



DISCOVER JAPAN'S BEAUTY WITH BILL PEACH JOURNEYS

Luxury World Journey Essence of Japan

10 Days | 22 Mar – 31 Mar 2018 | AUD\$14,995pp twin share | Single Supplement \$3,000

EXCLUSIVE HIGHLIGHTS

- ✦ Visit the diverse and vibrant cities of Tokyo, Hakone, Kyoto, Hiroshima and Osaka
- ✦ Luxury accommodation throughout including the Palace Hotel Tokyo, the Hakone Tenyu, the Kyoto Hotel Okura, the Sheraton Hiroshima and the Hotel New Otani Osaka
- ✦ Japanese cultural experiences including a tea ceremony, wearing kimono dress at a traditional machiya house (traditional Japanese house) and a sushi making experience
- ✦ Visit the iconic red floating Torii Gate and the beautiful Itsukushima Shrine on Miyajima Island
- ✦ All touring, transfers, entrance fees, portage and meals included
- ✦ Escorted throughout by an experienced Journey Director and local English speaking guides

"This has been a really enjoyable experience and given me a taste of different cities and regions."

Ms Penelope Robertson, Toorak VIC

Join Bill Peach Journeys and discover the quintessential Japan in this 10 day journey exploring the highlights of the "land of the midnight sun". From the fast paced bright lights of Tokyo to the idyllic countryside crowned by Mount Fuji and spectacular mountain scenery. We will travel by Shinkansen (Bullet) train, and tour some of Japan's most impressive temples and shrines.

We will visit the iconic red floating Torii Gate and the Itsukushima Shrine on Miyajima Island. In Hiroshima we visit the moving Peace Memorial Park then on to Osaka to visit Osaka Castle. Ideally located and stylish accommodation throughout assures a quality journey with every comfort. An inspiring Japanese discovery awaits those who wish to experience the essence of Japan!





THE ESSENCE OF JAPAN

DAY 1 | ARRIVE TOKYO

Arriving into Tokyo, a private transfer awaits to transport you through to your luxury hotel, the multi award winning Palace Hotel Tokyo. Ideally located in the very heart of Tokyo, your luxury hotel, a member of the Leading Hotels of the World, provides the perfect base from which to explore this extraordinary city during your day at leisure. Japan's alluring capital completely enchants those who love to immerse themselves in destinations of great depth – where soulful cultural traditions seamlessly meld with ultra modernity. This evening meet your Journey Director and fellow travellers at a welcome dinner.

Overnight: Palace Hotel Tokyo or similar

DAY 2 | TOKYO

This morning is a guided Tsukiji fish market tour, exploring one of the world's largest seafood markets learning about how seafood is used in traditional Japanese cuisine. With purchases made at the market, you will next participate in a sushi-making lesson. Under the guidance of a local cook learn to prepare rolled sushi, nigiri sushi, and other variations then enjoy your creation!

In the afternoon, discover Hamarikyū, a Japanese garden that once served as a private villa of a powerful feudal lord during the Edo period. From the park, take a scenic river cruise to Asakusa, a part of Tokyo's shitamachi or old town and is the city's oldest Geisha district.

Overnight: Palace Hotel Tokyo or similar

DAY 3 | TOKYO - NIKKO - TOKYO

Today we drive to Nikko for a full day of sightseeing. We visit the Toshogu Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which is the final resting place of Tokugawa Ieyasu, the founder of the Tokugawa Shogunate that ruled Japan for over 250 years. Nikko is also famous for spectacular scenery such as Lake Chuzenji, the Kegon waterfall and the Tamozawa Imperial Villa, all sights we will visit today before returning to our hotel.

Overnight: Palace Hotel Tokyo or similar

DAY 4 | TOKYO - MT FUJI - HAKONE

Departing Tokyo, our journey continues to the idyllic countryside location of Hakone, crowned by Mount Fuji and

stunning mountain scenery. First ride the Hakone Tozan switchback train that zigzags through the mountains and offers views of the surrounding valleys. Afterwards, ride the Guinness World Record-holder ropeway all the way up to Mt. Owakudani, passing over sulfurous fumes and hot springs. From the mountain, take the ropeway bound for Togendai and ride the replica pirate ship that cruises along Ashinoko, a body of water that was formed after a volcanic eruption that occurred more than 3,000 years ago.

Overnight: Hakone Tenyu or similar

DAY 5 | HAKONE - KYOTO

After breakfast, for those interested, there is a chance to soak in an Onsen, a traditional Japanese hot spring. Our journey continues today to Kyoto by Japan Rail Shinkansen, a bullet train. Running at speeds of up to 320 km/h, the Shinkansen is known for punctuality (most trains depart on time to the second), comfort (relatively silent cars with spacious, always forward facing seats), safety and efficiency.

Home to an astonishing 2000 shrines and temples, here in Kyoto you will explore the beautiful Kinkakuji-temple (Golden Pavilion); originally built as a retirement villa for the Shogun, after his death it became a Buddhist Temple. We also visit the Ryōan-ji (Rock) garden which is considered one of the finest surviving examples of kare-sansui (dry landscape). This refined type of Japanese Zen temple garden design generally features distinctive larger rock formations arranged amidst a sweep of smooth pebbles (small, carefully selected polished river rocks) raked into linear patterns that facilitate meditation. We transfer to our hotel, the award winning Kyoto Hyatt Regency located in the beautifully verdant Higashiyama Shichijo.

Overnight: Kyoto Hotel Okura or similar

DAY 6 | KYOTO

A full day sightseeing today including a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage Site Todaji in the city of Nara. Its Great Buddha Hall houses the world's largest bronze statue of the Buddha. We visit Nara Park also known as Deer Park which is home to hundreds of freely roaming deer, considered in Shinto to be messengers of the gods. Nara's nearly 1200 deer have become a symbol of the city and have even been designated as a natural treasure. We then visit Kasuga Grand Shrine



which is a Shinto shrine established in 768 AD famous for its many bronze lanterns, as well as the many stone lanterns that lead up the shrine. This afternoon we visit the Fushimi Sake Brewery to sample Japanese sake then on to Kiyomizu Temple. Founded in 778, this iconic Buddhist temple on Mount Otowa is known for the scenic views afforded from its sizable veranda. This evening we stroll in the Gion area – home to the “Geiko”, the local name for Geisha.

Overnight: Kyoto Hotel Okura or similar

DAY 7 | KYOTO

Continue your exploration of Kyoto today. Visit Arashiyama, famous for its beautiful scenery and the bamboo forest. Today we have an immersive Japanese cultural experience as we dress in traditional Kimono and take part in a Japanese tea ceremony in a machiya house (traditional Japanese house) followed by a discussion about the nuances of these practices.

Overnight: Kyoto Hotel Okura or similar

DAY 8 | KYOTO - HIROSHIMA

Our journey continues today to Hiroshima by Shinkansen and we transfer to the small shrine island of Miyajima. This island is home to the world renowned red floating Torii Gate that leads to the Itsukushima Shrine. We then visit the moving Peace Memorial Park and Atomic Bomb Dome. The area where the park now lies was ground zero for the atomic bomb on 6th August 1945, and holds many memorials, monuments and statues. The main attraction of the park is the Peace Memorial Museum that poignantly depicts the history of Hiroshima.

Overnight: Sheraton Hiroshima or similar

DAY 9 | HIROSHIMA - OSAKA

This morning, we head to Osaka, Japan's third largest city once again by Shinkansen. On arrival, we visit Osaka Castle, the city's most famous landmark that offers incredible views. After lunch, we check in to our hotel and have some time at leisure to relax or explore. Tonight, our farewell dinner will be an authentic Japanese kaiseki dinner at a Japanese ryotei restaurant with a geisha performance.

Overnight: Hotel New Otani Osaka or similar

DAY 10 | OSAKA - HOME

Enjoy the facilities of the hotel before transferring to Kansai Airport to board your flight home taking with you fond memories of an unforgettable Japanese discovery.

“So many highlights – the trip satisfied all my interests – ancient temples, buildings, artistic interiors, gourmet meals that were works of art, traditional kimono dress at a tea ceremony – this was a highlight for me.”

Mrs Jan G, North Strathfield NSW





ABOUT LUXURY WORLD JOURNEYS

Our worldwide collection of journeys are operated by a select number of preferred travel partners who we have chosen because of their expertise within specific regions and who combine the same style and superior level of service that has become synonymous with Bill Peach Journeys. Each of the worldwide journeys have a Bill Peach Journeys stamp of quality.

When you travel on a Bill Peach Luxury World Journey everything is included. This means not only does your holiday include accommodation, dining and all excursions but every one of these elements is the finest in its class. Throughout the journey you will have a Journey Director on hand to look after each detail.

FITNESS LEVEL - MODERATE

"The itinerary gave us a view of the modern cities, the wonderful gardens, the countryside and mountains, the historic places, fabulous hotels and castles. We saw so much!."

Mrs Jan G, North Strathfield NSW

WHY BILL PEACH JOURNEYS?

- ✦ A name you can trust with over 34 years of experience in the luxury travel industry
- ✦ Fully inclusive journeys, all meals, accommodation, touring, entrance fees, portage taxes and luggage
- ✦ Travel throughout the outback requires expert planning and organisation. Our Journey Planners ensure you enjoy an intimate exploration of the places visited in comfort and style
- ✦ A dedicated Journey Director that ensures you are looked after every step of the way
- ✦ Local professional guides at every location
- ✦ 55% of our travellers return to travel with us again within the first year of their initial journey



For more information please call our Reservations Team on 1800 252 053 (Australia),
0800 445 700 (New Zealand) or visit www.billpeachjourneys.com.au
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