

EXPLORE JAPAN BY TRAIN



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

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hello@mytravelxp.com

1300 168 910



14-Day Japan Rail Pass & Flights

Duration: 14 days

Rail pass: Multi-use rail ticket

Travel style: Independent with flights from Australia

Booking code: JPNRP14M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

14 Days Japan Rail Pass & Flights

About the holiday

The astounding history, wonders of the natural and man-made variety, ancient temples and world-class cuisine of Japan awaits on this exciting free-wheeling adventure.

Japan has an extensive and very efficient rail network and this independent trip features the great train experiences and most affordable way to get around. Japanese trains are clean, comfortable and as you'd expect, incredibly punctual. You can basically travel by train to almost everywhere that you'd want to visit and where the trains don't go, with this pass you can also travel on bus and ferry services.

Use the rail pass to take exhilarating bullet train rides, explore vibrant cities, see UNESCO World Heritage-listed sites and enjoy scenic excursions. Language is seldom a problem and stations have signs and departure boards in English, as well as Japanese. You'll enjoy unlimited access to all Japan Rail National trains and you can use the pass for airport transfers. It's really easy.

Why we love this trip...

This is a worry-free way to explore throughout Japan
Travel by the famous high-speed Bullet Train between cities
Enjoy time to experience Japan at your leisure and see what interests you most
Choose to explore amazing places like Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Miyajima and more
Flights from Australia are included, to cap off a top-value holiday!

Travel dates

Departs daily*

2024 - See the website for travel dates

**Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price will vary depending on your travel date.*

Call 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com for current rates



Independent Package includes:

Flights - Return economy airfares to Tokyo or Osaka
Fly from Melbourne, Brisbane or Sydney (contact us for other cities)
Flights from Australia include baggage & airfare taxes

Train - 14 days Japan Rail Pass multi-use ticket
Unlimited access to Japan Rail National trains, bus services & ferries

Package excludes:

Visa fees
Accommodation
All meals
Sightseeing & activities
Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry, WiFi etc.
Travel insurance is essential
Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by airlines, rail company & local operators.

Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.

Space is limited & based on the lead airfare deals being available.

**Want to include accommodation?
We can design a personal package with your choice of hotel**

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Itinerary example:

Here's a suggested itinerary, to give you an ideal of how much you can see and enjoy with your Japan Rail Pass. *Accommodation and sightseeing are not included in this package.*

Day 1: Arrive Tokyo

Sensoji Temple - Harajuku - Shibuya Crossing

On arrival, you can exchange your Japan Rail Pass and use it on the Narita Express to get to Tokyo's city centre.

A fantastic start of your 14 days in Japan would be to visit one of the most colourful and at the same time spiritual temples Tokyo has to offer - the Sensoji Temple. The location of the temple is in Asakusa, where you will also find an immense amount of tiny shopping streets with local treats and surprises.

Do not miss on Harajuku, the freakiest, funniest, and most diverse neighbourhood of Tokyo. This is the place where young people go wild in any fashion sense possible, the place where you will have the craziest shopping experience, and where you can see the drastic evolution of Japanese culture - from the classic temples filled with history to Harajuku - the fashion district.

And of course, Shibuya Crossing, the single most popular place to visit in Tokyo. Located in the very heart of the city (the Yamanote line passing by), Shibuya is the perfect location for submerging yourself completely into the Japanese culture and taking the most out of modern Tokyo.

Day 2: Tokyo

Yanaka - Gyokurin-ji - Yanaka Cemetery

Take a walk in the magnificent district of Yanaka - One of the very few places left in Tokyo, where the old spirit, traditional Japanese lifestyle, and tranquillity have preserved their places over the decades. A very curious street within this region is Yanaka Ginza street. It is perfect for all cat lovers as the shops on this street are filled with the presence of these animals.

Gyokurin-ji - One of the hidden treasures of the Yanaka district. Visit this ambient temple, which is home to an ancient chinquapin tree.

Yanaka Cemetery - Surprisingly, the cemetery of Yanaka is a peaceful place, getting many people curious to see the everlasting grave of the famous Tokugawa Yoshinobu, the last of the Shoguns from the Edo Period.

Day 3: Last day in Tokyo

Ryogoku Kokugikan - Robot Restaurant - Tokyo Skytree

If you happen to be in the city during a sumo tournament, we strongly recommend not missing out on these events. The Ryogoku Kokugikan is one of the best arenas in the world to see a classical sumo fight for the first time.

Robot Restaurant (Shinjuku stop on the Yamanote line) - The ultimate experience for anyone who hasn't ever been served by giant robots, controlled by girls in bikinis! This unique experience has driven many international tourists crazy, always with the desire to come back for more.

After seeing the many different faces of Tokyo, the grand finale should include a view from up above, namely, from the Tokyo Skytree. This is the second tallest structure in the world (the tallest one is Burj Khalifa in Dubai), offering mesmerizing sights of the city by day, and magically-inspired views by night.

Day 4: Kyoto

Higashiyama District, Kodaiji Temple and Maruyama Park

An excellent way to begin your Kyoto adventure is by visiting the Higashiyama District. This historic place offers an authentic Kyoto atmosphere and has been very well preserved over the centuries. The old capital city of Japan is very well reflected between the Yasaka Shrine and the Kiyomizudera Temple, where the narrow streets and wooden shops will transport you across time.

Kodaiji Temple - Located within the same area, this temple's secret is the bamboo grove, located behind it. It is there where time stands still, and a stroll through the bamboo forest will feel like a unique experience.

Maruyama Park - Because of its countless cherry trees, this park has quickly become one of the most famous destinations for tourists and locals during the cherry blossom period (last week of March - first week of April).

Day 5: Classic Kyoto

Saiho-ji, Funaoka Onsen and Okitsu Club

Kyoto was the capital of Japan for over a millennium. Even though the honour has now been granted to Tokyo, Kyoto remains a city of surprises for locals and newcomers alike.

We recommended checking out the following on day 5:

One of the most beautiful gardens in Japan is located on the grounds of the Saiho-ji temple. Designed in the 1339, these gardens are heart-shaped, forming a beautiful view and authentic ancient Japanese atmosphere.

For a real ancient experience, we recommend visiting Funaoka Onsen - old but remarkably well-preserved saunas (indoors and outdoors), electric baths, stone-lined outdoor baths, herbal baths... There is no end to the pleasures and relaxation you can enjoy here. For a full experience, visit the Tahitchi restaurant nearby, for a warming bowl of miso soup.

Okitsu Club Kyoto - If you wish to better understand Japanese culture, don't think twice about visiting the Okitsu club. By providing a comprehensive introduction to the roots of traditional Japanese culture, this organization will help you feel part of the elegance and delicacy the old Japanese traditions stood for.

Day 6: Last day in Kyoto

Nishiki Market, Fushimi Inari and Nanzen-ji

Nishiki Market - Fresh seafood, traditional Japanese cooking techniques, low prices, and a great location (3 min walking distance from Shijo Station; Karasuma or Kawaramachi Station) - this is easily the best place to enjoy the local cuisine.

Fushimi Inari-Taisha - This magnificent shrine and the thousands of movie scenes dedicated to this particular place make the spot a must-see for many world travellers.

Nanzen-ji - This great temple has played a significant role in the past centuries, has had the title "First Temple of the Land", forms part of the five great Zen temples of Kyoto, and has been a part of the Kyoto landscape since 1291. The view is something everyone will appreciate for its glory and power.

Day 7: Nara day trip

Todai-ji, Nara-Koen park and Nara National Museum

Probably the single most famous temple of Nara goes by the name of Todai-ji. It is where the Daibutsu (the Great Buddha; 14,98m tall; 500 tons) is located. Today the temple still preserves a significant number of national treasures while continuing to be treasure-house for traditional Buddhist rituals. Due to this, Japanese natives from all over the country come to this temple to pay their respects to the gods and send their prayers.

The Nara-Koen park - A gorgeous green space that unites history, nature, peace, and wild deer! Don't be scared of the animals, as the only thing they likely want from you is some food - however, be aware that once you feed them, they may follow you around!

Nara National Museum - a place where you will be taught about the difference between the two types of Buddhist statues and their history. The Nara National Museum also offers permanent and temporary exhibitions of sculptures, painted art and calligraphy.

Day 8: Amazing Osaka

Lifestyle Museum of Osaka - Located in a ten-story building, this museum offers the experience of Osaka in the 1830s, a typical street with shops, pharmacies, and ancient public baths. To make you feel like you are actually in the Edo period, the museum's lights recreate the daytime as well as the atmosphere at night.

Osaka-jo (Osaka Castle) - The construction of this castle started in 1583 by general Toyotomi Hideyoshi. He built it with the aim of showing everyone his power and employed over 100 000 workers for its construction. The lush grounds contain tea houses, secondary citadels, impressive gates, and over 600 cherry trees.

Osaka Aquarium Kaiyukan - One of the world's richest, biggest, and most impressive aquariums. We firmly recommend visiting it at least once, especially if you have kids in tow.

Day 9: Last day in Osaka

Umeda Sky Building - One of the most emblematic buildings of the city, Umeda Sky is 40 stories high, with two twin towers that meet in the middle. This magnificent building offers a 360° view of Osaka from up above and is especially beautiful at night.

Dotonbori - This is one of the most popular and essential tourist destinations in Osaka. A single street that represents a whole city, Dotonbori has something to offer everyone with its numerous little boutiques, curious shops, and tourist attractions.

Kuromon Ichiba Market - This is a giant indoor market, whose doors first opened in 1920. The market is located just 10 minutes' walking distance away from Dotonbori, which makes it the perfect destination, after a long walk. There you will find everything from fresh/live seafood, fresh vegetables, and meat, making for a great meal after a tiring day.

Day 10: Historic Hiroshima

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park - This memorial park is dedicated to showing the world how peace can be achieved once again even after enduring a great amount of suffering. The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park is surrounded by ample green spaces and clear waters; the area is very quiet and the A-Bomb Dome - the symbol of the peace city - is impressive, a powerful combination that will make you want to come back.

Hiroshima Castle - The castle can be seen from almost any point of the city. To arrive, you will need to take a little walk up the hill and climb the stairs, leading to the gorgeous sight of the Hiroshima Castle - a place where you will be taken back to samurai times.

Mitaki-dera Temple - This is one of the few still-hidden gems of the city. The temple was named after the three waterfalls located within its grounds. This is a place of peace and serenity, full of the beauty of nature.

Day 11: Miyajima day trip

Miyajima - the Shrine Island. One of Japan's most beautiful and popular destinations. Located just a ferry ride away from the coast of Hiroshima (and it can be reached with your Japan Rail Pass), this picturesque island offers spectacular views early in the morning, and during the day, as well as late at night.

Itsukushima Shrine - This floating shrine will leave you breathless during your visit. The centerpiece of this Japanese mastery is the Torii gate, which seemingly floats in the bright blue waters. A single boat ride will make you feel as if time has stopped, by showing you the beauty and elegance of Japanese architecture.

Momijidani Park - Take a walk and spend a few hours in this green wonderland. If you want to avoid the crowds, don't follow the road going directly up to Mt Misen, but look for the signs indicating the smaller trail. Soon you'll find yourself in beautiful forests made up of thousands of giant trees, which offer shelter on rainy days and a fresh breeze in the hot summer.

Day 12: Fukuoka

As it doesn't appear on every single TripAdvisor list for Japan, Fukuoka is a largely undiscovered gem that makes for a great final destination for your trip. Its highlights include:

Ohori Park - Once a castle moat, this park has the design of a large water garden, around a beautiful pond.

Fukuoka Castle Ruins - The area is also known as Maizuru Park, and includes the remains of a giant 17th-century castle.

Gokoku Shrine - Located near Fukuoka Castle, the Gokoku Shrine is the city centre of Fukuoka's modern life. Always busy with Japanese rituals, festivals, and celebrations, this beautiful shrine will amaze you in any season.

Day 13: Last day in Fukuoka

Tocho Ji Temple - one of the oldest temples of Japan, guarding a 30-ton Buddha and many rare objects that have been collected over the years.

Kawabata Shotengai - This is one of the oldest streets in the city. Currently, a shopping attraction, going down this street will make you feel like you have gone back in time.

Fukuoka Tower - Our classic recommendation for the last stop of your visit - an illuminated view from above the city of Fukuoka. In Japan, it has become very popular to meet for a date at such high spaces, which is why this particular tower has an area called Lover's Sanctuary. Couples can have their names/initials carved on lockets here.

Day 14: Return to Tokyo

Finally, on the last day, we suggest you just sit back and relax on your bullet train seat toward the Tokyo airports and on your journey back home.

Note: Don't forget you can use your Japan Rail Pass to take the Narita Express for free. Make sure to reserve your seats before boarding.

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2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
4. 90 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents via email.

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