

Getting You Out of the Bus and Into the Culture

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Rural Discovery Tour



Japan Roads' Rural Discovery Self-Guided Tour will introduce you to rural Japan and her people while staying with a Japanese family. Of course you will see some amazing sights but the point is to sit down and talk to Japanese people, to learn how Japanese live and to experience something beyond just normal sightseeing. Our Rural Home-Stay Tour will give you stories that you will remember long after your photos have faded.

Destinations:

Himeji - Himeji Castle is one of the best remaining castles in Japan,

Kameoka - Home-Stay in Rural town just north of Kyoto,

Kyoto - Imperial Japan in a city founded in 794 AD with 17 World Heritage Sites.

This 5 night 6 day tour begins and ends in Japan.

The price is US\$ 1,825 per person, including transportation between destinations, accommodations, 5 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 evening meals. This tour can also be combined with a stays at Mt Koya, Nara or other destinations.

Dates

Open - Self-Guided Tour

Prices 2009

US\$ 1,825 per guests (2 guest minimum)

Meals Included

Breakfasts: 5
Lunches: 2
Dinners: 3

Duration

6 days, 5 nights

Guidance

You will be met at Kansai International Airport, Itami Airport or Shin-Osaka by a member of our staff who will take you to your first destination and hotel. In Kameoka you will be guided by your host family. Also detailed materials as well as support from our experts in Japan will be available for this self-guided tour.

Highlights

Home-Stay in Kameoka

Mode of Travel

Train ('Shinkansen' bullet train, and local trains), car, and on foot.

Group Size

Minimum of 2 guests

Age Restrictions

Participants should be at least 12 years old. Everyone younger than 20 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Itinerary Details:

Rural Discovery Tour - Suggested Day by Day Itinerary

Day 1 – Himeji - Western Style Hotel - Western Style Room

- Arrive at Kansai International Airport where you will be met by a member of our staff
- Travel to Himeji with our staff
- Stay in a city center hotel

After a long flight to Japan you will be met by one of Japan Roads staff who will take you to Himeji. If your plane arrive early in the day our staff will also take you around Himeji's main sight Himeji Castle.

Day 2, 3 and 4 –Kameoka- Home-Stay - Japanese Style Room

- In the afternoon travel by train to Kameoka
- Meet your home-stay



In Kameoka, a picturesque town near Kyoto, you can experience a Japanese home-stay in the home of our cultural liaison. With our liaison as your personal guide, the possibilities are endless: you can explore Kameoka by bicycle or on foot and also learn about Japanese cooking, flower arrangement, pottery, and much, much more. An excellent hostess, guide and cook, our liaison will immediately make you feel at home and will make this home-stay a truly unforgettable experience for you. This is really the best way to experience Japan.



Day 5 – Kyoto - Ryokan Lodging - Japanese Style Room

Formerly the imperial capital of Japan, it is in this city that the traditional Japanese 'high arts' flourished. Tea ceremony, calligraphy, poetry, philosophy and religion, Kyoto is the number one place to visit. Numerous temples and shrines are located throughout the city and walking along canals, next to traditional wooden houses and through the small streets really gives you an idea of the ancient Japanese imperial culture. Kyoto is not just about the high arts however. The city is also famous for its crafts: textile, kimono and pottery.

Day 6 – Tour Ends

Today is the last day of the tour. You can either go to the airport to catch your homeward flight, or else continue on to other destinations you plan to visit. Please let us know if you need any help in making these arrangements. You are in a good location to visit Mt Koya or Nara.

Tour Accommodation:

During the tour, you will have the chance to stay in a Japanese style rooms as well Western style rooms. By choosing the best accommodations possible and offering both traditional and modern lodging experiences, Japan Roads aims to give you a deeper insight into life in Japan and make you as comfortable as possible. In particular, the traditional accommodations will allow you to have close personal contact with the Japanese owners and staff of these places, thus deepening your cultural experiences. Also be aware that Japanese rooms do not have chairs and you will be seating on the tatami mat flooring.



Sample Accommodations (may vary but will be of similar quality)

Himeji: Himeji Castle Hotel (Western Hotel)

Kameoka: Home-Stay Family

Kyoto: Monterey Kyoto (Western Hotel)

Cuisine:

To make sure you get the most of your Japan experience, Japan Road tours offer a wide variety of Japanese cuisine to enjoy. You will have the chance to dine on local specialties as well as traditional gourmet food.

About Self-Guided Tours:

The tour gives offers you the materials necessary to get to your destinations and see the most interesting sights available, while giving you the flexibility and freedom to enjoy things at your own pace. We provide you with the train tickets, lodging reservations made in advance, rail and walking maps, general cultural and etiquette tips, a suggest itinerary, explanations and history of the places you will visit, as well as other information you may need.



This 6 day tour begins and ends in Japan.

Tour schedules are subject to change. If any changes should be made it will be done in the best interest of the travelers.
Japan Roads will at all times aim to offer you the most interesting tour possible.

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