# 14 Days IN JAPAN

From Tokyo to Fukuoka, here's how to spend 14 days in Japan.

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# At Skymate, we believe travel is more than just a journey—it's an experience that stays with you forever.

That's why we've carefully crafted this itinerary, ensuring every moment is filled with adventure, culture, and seamless travel. Our expert team has designed this journey to help you explore the best of your destination with ease, offering insider tips, top-notch support, and flexible travel options.

Whether you're chasing breathtaking landscapes or immersing yourself in vibrant city life, Skymate is here to make your trip effortless and unforgettable.

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#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

This itinerary is perfect for any time of the year. Your journey begins in Tokyo and takes you on an unforgettable adventure across Japan, concluding in Osaka after 14 days.

Every experience in this itinerary can be easily booked independently. Most hotels and hostels offer transportation assistance and can recommend trusted operators for your activities.

TOKYO → YAKUSHIMA & KAGOSHIMA → FUKUOKA → HIROSHIMA → KYOTO → NARA → OSAKA



# **Arrive in Tokyo**

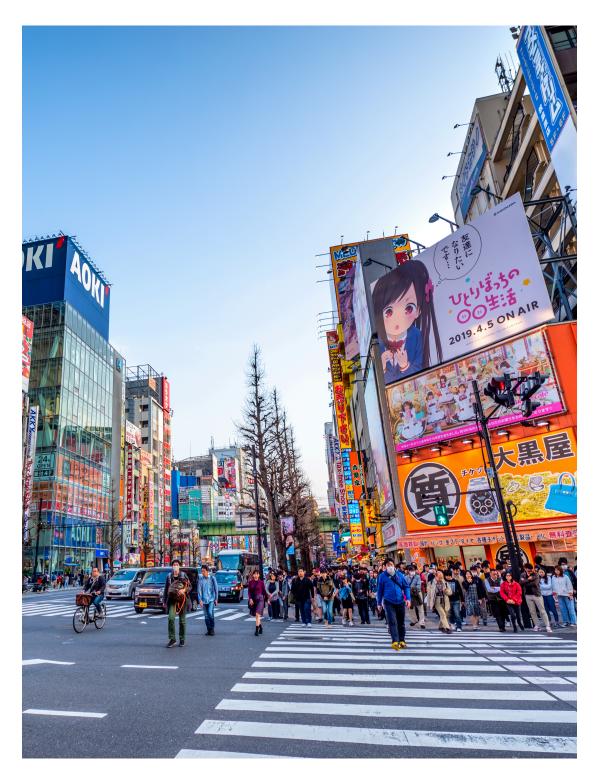
With the highest number of Michelin stars of any city globally, it stands as a culinary powerhouse. Be sure to explore some of the city's top attractions and leave room for souvenirs.

# Tokyo DAY1

Check off several of the 180+ Michelin-starred and 300+ Michelin-recommended restaurants.

Take a leisurely walk around the Imperial Palace grounds. Explore the digital art museum, teamLab Borderless (it's recommended to reserve tickets in advance).





### DAY2 Tokyo

Savor local Tokyo delicacies like Edo-mae sushi and shoyu (soy sauce) ramen. Explore the vibrant streets of Shibuya and Harajuku for trendy fashion, unique stationery, and innovative gadgets. Don't miss visiting department stores such as Loft, Parco, and Tokyu Hands. For a breathtaking view of the city, head to Shibuya Sky, situated 46 floors above the ground.

#### Tokyo to Yakushima

#### DAY 3

Explore Tokyo's oldest temple, the vibrant Sensoji. Then, head to Haneda Airport for a Japan Airlines flight to Yakushima with a stop in Kagoshima, taking approximately three hours.



#### Yakushima, Kagoshima, Kyushu

Situated off the coast of Kagoshima Prefecture, the subtropical island of Yakushima is predominantly covered in forest, with 90% of its area devoted to greenery. It boasts some of Japan's oldest trees, and 20% of the island is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This pristine forest is so captivating that it served as inspiration for the animated film Princess Mononoke. Be sure to dress for rain, as precipitation can occur at any time of the year, particularly in June and September.

# **Q** Yakushima

#### DAY 4

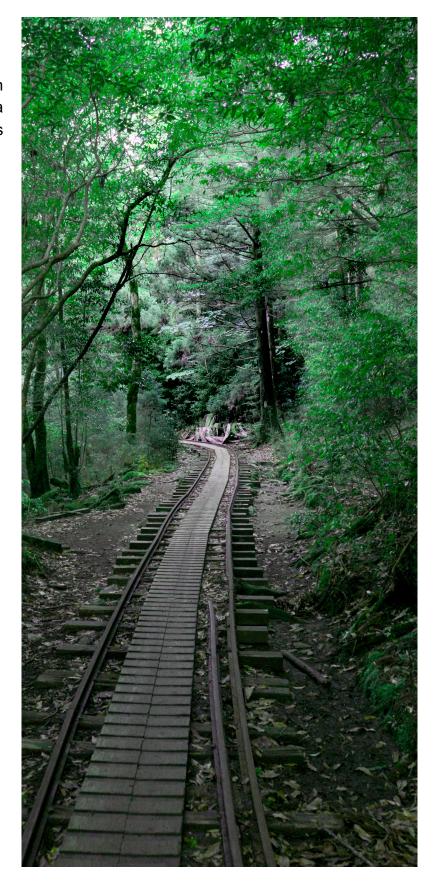
#### **REWRITTEN:**

- Spend your day exploring the ancient cedar forests of Shiratani Unsuikyo, where moss blankets the trees.
- Keep an eye out for local wildlife: Yakushima is home to approximately 20,000 deer, 20,000 monkeys, and 20,000 humans.
- Treat your taste buds to delicious passionfruit, tankan, and ponkan citrus.

Relax in an ocean hot spring, such as Hiranai or Yudomari Onsen.

#### DAY 5

Explore the vibrant coral reefs while snorkeling at Isso Beach, and keep an eye out for sea turtles at Nagata-inaka Beach. Dedicate half a day to kayaking along the island's picturesque rivers. Don't miss the chance to savor locally produced shochu, a distilled spirit crafted from sweet potatoes, with tours available at the Mars distillery.





#### Yakushima to Fukuoka

Kyushu's biggest city is a friendly, foodie, international town.

#### **Fukuoka**

#### DAY 6

Take a flight from Yakushima's airport to Fukuoka, which takes about an hour.

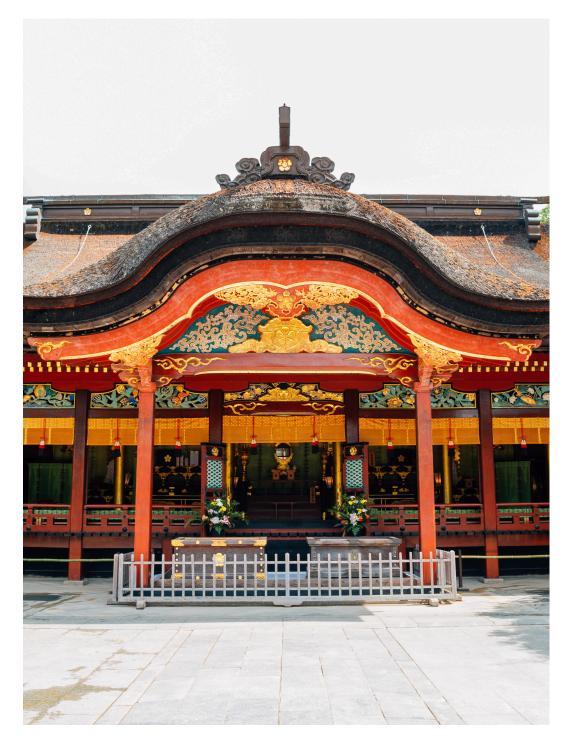
Visit the Fukuoka Art Museum to explore a diverse collection of contemporary, modern, and ancient Japanese and Asian art.

Enjoy a leisurely walk in Maizuru Park, where you can see the ruins of Fukuoka Castle, and then continue to Ohori Park for a peaceful riverside stroll.

Savor a delicious dinner of pork broth-infused Hakata ramen to complete your day.

#### **DAY 7**

Fukuoka is a city rich in tradition and culture, highlighted by its traditional crafts like Hakata dolls and Hakata-ori weaving for obi kimono sashes. The Hakata Traditional Craft and Design Museum offers insights into these local treasures. Additionally, the vibrant yatai street food carts, located on Nakasu Island, provide a lively atmosphere with delicious local dishes, reflecting Fukuoka's street food culture.





## Fukuoka to Hiroshima

Hiroshima hopes that its dark past is always a reminder that we must choose peace.

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## Hiroshima

#### DAY8

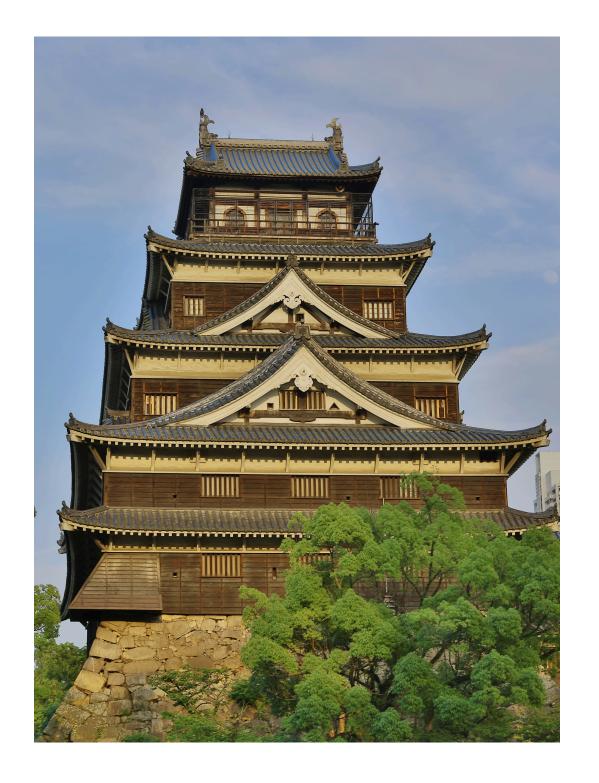
Travel via shinkansen (bullet train) from Hakata Station to Hiroshima Station, which takes about an hour.

Dedicate your day to exploring Itsukushima Shrine on Miyajima, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its famous floating torii gate that marks the entrance.

Don't miss the chance to savor okonomiyaki, the city's signature savory pancake filled with a delightful mix of vegetables, seafood, and noodles.

#### DAY 9

Explore the atomic bomb site to witness the preserved remnants of history. Take a trip to the Peace Memorial Park and the Peace Memorial Museum.





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# Kyoto

#### **DAY 10**

Travel on the shinkansen from Hiroshima to Kyoto, which takes about 2 hours.

Explore the beautiful temples and shrines, such as the Zen rock garden at Ryoanji, the stunning golden pavilion at Kinkakuji, and the countless vermilion gates at Fushimi Inari Shrine.

Don't miss the chance to sample shojin ryori, a traditional ascetic Buddhist vegetarian cuisine.

Consider staying in a machiya, a charming Kyoto-style townhouse accommodation.



Explore Nishiki Market for delicious snacks and unique cookware, then meander through the shopping arcades of Kyoto Shingyo Street and Teramachi, where you'll find fashion, souvenirs, and religious items. Slip into a kimono and enjoy a photo session in Gion, the charming geisha district. Savor kaiseki ryori, a refined multi-course meal that highlights seasonal ingredients.











#### Nara

#### **DAY 12**

The ancient capital is ready for your exploration.

- Take a train from Kyoto to Nara, which takes less than an hour.
- Explore Todai-ji, a magnificent wooden temple constructed in 752, which was a significant power center during Nara's capital period.

Next, head to Nara Park, where you can find numerous wild deer eagerly seeking snacks, which can be purchased from carts scattered throughout the park.



## Nara to Osaka

Osaka, often referred to as Japan's stomach, is a bustling hub of food and commerce, renowned for its friendly, straightforward, and humorous residents.

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#### Osaka

#### **DAY 13**

Travel by train from Nara to Osaka, which takes about one hour. Come with an empty stomach as you explore the Shinsaibashi and Dotombori districts, where you can taste local specialties such as takoyaki (octopus dumplings), okonomiyaki (savory pancakes in Osaka style), and kushikatsu (assorted fried items on sticks!). Don't miss the chance to visit the National Bunraku Theater to enjoy a puppet show, a traditional art form that originated in Osaka.





#### **DAY 14**

Osaka Castle features a museum that highlights its history and significant figures from the Warring States period. The beautiful grounds are home to 600 cherry trees. Enjoy a leisurely cruise on the moat aboard a pleasure boat adorned with gold leaf. For last-minute souvenirs, visit Miraiza, a shopping mall that has been transformed from former military headquarters located on the castle grounds.

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