# ITINERARY

## Japan & Korea 10 Days 9 Nights

**Japan’s Golden Route with an onsen night at Mt Fuji, then a flight to Korea for Seoraksan, Petite France, the DMZ and three nights in Seoul**

| DEPARTURE | DESTINATION | DURATION |
|---|---|---|
| Tokyo | Seoul | 10 Days / 9 Nights |

### DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1

### Day 1 — Arrive in Tokyo

**Tokyo**

The operator’s representative meets you at Narita or Haneda Airport and arranges the transfer to your Tokyo hotel (complimentary for arrivals between 8 am and 10 pm; there may be a short wait while the group is assembled). Check-in starts at 3 pm and you will need your passport; if you arrive early, leave your luggage with the hotel and start exploring Tokyo on your own.

Hotel: **Tokyo Dome Hotel, or similar**

Day 2

### Day 2 — Tokyo, then an onsen night at Mt Fuji

**Tokyo → Mt Fuji**

After breakfast, Senso-ji Temple, Tokyo’s oldest, and the Nakamise-dori market street leading up to it; a view of Tokyo Skytree; Nijubashi Bridge at the Imperial Palace; and Shinjuku Kabukicho, the neon entertainment district.
In the afternoon the coach leaves the city for the Mt Fuji lakes area, where you stay at a Japanese hot-spring hotel: a traditional dinner, then the onsen bath.
*Seasonal additions in Tokyo, weather permitting: cherry blossoms at Chidorigafuchi and Shinjuku Gyoen (March 22 – April 12); autumn colours at Yoyogi Park and Rikugien Garden (October 18 – November 15).*

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

Hotel: **Fuji Kawaguchiko Resort Hotel or Motosu Phoenix Hotel (hot-spring hotel), or similar**

Day 3

### Day 3 — Mt Fuji 5th Station, Oshino Hakkai and Nagoya

**Mt Fuji → Nagoya**

Drive up to Mt Fuji’s 5th Station, roughly halfway up the mountain, for the views (when the road is closed by weather the Mt Fuji World Heritage Center museum is visited instead). Then Oshino Hakkai, a village of eight clear spring pools fed by Fuji snowmelt, with old thatched houses and water wheels, and Bussharito Heiwa Park, a peace park with a white stupa and Japanese gardens.
Continue to Nagoya. The evening is free: the Osu shopping district, a covered arcade of small shops and food stalls around Osu Kannon temple, is the place to go. Dinner on your own.

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch**

Hotel: **Hotel Keihan Nagoya or Hilton Nagoya, or similar**

Day 4

## Day 4 — Nagoya Castle, then Kyoto: Kinkaku-ji and Gion

**Nagoya → Kyoto**

After breakfast, Nagoya Castle, the seat of the Owari branch of the Tokugawa clan, with its golden shachihoko on the keep. Then the drive to Kyoto and Kinkaku-ji, the Golden Pavilion, its upper floors covered in gold leaf above the mirror pond.
The afternoon is in Gion, the historic geisha district: Yasaka Shrine, a walk along Hanamachi, the Edo-period geisha quarter, and a quiet stretch of the Kamo River. Dinner on your own.
*Seasonal additions in Kyoto, weather permitting: cherry trees at Maruyama Park (March 22 – April 12); autumn colours in Arashiyama around Togetsukyo Bridge (October 18 – November 15).*

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch**

Hotel: **Hilton Garden Inn Kyoto Shijo Karasuma or Hotel Keihan Kyoto Hachijoguchi, or similar**

Day 5

## Day 5 — Kyoto Imperial Palace, Fushimi Inari, Nara and Osaka

**Kyoto → Nara → Osaka**

The morning starts at the Kyoto Imperial Palace, home of the emperors until 1868, then Fushimi Inari Taisha and its tunnels of vermilion torii gates up the hillside.
On to Nara, Japan's first permanent capital: Nara Park, where more than a thousand deer roam freely, and the lantern-lined Kasuga Taisha shrine next to it. Then the drive to Osaka for Osaka Castle Park.
The evening is free in Shinsaibashi, the covered shopping arcade, and Dotonbori, the canal-side food street under the Glico sign. Dinner on your own — takoyaki, okonomiyaki and kushikatsu are the local dishes. Your guide briefs you on tomorrow's airport shuttle and flight.

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch**

Hotel: **Sheraton Miyako Hotel Osaka or Hotel Hommachi Miyako, or similar**

Day 6

## Day 6 — Fly Osaka to Seoul, on to Gangwon-do

**Osaka Seoul → Gangwon-do**

After breakfast the shuttle bus takes you to Kansai International Airport for the included flight to Seoul Incheon (one 15 kg checked bag included). Lunch on your own, around the flight.
On arrival your Korean guide meets you and drives east to Gangwon-do, the mountainous province on the east coast, for the night. A Korean dinner ends the day.

Meals: **Breakfast, Dinner**

Hotel: **Sea Cruise Hotel Sokcho or Sunrise Hotel (resort hotel, Gangwon-do), or similar**

Day 7

## Day 7 — Seoraksan cable car, Sokcho market and Petite France

**Gangwon-do → Seoraksan → Gapyeong → Seoul**

A morning in Seoraksan National Park, Korea's best-known mountain park: the cable car (included) up to the Gwongeumseong ridge for the view over the granite peaks, and Sinheungsa Temple with its great bronze Buddha at the park entrance. Then Sokcho Tourist and Fishery Market, the harbour town's covered market of dried fish, squid and fried chicken stalls.
In the afternoon, on the way back towards the capital, Petite France near Gapyeong, a hillside village of French-style houses built around the story of The Little Prince. Continue to Seoul for dinner and check-in.

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

Hotel: **ibis Styles Ambassador Seoul Yongsan, or similar**

Day 8

## Day 8 — The DMZ, the National Museum of Korea and the Bugak Skyway

**Seoul → DMZ → Seoul**

North of the city to the edge of the Demilitarized Zone: the Odusan Unification Observatory, where the Han and Imjin rivers meet and North Korea is in plain view across the water, then Imjingak Park and the Freedom Bridge, over which prisoners of war returned in 1953. Bring your passport.
Back in Seoul, the National Museum of Korea, the country's largest, for its collection from prehistory to the Joseon dynasty. After dark, a drive along the Bugak Skyway above the northern hills for the night view over downtown Seoul. Dinner on your own.

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch**

Hotel: **ibis Styles Ambassador Seoul Yongsan, or similar**

Day 9

## Day 9 — Gyeongbokgung, Ikseon-dong, a Han River cruise and Myeongdong

**Seoul**

Gyeongbokgung Palace, the main palace of the Joseon dynasty, and the National Folk Museum in its grounds. Then the hanok alleys of Ikseon-dong, a block of 1920s courtyard houses now full of cafés and small shops.
In the afternoon a Han River cruise for the view of the city from the water, and the day ends in Myeongdong, Seoul's busiest shopping street, with its cosmetics shops and street food. Dinner on your own.

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch**

Hotel: **ibis Styles Ambassador Seoul Yongsan, or similar**

Day 10

## Day 10 — Depart Seoul

**Seoul**

After breakfast the tour ends. The transfer to Incheon or Gimpo Airport is at your own expense — a taxi costs about US$70 each way and takes about an hour to Incheon.

Meals: **Breakfast**

### WHAT'S INCLUDED & EXCLUDED

## COST INCLUDES

- ✓ Your tour price covers:
- ✓ Nine nights in the hotels listed or hotels of the same standard, two sharing, with breakfast
- ✓ Meals as shown in the itinerary: 9 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 3 dinners
- ✓ Complimentary transfer from Narita (NRT) or Haneda (HND) Airport to the Tokyo hotel on day 1, for arrivals between 8 am and 10 pm
- ✓ Shuttle bus from the Osaka hotel to Kansai Airport on day 6, and the flight from Osaka (KIX) to Seoul (ICN) with one piece of checked luggage (15 kg)
- ✓ Coach transfers and sightseeing as listed in Japan and Korea
- ✓ English-speaking tour guides in Japan and in Korea
- ✓ Admission tickets to the attractions listed, including the Seoraksan cable car and the Han River cruise
- ✓ Gratuities for the tour guides and drivers

## COST EXCLUDES

- ✗ The following are not covered by the tour price:
- ✗ International airfare to Tokyo and home from Seoul, airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- ✗ Service fee — CAD $200 per person, added at checkout
- ✗ High-season surcharge — CAD $230 per person on the departure dates marked as high season
- ✗ Single room supplement — CAD $1,230
- ✗ Transfer from the Seoul hotel to the airport on day 10 — by taxi at your own expense, about US$70 each way
- ✗ Lunches and dinners not listed (dinners on days 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9, and lunch on day 6)
- ✗ Optional programmes
- ✗ Visas or electronic travel authorisations for Japan and Korea, if required
- ✗ Travel insurance
- ✗ Extra hotel nights — subject to availability, quoted on request
- ✗ Personal expenses such as laundry and shopping

## TRAVEL DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST

- **Valid Passport** — must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the return date
- **Required Visas** — verify visa requirements for your destination and nationality before travel
- **Travel Insurance Certificate** — trip cancellation and out-of-country medical coverage (strongly recommended)
- **Credit Card & Cash** — for personal expenses and emergencies
- **Medications** — in original packaging with prescriptions, plus a copy stored separately

## IMPORTANT TRAVEL ADVISORIES

**Entry Requirements:** Entry to another country may be refused even if the required information and travel documents are complete. It is the traveller's responsibility to ensure all documents are valid and in order.

**Local Conditions:** Living standards and practices at the destination, and the standards and conditions with respect to utilities, services, and accommodation, may differ from those found in Canada.

**Airport Arrival:** Please arrive at the airport at least **3 hours before** international departures and **2 hours before** domestic departures. Reconfirm onward flights with the airline at least 72 hours in advance.

**Government Travel Advice:** Check Global Affairs Canada at **travel.gc.ca** for the latest travel advisories for your destination.