

# JAPAN: Experience Homestay

(Note: This is only a sample tour)

**Day 1:** Depart for Japan.

**Day 2:** Arrive **Kansai** Airport. English Speaking Assistant to meet group and make arrangements regarding the activation and reservations of rail pass use. Assistant takes group by shuttle to Business Class Hotel. Assistant will give you some suggestions for dinner (on your own).

**Day 3:** Explore **Osaka City and Osaka Castle.**

**Day 4: Osaka to Kyoto.** Group to JR Station to take train to Kyoto (use Railpass) and check in at hotel. Rest of day to explore some of the following: Movie Village (Eiga Mura), Gion Corner, Traditional Japanese Arts, Nishijin Textile Museum (kimono modeling) Dinner on your own. \*Optional: (Eng. Speaking Assistant can be made available for 8 hours)

**Day 5: All Day Tour of Kyoto by chartered bus and English Speaking Guide: Kinkaku-ji, Nijo Castle, Kiyomizu-dera Temple, Heian Shrine and visit the Kyoto Handicraft Centre.** Tour ends on return to hotel. Dinner on your own and the rest of the evening is free for exploring the local area.

**Day 6: Kyoto to Nara and back to Kyoto.** Group travels to Nara (use Railpass) on their own to spend the day exploring Nara Park and seeing Todaiji (wooden structure enclosing statue of Buddha). Return to Kyoto and spend final night in Kyoto.

**Day 7: Kyoto to Osaka to Hiroshima.** Group to JR Station for train to Osaka then switch to bullet train to Hiroshima. Upon arrival in Hiroshima check into hotel. Visit Peace Museum and Peace Park in the afternoon. Group to explore Hiroshima the rest of the evening. \*Optional: (Eng. Speaking Assistant can be made available for 8 hours)

**Day 8: Hiroshima to Miyajima Island.** Using local transportation (public tram/bus and ferry) group to get to Miyajima Island and check into ryokan (Japanese style inn which includes breakfast and dinner). Group to explore this village for the rest of day and evening.

**Day 9: Miyajima Island to Hiroshima to Tokyo.** After breakfast group to leave Miyajima Island and depart Hiroshima by bullet train to Tokyo. Purchase box lunch to have on the train. After arrival at Tokyo Station group will go and check into hostel. Evening for exploring nearby sights of Tokyo.

**Day 10:** After breakfast – Explore **Tokyo** by subway (subway passes included) with 2 English Speaking Assistants. Students may wish to discuss their plans the day before with their teachers. Possible options: **Ginza, Imperial Palace, Akibahara - Electric Town, Anime Studio, Odaiba, Harajuku, Shibuya, Shinjuku, Disney Sea, Disneyland** and more! Lunch is on your own – guides will provide suggestions. Later that evening, return to Hostel. Dinner at a local Restaurant for 'Welcome Dinner'.

**Day 11:** Tokyo to **Kamakura City for Homestay.** After breakfast check out of hostel, English Speaking Assistant to accompany group from hostel to Kamakura City and meet with homestay families. Rest of day and evening with family.



**Day 12:** Full day with Homestay families.

**Day 13:** Kamakura City to Narita Airport. After breakfast group leaves Kamakura City by local train to Narita Airport for return flight home. \*Optional: English Speaking Assistant to accompany group to Narita Airport – 4 hours. Arrive home earlier that same day! Timezone jumping!

## TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Return airfare to Kansai Airport, return from Narita
- Transportation
  - o 1 week Rail Pass
  - o Shuttle from Kansai Airport to Hotel
  - o Chartered Bus Tour in Kyoto
  - o Subway day passes in Tokyo
- English Speaking Assistants - as per itinerary
- 11 nights hotel accommodation with private facilities
  - o 6 Nights Business Class Hotels
  - o 1 Night in Ryokan (Japanese Inn)
  - o 2 Nights in Hostel (private to group)
  - o 2 Nights at Homestay
- 13 Breakfasts
- 2 lunches
- 4 dinners
- All guides (assistants) as per itinerary
- Admission/Donation fees to Kyoto City Tour

