



SAIZEN TOURS

MIYAMA KYOTO FARMSTAY

DAY ONE – OSAKA

Depart Australia on your international flight to Kansai, Osaka
Commence 4-Day JR Kansai Area Pass
Haruka Express Train from airport to Shin-Osaka
Overnight: Shin-Osaka hotel – Breakfast included

DAY TWO – OSAKA

Suggested sightseeing:
Morning: Umeda area
Afternoon: Namba, Shinsaibashi and Dotonbori
Overnight: Shin-Osaka hotel – Breakfast included

DAY THREE – USJ

Universal Studios Japan
Overnight: Shin-Osaka hotel – Breakfast included

DAY FOUR – KYOTO

Move to Kyoto by Haruka Express Train
Suggested sightseeing using Kyoto Bus Pass:
Kiyomizu and Gion area
Maiko Experience in Gion
Overnight: Kyoto inn/hotel – Breakfast included

DAY FIVE – KYOTO

Morning: A half-day to explore some of Kyoto's famous landmarks with a coach tour including English speaking guide.
Visit Kinkakuji, Nijo Castle and Kyoto Imperial Palace
Afternoon: Own arrangements
Overnight: Kyoto inn/hotel – Breakfast included

DAY SIX – MIYAMA

Travel from Kyoto City to Miyama by private coach
Bento box lunch on arrival at Miyama
Take a local bus to Thatched Village
Thatched Village guided walk in English
Folklore Museum
Mochi ponding experience
Meet with host families
Overnight: Miyama farmstay – Dinner and breakfast included

DAY SEVEN – MIYAMA

School exchange
Bento box lunch
Overnight: Miyama farmstay – Dinner and breakfast included

DAY EIGHT – MIYAMA

Japanese culture experience activity
(Kimono, tea ceremony, origami, etc.)
Bento box lunch
Overnight: Miyama farmstay – Dinner and breakfast included

DAY NINE – MIYAMA

Farewell ceremony at visitor centre
Bamboo basket weaving
Okonomiyaki cooking class with locals and lunch
Travel back to Kyoto city by private coach
Last minutes shopping in Kyoto Station area
Commence 1-Day JR Kansai Area Pass
Haruka Express Train from Kyoto to Kansai Airport
Overnight: In transit -late dinner and light breakfast included on board

DAY TEN

Arrive Australia early morning.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

Return economy airfares Australia – Japan (indicative quote only)
All airport charges and taxes
3 nights **Shin-Osaka** hotel including daily breakfast
2 nights **Kyoto** inn/hotel including daily breakfast
3 nights **Miyama, Kyoto** farmstay including breakfast and dinner
1-Day JR Kansai Area Pass
4-Day JR Kansai Area Pass
Universal Studios Japan 1-Day Pass
Kyoto City Bus One Day Pass
Maiko Experience in Gion, Kyoto
Kyoto Morning Tour with English-speaking guide
Miyama farmstay activities and lunches

- Bento box lunch with bottle of water x 3 day
- Okonomiyaki cooking class with locals for lunch x 1day
- Nantan city bus ticket to Thatched Village
- Thatched Village guided walk in English
- Folklore Museum admission fee
- Mochi ponding experience
- School Visit
- Japanese culture experience activity (Kimono, tea ceremony, origami, etc.)
- Bamboo basket making
- Teacher to visit all homestay families prior to students going, private car and driver provided
- Private coach transfers Kyoto – Miyama return

10% Japan Consumption Tax
Included teacher/s as specified including teacher's airport taxes
Teacher's complimentary tour diary

COST PER PERSON FROM:

Student 11 years and under: \$3,560.00 per person
Student 12 years and over: \$3,700.00 per person
Extra adult: \$3,930.00 per person
Based on a minimum group size of 10-14 participants plus two teachers included

Student 11 years and under: \$3,275.00 per person
Student 12 years and over: \$3,420.00 per person
Extra adult: \$3,645.00 per person
Based on a minimum group size of 15-19 participants plus two teachers included

Student 11 years and under: \$3,130.00 per person
Student 12 years and over: \$3,275.00 per person
Extra adult: \$3,505.00 per person
Based on a minimum group size of 20-24 participants plus two teachers included

Student 11 years and under: \$3,170.00 per person
Student 12 years and over: \$3,315.00 per person
Extra adult: \$3,545.00 per person
Based on a minimum group size of 25+ participants plus three teachers included

MIYAMA KYOTO FARMSTAY ITINERARY

DAY ONE – OSAKA

Depart Australia on your international flight to Kansai / Osaka, Japan.

Commence 4-Day JR Kansai Area Pass

Haruka Express Train from airport to Shin-Osaka

Overnight: *Shin-Osaka hotel – Breakfast included*



DAY TWO – OSAKA

Suggested sightseeing:

Morning: **Umeda** is located around the large station complex that comprises Osaka and Umeda Stations. This area is modern city district and perfect for shopping, dining and entertainment. There are a number of major department stores in this area including Osaka Station City, Grand Front Osaka, Links Umeda, Daimaru and Isetan Mitsukoshi. Especially **HEP FIVE** is popular to teenagers and young people, which feature a red Ferris wheel emerging from its roof, while the entire complex houses over 300 shops and restaurants. **Umeda Sky Building** is also famous as a magnificent skyscraper near Umeda Station. This building stands at 173 metres high consisting of 2 main towers, which are connected on the 39th floor with a 'Floating Garden Observatory'.

Afternoon: **Namba** area. The covered shopping arcade **Shinsaibashi** is one of Osaka's oldest and busiest shopping destinations, which runs about 600 meters in length. Shinsaibashi's collection of brand name shops, chain stores, independent boutiques and variety of restaurants makes it popular with nearly every kind of shopper. Another specialized area is Nipponbashi's **Den Den Town**, dedicated to electronic and gaming goods and often compared to Tokyo's Akihabara district. **Doguya Suji** near Namba Station is Osaka's shopping destination for professional and amateur chefs. This short arcade sells all manner of cooking accessories, from restaurant grade stove tops to staff uniforms to pots, pans and dishes.

Dotonbori near Namba Station is one of Osaka's most popular tourist destinations, this street runs parallel to the Dotonbori canal. At night it is lit by hundreds of neon lights and mechanized signs, including the famous Glico Running Man sign and Kani Doraku crab sign. Dotonbori is perfect for having dinner. Osaka's obsession with food is often summed up with the expression "*kuidaore*" which is often interpreted to mean "eat till you drop" but actually means to spend so much on food that you fall into financial ruin! Dotonbori is said to be the best place in Osaka to experience this kuidaore style extreme love of food.

Overnight: *Shin-Osaka hotel – Breakfast included*

DAY THREE – USJ

Visit to one of Japan's newest theme parks, **Universal Studios Japan**. Jurassic Park, Back To The Future and ET are some of the best rides not to be missed. World of Harry Potter and Minion Park have newly opened, and Super Nintendo World will be opening soon next!

Overnight: *Shin-Osaka hotel – Breakfast included*

DAY FOUR – KYOTO

Farewell Osaka, take Haruka Express Train and make your way to Japan's ancient capital city, Kyoto. Kyoto was Japan's capital city from 794 – 1868. It has more than 1600 Buddhist Temples and 270 Shinto Shrines. Kyoto is the 7th largest city in Japan.

Suggested sightseeing: Kiyomizu / Gion area using Kyoto City Bus One Day Pass.

Kyoto's most famous landmark – **Kiyomizudera** Temple is the longest wooden structure in the world. This temple was founded in 798 and rebuilt in 1633 without the single use of a nail. The winding entrance to Kiyomizudera is known as 'Teapot Lane' and sells the best souvenirs and handicrafts in all of Japan.

Gion – Heart of Kyoto's world famous Geisha districts. As you stroll through the Gion area in the early evening you will see maiko and geiko moving between the evening's engagements. Saizen Tours can arrange for your group to visit a local teahouse in Gion and learn about the secret world of Geisha first hand. You can watch the young maiko perform before they serve you tea and pose for photos with the group.

Overnight: *Kyoto inn/hotel – Breakfast included*

DAY FIVE – KYOTO

Morning: A half-day to explore some of Kyoto's famous landmarks with a coach tour including English speaking guide. **Nijo Castle** was built in 1603 as the official Kyoto residence of the first Tokugawa Shogun, Ieyasu. To safeguard against treachery, the Shogun had the interior fitted with 'nightingale' floors (intruders were detected by the squeaking boards) and concealed chambers where bodyguards could keep watch. **Kinkakuji** is one of the most beautiful temples in all Japan. A trip to Japan would not be complete without a photo in front of this Golden Pavilion. The first floor is palace style, the second floor is the style of the samurai house and third floor is a Zen style temple. Both the second and third floors are covered with gold leaf on Japanese lacquer. Visit **Kyoto Imperial Palace** (except Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and specific days) or Kitano Tenmangu Shrine (Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and specific days).

Afternoon: Own arrangements.

Overnight: *Kyoto inn/hotel – Breakfast included*

DAY SIX – MIYAMA

Take a private coach from Kyoto Station and head to Miyama, famous for its traditional thatched roof farmhouses, which give you a chance to experience the authentic and nostalgic atmosphere of rural Japan.

You will have bento box lunch made with local ingredients on arrival at Miyama.

Depart visitor centre, move to thatched village by a local city bus. Enjoy thatched village guided walk in English and visit Folklore Museum.

Mochi ponding experience and welcome ceremony with host families.

Teacher to visit all homestay families prior to students going, private car and driver provided.

Overnight: *Miyama farmstay (students), thatched village inn (teachers) – Dinner and breakfast included*

DAY SEVEN – MIYAMA

Morning: Stay in each family and experience the local life (Farming, cooking, walking and etc.)

Afternoon: Visit a local school. Have bento lunch with local students and take a class together.

Each host family give transfers your students from their home to the visitor centre.

Overnight: *Miyama farmstay (students), thatched village inn (teachers) – Dinner and breakfast included*

DAY EIGHT – MIYAMA

Japanese culture experience activities with locals (kimono or yukata wearing, tea ceremony, origami workshop and etc.)

Bento lunch will be provided.

Overnight: *Miyama farmstay (students), thatched village inn (teachers) – Dinner and breakfast included*

DAY NINE – MIYAMA

Farewell ceremony and bamboo basket weaving experience at visitor centre.

Okonomiyaki cooking class with locals for lunch, and then travel back to Kyoto Station by private coach.

Perhaps time for some last minute shopping in Kyoto Station area.

Commence 1-Day JR Kansai Area Pass, take a Haruka Express Train and travel to Kansai Airport, Osaka late afternoon for your return flight to Australia.

Meals and movies on board your overnight flight to Australia.

Overnight: *In transit - late dinner and light breakfast included on board*

DAY TEN

Arrive Australia early morning.

Note: Tour Itinerary is based on self-escorted sightseeing suggestions.