rhythms performed by Kodo Taiko in their hometown.</p>	
Shukunegi Port	<p>A handful of traditional houses clustered around an inlet of Sado’s rugged coast, Shukunegi Port is one of the island’s greatest charms. Formerly a centre of ship building, many of the quaint buildings are made of ship’s timbers, and several can be visited. At the museum, a replica of one of the largest vessels once built in local shipyards is on display and the Edo-era junk can be fully explored by visitors.</p>	
Sado Gold Mine	<p>From the moment that gold was discovered on Sado island, this gold mine became the most productive mine in Japan. Beside smaller amounts of silver and copper, it yielded about 400kg of gold annually and became one of the most important sources of wealth for the Tokugawa shogunate. The working conditions were miserable, and most workers (mainly homeless people from cities) who were deliberately sent here from all around Japan to work the mines, did not survive very long. As history progressed, new methods and techniques were introduced from the West and the area became an exemplary place where the entire history of mining technology can be observed. The mine was in operation until as recently as 1989. At present visitors can learn about the mine from detailed explanations and animatronic figures.</p>	
Day 4	<p>SADO ISLAND – TOKYO</p> <p>Drive along the north coast taking in the stunning scenery on your way to Ryotsu port. A walk up on top of Ohno-game (Big field turtle) gives spectacular views towards Futatsu-game (Two-turtle) islands. If there is time you can drive up one of the mountain roads on North Sado for amazing panoramic views over the island. Travel back by ferry to Niigata and take the bullet train back to Tokyo.</p>	
Northern Coastline	<p>The rugged, scenic coastline of northern Sado is well-worth the trip. Near the northern tip is the huge Ohno-game rock which stands over 160m high and is connected to the mainland by a small stretch of sand. Nearby are the Futatsu-game rocks, which are said to look like two turtles giving them their name.</p>	
O-Sado Skyline	<p>Stretching between Kanai and Aikawa and climbing through the slopes of Mt Kinpoku, the O-sado Skyline road affords drivers excellent views over the whole island. There are several viewpoint areas where visitors can get out to admire the views. It is possible to trek from the road to the summit of Mt Kinpoku, but special permission must be obtained in advance as the area around the summit is a restricted area controlled by the Japanese Self-Defence Forces.</p>	

TOKYO

Park Hotel Tokyo

パークホテル 東京



Contact Information	
Address	Shiodome Media Tower 1-7-1 Higashi Shimbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 105-7227 〒105-7227 東京都港区東新橋1-7-1 汐留メディアタワー
Phone	03-6252-1111 / 03-6252-1001

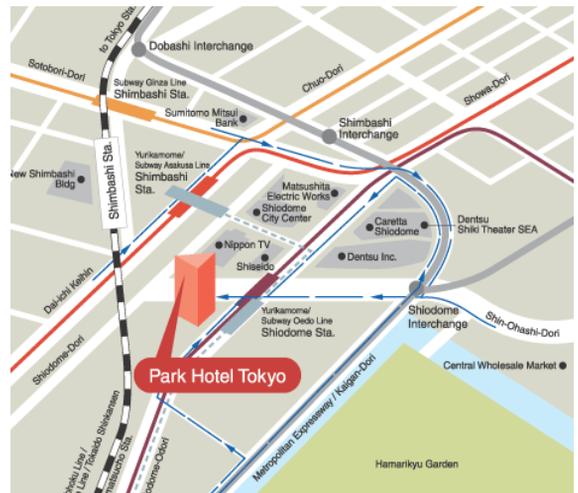
Wesley House, 7 High Street
Kidlington Oxford OX5 2DH
Tel 01865 841443
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Hotel Information	
Check In / Out	Check in 2 pm / Check out 12 am
Access	10 min walk from JR Shimbashi Station, connected to Shiodome Station
Facilities	Restaurant, Bar, Business Centre

Description

The Park Hotel Tokyo stands at the 25th floor of the "Shiodome Media Tower" at the corner of Media City Shiodome; the new center of business and culture. Guests can easily access inner and outer Metropolitan Tokyo including Haneda Airport. The Park Hotel Tokyo is directly connected to Shiodome Station on the Toei Oedo subway line and Tokyo Waterfront New Transit Yurikamome, and is a short walk from the Shimbashi Station on JR and subway.

The hotel rooms are of high standard, offering comfort and tranquility in a variety of coordinated colour combinations, finished with carefully designed accessories and glittering night views of the metropolis.



Into Japan Specialist Tours - Hotel Information



Photos used are for information purposes only – Actual rooms may vary.

SADO ISLAND

Azuma Yubae-tei Kaiyo-tei

吾妻夕映亭海容亭



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Contact Information

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Phone / Fax	0259-74-0001 / 0259-74-3141

Hotel Information

Check In / Out	Check in 3 p.m. / Check out 10 a.m.
Access	50 mins by car from Ryotsu port, nearest bus stop Aikawa (Sadokaikan-mae), a minute on foot.
Facilities	Restaurant, Hot springs, open air hot springs, private hot springs, internet access in lobby

Description

This ryokan is located on the coast in Nanuau Kaihin, a national park. Looking over the Sea of Japan, you get marvelous views of the sunset. You can stroll to the coast along a promenade in the 23,000 square meter garden.

The hotel is renowned for its seafood kaiseki dinners.



Into Japan Specialist Tours - Ryokan Information

Price Includes

- Accommodation and meals as shown in itinerary
- Special arrangements as shown in itinerary (transfers, private tours, tickets, etc.)
- All entry fees for private tours
- All transport for private tours (using taxis and public transport unless otherwise described)
- 24-hour telephone assistance in Japan
- Personalised information pack

Not Included

- Flights to and from Japan
- Meals not shown on schedule
- Transport not during private tours or covered by an included rail pass (unplanned rail trips, metro in Tokyo, taxis, etc.)
- Entrance fees (except during private tours)
- Additional beverages at Ryokan
- Incidental hotel fees (telephone, minibar, etc.)

