



OSAKA TO SEOUL WITH CELEBRITY CRUISES

Classic Cruising Tour | 23 Days | Physical Level 1

OSAKA – KYOTO – NAGANO – TOKYO – MT FUJI – KOCHI – HIROSHIMA – KAGOSHIMA – NAGASAKI – FUKUOKA –
BUSAN – SEOUL

Embark on an unforgettable journey through Japan to South Korea on a tour that combines land and cruise into one. Discover classic sights, modern cities, historical attractions and beautiful landscapes that will make for unparalleled memories.

- Discover tranquil Kyoto
- Admire beautiful Mount Fuji
- Explore Jigokudani Monkey Park and see the Japanese Snow Monkeys
- Feel the rush of Tokyo
- Cruise on the Celebrity Millennium and enjoy Japan and South Korea at sea
- Journey through picturesque Busan
- Embrace the lively nature of Seoul

To book call **1300 727 998** or visit your local travel agent

Visit wendywutours.com.au

TOUR MAP



TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- 12 nights Celebrity cruise on Celebrity Millennium
- All accommodation
- Meals as stated (if dining on board throughout) – 20 breakfasts (B), 19 lunches (L), 20 dinners (D)
- All sightseeing and entrance fees, transportation and transfers pre and post cruise
- English speaking National Escort (if your group is 10 or more passengers) or Local Guides pre and post cruise
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides

Pre and post cruise, the only elements or aspects you may have to pay for are personal expenditures e.g., drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping, early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary.

During the cruise, your meals on board will be included in the main dining areas, however, should you wish to dine in any of the speciality restaurants not included in your cruising package, you will be required to pay for these locally. In addition, if you opt to dine off the ship, these meals will also be paid for locally, and please note you will not be refunded for meals missed on board. Excursions are also available to book with your cruise reservation at your own expense.

CLASSIC CRUISING TOURS:

These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of Japan on an excellent value group tour whilst travelling with like-minded people combined with a cruise. The tours are on a fully-inclusive basis pre & post cruise, so you will travel with the assurance that all your arrangements before and after your cruise are taken care of. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escorts or Local guide pre & post cruise only, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

JOINING YOUR TOUR:

For travellers that have booked a 'Land & Cruise Only' tour with no international flights, please note the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if you are arriving on the start and departing on the conclusion date of your tour, or when booking pre/post night accommodation with Wendy Wu Tours.

Join the tour on Day 2 in Kyoto, Japan (arrive into Kansai International airport) and end the tour on Day 22 in Seoul, South Korea. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

We intend to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours, or as dictated by local conditions. In these circumstances, we will endeavour to make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip. Similarly, while cruise liners always endeavour to adhere to the published itineraries, they may be changed at the discretion of the captain due to weather advisories, port traffic, and any other unforeseeable circumstances.

PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:

All our tours feature a physical rating to help you select the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights.

'Osaka to Seoul with Celebrity Cruises' is rated as a **physical level 1** tour. A reasonable level of fitness is required, and you should expect to be on your feet for much of the day. You will be getting on and off coaches, trains or boats and walking around the sights, often including steps, plus occasional longer walks.

- There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods of time, often on uneven surfaces
- You will be required to get on and off small boats without assistance
- You will be required to board the cruise ship without assistance and get on and off at ports if you wish to disembark the ship

Of course, our National Escort and local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

DETAILED ITINERARY**Days 1-2 Arrive in Osaka - Kyoto****Meals: D**

Fly overnight to the lively, fast-paced city of Osaka. On arrival you will be met by an English-speaking representative and transferred to your hotel in Kyoto.

Please note: Early check-in is not included. If your flight arrives in the morning and you wish to arrange this, please speak to your reservation's consultant. You will be transferred by shared coach with other passengers who are not part of a Wendy Wu Tour. If you are on a shared bus transfer, you may have to walk for a few minutes to get to your hotel. Transfers will differ depending on group size.

**Destination Information**

Osaka – Osaka, formerly known as Naniwa, is Japan's third largest city and remains the economic powerhouse of the Kansai Region. The city is famed for its delicious food and is often referred to as the culinary capital. The city also boasts vibrant colours that surround each street, rich history and culture.

Day 3: Explore Kyoto**Meals: B, L, D**

Start the day with a guided tour exploring some of the city's highlights. Begin with a visit to the Kiyomizu Temple, founded in the 8th century and situated halfway up the Otowayama Hill allowing for stunning views of Kyoto.

Continue with a visit to the Fushimi Inari Shrine, famous for its corridors of torii gates, followed a Sukiyaki lunch at a local restaurant.

Enjoy a trip to the Matsui Shuzou Museum for some local sake tasting, followed by a stroll of the Gion. This evening, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel.



You will walk up part of the mountain and the incline allows a steady-paced walk around 15 minutes with flat road and steps to reach the torii gates. Due to the limited space at Fushimi Inari Shrine coach parking, you may need to walk from coach parking for 15 minutes. You will be on your feet for approximately 3-4 hours today.

Destination Information

Kyoto – Kyoto was the ancient capital of Japan for approximately 1,000 years until 1867 when it was moved to Tokyo. Many national treasures can be found in Kyoto and in nearby Nara, including old shrines and temples, screen paintings, beautiful gardens, and statues of Buddha.

Fushimi Inari Shrine – An important Shinto shrine in southern Kyoto, Fushimi Inari is most famous for its thousands of vermillion torii gates which form a network of tunnels around the main shrine buildings. The shrine itself is dedicated to Inari, the Shinto god of rice. There are many fox statues in the grounds of the shrine as foxes are thought to be Inari's messengers.

Kiyomizu – Meaning 'Pure Water Temple', the 16th century Kiyomizu Temple is one of the most celebrated temples of Japan and houses the Jishu Shrine dedicated to the deity of love. A highlight is the Hondo's veranda which is perched over the hillside, offering spectacular woodland vistas.

Day 4: Kyoto

Meals: B, L, D

After breakfast, embark on a guided tour of Kyoto. Begin with a visit to the beautiful Kinkaku-ji Temple also known as the 'Golden Pavillion' due to its gold-like exterior.

Go on to discover the Ryoanji Temple, the 'temple of the peaceful dragon' and Kiyomizu Temple before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant.

Afterwards, visit to the beautiful Arashiyama Bamboo Forest and the Tagetsukyo bridge. Later this evening, enjoy a dinner with a Maiko Performance at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel.

You will be on your feet for approximately 4-5 hours today.



Destination Information

Ryoanji Temple – Ryoanji Temple is a Zen temple renowned for its garden, which features a dry, sand landscape with large rocks and smooth pebbles.

Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavillion) – Kinkakuji Temple is a Buddhist temple and is an excellent example of Japanese garden design. The structure is a brilliant golden hue colour and is very minimalistic.

Day 5: Bullet train to Mt Fuji**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast this morning, travel approximately 2 and a half hours by a Shinkansen ride with your English-speaking guide to Odawara.

Your first stop will be lunch at a local restaurant, before taking the Komagatake Ropeway cable car up to the viewpoint on Mt Komagatake where you will have the chance to admire the unforgettable views of Mt Fuji and Lake Ashi below (weather dependent). Next head to Hakone to board a mini cruise on Lake Ashi (weather dependent).



Afterwards, travel to Nagano for a stay at a traditional ryokan, with onsen facilities for you to enjoy.

Please note: You will need to prepare a small bag for your overnight stay in Nagano. Your main luggage will be transferred separately to your hotel in Tokyo. In case of bad weather, you will visit the Mt Fuji World Heritage Centre instead.

Destination Information

Mt Fuji – At 3,776m, Mount Fuji is the highest of Japan's mountains and remains an iconic symbol of the country. Mount Fuji is notoriously shy and is often enveloped by clouds.

Lake Ashi – Formed after Mount Hakone's last eruption 3000 years ago, Lake Ashi is the symbol of Hakone and on a clear day offers spectacular views of Mount Fuji in the distance.

Komagatake Ropeway – Komagatake Ropeway goes from the shore of Lake Ashi to near the Komagatake peak of Mount Hakone. When the weather and visibility is good, panoramic views of Lake Ashi and Mount Fuji can be enjoyed.

Day 6: Snow Monkeys**Meals: B, L, D**

Today, you will pay a visit to the Jigokudani Monkey Park, home of the famous Japanese Snow Monkeys, accompanied with your English-speaking guide, by private vehicle.

Please note, from the bus park, you will walk approximately 30-minutes along potentially snowy paths on an incline, to the main pool where the monkeys bathe.

Accustomed to humans, the monkeys can be observed from very close, and almost completely ignore their human guests.



Next, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before transferring to your hotel in Tokyo for check-in, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant this evening.

Destination Information

Nagano – The host city of the 1998 Winter Olympics, Nagano is the main access point for the Japanese Alps.

Jigokudani Yaen-Koen – Home to Japanese Macaques, also known as Snow Monkeys, Jigokudani literally means ‘hell’s valley’. It is named this because of the steam and boiling water that bubbles out of small crevices in the ground. It is in the baths of this hot water that the resident Japanese Macaques like to soak. The monkeys live in large social groups, and it can be quite entertaining to watch their interactions.

Day 7: Discover Tokyo**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel and embark on a full day tour of Tokyo. Begin with a visit to Sensoji Temple, arguably one of Tokyo's most popular and photographed temples and the oldest Buddhist temple in the capital.

Wander down Nakamise Shopping Street, a centuries-old souvenir street, where you will be able to enjoy some shopping opportunities for that perfect souvenir or pick up a local delicacy as there's plenty of scrumptious snacks too.

Next, participate in a sushi making class where you'll enjoy your own creations for lunch. After, visit Imperial Palace, Meiji Jingu shrine and then Takeshita Street for local treats tasting. Finally, head to Shibuya Crossing for a brief photo stop.



You will be on your feet for approximately 4-5 hours during your touring in Tokyo.

Destination Information

Tokyo – One of the world's most cutting-edge capital cities, Tokyo is a city of contrasts, famous for its neon lit landscape, towering skyscrapers, peaceful shrines and lovingly tended gardens. Although long the political and cultural centre of Japan, Tokyo became the official capital when the Meiji Emperor moved it to Tokyo in 1867.

Sensoji Temple – Sensoji Temple is an ancient Buddhist Temple and the oldest in Tokyo. The temple was originally founded in the 7th century. The temple adorns an image of the Buddhist Goddess Kannon, who was said to have been rescued by two fishermen from the Sumida River in Tokyo.

Meiji Shrine – Meiji Shrine is a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji and his wife Empress Shoken. The shrine is located in an evergreen forest within in the busy city and consists of 120,000 trees which were donated by people from all over Japan when the shrine was established.

Day 8: Embark Celebrity Cruise in Tokyo**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before checking out.

You will be met by your English-speaking assistant and transfer to the Yokohama cruise port, a journey of approximately 45 minutes.

Upon arrival, board the Celebrity Millennium, where your cruise adventure begins! The rest of your day on the cruise ship is at leisure.

Please note, your National Escort will not be accompanying you for the duration of your cruise.

Whilst onboard, enjoy the amenities the Celebrity Millennium cruise ship has to offer. Onboard activities available include silent discos, yoga, archery, as well as award-winning shows that offer amazing entertainment at sea. During your time here, you will also be able to benefit from the wide range of eateries, serving flavours from around the world.

Destination Information

Yokohama – A cosmopolitan city that perfectly blends the old and the new, Yokohama is home to various shopping districts, a large Chinatown and is also known for the Sankei-en Garden, a beautiful botanical garden that also features a number of historic buildings.

**Day 9: Cruising - Shimizu (Mt Fuji)****Meals: B, L, D**

Today you will dock in the port of Shimizu. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later in the day for your onward journey.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.

**Destination Information**

Shimizu – Renown for being one of the most scenic ports in Japan, the port of Shimizu provides breathe-taking views of Mt Fuji (weather dependent). The port that was once used primarily for exporting tea, is now home to a four storey shopping centre, a number of museums and the Kashi-no-Ichi fish Market.

Day 10: Cruising - Kyoto**Meals: B, L, D**

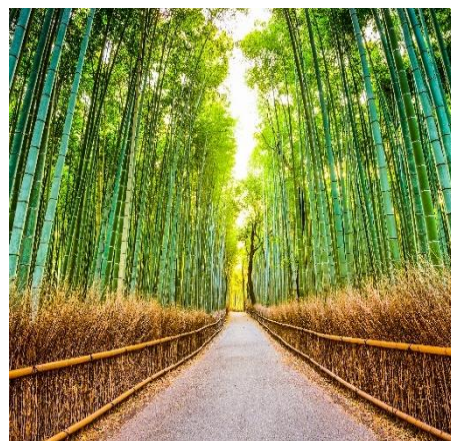
Today, arrive back in Kyoto. Spend the day at leisure.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.

**Day 11: Cruising - Kyoto****Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy the day at your own pace at port in Kyoto, before you go on to return to your ship later in the day for your onward journey.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.

**Day 12: Cruising - Kochi****Meals: B, L, D**

Dock in the port of Kochi. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure. Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.



Destination Information

Kochi – Surrounded by stunning mountains and the Pacific Ocean, Kochi is home to a wide variety of stunningly unique attractions, including the Chikurinji Temple, over 1300 years old, the Hirome Market, offering a number of Kochi's most renowned dishes as well as Katsurahama Beach, a crescent-shaped beach that has long been a popular destination to view the moon.

Kochi Castle – No visit to Kochi would be complete without exploring the Kochi Castle, built over 400 years ago and remains as one of the last 12 castles in Japan to still have its original main keep.

Day 13: Cruising- Hiroshima

Meals: B, L, D

Your cruising adventure continues on to Hiroshima, where the ship will dock today. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later in the day where your journey through Japan will continue.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.



Destination Information

Hiroshima – An atomic bomb was dropped over Hiroshima on 6th August 1945, and the city's name became famous worldwide for this unenviable distinction. The destructive power obliterated nearly everything within a 2km radius. The city has been rebuilt and has risen phoenix-like from the ashes with destroyed sites of historical heritage reconstructed.

Peace Memorial Park and Museum – The Peace Memorial Park and Museum is one of the most prominent features of the city. The trees, lawns and walking paths are in stark contrast to the surrounding downtown area. Before the bomb, this area was the political and commercial heart of the city which is why it was chosen as the target. The museum focuses on the events of August 6th and the ensuing outcome for the residents.

Day 14: Cruising**Meals: B, L, D**

Spend today at sea enjoying what your cruise ship Celebrity Millennium has to offer.

**Day 15: Cruising - Kagoshima****Meals: B, L, D**

Port in Kagoshima, where you will be able to explore at your own pace, as today is also at leisure. Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise reservation.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.

**Destination Information**

Kagoshima – Located in the shadows of Mt Sakurajima, an active volcano, Kagoshima is commonly referred to as the “Naples of the East” due to its similarly mild climate and stunning bay.

Kagoshima played a pivotal role in the modernisation of Japan, particularly in the Meiji Restoration, which saw Emperor Meiji move from Kyoto to Tokyo which then became the new capital. The city was once the seat of one of Japan’s most powerful feudal clans, the Shimazu, that is currently in its 32nd generation.

Day 16: Cruising - Nagasaki**Meals: B, L, D**

Dock in the port of Sasebo. Enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later in the day for your onward journey.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.

**Destination Information**

Nagasaki – Known for being the second target for the US atomic bomb that was dropped during World War II, Nagasaki was once Japan's primary gateway for trading with the West and has since been rebuilt to the charming city it stands as today.

Day 17: Cruising - Fukuoka**Meals: B, L, D**

Port in Fukuoka, where you will be able to explore at your own pace what this stunning city has to offer. Here you can enjoy a range of excursions at your own expense, bookable on your cruise.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.

**Destination Information**

Fukuoka – Fukuoka sits on the northern shore of Japan's Kyushu Island, and is the island's largest city. It is known for ancient temples, beaches and modern shopping malls. Fukuoka is closer to Seoul in South Korea than it is to Tokyo, making Fukuoka an important harbour city for many centuries.

Day 18: Cruising - Busan, South Korea**Meals: B, L, D**

Your cruising journey continues to Busan, the largest port city in South Korea, where you will be able to explore at your own pace, as today is also at leisure.

Please note, if you dine off the cruise ship, these meals will be at your own expense.

**Destination Information**

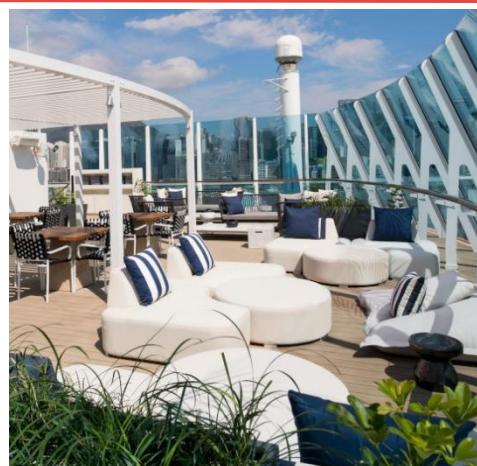
Busan – With over 3.6m people, Busan is South Korea's second largest city and the largest seaport. However, the city is full of character and is known for its beaches, mountains and temples. Because Busan was not captured during the Korean War, it gives a glimpse of Korea before the 1950s in a way that other places don't.

Dongbaekseom Island – Dongbaekseom, meaning island of camellias, is an island located off one end of Busan's famous Haeundae Beach. Although years of sedimentation have connected the island to the mainland, Dongbaekseom is still referred to as an island.

Tumuli Park – In the centre of town, the walled-off Tumuli Park contains over two dozen large and small tombs from the Silla period. Until quite recently this was a functioning, though quiet, part of town, but in the 1970s the buildings were removed, and the area beautified.

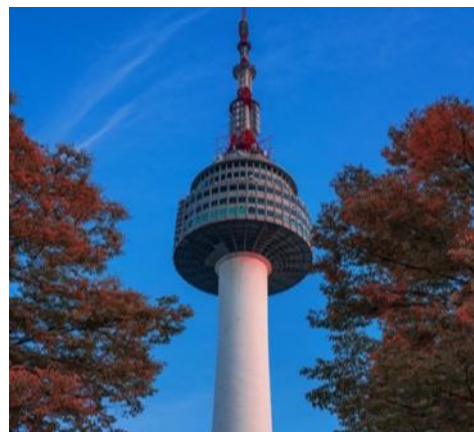
Day 19: Cruising**Meals: B, L, D**

Spend today at sea enjoying what your cruise ship has to offer.

**Day 20: Disembark Celebrity Cruise in Seoul, South Korea****Meals: B, L, D**

Your cruise concludes as you reach Seoul cruise port today, where you will be met by an English-speaking guide.

You will be transferred to your hotel and spend the remainder of the day at leisure before having dinner at your hotel.

**Destination Information**

Seoul – Capital of South Korea, Seoul is a dynamic metropolis where modern skyscrapers, shopping malls and pop culture meet Buddhist temples, palaces and street markets. Seoul was the capital of Korea from 1394 until the formal division of the country in 1948. However, its history stretches back over two thousand years. The name itself has come to mean “capital” in the Korean language.

Day 21: Explore Seoul, South Korea**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before being met by an English-speaking guide to embark a full day tour of Seoul.

Begin with a visit to Gwanghwamun Plaza, where you will encounter the statues of King Sejong and Admiral Yi Sun-Sin. Continue through Gwanghwamun gate to visit Gyeongbokgung (Gyeongbok) Palace, where you will witness the ceremonial changing of the guard. Next, change into some traditional clothes before visiting Bukchon Hanok Village. Then head to a local restaurant for lunch.



Afterwards, enjoy a Korean Traditional Kimchi cooking demonstration before taking a guided walk along the picturesque Cheonggyecheon Stream. Next, visit the Myeongdong area renowned for its trendy fashion boutiques, cosmetics shops, street food stalls, and more. You'll also have a chance to visit Myeongdong Underground where you will find all sorts of latest fashion trends and memorabilia.

Days 22 - 23: Depart Seoul**Meals: B**

This morning is free at leisure before transferring to the airport for your return flight, arriving home the same or the following day.

Please note: Only breakfast is included today. Late check-out is not included. If you wish to book a late check-out for your final day in Seoul, please contact our reservations department who can confirm additional pricing and make this arrangement for you, subject to availability at the hotel.

Transfers: In the even that your flight departs outside of the majority group departure time, you will be transferred to the airport by a shared coach (not with other Wendy Wu Tours passengers). If you are on a shared coach transfer, you may have to walk for a few minutes to get to the coach.



PLEASE INFORM OUR RESERVATIONS TEAM OF ANY ALLERGIES AND/OR SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS AT TIME OF BOOKING.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

VISAS:

A visa is not required for Australian passport holders for entry into Japan for stays up to 90 days.

A visa is not required for Australian passport holders for entry into South Korea for stays up to 90 days. This is until 31 December 2025, a visa may be required after this time.

However, all travellers must submit an electronic arrival declaration 3 days prior to the date of arrival in South Korea. You can complete this on their website: www.e-arrivalcard.go.kr

Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back in Australia.

All information with regards to visas will be updated regularly on our website as we find visa processes are changing on regular basis <https://www.wendywutours.com.au/help-and-advice/passports-and-visas/>

However, up until the day you travel, it is vital you keep up to date and familiarised with the entry requirements, as these can change at short notice. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate, Wendy Wu Tours acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa or entry forms. You are personally responsible for completing any entry forms and adhering to countries' specific entry requirements.

INSURANCE:

It is a condition of your booking that you are insured for the duration of your trip. We recommend comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, medical requirements, luggage, repatriations and additional expenses. At a minimum, the policy is required to cover medical requirements including medical evacuations / repatriations. The choice of insurer is yours. We strongly suggest you purchase insurance at the time you pay your deposit. This is because cancellation fees and charges are payable from that time.

We may request you to provide evidence that you have taken out and paid for a policy to comply with this condition. If you fail to provide a certificate of currency of insurance within a reasonable time after our request, then this will be deemed a cancellation by you and standard cancellation fees will apply.

MEALS AND DIETARY INFORMATION

Korean and Japanese cuisines are renowned for their delicious, healthy, and vibrant flavours. In South Korea, meals typically include rice, soup, and banchan (side dishes) such as kimchi, fish, and meat. Korean food tends to be spicier than Japanese or Chinese dishes. In Japan, meals are centred around rice, miso soup, fish, pickled vegetables, and meat, with noodles like udon and soba being staples. Most meals are eaten with chopsticks, as cutlery is not always provided.

All meals (excluding drinks) are included in fully inclusive group tours from arrival to departure. Breakfast is usually buffet style but may occasionally be a set menu. Lunch is often pre-set as is common in local restaurants, while dinner may be buffet-style or pre-set, featuring a variety of Japanese, Korean, and Western dishes. Your guides pre-book meals to ensure you experience a range of local cuisines and cooking styles. On busy sightseeing days, your group may dine directly after tours without returning to the hotel.

In South Korea, restaurants specialize in specific items, so desserts or coffee require separate venues, such as dessert or coffee shops.

Cruise dining: On board the Celebrity Millennium, you'll enjoy flexible dining at a range of included venues offering international cuisine with no fixed menus or rigid dining times. Complimentary restaurants include the main Restaurant and the Oceanview Café. Specialty dining restaurants are available for an additional charge.

Dietary Requirements: If you have dietary requirements, please inform us before your tour starts. Our guides will make every effort to accommodate requests such as vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, or other dietary needs. However, it's important to note that in some remote areas, dining options may be more limited, and certain dietary requests may be harder to fulfil. Additionally, some local dishes are traditionally cooked using animal fats, broths, or sauces, which may not always be easily adapted to suit certain dietary needs.

While on the cruise, the ship's restaurants are well-equipped to cater to a wide range of dietary requirements, though it is still recommended to notify the cruise line of any specific needs in advance. During shore excursions, dining options may vary, and local food establishments may have limited capacity to meet special dietary requests.

For travellers with food intolerances or strict dietary needs, we recommend bringing snacks or suitable food items to supplement meals, particularly when exploring remote areas or during long excursions. Your patience and understanding are appreciated, as local suppliers may not always be able to provide the same level of accommodation as you might expect at home. However, we aim to ensure you have an enjoyable and authentic culinary experience throughout your journey.

LAND ACCOMMODATION:

Accommodation is selected for its convenience, comfort, or character, ranging from business hotels in cities to family-run guesthouses in smaller towns. In more remote areas, standards may be lower, and facilities might not include all Western amenities. Hotels are generally rated 3-4 stars locally, but please note that there is no international classification system, so standards may differ between Australia and South Korea/Japan.

In South Korea, some hotels have hot water restrictions, usually available only in the morning and evening. Hotels often do not have porters, so you will be expected to carry your luggage. If you need assistance, please speak with your National Escort or local guide.

In Japan, hotel rooms and bathrooms are typically small. Standard single rooms are smaller than double or twin rooms, featuring a small double bed (or single bed) for one person. All group tour hotels have private Western-style bathrooms, air-conditioning, TV, and telephone. In the Fuji area of Japan, hotels are often traditional in style. You may be asked to remove your shoes at the door and store them in a secure locker - this is a typical Japanese custom.

Rest assured, all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected to meet our standards and ensure your comfort.

are regularly inspected by our staff and partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

PORTERAGE:

Pre & Post Cruise: Please be aware that portage is not included on our tours in pre & post cruise. You will therefore need to be able to handle your own luggage within the hotel and when using transportation like trains and coaches.

Cruise: If you check your luggage with a porter, your checked baggage should be delivered to your stateroom within a few hours of setting sail if tagged properly. When disembarking you will leave your luggage outside your cabin door on the last night of your cruise. Staff will then be able to make arrangements for your luggage, ready for disembarkation early next morning. Please also note, it is customary to tip for the portage service, and this is not included in your tour cost.

SOUVENIRS:

We want to be able to give you an opportunity to buy souvenirs, so we include some stops at museums or exhibitions which demonstrate a craft or product unique to that region with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone, so we aim to take you to places, which hold local interest. We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts and crafts and understand their historical and cultural importance.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS:

As we offer our customers a variety of airlines to suit your needs, passengers will arrive/depart in Japan/South Korea at various times during the day. Depending on the number of customers arriving/ departing on the same flight as yourself, the type of transfer to your hotel/ airport will vary.

You will always be met on arrival by English-speaking staff and transferred to your hotel either by:

- Direct shared bus (shared with other passengers, not just Wendy Wu Tours clients)
- Shared bus plus taxi from the nearest bus stop to the hotel (maximum 5-minute walk)
- Chartered coach (if there are more than 8 Wendy Wu Tours passengers arriving at the same time)

On the departure day, all passengers will be met by English-speaking staff at the hotel and transferred by one of the three ways above. For those passengers using a shared bus or shared bus plus taxi to the airport, the guide services end when they drop you off at the bus stop, and you will need to check in at the airport on your own. If you have paid extra for a private transfer, the above does not apply.

You will meet your National Escort at the welcome dinner or, if arriving late, the following morning after breakfast at the welcome meeting.

Please ensure your Wendy Wu Tours luggage tag is visible on your suitcase/hand luggage, as this may also assist your guide in identifying you. If at any stage you are unable to locate your representative, please contact our Japan ground operator on the number included in your final documents.

LAND TRANSPORT:

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Roads in Japan and South Korea are extremely well maintained and are comparatively smooth compared with the rest of Asia. Coaches and mini buses do not have onboard toilet facilities, however frequent bathroom stops are made for passengers comfort.

Bullet trains: Second class reserved seats are booked for our groups on bullet trains; there will be toilet facilities on board. Due to the limited space on bullet trains, a separate luggage transfer service will be arranged for all suitcases (1 case per person). You will need to pack a separate overnight bag to carry on the train as your suitcase may not arrive until the following day after a bullet train journey. Your guide will indicate when you will need to prepare for this throughout your tour.

DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH KOREA AND JAPAN:

South Korea and Japan are developed countries and as such matches the West in modernity and technological advances. South Korea and Japan are extremely safe countries and take great responsibility in maintaining high safety standards.

LAND TOURING GROUP SIZE:

Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by a national escort. There will usually be no more than 28 travellers in each group although you may encounter other Wendy Wu tour groups while you are travelling.

All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 10 travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). A national escort will accompany each group of 10 or more for the land portion. However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so.

TIPPING / GRATUITIES:

South Korea: Tipping is not a common practice but is generally appreciated. If you wish to show gratitude to your guide or driver, it's recommended to avoid offering a small token amount, as this may cause discomfort. Presenting your tip in a small envelope and in local currency is considered polite.

Japan: Tipping is not customary and may even be politely declined. However, if you feel you've received exceptional service, offering a tip discreetly at your discretion is acceptable.

Cruise: On board gratuities are included in your tour cost (Based on standard cruise inclusions).

Please note: a 20% gratuity will be automatically added to all additional pre-cruise and onboard purchases of spa and salon services, beverages and beverage packages, specialty dining and specialty dining packages, room service and mini bar purchases.

CULTURAL DIFFERENCE:

Korean and Japanese society and culture are built on intricate social etiquette and customs. As foreigners, we are not expected to be knowledgeable about all etiquette, but it will make your time in South Korea and Japan more enjoyable if you are respectful of local customs. Some examples of scenarios you may encounter include removing your shoes and hats when entering a temple or house (some restaurants as well). You may be supplied with slippers at some places, but please come prepared with plenty of spare socks, and shoes that are easy to take off for the fairly regular occasions when they must be removed. Your National Escort will advise you of some of the other customs at the beginning of your tour in each country.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:

If you are travelling within below Public Holidays, please note that celebrations can last a several days and during these times some businesses will be closed. Coach, air and train travel may also be affected. Tourist attractions will be open; but may be crowded.

South Korea:

- **Seollal (Lunar New Year):** 16 - 18 February 2026 & 6 - 9 February 2027 (dates vary each year)
- **Buddha's Birthday:** 24 May 2026 & 13 May 2027 (dates vary each year)
- **Children's Day:** 5th May annually
- **Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving):** 24 – 26 September 2026 & 14 – 16 September 2027 (dates vary each year)

Japan:

- **Showa Day:** 29th April (annually)
- **Golden Week public holidays:** End of April to the beginning of May (annually)
- **Constitution Memorial Day:** 3rd May (annually)
- **Emperor's Birthday:** 23rd February (annually)

LUGGAGE:

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of five kilograms. It is essential that your luggage is lockable.

On your cruise: While luggage allowance on your cruise may permit further capacity, we ask you to adhere to the above restrictions due to airline and touring allowances. Suitcases should be tagged, luggage tags can be accessed electronically through the Guest Account (click "View Your Documents", multiple tags can be printed). For your convenience, we recommend that your luggage tags be placed on your bags prior to arrival at the port but if printing is not possible, luggage tags are available at the cruise terminal. Ensure the stateroom number and room location, as reflected on the XpressPass, are noted for reference.

It may take a few hours after embarkation for your luggage to be delivered to your stateroom. Likewise, suitcases are collected on the last night of your cruise. To avoid any complications, be sure to bring a small bag such as a backpack for carrying any necessary medication, valuables, important documents and need-to-have items

PERSONAL EXPENSES:

You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry, and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you.

It is highly recommended that extra care and attention is paid when exchanging money when travelling to cities outside of Tokyo. We suggest exchanging your money before travelling to smaller towns, as exchange facilities can be very limited. Your National Escort will remind you to do this before departure.

WEATHER:

Japan and South Korea each experience distinct four-season climates, offering a wide range of weather conditions throughout the year.

Japan's climate varies by region, but generally includes hot, humid summers from June to September and cold winters with snowfall in northern areas like Hokkaido. Spring (March to May) and autumn (September to November) are particularly popular for their mild temperatures, cherry blossoms, and vibrant fall foliage.

South Korea has similar seasonal variations, with hot, humid summers and cold, dry winters, often accompanied by snow in mountainous regions. Spring and autumn provide pleasant weather with clear skies and colourful landscapes.

APPROPRIATE DRESS LAND TOURING:

When traveling to Japan and South Korea, pack for their varied four-season climates. In spring and autumn, bring lightweight layers like cotton shirts, cardigans, and jackets. For summer, choose breathable, moisture-wicking fabrics in light colours, and pack a hat and sunscreen for sun protection. Winters can be cold, especially in northern Japan and South Korea's mountainous regions, so pack warm clothing, including coats, thermals, scarves, and gloves. For city exploration, casual yet neat attire is ideal, particularly when visiting cultural or religious sites where modesty is appreciated. Comfortable walking shoes are essential for urban areas like Tokyo and Seoul. For outdoor activities, bring sturdy footwear and weather-appropriate outerwear.

An umbrella or lightweight waterproof jacket is advisable during the summer rainy season. Don't forget a camera or smartphone with extra storage and chargers to capture Japan's cherry blossoms, South Korea's autumn foliage, and the vibrant cities. Include a small medical kit with basic first aid supplies and any personal medications. Whether visiting temples, soaking in an onsen, or enjoying local cuisine, you'll be prepared for an unforgettable experience.

TERRAIN CONSIDERATIONS (STEPS, SLOPES & UNEVEN SURFACES):

Sightseeing at nearly all the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps. These palaces were built to provide defence against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steps to slow down the advance of enemies once they were inside. The steps tend to be quite large, not level and sometimes without handrails.

Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs. This means you sometimes need to walk from the bus park to the entrance, and/or need to climb some steps inside.

People with knee or hip injuries who have poor balance or are otherwise unable to complete these activities independently should consider the suitability of this itinerary carefully.

CRUISE – CELEBRITY MILLENNIUM:

The Celebrity Millennium is made up of 12 decks, and offers a range of amenities, including, but not limited to; 9 restaurants, 2 swimming pools as well as lounges and bars.

Performances will take place each night on the main stage of the ship's theatre, from comedy shows, circus performers to Broadway-style shows. Guests on the Celebrity Millennium will also be able enjoy cooking, dance and language classes as well as wine tasting opportunities and sporting events. Onboard spa (with saunas) facilities are also available.

Cabins: At the time of booking, subject to availability you may have the choice to book from an outside cabin or balcony cabin. Should you wish to upgrade to a suite or have a special request for cabin location, please speak to our reservations department who will be able to assist.

Cruise Schedule: While the cruiseline do their best to adhere to published itineraries, they may be changed at the discretion of the captain due to weather advisories, port traffic, and any other unforeseeable circumstances.

Dining: Please note, there are no set menus onboard the cruise ship, instead, you will have the opportunity to dine at your choice of restaurant included in your package and have the option to upgrade your package whilst onboard to dine in the various speciality restaurants.

Beverage Package: Your package includes the Classic Drinks Package, which is made up of soft drinks and standard alcoholic beverages. There is the option to upgrade your drinks package on your Guest Account or on your cruise.

Luggage Tags: Please note, luggage tags are available electronically for you to print out via your Guest Account. Luggage tags will also be available at the pier for guests who would prefer to use this service at the terminal prior to boarding.

SHORE EXCURSIONS AND CRUISE INCLUSIONS:

When docked at each port you will have the opportunity to experience shore excursions. Celebrity Cruises offer a wide array of authentic shore excursions, making it a great way to explore more of each destination. Please note, not all shore excursions will include a guide and shore excursions may be cancelled due to inclement weather conditions or for any other reason at the discretion of Celebrity Cruises. Any shore excursions will be at your own expense and bookable on your cruise reservation.

CRUISE EMBARKATION & DISEMBARKATION:

Embarkation time is when you should arrive at the cruise terminal. Departure time is when your ship sets sail.

We strongly recommend guests complete their Online Check-In before departing Australia. Online Check-in is available 45 days before your cruise and remains available up to 3 days before you cruise. App check-in is available 45 days before your cruise and remains available until the morning of your sailing.

Once you have completed the Check-In process online or in the app, you will receive an Xpress Boarding Pass. This indicates that you successfully completed the check-in process for yourself and those guests listed on your Xpress Pass.

During check-in, you're required to select an arrival time. The time you will need to select will be provided in your final documentation. One of the benefits of app check-in is that your arrival time is listed on your mobile Xpress Pass

Boarding Time in Ports of Call: In all ports of call, it is also the guest's responsibility to be back onboard the ship no later than one hour prior to the ship's scheduled departure time. Please be aware that shipboard time may differ from the time in the port of call and it is the guest's responsibility to follow the shipboard time. In the event a guest misses the ship, it will be the guest's responsibility to pay all expenses incurred to rejoin the ship.

VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.travelvax.com.au.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.smartraveller.gov.au as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice along with a link to our website where you can find more useful predeparture travel information. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

Updated: November 2025