

12 Days

£4200

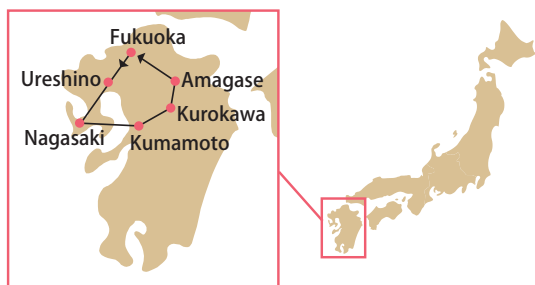
Price is per person based on twin share

Departure from London
on 22 March 2019

2019

Cherry Blossom & Culinary Experience in Kyushu

This unique small group tour visits Japan's hidden gems in Kyushu, an island blessed with unparalleled natural beauty, high quality local cuisine, numerous hot springs, and where well-kept treasures await you. Immerse yourself in the region's culture and traditions while meeting friendly locals and enjoying special culinary experiences.



Tour Highlights

- Experience Kyushu's finest cuisine, including 7 lunch, 8 dinner, daily breakfast and selection of drinks
- Visits Sake Brewery Festival in Saga
- Sake tasting experience
- Experience the beauty of cherry blossom
- 3 nights Ryokan and Onsen experience
- Soba making experience
- Gyokuro, finest green tea experience

◆ Detailed Itinerary

Day 1-2 Depart from London Heathrow to Fukuoka (in-direct flight).

The following evening you'll arrive at Fukuoka. There, you will be greeted by our representative at the airport and taken to your hotel by private coach. Your first nights' accommodation is at **JR Kyushu Hotel Blossom Hakata Chujo** with breakfast included.



Day 3 Ureshino

Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner

Today you'll get to enjoy the sights of Kashima and Ureshino in Saga. Today's itinerary includes a unique Japanese festival experience at **Kashima Sake Brewery Festival** in Saga and visits to 6 sake breweries which include sake tasting experiences. Next, you'll visit **Yutoku Inari Shrine**. At this shrine, the division of the deity Inari Okami, worshiped by the Emperor, is enshrined. Yutoku Inari Shrine is considered to be one of Japan's top three shrines dedicated to Inari. Your accommodation tonight is the wonderful **Ryokan Taishoya** in Ureshino, where a kaiseki (traditional Japanese cuisine) welcome dinner will be served. Ureshino Onsen is known as one of Kyushu's best and the hot spring water has the incredible power to make skin soft, smooth and beautiful.



Day 4 Nagasaki

Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner

Today you'll be traveling from Ureshino to Nagasaki by private coach. As well as breakfast at Ryokan Taishoya, lunch and dinner are also included. At lunch you can enjoy tasting Nagasaki's local speciality, Nagasaki Champon noodles! After arriving in Nagasaki you'll be given a day tour of Nagasaki to discover the fascinating sights of this vibrant and charming city. The tour will visit **Nagasaki Peace Park & Atomic Bomb Museum; Glover Garden; Oura Church; Dejima Island**. For dinner, Shippoku Cuisine will be served at a local restaurant. Shippoku Ryori is the first Japanese fusion cuisine, a mixture of traditional Japanese, Chinese and Western dishes. Accommodation for the next two nights is at the ANA Crowne Plaza Nagasaki, located on a mountainside in Nagasaki-Minamiyamate.



Day 5 Nagasaki

Breakfast

After breakfast at your hotel, the day is yours to enjoy at leisure. You may wish to have your own adventure or some rest and relaxation, the choice is yours. Tonight you have the opportunity to visit your restaurant of choice in Nagasaki.



Day 6 Kumamoto

Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner

Today you will travel by ferry to Kumamoto, a city famous for its bold castle and unique mascot Kumamon. After lunch, you are free to explore the **Kumamoto Castle** area, which is known as one of the best Sakura-viewing spots in all of Kyushu! More beautiful Sakura can be seen at your next stop, **Suizenji Park**. After a day Sakura-viewing you'll get to experience eating like a local and enjoy the fun atmosphere of a Japanese Izakaya Restaurant.



Day 7 Kurokawa

Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner

Following breakfast, you'll be taken on a scenic drive to **Kusasenri Plateau** and **Mt Aso Nakadake Crater** by private car. For today's lunch you'll be served a **Akaushi Beef BBQ**. Later, you'll visit **Daikanbo Observatory** where you can enjoy a fantastic view of **Mt Aso** and the **Kuju Mountains**. A delicious Kaiseki dinner is included tonight at the Ryokan in Kurokawa Onsen.



Day 8 Amagase

Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner

After enjoying a delightful breakfast at the Ryokan in **Kurokawa Onsen**, you'll be participating in a unique **Soba making experience** in the Mt. Aso area and guess what's for lunch today – Soba! After lunch you can take a peaceful, leisurely stroll through Yufuin hot-spring town. Your next stop on this culinary adventure is **Amagase Onsen**. Amagase is a little onsen town, with a 1,300 year history, located along the Kusu river in the south-east part of Hita city. Tonight you will be served a delightful Kaiseki Dinner at the Ryokan.



Day 9 Fukuoka

Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner

Start after check-out by being transported in a private car to visit **Kiyomizu temple** in Fukuoka – famous for its beautiful Japanese garden. The cherry blossom here in spring is spectacular and you are in for a real treat. After lunch, you'll visit a Sake Brewery for a **Sake tasting experience**, as well as tasting the finest Gyokuro green tea. Dinner this evening is delicious Yakitori at a local restaurant in Fukuoka. Your accommodation for the remaining 3 nights is at the centrally located JR Kyushu Hotel Blossom Hakata Chujo.



Day 10 Fukuoka

Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner

After breakfast, get ready for more gourmet, cultural and seasonal experiences. Your first stop today is a visit to **Daizai-fu Tenmangu Shrine** by private car. You'll then get to view the beautiful cherry blossom at **Maizuru or Nishi Park**. Cherry blossom viewing in Japanese is called "Hanami". Next, you'll be taken to **Tocho-ji temple** and **Kushida Shrine** in Hakata Ward. For dinner this evening you will be served **Mot-su-nabe**, an original Fukuoka dish, (Japanese hot-pot) at a local restaurant. We can offer an optional tour for visiting the outdoor street food stalls known as Yatai.



Day 11 Fukuoka

Breakfast / Dinner

Today you are free at leisure from breakfast until dinner to relax and visit anywhere you wish. Join us at a top-quality Sushi restaurant farewell dinner to end this trip on a high!



Day 12 Fukuoka

Breakfast

On your final day you'll be taken by private car to Fukuoka Airport to catch your return flight back to the U.K.

What's includes

- Flight ticket from London to Fukuoka (In-direct Return Economy Class Ticket)
- 10 nights accommodation specified in the above itinerary
- Kyushu's finest cuisine, including 7 lunch, 8 dinner, daily breakfast and a selection of drinks
- All transport between destinations in Kyushu by private coach or taxi
- English guide from Day 3-11 except day 5
- English speaking assistant on Day 2 & 12
- Admission and entrance fees for all named activities
- Soba making, Sake tasting and Gyokuro green tea experience
- 1 x Japan SIM Card

What's NOT included

- Optional activities
- Any meals and drinks not shown in the above itinerary
- Charge for minibar, room services, laundry, telephone and any other expenses of personal nature
- Passport and other visa document fees
- Travel Insurance

Conditions

- Minimum participants: 10
- If the minimum number of persons for a tour is not reached 90 days before departure we reserve the right to cancel this tour. We may offer you alternative arrangements and you may choose to accept these arrangements if you wish
- Maximum participants: 16

Payment

We accept payment by UK debit or Bank transfer

*10% of deposit (or full payment if booking within 60 days of departure) must be paid at the time of booking

* The balance will be due 60 days before the departure date

Cancellation Policy

Once the payment is received, following cancellation policy will be applicable

- * 91 days or more: Loss of deposit
- * 90-33 days prior to departure date: 50% of total holiday cost
- * 32-15 days prior to departure: 90% of total holiday cost
- * 14 days or less: 100% of total holiday cost

Insurance

Please Note: Adequate and valid travel insurance is compulsory for all our travellers and it is a condition of accepting your booking that you agree you will have obtained adequate and valid travel insurance. We recommend you take out insurance as soon as your booking is confirmed.

Disabilities

If you have any medical condition or disability which may affect your holiday or suffer from reduced mobility or have any special requirements, please do inform us before you confirm your booking