



WONDERS OF JAPAN BY LAND & SEA PRINCESS CRUISES

Classic Cruising Tour | 23 Days | Physical Level 1

KYOTO - KANAZAWA - TAKAYAMA - YUDANAKA - TOKYO - NAGOYA - OSAKA - KOCHI -
HIROSHIMA - BUSAN - NAGASAKI - KAGOSHIMA - MT FUJI - TOKYO

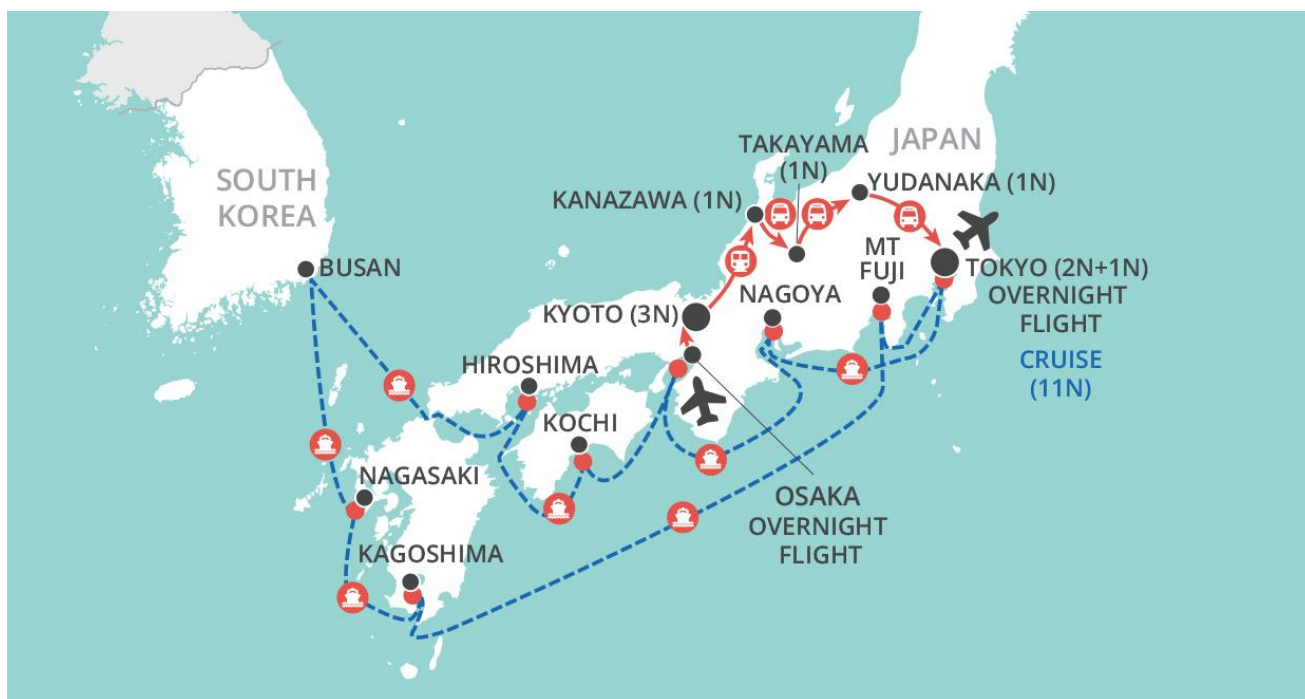
Encompassing all of Japan's iconic highlights, a few hidden gems, and a quick stop in South Korea, this tour is the perfect introduction to an incredible nation. Full of cultural encounters and a wonderful Princess cruise, prepare for a memorable adventure.

- Immerse yourself in timeless Kyoto
- Explore rural Japan
- Stay in a traditional ryokan Japanese inn
- Meet the adorable snow monkeys
- Explore Tokyo's best bits
- Cruise on the Sapphire Princess and enjoy Japan and South Korea at sea

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)
- 11 nights Princess cruise on the Sapphire Princess
- 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.

PRINCESS PLUS PACKAGE: WHAT'S INCLUDED

We are pleased to include Princess Plus with this Cruise & Tour package, enhancing your onboard experience with exceptional perks.

Enjoy the Plus Beverage Package, which covers up to 15 drinks per day (each up to \$15), including cocktails, wine by the glass, beer, spirits, fountain soft drinks, and zero-alcohol cocktails. You'll also have unlimited specialty coffees and teas, plus up to 12 bottles of water per day.

Stay connected with Wi-Fi access for one device per guest, perfect for sharing your holiday memories at sea.

Also as part of Princess Plus, enjoy access to a variety of Casual Dining venues. These informal restaurants and cafés serve freshly prepared favourites such as pizzas, salads, sandwiches, and international dishes in a relaxed, come-as-you-are setting — ideal for a flexible dining experience throughout the day.

You'll also enjoy the convenience of complimentary room service and OceanReady® delivery, allowing you to savour your favourite meals and snacks wherever you are on board.

Please note: Princess Cruises may modify, amend, or update the terms and conditions of Princess Plus package at any time with or without notice to guests.

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 guides 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 (arrive into Osaka's 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.

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.

‘Wonders of Japan by Land & Sea’ falls under a Physical Level 1 category. 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****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. This evening, walk with your guide to a nearby local restaurant for dinner.

Please note: You may be transferred by shared coach with other passengers who are not part of a Wendy Wu Tours. If you are on a shared bus transfer, you may have to walk for a few minutes to get to your hotel.



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.

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.

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**

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.

Enjoy a sukiyaki (hotpot) lunch at a local restaurant, followed by a trip to the Matsui Shuzou museum (or similar) for some local sake tasting.



Continue with a visit to the Fushimi Inari Shrine, famous for its corridors of torii gates. This evening, walk with your guide to a nearby local restaurant for dinner.

You will be on your feet for approximately 6 hours today.

Due to limited parking space at Fushimi Inari Shrine, you may need to walk for 15 minutes from the coach to the beginning of the torii gates, from which point you can walk up a short section of the mountain.

Destination Information

Kiyomizu Temple – Meaning ‘Pure Water Temple’, Kiyomizu-dera is one of Kyoto’s most celebrated temples, founded in 778 and dedicated to Kannon, the Goddess of Mercy. Its iconic wooden stage, built without nails, extends from the main hall and offers breathtaking views over Kyoto and the surrounding woodlands. Within the temple grounds, the Otowa Waterfall is believed to bring good fortune, while the Jishu Shrine is dedicated to the deity of love.

Sake – Japan’s traditional rice wine, sake is brewed through a unique fermentation process. Served warm or chilled, it plays a key role in Japanese culture and cuisine.

Fushimi Inari Shrine – An important Shinto shrine in southern Kyoto, Fushimi Inari is most famous for its thousands of vermilion 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.

Day 4: Explore Kyoto**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy a second day exploring Kyoto. Begin with a visit to the beautiful Kinkaku-ji Temple, also known as the “Golden Pavillion”, which was originally built as a retirement villa for the Shogun but, at his request, became a Buddhist Temple after his death.

Go on to discover the Ryoan-ji Temple and it’s zen garden before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant.



Afterwards, pay a visit to the Arashiyama Bamboo Forest and the Togetsukyo Bridge. This evening, enjoy a Maiko (apprentice Geisha) performance with dinner 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.

Day 5: Kyoto to Kanazawa**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, travel by express and shinkansen bullet trains to Kanazawa. On arrival, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before taking a stroll in the Higashi Chaya district.

Next, enjoy a Gold Leaf Experience and then visit a Samurai Residence, offering insight into the lifestyle of a samurai family. Explore its elegant rooms, admire the exquisite garden, and gain insights into the lifestyle of the warrior class during the Edo period. Finally, head to your hotel for check-in and later this evening, walk with your guide to a nearby local restaurant for dinner.



You will be on your feet for approximately 3-4 hours today.

Please note: Your main luggage will be sent ahead separately to your Kanazawa hotel for your convenience.

Destination Information

Kanazawa – Known as the “City of Gold”, Kanazawa prospered during Japan’s Edo period as the seat of the powerful Maeda Clan. The city is renowned for its cultural heritage, including the historic districts of Higashi Chaya, the geisha district. Kanazawa is Japan’s leading centre for gold leaf production, a craft dating back to the 16th century. The city also has a rich artistic tradition, with exceptional craftsmanship in ceramics, lacquerware, and textiles.

Higashi Chaya District – One of Kanazawa’s best-preserved geisha districts, Higashi Chaya dates back to the Edo period. Lined with traditional wooden teahouses, it was once a centre for geisha performances and entertainment. Today, the district retains its old-world charm with artisan shops, historic buildings, and working teahouses.

Gold Leaf Experience – Kanazawa has been the heart of Japan’s gold leaf production for over 400 years. The meticulous craft involves applying ultra-thin sheets of gold to objects such as ceramics, lacquerware, and even food. The tradition remains an integral part of Kanazawa’s cultural identity.

Day 6: Kanazawa to Takayama**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, begin your day with a visit to Kenroku-en botanical gardens and then to the Ohi Museum, dedicated to the celebrated Ohi family of ceramic artists whose techniques have been passed down for over 350 years.



You will then transfer for around 2 hours to Takayama. On arrival, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting Kusakabe Folk Museum and Festival Floats Exhibition Hall. Next, explore the area of Kami-sannomachi and then head to your hotel for check-in. Later this evening, walk with your guide to a nearby local restaurant to enjoy dinner.

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

Destination Information

Takayama – Nestled in the heart of the Japanese Alps, Takayama is a beautifully preserved town that offers a glimpse into Japan's Edo-period history. Known for its charming old town and traditional wooden buildings, Takayama flourished as a hub for craftsmen, particularly in woodworking.

Kusakabe Folk Museum – The Kusakabe were a family of prosperous merchants that worked for the shogunate in Takayama during the Edo period. This house is a wonderful example of an Edo period house, and is now home to a folk arts museum.

Festival Floats Exhibition Hall – This hall exhibits some of the 'yatai' from Takayama's famous festival; a twice-yearly celebration when these huge parade festival floats are carried through the streets. Some date as far back as the 17th century.

Kami-sannomachi – This well-preserved part of the historic city features traditional houses, sake breweries, shops and cafes — some of which have been operating for centuries.

Day 7: Takayama to Yudanaka**Meals: B, L, D**

Today, enjoy a full-day tour beginning with a visit to the Takayama Morning Market, one of Japan's oldest markets and a wonderful place to browse local produce and traditional handicrafts.

Continue to Takayama Jinya, a beautifully preserved Edo-period building that once served as the local government office. Afterwards, explore the Hida Folk Village, an open-air museum of traditional thatched houses showcasing rural architecture from the surrounding region.



After lunch at a local restaurant, continue by road to Yudanaka. On arrival, check into your ryokan accommodation, where you can relax in the onsen-style hot spring baths before savouring a traditional kaiseki dinner.

You will be on your feet for approximately 3-4 hours today.

Destination Information

Takayama Jinya – A former government office dating back to the Edo Period, Takayama Jinya is the only remaining example of its type. The main work of the office was to handle legal cases and tax collection. It has a variety of interesting displays.

Nagano – Surrounded by the Japanese Alps, Nagano is a historic city known for its role as the host of the 1998 Winter Olympics. The city has long been a gateway to the mountainous regions of central Japan, offering a rich blend of history, culture, and natural beauty. It developed as a temple town around Zenko-ji, one of Japan's most important Buddhist temples, and remains a centre for pilgrimage. Nagano is also a key access point to the nearby ski resorts, hot springs, and the famous snow monkeys of Jigokudani.

Ryokan - A ryokan is a traditional Japanese inn that offers a serene, culturally rich stay with tatami-mat rooms, sliding doors, and calming minimalist design.

Kaiseki - Kaiseki is a refined multi-course Japanese dining experience that highlights seasonality, balance, and artistry in every dish. Each course is thoughtfully prepared to delight all the senses, from delicate flavours to elegant presentation.

Day 8: Snow Monkeys**Meals: B, L, D**

After breakfast, check out of your ryokan and transfer to Jigokudani Monkey Park, home to the famous hot spring—bathing Japanese macaques, affectionately known as snow monkeys. Accustomed to humans, the monkeys may be observed from close range as they go about their natural behaviour, however, they are wild animals so sightings cannot be guaranteed.



Continue for lunch at a local restaurant before visiting Zenko-ji, one of Japan's most important Buddhist temples. Afterwards, transfer for around 4 hours to your hotel in Tokyo and check-in on arrival. This evening, walk with your guide to a nearby local restaurant for dinner.

You will be on your feet for approximately 3-4 hours today.

From the bus park at Jigokudani Monkey Park, you will walk approximately 30 minutes along a gently inclined forest path, which may be snowy in parts, to reach the hot spring area where the monkeys sometimes bathe.

Destination Information

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.

Zenko-ji Temple — Founded in the 7th century, Zenko-ji is one of Japan's oldest and most revered Buddhist temples. It houses the first known Buddhist statue ever brought to Japan and remains a major pilgrimage site. The temple complex features grand wooden structures, incense-scented halls and peaceful grounds that reflect centuries of spiritual tradition.

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 there in 1867.

Day 9: 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.

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. Afterwards, 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. Return to your hotel and later this evening and enjoy a dinner at a local restaurant.

You will be on your feet for approximately 5-6 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 – A shrine dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and his consort, Empress Shoken. Completed in 1920, eight years after the passing of the emperor and six years after the passing of the empress, the shrine was destroyed during the Second World War but was rebuilt shortly thereafter.

Shibuya Crossing – The iconic Shibuya Scramble Crossing, inaugurated in 1973, is the busiest pedestrian interchange in the world, with as many as 3,000 people crossing at one time. Billboards and bright lights abound, and it is often compared to New York's Times Square. The crossing regularly features in films and other media, and is one of Tokyo's most recognisable sites.

Day 10: Embark Princess Cruise in Tokyo**Meals: B, L, D**

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before checking out. You will then be transferred to the cruise port, a journey of approximately 45 minutes.

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

Your National Escort or local guide will not be accompanying you for the duration of your cruise.

**Day 11: Cruising – Nagoya****Meals: B, L, D**

Today you will dock in the port of Nagoya. 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**

Nagoya – As Japan's fourth-largest city, Nagoya has long been a centre of industry, commerce, and innovation. Historically, it was a key stronghold of the Tokugawa shogunate, with Nagoya Castle standing as a symbol of its feudal past. The city is also known for its contributions to Japan's automotive industry, being home to Toyota's headquarters and museums dedicated to manufacturing and technology.

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

Today, arrive in Osaka. Disembark the cruise ship and enjoy a day at leisure, spending the day soaking Japan's second largest city.

Or, as this is the closest port to Kyoto, spend another day exploring the ancient architecture, rich culture or the city's culinary delights. Later, return to your ship 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**

Today you will 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, 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.

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

Your cruising adventures continue 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 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**

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.

Day 15: Cruising – At Sea (Kanmon Straits)**Meals: B, L, D**

Spend today enjoying what your cruise ship has to offer while cruising through the Kanmon Straits, the narrow stretch of water that separates two of Japan's main islands, Honshu and Kyushu.



Day 16: Cruising – Busan**Meals: B, L, D**

Port at the bustling city of Busan, South Korea for a quick taste of another wonderful nation. Boasting mountains, beaches, and hot springs, this is a city full of small-town charm.

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 17: Cruising – Nagasaki**Meals: B, L, D**

Dock in the port of Nagasaki today. 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 18: Cruising – Kagoshima**Meals: B, L, D**

Today, port 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. The city was once the seat of one of Japan’s most powerful feudal clans, the Shimazu.

**Day 19: Cruising – Sea day****Meals: B, L, D**

Spend today at sea - sitting by the pool, enjoying the bars and restaurants, or taking part in a sport or activity.



Day 20: Cruising – Shimizu (Mt Fuji)**Meals: B, L, D**

Today you will dock in the port of Shimizu, the closest port to Mt Fuji. 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. It is now home to a four storey shopping centre, a number of museums and the Kashi-no-Ichi fish Market.

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

Disembark and bid farewell to the Sapphire Princess. On arrival you will be met by an English-speaking guide and transferred to your hotel in Tokyo.

The rest of the day is at leisure, with a farewell dinner at a local restaurant this evening.



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

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

Only breakfast is included today. Late check-out is not included. If you wish to book a late check-out for your final day, 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 event that your flight departs outside of the majority group departure time, you may be transferred to the airport by a shared coach (with other non-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.

LAND TOURING GROUP SIZE:

Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by National Escorts. 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). National Escorts 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.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS:

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

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 South Korea and 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).

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.

DEVELOPMENT IN JAPAN:

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

WEATHER:

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.

APPROPRIATE DRESS LAND TOURING:

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. 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.

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 requirements.

Suitcases should be tagged, and luggage tags can be accessed electronically through your OceanReady® account, with multiple tags available for printing. For your convenience, we recommend placing the luggage tags on your bags prior to arrival at the port. If printing is not possible, tags will be available at the cruise terminal. Please ensure that your stateroom number and room location, as reflected in your OceanReady® account, are clearly noted on each tag.

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.

MONEY & PERSONAL EXPENSES ON LAND:

You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry, and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you on land. 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 or local guides will remind you to do this before departure.

MEALS AND DIETARY INFORMATION

On this tour, you will have the opportunity to experience a wide variety of dining options, reflecting the diverse cuisines of the destinations you will visit. We recommend that when it comes to Japanese food, you stay open minded, try to be adventurous and always have a go with the chopsticks!

Japanese cuisine is fresh, balanced, and beautifully presented. Typical meals include rice, miso soup, pickled vegetables, fish, and meat, along with traditional noodles such as soba and udon. Food is a key part of Japanese culture, with meals often enjoyed communally. While most food is eaten with chopsticks, some restaurants may offer Western cutlery. Breakfasts are usually buffet-style, with a combination of Japanese and Western items, though set menus may occasionally be offered. Lunches are often pre-arranged set menus reflecting local tastes, and dinners are typically buffet-style with a variety of Asian and Western dishes. These meals are selected in advance to offer variety, convenience, and the chance to experience the diverse flavours of Japan. Please note that on some days, dinner may be scheduled earlier than usual and the group may proceed directly from sightseeing to the restaurant without returning to the hotel first.

Cruise dining: While on board Sapphire Princess, you'll enjoy flexible dining across a wide range of included venues serving international cuisine with no fixed seating or set dining times. Complimentary restaurants include the main dining rooms and the World Fresh Marketplace, offering a variety of freshly prepared dishes from around the world. As part of Princess Plus, guests can also enjoy numbered access to several Casual Dining venues, along with complimentary room service and OceanNow delivery, allowing you to dine anywhere on board. Specialty restaurants offering fine dining experiences 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.

**PLEASE INFORM US OF ANY ALLERGIES AND/OR SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS
AT TIME OF BOOKING.**

CULTURAL DIFFERENCE:

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 Escort or local guides will advise you of some of these other customs at the beginning of your tour in each country.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:

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

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.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES PRE AND POST CRUISE:

Our fully-inclusive Classic tours, while on land, feature full days of sightseeing to ensure you experience all the must-see sights and unforgettable moments. Occasionally, when time allows, we offer optional extras such as evening shows for those seeking extra excitement. These excursions will be advised and paid for locally through your guide.

TIPPING / GRATUITIES:

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: Your standard cruise gratuities are included in the cost of your tour.

PORTERAGE:

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.

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 – SAPPHIRE PRINCESS:

The Sapphire Princess spans 18 decks and offers a wide range of amenities, including a choice of formal, speciality and casual dining venues, along with numerous bars and lounges. The ship features multiple outdoor pools and whirlpools, including the relaxing conservatory-style indoor pool area with a retractable glass roof. Evening performances take place in dedicated entertainment spaces such as the Princess Theatre and Club Fusion, featuring live music, comedy and production shows. Guests can also enjoy culinary demonstrations and wine-tasting experiences, alongside a full-service spa, fitness centre and wellness facilities.

Cruise Dress Code: When cruising with Princess, dress as you would for a stylish land-based resort. Casual sportswear such as shorts, lightweight trousers, sundresses, and short-sleeved shirts will keep you comfortable during the day, whether at sea or ashore in warmer climates. A light jacket, sweater, or all-weather coat is useful for cooler evenings or shore excursions, and a hat, collapsible umbrella, and comfortable walking shoes are recommended.

Princess Cruises has two main evening dress codes: Smart Casual and Formal. When formal nights are held, please observe the dress code in the dining venues for the enjoyment of all our guests. There will be 2 formal nights on your 11 night cruise.

Smart Casual: Guest attire should reflect what you might wear to a nice restaurant at home. Suitable options include skirts, dresses, slacks, blouses, or sweaters for women, and trousers with collared or dress shirts for men. Pool or beach attire, shorts, ball caps, and jeans with fraying or holes are not permitted in dining rooms. Shoes must be worn at all times.

Formal: On designated formal evenings, women are encouraged to wear evening gowns, cocktail dresses, or elegant pant suits, while men should wear tuxedos, dark suits, or dinner jackets with trousers.

Luggage: Suitcases should be tagged, and luggage tags can be accessed electronically through your OceanReady® account, with multiple tags available for printing. For your convenience, we recommend placing the luggage tags on your bags prior to arrival at the port. If printing is not possible, tags will be available at the cruise terminal. Please ensure that your stateroom number and room location, as reflected in your OceanReady® account, are clearly noted on each tag.

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.

CRUISE EMBARKATION & DISEMBARKATION:

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

MedallionClass uses a small OceanMedallion device that functions as your digital key and onboard identification. Before travelling, we strongly recommend completing the OceanReady® check-in process through the Princess Cruises App, including uploading passport details and any required travel documentation. Once check-in is completed in the app, a QR-coded boarding pass will be available for use at embarkation. Guests who are unable to complete the check-in process in advance will be directed to the Blue Lane at the port, where Princess staff will assist with the remaining steps and issue the OceanMedallion.

Boarding Time in Ports of Call: In all ports of call, it is 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.

CRUISE ACCOMODATION AND 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 at time of booking.

SHORE EXCURSIONS:

When docked at each port you will have the opportunity to experience shore excursions. Princess 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 Princess Cruises. Any shore excursions will be at your own expense and bookable on your cruise reservation.

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 your visa information (if applicable) and other important information. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

Updated: December 2025