

# Tour Sample 9

13 Nights, Highlights of Central Japan incl Kiso Valley



Wesley House, 7 High Street  
Kidlington Oxford OX5 2DH  
Tel 01865 841443  
Fax 01865 841445  
www.intojapan.co.uk  
info@intojapan.co.uk

## Quote Details

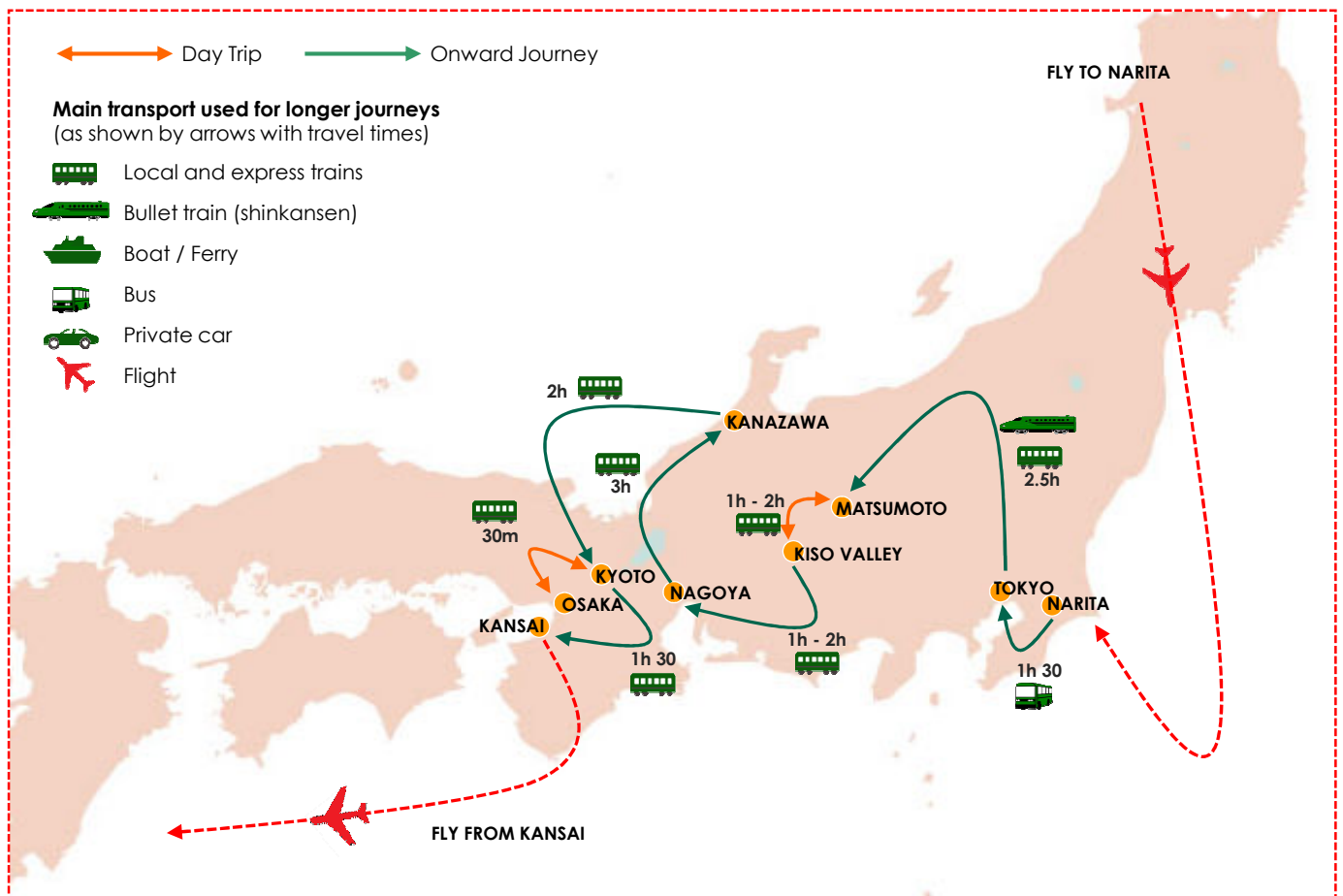
- Route to include: Tokyo, Matsumoto, Nagoya, Kanazawa and Kyoto
- Accommodation: 13 nights (Hotel 13 nights)

## In a Nutshell

You'll be heading off for a 13 night trip to Japan, among much else, visiting both the modern vibrant capital, Tokyo and the traditional cultural capital, Kyoto.

You'll be seeing one of Japan's finest castles in Matsumoto and will also visit the beautiful Kiso Valley, where you can step back in time to the country's feudal past.

A day trip will take you to Japan's vibrant second city, Osaka and you'll also be spending time in the lovely city of Kanazawa and visit Japan's loveliest garden, Kenrokuen.





# Tour Itinerary

Day	Suggested Schedule	Special Arrangements	Transport	Accommodation	Meals
Day 1 Sunday 15th Sep	Your flight arrives at Narita Airport, where you will be met and escorted to your hotel, about 90 minutes from the airport. You will be assisted with all the check in formalities. After a chance to freshen up, one of our Tokyo staff members will meet you in the lobby of your hotel for your orientation session to give you everything you need to travel confidently in Japan – from walking maps to phrase sheets to good advice. Spend the rest of the day relaxing after your flight or exploring the metropolis .	Airport Meeting, Escort, Orientation	Airport Train or Airport Bus	Park Hotel TOKYO City Double (22sqm)	-
Day 2 Monday 16th Sep	This morning, take a short train ride and you will visit to Studio Ghibli Museum. It opened in 2001, and more than a museum of animation - it's a kind of haven for art - stained glass windows and fanciful architecture, fresco, painting, and film playfully meld together to make a delightful place. Later, return to the central Tokyo, spend at the lush and quiet of Shinjuku Gyoen Gardens before venturing into the bustling Shinjuku Station area. Famous for shopping and nightlife, as well as unparalleled people watching, Shinjuku Station is the busiest station in the world, and is surrounded by cafes, bars, restaurants and department stores.	Studio Ghibli tickets	Local transport	Park Hotel TOKYO City Double (22sqm)	B
Day 3 Tuesday 17th Sep	After a relaxing morning, we will recommend a boat up the Sumida River to Asakusa, the old-fashioned, bustling neighbourhood surrounding Senso-ji Tokyo's largest Buddhist Temple. Continue on to Akihabara, the neon-filled electronics district. Giant stores such as Yodobashi Camera sell all the latest consumer electronics and gadgets on several floors, while smaller, shops specialise in computer parts or second-hand cameras. Shops selling adorable and often bizarre merchandise related to manga comics and anime cartoons also abound, and this is the land of maid cafés, where you can enjoy refreshments in the fawning company of waitresses dressed up as French maids or princesses. For more straightforward fun, head into a video game arcade or hire a karaoke booth.	-	Local transport	Park Hotel TOKYO City Double (22sqm)	B
Day 4 Weds 18th Sep	After breakfast, you will move to Matsumoto for a visit to the beautiful "Crow Castle", Japan's oldest still standing and an excellent example of a plains castle, or "hira-jiro." The castle dates from Japan's warring states period, and the steep stairways and hidden floors tell of Matsumoto's feudal past. The nearby Folklore Museum, included in the entrance to the castle, is highly recommended.	-	Bullet train, Express train, Local transport	Hotel Buena Vista MATSUMOTO Standard Double (27sqm)	B
Day 5 Thursday 19th Sep	Today we recommend having a relaxing day with a visit to the old-fashioned streets of Nawate-dōri and Nakamachi-dōri contain a surprising mix of old and new, with shops selling ceramics, bonsai trees, and vintage kimonos next to traditional soba noodle restaurants and trendy cafes, all housed in picturesque wooden buildings. Later, spend sometime at Matsumoto's Japan Ukiyo-e Museum has an impressive collection of 100,000 prints – many by the masters of the technique – and though only a fraction are on display at any one time it is well worth visiting.	-	Local transport	Hotel Buena Vista MATSUMOTO Standard Double (27sqm)	B
Day 6 Friday 20th Sep	Today, take an early train for a day trip to Kiso Valley. Wander Tsumago's cobbled streets, and explore the old buildings, some of which are open as museums. We highly recommend a visit to the Honjin and Waki Honjin. There are several nice cafes in the charming old buildings which line the main street.	-	Express train, Local transport	Hotel Buena Vista MATSUMOTO Standard Double (27sqm)	B
Day 7 Saturday 21st Sep	This morning, take an express train to Nagoya. After dropping your bags at your hotel, we would recommend visiting Atsuta Shrine, which was originally founded in the second century to house <i>Kusanagi-no-Mitsurugi</i> , part of the Three Regalia of the Emperor, and rebuilt in 1935. Alternatively, you can visit Nagoya Castle and The Tokugawa Art Museum.	-	Express train, Local transport	Nagoya Marriott Associa Hotel NAGOYA Standard Double (25sqm)	B
Day 8 Sunday 22nd Sep	After a leisurely breakfast, board the Bullet and Express trains on to Kanazawa. The journey will take approximately for 3 hours. After checking in at your hotel, spend at leisure or explore the city. Teramachi is a good place for a collection of temples, the most famous of which is the Ninja Temple, which we are happy to make you a reservation to join the guided tours of.	-	Express train, local transport	Hotel Nikko KANAZAWA Stylish Double (26sqm)	B

# Tour Itinerary

Day	Suggested Schedule	Special Arrangements	Transport	Accommodation	Meals
Day 9 Monday 23rd Sep	Spend some time in Kenroku-en, one of Japan's most beautiful gardens, ancient trees, and impressive landscaping. We highly recommend visiting the elegant Seison-kaku Villa in the park, which has fascinating architectural details. Later, visit Higashi Chaya-gai, one of Japan's best preserved geisha districts, and the old wooden buildings are a wonderful place to feel transported back centuries. Some of the traditional buildings are open as museums, and it is also here that you can visit the gold-leaf workshop which produces so much of Kanazawa's most famous product.	-	Local transport	Hotel Nikko KANAZAWA Stylish Double (26sqm)	B
Day 10 Tuesday 24th Sep	Today we would recommend visiting the covered arcade of the Ōmichō Ichiba Markets – the heart of Kanazawa's impressive food culture and an excellent spot for lunching, snacking, or people watching. Later hop on the Hokutetsu train and spend relaxing time at Uchinada coast with a famous coastal dune.	-	Local transport	Hotel Nikko KANAZAWA Stylish Double (26sqm)	B
Day 11 Weds 25th Sep	Today, travel to Kyoto with the delightfully named <i>Thunderbird</i> – Express train. After checking in at your hotel, we recommend taking in one of the city's most interesting sights. Austere-looking Sanjūsangen-dō temple, dating back to the 13th century, houses a thousand near-identical golden statues of Kannon, the goddess of mercy; each statue has forty arms.  If you feel like stretching your legs, we suggest taking a stroll on the banks of Kyoto's Kamo-gawa river, a favorite hang-out of the locals, with plenty of interesting buildings to look at and views of the surrounding hills.	Express train ticket	Express train, Local transport	Hotel Granvia KYOTO Standard Double (30sqm)	B
Day 12 Thursday 26th	Today we recommend taking a local train to Osaka for soaking up the atmosphere in Namba – Osaka's heart. Start at the downtown district of Sennichimae Doguyasuji, which specialises in fascinating restaurant equipment and accessories, before moving on to cosmopolitan Amerika-mura, with its busy and fashionable clothing stores. Towards evening head on to the Dōtonbori entertainment district, where you can experience Osaka's famous food and entertainment culture.	-	Local transport	Hotel Granvia KYOTO Standard Double (30sqm)	B
Day 13 Friday 27th	Your last day in Kyoto. Spend the morning at leisure in the centre of Kyoto, which can be easily explored on foot. We like its charming covered streets. In particular, don't miss the Nishiki covered market, where you can purchase fresh Japanese food and ingredients, as well as beautifully hand-made kitchen utensils. Later, spend sometime at the leafy eastern districts of Kyoto, where some of the city's most striking sights are concentrated. You may be able to catch sight of some of Kyoto's geisha on their way to work in Gion.	-	Local transport	Hotel Granvia KYOTO Standard Double (30sqm)	B
Day 14 Saturday 28th	After breakfast, you will move to Kyoto station, where you will take a direct Airport express train or Airport limousine bus. The journey will take about 90 minutes from Kyoto station to Kansai Airport and the Airport terminal is directly connected to the train station or bus stop with only a 5 minute walk.	Airport Train or Bus ticket	Airport Train or Airport Bus	-	B

## Price Includes

- Standard class rail pass for 7 days
- Accommodation & meals as shown
- Special services (transfers, private tours, tickets etc as shown)
- 24 hour telephone assistance in Japan
- Personalised information pack

## Not Included:

- Flights to and from Japan
- Meals not shown on schedule
- Transport except for private tours where not covered by an included rail pass. (private railways, metro in Tokyo)
- Entrance fees except during private tours
- Incidental hotel fees (telephone, minibar etc)