

C O D A ^

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10 –17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21



HIGHLIGHTS

- Coda Tours signature small group size
- Coda Tours signature comprehensive sightseeing programs
- Coda Tours signature inclusive meal plan
- Coda Tours signature deluxe accommodations
- Private Sushi Making Lesson with Lunch
- Private Japanese Tea Ceremony
- Sumo Demonstration & Chankonabe Lunch
- Japanese Dinner with Private Maiko (Geisha) Performance Miyajima and the sacred Itsukushima Shrine

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21

Optional Pre-Trip to South Korea

Thu, Oct 5, 2023 Depart the USA

Depart the USA on any regularly scheduled flight to Seoul, the world's fourth largest urban economy.

Fri, Oct 6 Arrive in Seoul

Upon arrival, meet the Coda representative and driver to transfer to the hotel in the bustling Myeongdong district. Relax this evening from the long journey.

Accommodations: Lotte Hotel Seoul ★★★★★

Room: Superior

Sat, Oct 7 Discover Seoul

Begin the day at Gyeongbokgung Palace before a visit to Bukchon Hanok Village a charming neighborhood home to hundreds of *hanok* (traditional Korean houses). Spend the afternoon in two of the city's most vibrant market districts: Insadong and Gwangjang. The day culminates at the observation deck of the Seoul Tower to take in the panoramic views of the city before devouring a Korean BBQ dinner.

Accommodations: Lotte Hotel Seoul ★★★★★

Room: Superior

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Sun, Oct 8 Demilitarized Zone

This morning, tour the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), the official strip of land that creates a buffer zone between North and South Korea. In the afternoon, return to Seoul and indulge in a Korean wellness experience with a traditional Korean bath, sauna, or scrub at the spa. Later, spend some time examining the murals along Hongdae Street.

Accommodations: Lotte Hotel Seoul ★★★★★

Room: Superior

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Mon, Oct 9 Busan

Arrive by train in the colorful maritime city of Busan for lunch before visiting Taejongdae Park. Tour the Jagalchi Fish Market and visit BIFF Square, a unique destination that celebrates Busan's global film reputation. After sightseeing, transfer to the hotel for check-in.

Accommodations: Lotte Hotel Busan ★★★★★

Room: Deluxe

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



Tue, Oct 10 Gyeongju

Discover Gyeongju, once one of the greatest ancient capitals of the world. First, visit the Seoguram Grotto, then, explore the Bulguksa Temple and see one of the oldest printed texts in the world, the Dharani Sutra. Next, stroll the Daereungwon tomb complex before transfer to Cheomseongdae, the oldest astronomical

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21

observatory in Asia. Lastly, end the day's tour at the ancient Hanok village of Gyocheon and the house of the Choi Clan, one of the wealthiest aristocratic families of ancient Gyeongju.

Accommodations: Lotte Hotel Busan ★★★★★

Room: Deluxe

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Wed, Oct 11 **Busan | Arrive in Tokyo**

A morning atop Busan Tower will provide a lovely start to the day. Take in the panoramic views before visiting the colorful houses of Gamcheon Culture Village. After lunch, transfer by train to Seoul and the airport for flights to Tokyo. Check-in at the hotel upon arrival in the Capital city of Japan.

Accommodations: Hilton Tokyo ★★★★★

Room: Hilton Room

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Main Tour Program

Tue, Oct 10 **Depart the USA**

Depart the USA on any regularly scheduled flight to Tokyo, Japan.

Wed, Oct 11 **Arrive in Tokyo**

Arrive in Tokyo. An airport shuttle will be arranged for your transfer from the airport to the hotel in Tokyo. Check-in at the hotel upon arrival.

Accommodations: Hilton Tokyo ★★★★★

Room: Hilton Room

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Thu, Oct 12 **Tokyo**

Relax this morning before an afternoon walking tour that highlights Japan's delicious snack food culture. Then, discover Meiji Jingu, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji and his wife, the great-great-grandparents of the current emperor.

Accommodations: Hilton Tokyo ★★★★★

Room: Hilton Room

Meals: Breakfast

Fri, Oct 13 **Tokyo | Sushi Making Class**

Start the day at the Tsukiji Fish Market, once the largest in the world. The outer market is a thrill to explore. Lunch is a special treat, with a hands-on, private sushi making class led by a Master Sushi Chef, which will incorporate both the art of making these gastronomic treasures and the cultural significance sushi represents. Then, sit down to savor the flavor of your culinary labors! Lastly, visit Senso-ji, the oldest and most impressive temple in Tokyo located within one of the oldest shopping arcades in Japan.

Accommodations: Hilton Tokyo ★★★★★

Room: Hilton Room

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Sat, Oct 14 Tokyo | Sumo | Kyoto

First stop, the Imperial Palace Grounds, where their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress, reside. Although much of the palace grounds are closed to the public, it is nice to take a leisurely stroll around the premises.

Next, delight in Japan's most beloved sport, *Sumo*, and learn about the daily life of a wrestler. A retired wrestler will provide a demonstration of the sport. Afterwards, appreciate the traditional meal of *Chankonabe* the hearty stew eaten by wrestlers in order to help them bulk up.

In the afternoon, travel by train to Kyoto, the heart of historic Japan, a city steeped in imperial heritage and deeply rooted in classical Japanese tradition.

Accommodations: The Thousand Kyoto ★★★★★

Room: Superior

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



Sun, Oct 15 Kyoto | Tea Ceremony

Travel to Kinkakuji, a magnificent Zen temple overlooking Kyokochi Pond. Experience the tradition of *Chado* (The Way of Tea). Take part in a private tea ceremony held in a Buddhist temple and led by a traditional Tea Master who will carefully explain the significance of the ceremony, a deeply philosophical experience.

Then, wander amid the soaring stalks of bamboo and experience the enchanting creaks as the bamboo sways in the grove. Finally, wander the pathways of one of the best gardens in Kyoto, Okochi Sanso.

Accommodations: The Thousand Kyoto ★★★★★

Room: Superior

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21

Mon, Oct 16 Nara | Sake Tasting | Geisha Dinner

Explore the old capital of Nara today as we visit the shrine of Kasuga Taisha, the temple of Todaiji, and Nara Park, where you can feed the freely roaming deer. Fushimi Inari is the most significant shrine dedicated to Inari, the Shinto god of rice. At the main hall, present a small offering before making your way to find the first of over 5,000 vermilion torii gates.

Renowned for its Sake, the Fushimi district is home to many breweries. Learn first-hand the intricacies of the sake production process and the importance of balancing the main ingredients. Enjoy a private tasting and detect how the taste of the sake changes as the balance of the water, rice, malt, and yeast are altered.



A truly authentic Kyoto evening awaits this evening. Dine in the private company of a Geisha and Maiko, the ultimate hostesses. After a multi-course dining experience, interact with the women, dance, play games, and enjoy some conversation followed by a musical accompaniment.

Accommodations: The Thousand Kyoto ★★★★★

Room: Superior

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Tue, Oct 17 Depart to the USA

An airport shuttle will be arranged for your transfer to the airport in Osaka for your return flight to the USA.

Optional Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Tue, Oct 17 Himeji Castle | Hiroshima

Travel to Osaka by train and begin a tour of the city at Himeji Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After lunch, walk to Kokoen, a relatively new Japanese-style garden. Sip an afternoon tea amidst the serenity. Continue on train to Hiroshima for check-in at the hotel. Forever synonymous with the destructive power of war, Hiroshima is a city risen from the ashes of conflict, standing as a beacon of hope and the future.

Accommodations: Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel ★★★★★

Room: Deluxe Room

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Wed, Oct 18 Miyajima | Mount Misen

Take a ferry to Miyajima, home to the Itsukushima Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage site in a small inlet. See the iconic Floating Torii Gate and explore the area on foot. After lunch, keep an eye out for wild deer and monkeys as you ride the ropeway up Misen Mountain for spectacular views of the Seto Inland Sea and as far as Hiroshima City.

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21

Accommodations: Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel ★★★★★

Room: Deluxe Room

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Thu, Oct 19 **Hiroshima-Osaka**

This morning, tour Peace Memorial Park and Museum, a UNESCO World Heritage site that focusing on the day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Walk from the museum to the A-Bomb Dome, one of the few buildings in Hiroshima to remain standing after the bombing, and Cenotaph, a tomb for the victims. Today it is. Transfer to Osaka.

Accommodations: The Westin Osaka ★★★★★

Room: Deluxe Room

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Fri, Oct 20 **Osaka Culinary Tour**

A culinary tour awaits this morning in the traditional neighborhood of Shinsekai. Savor a wide variety of skewered, battered, and deep-fried delights; the ideal street food. Continue to Kuromon Market, a covered public market best for fresh-from-the-ocean fare. Try crab legs, oysters, sea urchin, and eel. Save some room for a dessert! End the local tastings at Dotonbori, yet another foodie mecca. Look out for dishes such as *tacoyaki* (grilled octopus dumplings) and *okonomiyaki* (Japanese style savory pancakes). Return to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure.

Accommodations: The Westin Osaka ★★★★★

Room: Deluxe Room

Meals: Breakfast

Sat, Oct 21 **Depart to the USA**

Transfer to Osaka Kansai International Airport for departure flights home.

Meals: Breakfast

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21

INCLUDED (Based on Full Program)

- Fifteen nights' accommodation at 4★ and 5★ hotels
- 27 meals: 16 breakfasts; 9 lunches; 2 dinners
- Private transportation and English-speaking local guide throughout the tour
- Transfers by train, plane, ferry, or other required by the itinerary
- Separate luggage transfers (Seoul-Busan-Seoul and Tokyo-Kyoto-Osaka)
- Sightseeing excursions and entry fees, as stated in the itinerary
- Coda Tour Representative, with minimum participation
- Pre-departure assistance and Information Portfolio from Coda Tours
- Taxes and service charges

NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare and baggage fees
- Trip Cancellation & Interruption insurance (highly recommended)
- Passport and visa fees; **Korea Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA) is required** for this tour
- Early or late arrival/departure surcharge or early check-in / late check-out
- Individual arrival or departure transfers
- Personal accommodations, meals, transfers, drinks, telephone, gifts, and expenses not outlined in the itinerary
- Any optional sightseeing excursions or additional visits not outlined in the itinerary
- Gratuity for local guides, drivers, staff, and Coda Tour Manager

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21

Highlights of Japan

RATES PER PERSON	
Double Occupancy	\$7,895
Single Occupancy	\$9,195

Highlights of Japan with Pre-Trip to South Korea

RATES PER PERSON	
Double Occupancy	\$10,495
Single Occupancy	\$12,895

Highlights of Japan with Post-Trip to Hiroshima

RATES PER PERSON	
Double Occupancy	\$11,895
Single Occupancy	\$13,195

Highlights of Japan

with Pre & Post-Trips to South Korea & Hiroshima

RATES PER PERSON	
Double Occupancy	\$15,395
Single Occupancy	\$20,095

Note: Single occupancy rates can be avoided if matched with another single traveler. If no share is available, the single rate will apply. Rates are based on current rates of exchange at the time of publishing and is subject to change until final payment has been made. Rates are also based on a minimum participation which, if minimum participation is not met, may need to be revised.

INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE

Delta with Korean Air or American Airlines are among the airlines that offer flights from New York (JFK) or Miami (MIA) to Seoul (ICN). Cathay Pacific, EVA Air, and JAL in partnership with Canada Air offer return airfare from Osaka (KIX). We recommend booking at least 7 months in advance if you want to use Frequent Flyer Miles or the American Express Platinum card 2-4-1 program. Please request a quote if you would like Coda Tours to assist with international airfare bookings. We often can offer favorable rates for Business or Economy class at a standard fee of \$35 per ticket.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

A valid passport is required for international travel and must be valid for 6 months after the return date of travel and have two blank pages available per country visited. For American passport holders to enter South Korea they must have an approved Korea Electronic Travel Authorization (K-ETA). To apply for your K-ETA, visit www.k-eta.go.kr/portal/apply/index.do

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21

HEALTH

All travelers must be up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines and have proof of vaccination that is verified by a medical professional. No other immunizations are required for travel on this tour; however, the Center for Disease Control suggests that all travelers be up to date on routine vaccines, including Varicella (Chickenpox), Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTaP), Influenza (Flu), Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR), Polio, and Shingles.

ATTIRE / WEATHER

The weather on this tour will be warm, but not too hot (67-76°), during the day but the temperature will drop to be quite cool at night (50°-66°).

Average Temperature	Low	High
Seoul	50°	67°
Busan	66°	75°
Tokyo	61°	70°
Kyoto	66°	76°
Hiroshima	66°	76°
Osaka	59°	74°

MINIMUMS

All departures and rates are guaranteed on a minimum number of participants. A Coda Tour Manager will accompany a tour also based on a minimum number of participants. This tour can be operated as a Private Tour or customized and repriced based on a final itinerary.

PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION

A portfolio of pre-departure information will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to departure.

ACCOMMODATIONS



[Lotte Hotel Seoul](#) ★★★★★



[Lotte Hotel Busan](#) ★★★★★

Highlights of Japan

Oct 10-17, 2023

Opt. Pre-Trip to South Korea and Post-Trip to Hiroshima

Oct 5-11 & Oct 17-21



[Hilton Tokyo](#) ★★★★★



[The Thousand Kyoto](#) ★★★★★



[Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel](#) ★★★



[The Westin Osaka](#) ★★★