

TOGETHER WE TRAVEL!



solo connections





Japan Discovery
13 Days
Fully Escorted
Departs 26 March 2020

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Osaka Castle
- Kyoto
- Hiroshima Peace Park
- Miyajima Island
- Gion District
- Hakone National Park
- Peace Park
- Owakudani Hot Spring Volcanic Valley
- Tokyo
- Yokohama and Harbour
- Imperial Palace

INCLUDES:

- Economy class airfares including taxes*
- **Private single rooms** in quality accommodation
- **Meals** as per itinerary -11 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 7 Dinners
- **Sightseeing** tours and transfers by private vehicle
- **Tour Escort** – travels with group from/to Brisbane
- Local English speaking Tour Director and local guides
- Tipping for Guides & Drivers

EXCLUDES:

- Any meals other than mentioned above
- Items of a personal nature i.e. laundry, drinks, phone calls, etc
- Travel Insurance

From \$8,885.00* per person

Terms and Conditions apply. Price is per person Sole Use and subject to availability. Price is correct as at 17 May 2019. Based on Economy class airfare. Tour requires minimum number of passengers to depart. Prices may fluctuate if surcharges, fees, taxes or currencies change. Solo Connections is constantly striving to improve our itineraries and inclusions. If such improvements can be made, or unforeseen circumstances beyond our control make changes necessary, we reserve the right at any time to vary itineraries and to substitute inclusions of equal value. Beverages, additional meals, hotel mini bars, laundry, phone calls, any items of personal nature not included. Further booking conditions apply, please check all prices, availability and other information with your travel agent at time of or before booking. Package cancellation fees apply.

Denise Marie Falsay trading as Solo Connections. ATAS Accredited A11424. ABN 92 582 582 996



Day 1 Thursday 26 March 2020
Depart Brisbane 6:10PM

Today you will meet your Tour Escort and fellow travellers at Brisbane International Airport for your flights to Osaka.

Day 2 Friday 27 March 2020
Arrive Osaka 8:45AM

L, D

Kon'nichiwa – welcome to Japan! We will be met by our local tour guide who will accompany the group to the awaiting vehicle and transfer to our hotel, where we will leave bags and have time to have a walk and stretch our legs and have some lunch before checking in at our hotel. The port city of Osaka is Japan's second largest metropolitan centre after Tokyo and has been the economic powerhouse of the Kansai Region for many centuries.

The remaining of the afternoon is at leisure and we will meet this evening for a welcome dinner.

Hotel – Art Hotel or similar (3 Nights)

Day 3 Saturday 28 March 2020
Osaka

B, L

After breakfast this morning we will visit Osaka Castle. One of Japan's most famous landmarks, the ancient castle is the symbol of Osaka with 500 years of history, and today you will have the opportunity to explore the interior of the castle to learn more about its history.

After lunch today we will visit the most exciting districts of Osaka, the Shinsaibashi & Dotonburi area. The Shinsaibashi Shopping Street is the best-known shopping area in Osaka, and an enduring symbol of the city. Shops of all kind line the street - there are traditional kimono tailors, western clothing and footwear retailers, restaurants and fast food outlets, jewelers, and boutiques featuring the latest fashions. Dotonburi is a large scale shopping district downtown along the south bank of the Dotonburi-gawa Canal often selected as a scene in Japanese and foreign movies as the symbol of Osaka.

Day 4 Sunday 29 March 2020
Hiroshima

B, D

This morning we'll take the bullet train to Hiroshima. We'll visit the Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Dome and the Peace Memorial Museum. We'll also visit the sacred island of Miyajima, the cradle of the Japanese Shinto religion. We'll visit the Itsukushima Shrine, best known for its 'floating' torii gate before returning to Osaka by train later this afternoon.

Day 5 Monday 30 March 2020
Osaka - Kyoto

B, D

This morning, we will travel to Kyoto, the amazing city with more than a thousand years of history. Kyoto is famous for its numerous classical Buddhist temples, as well as gardens, imperial palaces, Shinto shrines and traditional wooden houses.



Firstly, we visit the world heritage listed Kiyomizu Dera Temple; one of the most celebrated temples in Kyoto built at the end of the 8th Century. The main hall was constructed in the 17th century, and is famous for its location overhanging a cliff. The platform of the main hall, which is supported by 139 giant pillars, affords a spectacular view of the town of Kyoto and has been designated a National Treasure.

Hotel – Keihan Kyoto Grand or similar (2 Nights)

Day 6 Tuesday 31 March 2020
Kyoto

B,D

This morning we can have a leisurely breakfast and the morning at leisure. Your Tour Manager will discuss options with you if there is something you'd like to do, or you might just like to relax for the morning and catch your breath, and perhaps explore the local area.

This afternoon, we'll visit the famous Geisha district of Gion. With its beautifully preserved architecture and traditional customs and entertainment, the streets of Gion are characterised by old wooden townhouses (machiya) which contain teahouses (ochaya), shops and restaurants. Later in the afternoon, we will visit the Fushimi Inari Shrine. This intriguing Shinto shrine was dedicated to the god of rice and sake by the Hata clan in the 8th century. It is famous for its thousands of bright orange torii gates which were featured in the movie Memoirs of a Geisha. If time permits we will visit the Nishiki Market before dinner. Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant.

Day 7 Wednesday 01 April 2020
Kyoto - Toyahashi

B,L,D

This morning after breakfast we will visit the Arashiyama district filled with temples and shrines, but with its star attraction - the famed Arashiyama Bamboo Grove. The popular tourist district dates back to the 8th century when aristocrats often came to this area of rice fields and bamboo woods to enjoy the scenery. The landscape today is still reminiscent of that period. Lunch today will be at a local restaurant.

While we enjoy the beautiful view and take a walk in the tranquil bamboo woods, we will also have a chance to visit the world heritage site- Tenryu-Ji temple. The leading Zen Buddhism temple built in 1339 is famous for its landscape gardens.

Late afternoon, we will leave lovely Kyoto and travel south-east to Toyohashi prefecture for an overnight stay and dinner tonight will be at our hotel.

Hotel – Loisir Toyohashi or similar (1 Night)

Day 8 Thursday 02 April 2020
Toyahashi - Hakone

B,L,D

After breakfast today, we will visit the Hakone National Park.

With Mt Fuji at the background, the placid Lake Ashinoko and scenic mountains, hot springs and historic places, Hakone is surrounded by natural beauty. We will visit the Peace Park and continue to Owakudani hot spring volcanic



valley, which overlooks Mount Fuji. We will visit Mt Fuji 5th station, and if the weather does not permit a climb, we will visit Oshinohakai Springs. Lunch today will be at a local restaurant.

Tonight, you can relax and enjoy a traditional “Onsen” (hot spring bath) at your Onsen hotel and dinner will be at the hotel.

Hotel – Breezy Bay or similar (1 Night)

Day 9 Friday 03 April 2020
Hakone - Tokyo

B

This morning after breakfast we are on our way to Tokyo, via Yokohama. In Japan’s famous port city we’ll see the Yokohama harbor and the world’s largest scale of China Town. Shortly after, we will resume our journey to Tokyo. Our city tour will take us from Asakusa, the Nakamise shopping Street and Kannon Temple before we arrive in Tokyo’s most bustling commercial and entertainment district–Shinjuku Kabukicho where the city never sleeps. We will have some free time in this area before checking in to the hotel. This evening is at leisure.

Hotel – Sunshine City Prince or similar (3 Nights)

Day 10 Saturday 04 April 2020
Tokyo

B,L

After breakfast today we will visit the famous Tsukiji Fish Market then to Odaiba, the manmade island in Tokyo Bay which is a popular shopping and entertainment district. Lunch will be at a local restaurant.

This afternoon will let everyone know what their plans are and you may choose to join them or you might like to take some time for yourself and relax.

Day 11 Sunday 05 April 2020
Tokyo

B,D

This morning we visit the Imperial Palace Plaza and the East Gardens.

The Imperial Palace where their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress, reside is situated in the centre of Tokyo. The palace is surrounded by a water-filled moat and tree-covered grounds - a precious taste of nature within the bustling metropolitan city.

Continuing our tour we travel to Chidori-ga-fuchi Park where the moat is situated; it is a classic spot for viewing the glorious cherry blossoms. At last, we will visit the Meiji Jingu Shrine followed with some free time in Harajuku before we return to the hotel.

Tonight, we will enjoy our farewell dinner at the hotel.



Day 12 Monday 06 April 2020
Depart Tokyo 5:05PM

B

Standard checkout time applies today. The day is at leisure so time for some last minute shopping before the group is collected and transferred to the airport in time for the flight home. New friends and a host of memories made.

Day 13 Tuesday 07 April 2020
Arrive Brisbane 10:35AM