



# JAPAN BY RAIL & SEA WITH CELEBRITY CRUISE LINES

Classic Tour | 23 Days | Physical Level 1

KYOTO – HIROSHIMA – MIYAJIMA – OKAYAMA – NAGOYA – TOKYO – OSAKA –  
KOCHI – BUSAN – NAGASAKI – KAGOSHIMA – MT FUJI – TOKYO

Experience the incredible sights and rich culture of Japan on this exploration of the archipelago by rail and by sea. Our Cruise & Tour journeys bring together all the joy of a cruise, on board the Celebrity Millennium, with all the exciting exploration of a Wendy Wu Tours land itinerary. Visiting big cities like Kyoto and Tokyo and heading a little more off the tourist trail in Hiroshima, Okayama and Nagoya, you'll travel by bullet train before boarding your cruise ship to explore Japan further.

- Immerse yourself in timeless Kyoto
- Wander the magical Korakuen
- Explore Tokyo's best bits
- Cruise Tokyo to Tokyo

## 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:

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These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of Japan and South Korea 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 and local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

### JOINING YOUR TOUR:

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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 Osaka Kansai International airport) and end the tour on Day 22 in Tokyo. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

### PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:

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Our tours come with a physical rating to guide you in selecting a holiday that suits your comfort level. Joining any of our tours involves independent mobility and the ability to stay active throughout the day, which is essential for fully enjoying the unique charm of each destination.

'Japan by Rail & Sea' 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 Escorts 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 reservations 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.

**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.

**Day 3: Explore 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 Ryoan-ji Temple, the 'temple of the peaceful dragon' before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant.



After, pay a visit to the Arashiyama Bamboo Forest and the Togetsukyo Bridge. Later this evening, head for dinner at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel.

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

**Destination Information**

**Kinkaku-ji Temple (Golden Pavillion)** – Kinkaku-ji 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.



**Ryoan-ji Temple** – This UNESCO World Heritage Site is famed for its Zen rock garden, a masterpiece of simplicity and design. Originally an aristocratic villa, it was converted into a Zen temple in 1450. The garden's 15 carefully placed rocks, set in raked white gravel, embody the principles of meditation and wabi-sabi aesthetics.

**Arashiyama Bamboo Forest** – One of Kyoto's most iconic sights, the Arashiyama Bamboo Forest is a serene grove of towering bamboo stalks that create a mesmerising natural walkway. The rustling sound of the bamboo swaying in the wind enhances its tranquil atmosphere, making it a popular spot for reflection and photography.

**Togetsukyo Bridge** – Spanning the Katsura River in Kyoto's Arashiyama district, Togetsukyo Bridge is a historic wooden bridge that dates back to the Heian period. Its name, meaning 'Moon-Crossing Bridge', reflects the area's scenic beauty, particularly in autumn and spring when the surrounding mountains are ablaze with colour.

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**Day 4: Kyoto & Hiroshima****Meals: B, L, D**

Begin the day at Fushimi Inari Shrine, famous for its corridors of torii gates winding through the forested mountainside. After exploring, transfer to Kyoto station and board the bullet train to Hiroshima.

Upon arrival, have lunch at a local restaurant before visiting the famous Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and continuing to the Atomic Bomb Dome, a UNESCO world heritage site. Afterwards, transfer to your hotel, check in and enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure before dinner this evening.

**Destination Information**

**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.

**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** – The Peace Memorial Park 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 and is why it was chosen as the target.

**Day 5: Miyajima****Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, take a short ferry ride to Miyajima Island, where sightseeing will be at a leisurely pace on foot. First visit Itsukushima Shrine, a giant torii gate, which at high tide seems to float on the water.

Take a break for lunch at a local restaurant before enjoying some free time to shop at Miyajima Omotesando. You will be on your feet for approximately 4-5 hours today.



Later this afternoon, take the ferry back to the mainland back to your Hiroshima hotel. This evening enjoy dinner in Hiroshima.

**Destination Information**

**Miyajima** – Miyajima is a small island outside of Hiroshima. While officially named Itsukushima, the island is more commonly referred to as Miyajima, meaning 'Shrine Island'. This is because the island is well-known for its main attraction, Itsukushima Shrine.

**Day 6: Hiroshima - Okayama – Nagoya****Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, take the bullet train from Hiroshima to Okayama. Upon arrival, visit Kibitsu Shrine, known for its beautiful architecture and long covered corridor. Next, explore Okayama Castle, nicknamed 'Crow Castle' for its striking black exterior. Enjoy a delightful lunch at a local restaurant before heading to Korakuen Garden, one of Japan's Three Great Gardens, featuring scenic landscapes and tranquil tea houses.



Then board a bullet train to Nagoya. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel, check in and enjoy an evening at leisure. This evening enjoy dinner in Nagoya.

**Destination Information**

**Kibitsu Shrine** – A historic Shinto shrine dedicated to Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto, the legendary prince linked to the Momotaro folklore. Dating back to the 4th century, it features a unique hiyoku-irimo-ya roof and a mystical oracle ritual.

**Okayama Castle** – Built in 1597 by Ukita Hideie, is a historic landmark in Okayama, Japan. Nicknamed 'Crow Castle' for its black exterior, it was largely destroyed in WWII and reconstructed in 1966.

**Korakuen garden** – Built in 1700 by Okayama’s daimyo Ikeda Tsunamasa, is one of Japan’s Three Great Gardens. Designed for leisure and scenic beauty, it features ponds, tea houses, and walking paths.

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**Day 7: Nagoya****Meals: B, L, D**

Begin the day exploring Nagoya Castle, a historic landmark known for its impressive architecture and golden shachihoko ornaments. Stroll through the tranquil Tokugawa Garden, featuring elegant landscaping and a koi-filled pond.

Discover vibrant shops and street food at Osu Shopping Street before enjoying a delicious local lunch at a local restaurant. Afterwards, pay a visit to Noritake Garden, home to beautiful ceramics, galleries, and lush greenery.



Then, transfer to the station and board the bullet train to Tokyo. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel and check in before dinner this evening.

**Destination Information**

**Nagoya Castle** – Built in 1612 by Tokugawa Ieyasu, was a key strategic fortress during Japan’s Edo period. Famous for its golden shachihoko ornaments, it symbolized Tokugawa power. Largely destroyed in WWII, it was reconstructed in 1959.

**Tokugawa Garden** – Established in the early 20th century on the site of the former Tokugawa family residence. This Japanese-style landscape garden features serene ponds, winding paths, and traditional teahouses.

**Noritake Garden** - The former site of the Noritake porcelain factory, established in 1904. The garden features a museum, factory tours, and shops showcasing the company’s fine china and ceramics.

**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.

**Day 8: 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 Senso-ji Temple, arguably one of Tokyo's most popular and photographed temples and the oldest Buddhist temple in the capital. Next, 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. Visit Tokyo Skytree and make your way up to Tembo Deck for magnificent views of the Tokyo skyline.



Next, visit Tokyo Skytree to admire the panoramic views before participating in a sushi making class where you'll enjoy your own creations for lunch. After, visit the Imperial Palace, Meiji Jingu shrine and then Takeshita Street for local treats tasting. Finally, head to Shibuya Crossing for a brief photo stop. Then return to your hotel and later this evening, enjoy a dinner at a local restaurant.

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

**Destination Information**

**Senso-ji Temple** – Senso-ji 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.

**Tokyo Skytree** – The tallest structure in Japan, Tokyo Skytree is predominantly a television and radio broadcast tower and is earthquake resistant.

**Meiji Jingu Shrine** – Meiji Jingu 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 9: 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 transferred 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.

**Day 10: Cruising – At Sea****Meals: B, L, D**

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

**Day 11: Cruising – Osaka /Kyoto****Meals: B, L, D**

Arrive in Osaka, the closest port to Kyoto. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later for an overnight stay in port.

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.



**Day 12: Cruising – Osaka /Kyoto****Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy another day at port in Osaka before you return to the ship later in the day for your onward journey.

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.

**Day 13: Cruising – Kochi****Meals: B, L, D**

Dock in the port of Kochi. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later in the day for your onward journey.

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**

**Kochi** - Surrounded by stunning mountains and the Pacific Ocean, Kochi is home to a wide variety of stunningly unique attractions, including the Chikurinji Temple, the Hirome Market, offering a number of Kochi's most renowned dishes, and 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 14: Cruising – At Sea****Meals: B, L, D**

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



**Day 15: Cruising – Busan****Meals: B, L, D**

Your cruising journey continues to Busan, South Korea. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later in the day for your onward journey.

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**

**Busan** - With over 3.6 million 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.

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

Dock in the port of Nagasaki. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later in the day for your onward journey.

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**

**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 – Kagoshima****Meals: B, L, D**

Port today in Kagoshima. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later in the day for your onward journey.

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.

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**Day 18: Cruising – At Sea****Meals: B, L, D**

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



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**Day 19: 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.

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

**Shimizu** - Renowned 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.



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**Day 20: Cruising – Tokyo****Meals: B, L, D**

Today you will be docked in Tokyo cruise port. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure before returning to your ship later for an overnight stay in port.

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.



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**Day 21: Disembark Celebrity Millenium in Tokyo****Meals: B, L, D**

Your cruise concludes as you reach Tokyo cruise port, where you will be met by your new local English-speaking guide or National Escort.

Transfer to your hotel for check in and enjoy the rest of your day at leisure. Dinner will be at a local restaurant this evening.



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

Any time before your flight is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to Tokyo airport, for your flight home, arriving the same or the following day.

*Please note: Late check-out is not included. If you wish to book a late check-out or additional nights, please contact our reservations department who can confirm additional pricing and arrangements for you, subject to availability at the hotel.*



*Transfers: In the event 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:

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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](http://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:

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It is a condition of booking Cruise & Tour that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. Wendy Wu Tours cannot in any way be made liable for any additional cost incurred by the customer on any tour due to the customer not having adequate travel insurance. We also encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents (especially relevant international contact numbers) with them while on tour. We advise that you check the inclusions and procedures for lodging claims prior to your departure. These documents should be stored separately from the original.

### GROUP SIZE PRE & POST CRUISE:

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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. 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.

Please note your national escort will not accompany you on cruise and will be different in each country of land touring.

### AIRPORT TRANSFERS:

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As we offer our customers a variety of airlines to suit your needs, passengers will arrive/depart in Japan 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 transfer 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 Escorts 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.

## TRANSPORT:

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**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 are extremely well-maintained and are comparatively smooth compared with the rest of Asia. Coaches and minibuses 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 in Japan. There are toilet facilities on board these trains. Due to the limited space on bullet trains in Japan, 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 will not arrive until the following day after a bullet train journey. Your guide will indicate when you need to prepare for this throughout your tour.

## ACCOMMODATION:

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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 Japan.

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 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.

## MEALS AND DIETARY INFORMATION:

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Japanese cuisine is renowned for their delicious, healthy, and vibrant flavours. 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.

In Japan, breakfast will mostly be buffet style but may be a set-menu. Lunches are mostly pre-set options as is custom in many local restaurants. Dinner is usually a pre-set option or buffet-style, featuring a wide selection of high-quality Japanese and Western dishes, but may occasionally be a set-menu. We usually find this style of dining suits the wide and varied tastes of our customers on tour. These are also pre-booked in advance prior to your arrival by your guides. This will provide greater flexibility and allow you to sample a broad range of local cuisines and dishes. All beverages will be at your own expense and are readily available.

On some days where lots of sights are covered, dinner times may be early and your tour group may head directly to the restaurant after sightseeing without stopping at your hotel to freshen up.



It is imperative that you clearly communicate any and all dietary needs when booking, and don't forget to reaffirm them during your welcome briefing with your tour guide. However, it is crucial to understand that local restaurants might face limitations in accommodating specific dietary requests, particularly in the cases of gluten-free, celiac, or vegan requirements. Please bear in mind that finding gluten-free options may not be as effortless as it is in Australia. Regrettably, we cannot assure that the food served will be entirely free from allergens.

Although most Asian countries are now quite developed, only quite recently have they started to widely accept Western guests. Western food requirements are quite far removed from Asian food requirements, and even medical reasons can be quite difficult to explain. While our ground partners will do everything they can to cater for a wide range of dietary requirements on tour, we ask kindly for your patience and understanding that they cannot always be delivered to the standard you will be used to at home.

It is recommended that passengers with food intolerances bring snacks or additional food items with them, especially when travelling further from major cities as not all dietary requests will be met due to the limited foods available.

Please read your travel guide which you will receive with your final documents for more information about eating in South Korea and Japan. We recommend that when it comes to South Korean and Japanese food, you stay open minded, try to be adventurous and always have a go with the chopsticks!

### CRUISE – CELEBRITY MILLENNIUM:

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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.

**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. Your package also includes soft drinks and alcoholic beverages whilst onboard your cruise. There is the option to upgrade your drinks package on your Guest Account or on your cruise.

### CRUISE ACCOMODATION AND CABINS:

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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 EMBARKATION & DISEMBARKATION:

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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.

## SHORE EXCURSIONS AND CRUISE INCLUSIONS:

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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.

## CULTURAL DIFFERENCE:

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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 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 Escorts will advise you of some of these other customs at the beginning of your tour in each country.

## DEVELOPMENT IN JAPAN:

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Japan is a developed country and as such matches the West in modernity and technological advances. Japan is an extremely safe country and takes great responsibility in maintaining high safety standards.

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:

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If you are travelling within the 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.

### 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)

## APPROPRIATE DRESS / WHAT TO PACK:

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When traveling to Japan, 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, 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. 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 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.

**Onboard Dress Code:** Smart casual attire is required for the main dining, specialty dining, and Celebrity Theatre. Shorts and flip-flops are not permitted. Each itinerary features one to two "formal" nights, known as Evening Chic. This is your opportunity to dress to impress—glamorous and sophisticated in your own way. Examples include a cocktail dress, skirt, slacks, designer jeans, or an elegant top or blazer. Some guests even opt for a tuxedo or gown for onboard photos. A daily program, delivered to your stateroom and available at the Guest Relations Desk, will outline the attire for each evening. If you prefer not to participate in Evening Chic, Smart Casual attire is acceptable for dining and the theatre.

### WEATHER:

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Japan experiences 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.

### LUGGAGE:

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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

### PORTERAGE:

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#### **Pre & Post Cruise:**

Please be aware that portorage 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 portorage service.



## SOUVENIRS:

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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.

## PERSONAL EXPENSES

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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 Escorts will remind you to do this before departure.

## TIPPING / GRATUITIES:

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**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.

## TERRAIN CONSIDERATIONS (STEPS, SLOPES & UNEVEN SURFACES):

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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.

### VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

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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](http://www.travelvax.com.au).

### ITINERARY CHANGES:

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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.

### AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

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

Updated: May 2025