Join Panda Travel in...

2027 Explore the Japan Alps & Tokyo Tour

(GP13685)

May 14 - 22, 2027

7 Nights/ 9 Days

Omiya - Kanazawa - Toyama - Alpine - Omachi - Matsumoto - Isawa Onsen/ Yamanashi - Tokyo

$100 OFF PER PERSON
on our complete tour package when you pay with a personal check/cash

☐ **$4,488***
per person-triple occupancy

☐ **$4,488***
per person-double occupancy

☐ **$5,388***
single occupancy

pandaonline.com
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1017 Kapahulu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816

A minimum of 16 participants is required for the tour to operate

Itinerary

Day 1: (Fri) May 14 – Honolulu
Depart Honolulu

→ Meet the Panda Travel representative at the airline's check-in counters 3 hours prior to departure.

Day 2: (Sat) May 15 – Haneda-Omiya
Palace Hotel Omiya (Free Wi-Fi)

→ Arrive at Haneda Airport. Meet your English-speaking local guide at the arrival lobby, and we'll transfer to **Palace Hotel Omiya**, where we'll be staying for the night. Our hotel is located with many shopping and dining options available to you.

Day 3: (Sun) May 16 – Omiya-Kanazawa-Toyama (B)
DoubleTree by Hilton Toyama (Free Wi-Fi) - Enjoy onsen

(Note: your luggage will be delivered by chartered truck from Omiya to your hotel in Toyama, arriving on the same day)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby. From here, we'll take a short walk to Omiya Station and board a **bullet train** (Kagayaki 505) to Kanazawa.

→ 11:15am – Once we arrive at Kanazawa Station, we'll visit the hub of all things: **Omicho Market**, which features a network of covered streets with hundreds of stalls. While seafood and produce take center stage, you'll also find an array of items, including flowers, clothing, kitchen tools.

→ 1:00pm – Our next stop is the **Gold and Silver Leaf Shop**, a landmark with a history of gold leaf production dating back 400 years in Kanazawa. At this specialty store, we'll learn from artisans and participate in a **gold pasting workshop.** Enjoy this fun hands-on experience!

→ 2:15pm – Created by the Maeda family over centuries and located near Kanazawa Castle, **Kenroku-en Garden** is known for its beautiful landscapes and seasonal flowers. Its name translates to "Garden of the Six Sublimities," representing the six essential qualities in Chinese landscape theory that define a perfect garden: spaciousness-seclusion, artifice-antiquity, and water-panoramas.

→5:00pm – Arrive at **DoubleTree by Hilton Toyama**, where we'll be staying for the next 2 nights. Our hotel is conveniently located just a short walk from Toyama Station, which features a variety of shopping and dining options, including the Toyama Station City complex. Nearby, you'll find MAROOT, Sogawa Dori Shopping Street, and Kitokito Ichiba Toya Marche shopping facility.

Day 4: (Mon) May 17 – Toyama (B/L)
DoubleTree by Hilton Toyama (Free Wi-Fi) - Enjoy onsen

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 9:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for for Toyama.

→ 9:30am – This morning, uncover the 300 years of history behind the techniques and traditions of Toyama's famous pressed-trout sushi at **Masunosushi Museum!** Indulge in tastings and learn about the craftsmanship behind this beloved dish, along with a variety of sushi-making techniques.

→ 11:45am – Enjoy a leisurely stroll through **Gokayama**, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its traditional gassho-zukuri farmhouses. These unique structures feature steep thatched roofs that resemble the hands of Buddhist monks in prayer, designed to protect from heavy snowfall. Some of these remarkable farmhouses date back over two centuries. Soak in the breathtaking mountain views while exploring the charm of the village.

→ 1:30pm – A **Japanese-style lunch** will be served at a local restaurant.

→ 3:00pm – At the **Gokayama Washi no Sato**, we'll learn about the ancient craft of washi paper making, which has been practiced for centuries in this region. Discover the meticulous process of creating this traditional Japanese paper known for its durability and beauty and try your hand at **making your own washi!**

→ 6:00pm – Return to hotel. Spend the evening of shopping and dining at your leisure or unwind in the hotel's onsen.

Day 5: (Tue) May 18 – Toyama-Alpine-Omachi (B/L/D)
ANA Holiday Inn Resort Shinano-omachi Kuroyon (Free Wi-Fi)

(Note: please ensure you come prepared with warm clothing, comfortable walking shoes, and sunglasses)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 9:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for the Tateyama Kurobe Alpine Route.

→ 10:00am – Arrive and enter Tateyama Station.

→ 10:30am–4:30pm – An unforgettable adventure begins on the **Tateyama Kurobe Alpine Route**, which connects Toyama City to Omachi Town. Also known as the "roof of Japan," the Alpine Route is renowned for its unmatched mountain scenery, diverse seasonal landscapes, and the iconic Yuki-no-Otani snow corridor, an expanse of road flanked by massive snowpacked walls that can tower over 65 ft high. The modes of transportation to make the journey through the mountains include trains, buses, cable cars, a

ropeway, and even a trolley bus (the only one of its kind in Japan!). While on the route, we'll also enjoy a **Japanese-style lunch.**

→ **4:30pm –** Upon arriving at **Ogisawa Station**, we'll drive to our hotel.

→ **5:00pm –** Check in at **ANA Holiday Inn Resort Shinano-omachi Kuroyon**, followed by a **buffet dinner at 6:30pm.**

Day 6: (Wed) May 19 – Omachi-Matsumoto (B/L)

Hotel Buena Vista (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **9:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby this morning for Matsumoto.**

→ **9:45am –** Our first stop brings us to **Daio Wasabi Farm.** A cultivator of approx. 10% of Japan's wasabi crop, this massive farm benefits from the crystal-clear waters of the Northern Alps and houses traditional wooden water wheels that were even featured in Akira Kurosawa's "Dreams" film. While here, stroll through the vast wasabi fields, stop by Daio Shrine, and sample specialities like wasabi beer and ice cream!

→ **11:15am –** Now a visit to the **Japan Ukiyo-e Museum**, home to the world's largest private art collection of ukiyo-e (woodblock prints) and other masterpieces that have taken the Sakai family hundreds of years to amass.

→ **1:00pm –** This afternoon, we'll make a stop at the **Ishii Miso Factory.** The factory specializes in producing a distinctly delicious and rich miso with its 3 year long cedar barrel fermentation process, a disappearing art that this factory preserves. While here, we'll delight in a **Japanese-style lunch** with miso incorporated dishes.

→ **2:45pm –** Time to explore **Matsumoto Castle**, a designated National Treasure with spectacular views of the Northern Alps in the background. Nicknamed the "Crow Castle" for its grandiose black wainscoting, this castle stands as one of Japan's original castles and rivals Himeji and Kumamoto in notoriety.

→ **4:30pm –** Check in at **Hotel Buena Vista.** Enjoy the evening at leisure.

Day 7: (Thu) May 20 – Matsumoto-Kofu-Isawa Onsen/Yamanashi (B/L/D)

Hanayagi no sho Keizan (Free Wi-Fi) - Enjoy onsen

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:45am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby this morning for Matsumoto.**

→ **10:15am –** Tucked in the foothills of Japan's Southern Alps lies **Suntory Hakushu Distillery**, an incredibly popular attraction and leader in whisky manufacturing. Distinctively, the distillery draws from the Alps's soft mountain water to craft high-quality, award-winning brews. Its signature product, the "Hakushu 18-year-old" single malt whisky, won a gold award in the 2006 International Spirits Challenge.

→ **12:30pm –** Enjoy a **Japanese-style lunch** at a local restaurant in the Shosenkyo area.

→ **1:45pm –** Discover Yamanashi Prefecture's **Shosenkyo Gorge**, a strikingly beautiful natural wonder and a designated Heritage site. Renowned as one of Japan's most iconic scenic spots and a source of inspiration for countless historical poets and artists, this breathtaking gorge invites visitors on a captivating journey through majestic waterfalls, towering stone structures, and natural greenery. For stunning views, we'll take the **ropeway** to a panoramic viewing platform and spot the Southern Japan Alps and Mt. Fuji in the distance.

→ Now, we'll head to **Isawa Onsen**, one of the largest hot spring resorts in the Yamanashi Prefecture with over 100 onsen centric ryokan and Western-style hotels at its peak. Famously, the water that flows through this scenic town contains a high concentration of sodium and calcium ions, an alkaline combo with healing properties.

→ **4:30pm –** Arrive at **Hanayagi no sho Keizan**, followed by a **Japanese-style dinner at 6:30pm.** During our stay, take some time to enjoy the relaxing onsite onsen.

Day 8: (Fri) May 21– Isawa Onsen/Yamanashi-Tokyo (B)

Sunshine City Prince Hotel (Free Wi-Fi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:45am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for Tokyo.**

→ **9:00am –** Our morning begins with a delightful **strawberry-picking experience** at Isawa Ichigo Farm. Enjoy the activity!

→ **10:00am –** Next, a visit to the **Shingenmochi Factory.** The factory tour reveals the 6 sec approach to wrapping mochi, a rate at which they are able to produce 120,000 shingen mochi on a typical day.

→ From here, we'll drive to our next destination: Tsukiji Outer Market, Tokyo.

→ **1:00pm –** Once the world's largest fish market, **Tsukiji's** beloved outer market still buzzes with excitement, offering fresh street food, seasonal produce tastings, and artisan knife shops that have supplied Tokyo's top chefs for generations. The inner auction relocated to Toyosu in 2018, but this bucket-list destination's flavor and character are very much alive.

→ **3:00pm –** Upon arriving at Ueno, dive into the high-energy **Ameyoko Shopping Street**, located in the heart of Ueno. From hidden bargains to street-food delicacies, Ameyoko is a treasure trove for all ages. Happy hunting!

→ **5:00pm –** Arrive at **Sunshine City Prince Hotel**, our accommodations for the night. Our hotel is directly connected to Sunshine City shopping center with many shopping and dining options available to you. Nearby, you'll also find a 24-hr Family Mart convenience store and a Seiyu supermarket for snack, bento, and beverage pickups. Enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure.

Day 9: (Sat) May 22 – Tokyo-Haneda-Honolulu (B)

(Note: late check out until 5pm)

→ **After breakfast, enjoy your free day to explore Tokyo before our flight home this evening.**

→ **5:00pm – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for our transfer to Haneda Airport for our flight home.**

→ **Arrive in Honolulu (same day).**

Thank you for traveling with us!

Need to Know...

Payment Policy

- To secure your reservation, a **$200 per person** deposit is required. The deposit can be refunded until **February 10, 2027.** Any changes made after this date will be subject to additional fees.
- Final payment is due by **March 15, 2027.** Package is non-refundable after this date.

* Fares and Fees (Priced in USD)

- Are subject to change in light of fuel supplements, taxes, and differences in costs.
- We reserve the right to change any part of the itinerary, including payment schedules, at any time and without notice.

Special Assistance

- You must inform us of any disability/impairment that requires special attention at the time of your making the reservation.
- We reserve the right to cancel the reservation(s) if the disability/impairment is unsuitable for the tour.
- You are also responsible for any costs and/or accommodations related to your disability/impairment, such as providing your own travel companion.

Travel Insurance

- We highly recommend the purchase of trip insurance. Please ask our representatives for more information.

Travel Documents

- A valid passport is required for all U.S. citizens and must be valid and not expire at least 6 months from the return tour date.
- Non-U.S. passport holders must check with the Japanese Consulate to see if a visa is required.

Land Tour Operator & Costs

- Land Tour Operator is Nippon Travel Agency.
- Land Tour costs are based on current currency conversion rates, which are subject to change.

Other remarks

- Not Included in the tour: Gratuities for local English speaking guide; additional baggage fee charges from the airlines; alcohol and soft drinks with meals.
- A minimum of 16 participants are required for the tour to operate.
- You are expected to abide by domestic and international government and accommodation policies related to health, safety, and welfare.