

JAPAN TOKYO | KYOTO MT.FUJI | NARA + SOUTH KOREA



CONTENTS

Trip Summary	
Payment Arrangements	
Refund Policy	
Things to Know Before You Go	
About AAT	
About Japan	
About Japan	
Itinerary	
Itinerary	
South Korea	
South KoreaIn Depth	
Tokyo City Tour	
Tokyo City Tour Tokyo Tower	
Tokyo Imperial Palace	
Sumida River Cruise	
Sensoji Temple	(
Nakamise Shopping Arcade	(
Mt. Fuji, Kyoto & Nara	(
Mt. Fuji, Kyoto & NaraLake Ashi Cruise	(
The Hakone Komagatake Ropeway	(
The Hakone Komagatake Ropeway Nijo Castle	10
Kinkakuji Temple	10
Kyoto Imperial Palace	10
Kasuga Taisha Shrine	11
Sumo Stable Visit	1
Geisha Kimono Experience	
Geisha Transformation Experience	12
South Korea	12
Gwanghwamun Gate	12
Gyeongbokgung Palace	13
Insadong-gil Street	13
Jogyesa Temple	13
Namsangol Hanok Village	14
3rd Infiltration Tunnel	14

TRIP SUMMARY

Base Cost	Total	Monthly
(LO)Land Only (Must Purchase Your Own Flight)	\$2175.00	\$200 Deposit + 9 Payments of \$219.44
(FI)Flight Inclusive Package Leaving from JFK	\$3225.00	\$200 Deposit + 9 Payments of \$336.11
Trip Dates		
November 3 rd – November 10 th (November 15 th)		
Included in Base Cost		
(FI)Round Trip Airfare	Host Dinner	
7 Day Double Occupancy(Twin Beds)	All Transfers	
All City Taxes	The Highly-Co	oveted AAT T-Shirt
Tokyo City Tour		ort of the AAT staff
Breakfast and WiFi	Onsite Photog	rapher + Low-Def Photos
Add-ons and Upgrades	Total	Monthly
Single Room Upgrade(King Bed)	\$1025	\$113.89
Mt Fuji, Kyoto & Nara Tour via Bullet Train 3 Day Hotel Stay Roundtrip Bullet Train Ticket Lake Ashi Cruise Hakone Komagatake Ropeway Nijo Castle Kinkakuji Temple Kyoto Imperial Palace Todaiji Temple Nara Park	\$950	\$105.55
Kasuga Taisha Shrine Sumo Stable Visit	\$130	\$14.44
Geisha Kimono	\$130	\$14.44
Geisha Transformation(max 6)	\$500	\$55.55
South Korea Extension - Double	\$1550	\$172.22
South Korea Extension - Single	\$1950	\$216.66

Payment Arrangements

- Your \$200 deposit is due by January 15th
- Your first monthly payment will be collected 30 days after your deposit is made or by January 20th whichever comes first. Each of the subsequent payments will be collected every 30 days until September 20th, for a total of 9 payments (Jan Sept).

Refund Policy

- · Your deposit is fully refundable for 15 days after it has been paid, or until January 20th, whichever comes first. 50% of your deposit can applied to a future trip within a years' time of this trip being cancelled.
- · Each monthly payment becomes non-refundable 30 days after the due date for that payment.
- · The trip becomes 100% non-refundable on/after September 20th.
- · Refunds can take up to 30 days from the date requested to process.
- \cdot Travel/Cancellation insurance is highly recommended for ALL AAT trips. Please contact an AAT rep for assistance in getting you a quote.

THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

About AAT

Detailed Itinerary to be Distributed Upon Receipt of First Monthly Payment

To ensure an intimate and uninvaded experience for our travelers, certain details such as hotels and our preparation tips will be withheld until the first monthly payment is received.

All Details Are Tentative!

Despite the countless hours invested into planning this trip, the circumstance may arise where we must make changes. For example, maybe we might find out that our hotel isn't up to AAT standard or maybe our airline may go belly up bankrupt (this has actually happened)! Whatever occurs we will do everything in our powers to ensure the trip goes on as planned. And if we do have to make a change, that change will result in you going on a trip that is equal or greater than the value of what you originally paid!

How Do These Add Ons Work?

Good Question! After 6 years and taking hundreds of travelers across the globe, one thing has become apparent; while we as humans innately enjoy being in large groups, it doesn't mean that all members of the group want to do the same thing. For that reason, despite being a group travel company, we design our trips with the individual in mind!

So, if you are someone that is looking to travel in luxury, no worries! Simply check off the business class and/or single room upgrade, and you get to be a part of our group while still having your own unique experience. Moreover, if you are an avid traveler that is looking to make new friends but would rather explore on your own, simply select nothing during checkout and you have 7 Days to explore Japan at your own pace. We are sure there will be plenty of others on the trip to accompany you. The total cost of each add on will be divided amongst your monthly payments and you are free to add or change your add-ons right up until 2 months before departure.

Traveling Alone?

While the option is there for you to get a single occupancy room if you choose, by no means do you have to select it if traveling alone. We understand that the extra money spent in getting your own room, takes away from the money available to you to splurge on the streets of Tokyo.

For that reason, we extend each traveler the option of having us pair you with a suitable roommate for no additional cost. Roommates are paired based upon the answers to their personality questions on their registration form, as well as their ages and even astrological signs. At least 2 months before departure you will be given the contact information of your roommate, giving each of you the opportunity to get properly acquainted.

The 'Tell-A-Friend" Discount

Do you know someone who may be interested in joining our trip but isn't a member of AAT? Here is your chance to save a little money while bringing them on a trip of a lifetime!

For every traveler that you refer to our trip, you can subtract \$50 from the cost of your trip. There is no limit to the amount of people you can bring, as long as that person has not already traveled with AAT. Be sure to tell your friend to enter your name in the registration form under "How did you hear about this trip?"

Your \$50 discount will be put back on your card once you and your referral have paid in full.

The Land Package

The Land Package option is for those travelers outside of the New York area that may want to join us. Selecting this option means that you will have to purchase your own flight to meet us in Japan

If you select this option, you will have to purchase your flight no later than July 30th.

Get Travel Insurance!!

Stuff happens, but if stuff were to happen 7 months after having paid for your trip, there is nothing we can do to get you back your money, as our vendors have strict refund policies. Which is why we suggest you get travel insurance for this or any trip that can get you back your money in the event that stuff does happen. It will also cover you if any unfortunate incidents were to happen during the trip!

About Japan

Entry Requirements

You must have a valid passport and an onward/return ticket for tourist/business "visa free" stays of up to 90 days. Your passport must be valid for the entire time you are staying in Japan.

Weather

November means autumn in Tokyo, Japan, with the city's parks exploding with color. The skies are typically brilliant blue, and the maple trees turn scarlet. It's cooler and drier, with average high temperatures around 65°C and much less precipitation.

About South Korea

Entry Requirements

Passport must be valid 90 days past date of entry. No visa required for stays less than 90 days for tourism or business.

ITINERARY

	Japan		
	Sunday, November 3 rd		
2:30 AM	Depart for Beijing via Air China Flight No CA990	13h 40m Flight	

Monday, November 4 th		
4:10 AM	Arrive in Beijing, China	5h 15m Layover
9:25 AM	Depart for Tokyo via Air China Flight No CA925	3h 30m Flight
1:55 PM	Arrive in Tokyo, Japan	
4:00 PM	Transfer to Grand Nikko Tokyo Daiba	
8:00 PM	Black & Gold Host Dinner	

Tuesday, November 5 th	
8:00 AM	Tokyo City Tour
	Tokyo Tower
	Imperial Palace Plaza
	Sumida River Cruise
	Asakusa Sensoji Temple
	Nakamise Shopping Arcade
5:30 PM	Return to Hotel

Wednesday, November 6 th	
Mt. Fuji/Kyoto 3 Day Tour	
Checkout of Tokyo Hotel	
Depart for Mt. Fuji via Bullet Train(2h 30m)	
Tour of Mt. Fuji Area	Free Time in Tokyo
Lake Ashi Cruise	
 Mt Komagatake Ropeway 	
Depart for Kyoto via Bullet Train(??)	
Check into hotel	

Thursday, November 7 th		
Mt. Fuji/Kyoto 3 Day Tour		
Tour of Kyoto		
Nijo Castle		
 Kinkakuji Temple 		
Kyoto Imperial Palace		
Lunch Break	Free Time in Tokyo	
Tour of Nara		
Todai-ji Temple		
• Daibutsu-den		
Kasuga Taisha Shrine		
Return to hotel		

Friday, November 8 th	
Mt. Fuji/Kyoto 3 Day Tour	
Checkout of Kyoto Hotel	Free Time in Tokyo
Depart for Tokyo via Bullet Train	
Check into Tokyo Hotel	

Saturday, November 9 th	
7:00 AM	Depart for Sumo Wrestling Tour
11:00 PM	Return to Hotel
2:00 PM	Depart Geisha Transformation Tour

Sunday, November 10 th		
11:00 AM	Checkout of Hotel/Transfer to Airport	
3:15 PM	Depart for Beijing via Air China Flight No CA990	4h 25m Flight
6:40 PM	Arrive in Beijing, China via Air China Flight No CA926	3h 55m Layover
10:35 PM	Depart for JFK via Air China Flight No CA989	13h 20m Flight
11:55 PM	Arrive in New York	

	South Korea	
Sunday, November 10th		
8:30 AM	Checkout of Hotel	
12:30 PM	Depart for Seoul, South Korea via Asiana Airlines flight No QZ101 2 H 40 M Flight	
3:10 PM	Arrive in Seoul South, Korea	
5:00 PM	Transfer/Check into Hotel	

	Monday, November 11th	
8:30 AM	Depart for Tour of Seoul	
	Gwanghwamun Gate	
	Gyeongbokgung Palace	
	Insadong-gil Street	
	 Jogyesa Temple 	
	Namsangol Hanok Village	
5:00 PM	Return to Hotel	

Tuesday, November 12th			
8:30 AM	Depart for Tour of Demilitarized Zone		
	Imjingak Peace Park		
	3rd Infiltration Tunnel		
3:30 PM	Return to Hotel		

Wednesday, November 13th				
12:00 PM	Checkout of Hotel			
2:00 PM	Transfer to Airport			
6:50 PM	Depart for Tokyo via Asiana Air flight QZ108	2 H 20 M Flight		
9:10 PM	Arrive in Tokyo			
11:00 PM	Transfer/Check into Hotel			

Thursday, November 14 ^h			
11:00 AM	Checkout of Hotel/Transfer to Airport		
3:15 PM	Depart for Beijing via Air China Flight No CA990	4h 25m Flight	
6:40 PM	Arrive in Beijing, China via Air China Flight No CA926	3h 55m Layover	
10:35 PM	Depart for JFK via Air China Flight No CA989	13h 20m Flight	
11:55 PM	Arrive in New York		

IN DEPTH

Tokyo City Tour

Tokyo Tower



Tokyo Tower serves as a broadcast antenna.

Standing 333 meters high in the center of Tokyo, Tokyo Tower (東京タワー) is the world's tallest, self-supported steel tower and 13 meters taller than its model, the Eiffel Tower. A symbol of Japan's post-war rebirth as a major economic power, Tokyo Tower was the country's tallest structure from its completion in 1958 until 2012 when it was surpassed by the Tokyo Skytree. In addition to being a popular tourist spot,

Tokyo Imperial Palace

The current Imperial Palace (皇居, Kōkyo) is located on the former site of Edo Castle, a large park area surrounded by moats and massive stone walls in the center of Tokyo, a short walk from Tokyo Station. It is the residence of Japan's Imperial Family.

Edo Castle used to be the seat of the Tokugawa shogun who ruled Japan from 1603 until 1867. In 1868, the



shogunate was overthrown, and the country's capital and Imperial Residence were moved from Kyoto to Tokyo. In 1888 construction of a new Imperial Palace was completed. The palace was once destroyed during World War Two, and rebuilt in the same style, afterwards.

Sumida River Cruise



A boat ride along the Sumida is a scenic way to explore Tokyo, and you can get on the water in a number of ways. Sightseeing cruises aboard spaceship-like cruise ships take in the districts of Asakusa, Hamarikyu, and Odaiba, affording views of Tokyo Tower, Hamarikyu Gardens, Asakusa Temple, Tokyo Skytree, and Rainbow Bridge. Alternatively water taxis hop between various waterfront destinations, and day cruises run out into Tokyo Bay. Boat cruises are often combined with other city tours and attractions, such as a tour of Tokyo's Asakusa area,

a walking tour of Tsukiji Fish Market, or a visit to Tokyo Tower.

Sensoji Temple

Sensoji (浅草寺, Sensōji, also known as Asakusa Kannon Temple) is a Buddhist temple located in Asakusa. It is one of Tokyo's most colorful and popular temples.

The legend says that in the year 628, two brothers fished a statue of Kannon, the goddess of mercy, out of the Sumida River, and even though they put the statue back into the river, it always



returned to them. Consequently, Sensoji was built nearby for the goddess of Kannon. The temple was completed in 645, making it Tokyo's oldest temple.

Nakamise Shopping Arcade

Get a feel for old-school Tokyo at one of Japan's oldest shopping streets, Nakamise-dori, which dates back to the 17th century. Most shops in this arcade have been run by the same families for several generations, serving souvenirs, top-class street food and irresistible snacks.

Mt. Fuji, Kyoto & Nara

Lake Ashi Cruise

Cruise on Lake Ashi provides a beautiful view of Lake Ashi, a lake formed in the caldera of Mount Hakone after the volcano's last eruption 3,000 years ago. Today, Lake Ashi is often pictured with Mount Fuji in the background as a symbol of Hakone. The best views of the lake in combination with Mt. Fuji can be enjoyed from Moto-Hakone, Hakone Detached Palace Garden, and from sightseeing boats cruising the lake. Note however, that clouds and poor visibility often block the view of Mt. Fuji, and you must consider yourself very lucky if you get a clear view of the mountain.



Colder seasons and early mornings and late evenings often provide better views of the mountain.

The Hakone Komagatake Ropeway



The Hakone Komagatake Ropeway (箱根駒ヶ岳ロープウェー) leads from the shore of Lake Ashinoko to near the Komagatake peak of Mount Hakone.

When visibility is good, panoramic views of Lake Ashinoko and Mount Fuji can be enjoyed from the ropeway's upper station. A short walk away, on the actual peak of Komagatake, stands the Hakone Shrine Mototsumiya, the original Hakone Shrine, whose main site is now located at the more easily accessible shores of Lake Ashinoko in Moto Hakone.

Nijo Castle

Nijo Castle (二条城, Nijōjō) was built in 1603 as the Kyotoresidence of Tokugawa leyasu, the first shogun of the Edo Period (1603-1867). His grandson lemitsu completed the castle's palace buildings 23 years later and further expanded the castle by adding a five story castle keep.

After the Tokugawa Shogunate fell in 1867, Nijo Castle was <u>used as</u>



an imperial palace for a while before being donated to the city and opened up to the public as a historic site. Its palace buildings are arguably the best surviving examples of castle palace architecture of Japan's feudal era, and the castle was designated a UNESCO world heritage site in 1994.

Kinkakuji Temple



Kinkakuji (金閣寺, Golden Pavilion) is a Zen temple in northern Kyoto whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Formally known as Rokuonji, the temple was the retirement villa of the shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, and according to his will it became a Zen temple of the Rinzai sect after his death in 1408. Kinkakuji was the inspiration for the similarly named Ginkakuji (Silver Pavilion), built by Yoshimitsu's grandson,

Ashikaga Yoshimasa, on the other side of the city a few decades later.

Kyoto Imperial Palace

The Kyoto Imperial Palace (京都御所, Kyōto Gosho) used to be the residence of Japan's Imperial Family until 1868, when the emperor and capital were moved from Kyoto to Tokyo. It is located in the spacious Kyoto Imperial Park (京都御苑, Kyōto Gyoen), an attractive park in the center of the city that also encompasses the Sento Imperial Palace and a few other attractions.



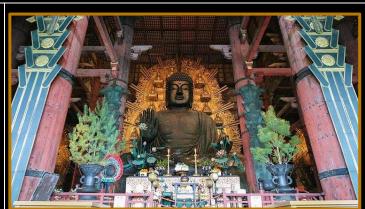
The current Imperial Palace was reconstructed in 1855 after it had burnt down and moved around town repeatedly over the centuries. The complex is enclosed by long walls and consists of several gates, halls and gardens. The enthronement ceremonies of Emperors Taisho and Showa were still held in the palace's main hall. Tokyo Imperial Palace is now used for enthronement ceremonies.

Todai-ji Temple

Todaiji (東大寺, Tōdaiji, "Great Eastern Temple") is one of Japan's most famous and historically significant temples and a landmark of Nara. The temple was constructed in 752 as the head temple of all provincial Buddhist temples of Japan and grew so powerful that the capital was moved from Nara to Nagaoka in 784 in order to lower the temple's influence on government affairs.



Daibutsu-den



Todaiji's main hall, the Daibutsuden (Big Buddha Hall) is the world's largest wooden building, despite the fact that the present reconstruction of 1692 is only two thirds of the original temple hall's size. The massive building houses one of Japan's largest bronze statues of Buddha (Daibutsu). The 15 meters tall, seated Buddha represents Vairocana and is flanked by two Bodhisattvas.

Kasuga Taisha Shrine

Kasuga Taisha (春日大社) is Nara's most celebrated shrine. It was established at the same time as the capital and is dedicated to the deity responsible for the protection of the city. Kasuga Taisha was also the tutelary shrine of the Fujiwara, Japan's most powerful family clan during most of the Nara and Heian Periods. Like the Ise Shrines, Kasuga Taisha had been periodically rebuilt every 20 years for many centuries. In the case of Kasuga Taisha, however, the custom was discontinued at the end of the Edo Period.



Sumo Stable Visit



See live sumo wrestling in Tokyo at an early-morning training session, on this sumo stable tour where you can get a close-up view of sumo training! Afterwards, get an exclusive photo opportunity with Japan's sumo wrestlers!

Geisha Kimono Experience



Stroll the streets of historic Asakusa clad in a traditional Kimono during this flexible-length, small-group walking tour. Join your fellow travelers each dressed in a traditional Japanese garment as you take your time wandering the atmospheric streets of this famous Tokyo neighborhood. Kimono accessories and a hair stylist are also included.

Geisha Transformation Experience

Transform yourself into Geisha, Maiko or Kabuki actor and take photos at a studio in Tokyo! Enjoy an authentic makeover consisting of kimono costume, hair styling, and photo shoot session! You just have to choose the kimono you would like to wear, and the staff will help you dressing up and styling your hair with the Japanese traditional wig and the hair accessories. After the makeover, follow the cameraman instructions and strike beautiful photos at the studio!



South Korea

Gwanghwamun Gate

Founded in 1395 by the first king of the Joseon Dynasty, Gwanghwamun is the main gate of Gyeongbukgung Palace. Roughly meaning "may the light of enlightenment blanket the world," the name symbolizes the resounding dedication that the people of the Joseon Dynasty had in creating a new dynasty. Constructed solely out of granite, its center is an entrance that resembles a rainbow, called Hongyemun Gate.



Gyeongbokgung Palace



Built in 1395, Gyeongbokgung Palace is also commonly referred to as the Northern Palace because its location is furthest north when compared to the neighboring palaces Changdeokgung (Eastern Palace) and Gveonghuigung (Western Palace) Palace. Gyeongbokgung Palace is arguably the most beautiful, and remains the largest of all five palaces.

The premises were once destroyed by fire during the Imjin War (Japanese Invasions, 1592-1598). However, all of the palace buildings were later restored under the leadership of Heungseondaewongun during the reign of King Gojong (1852-1919).

Insadong-gil Street

Insadong is a popular neighborhood in the heart of Seoul that is often visited by locals and tourists wanting to experience traditional culture of Korea. Streets and narrow back alleys are lined with art galleries, wooden tea houses, restaurants, cafes, and small shops selling arts and crafts. The main street, Insadong-gil, runs for 700 meters from Tapgol Park in the south to Anguk-dong Rotary.



Many of the buildings in the area were once owned by merchants, bureaucrats, and government officials during the Joseon Dynasty (1392–1897)

Jogyesa Temple



As the main temple as well as the district head temple of Jogye order in Seoul, Jogyesa Temple is the center of Korean Buddhism. The temple was built in the late 14th century during the Goryeo period and was once turned into ashes due to fire and was rebuilt under the name of Gackhwangsa Temple in 1910 with the effort of many respectful monks, namely Han Yong-un and Lee Hee-gwang. The temple was given a role as the head temple of Korea's Buddhism and renamed to Tegosa Temple in 1936. In 1954, a purification drive took place to

eliminate Japanese influence and revive traditional Buddhism, which established the present day Jogyesa Temple as a result.

Namsangol Hanok Village

Namsangol Hanok Village opened in 1998 on the north side of Namsan Mountain in the center of the capital. This village has five restored traditional Korean houses, a pavilion, traditional garden, performance arts stage and a time capsule plaza, making it a perfect spot for both locals and tourists to take a leisure walk. Upon entering from the front gate, visitors will get a taste of the traditional life while escaping from the bustling city life of



modern times. The traditional garden with its pavilion and the traditional houses create a peaceful ambiance before the forested Namsan Mountain. A time capsule commemorating Seoul's 600 Year Anniversary was buried in 1994 at the highest point of the village and is scheduled to be reopened four hundred years later in 2394.

Imjingak Park



Imjingak (임진각(臨津閣), pronounced Ihm-jingak), and sometimes in English called the Imjingak "resort", is a park located on the banks of the Imjin River in the city of Paju, South Korea. The park has many statues and monuments regarding the Korean War. There is also a restaurant, an observation deck, a pool in the shape of the Korean peninsula, and even a small amusement park.

The park was built to console those from both sides who are unable to return to their hometowns, friends and families because of the division of Korea. Imjingak is where the "Bridge of Freedom" lies. The Freedom bridge does actually cross the Imjin river. It is a former railroad bridge which was used by repatriated POWs/soldiers returning from the north.

3rd Infiltration Tunnel

Before 1975, the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel was unknown. It was not until 1975 that a North Korean defector named Kim Bu-seong claimed that the north had built a secret passageway across the demilitarized zone for the main purpose of invading the south. To find the location, PVC pipes filled with water were placed every 2 meters (6.56 feet) along the expected location of the secret passageway.



Over three years later, on June 10, 1978, one of the PVC exploded with water shooting up into the air. From this, South Korea was able to locate the secret passageway called the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, or Third Tunnel of Aggression.