

Japan Trip Cost Inclusions and Summarized Itinerary

Below is an estimated list of items included in the travel package cost for Japan -again this will vary depending on families' choices to book their own flights, etc. In addition, below the cost inclusions is a summary of the trip itinerary. All items are subject to change at this time, however, we don't anticipate anything major. Finalized details will be shared as soon as they are available.

Trip Cost Inclusions:

- Ten (10) Nights of Hotel Accommodations while in Japan
- Breakfast provided at the hotel each morning
- Lunch and Dinner provided throughout, as noted in the final itinerary
- Admissions and Sightseeing, as noted in the final itinerary
- Admission Ticket to Universal Studios of Japan
- Ordinary Class Bullet Train ticket (2 one-ways)
- Local bus transportation as noted in the final itinerary
- Estimated Round Trip Airfare Allowance of \$2,000, which right now is included in the max cost shared in the email; international taxes and fees are subject to change
- English Speaking Tour Guide while in Japan
- Online billing and payment services
- Liability insurance (explained in [FAQs](#))

Summarized Itinerary (subject to change and final version will be sent once available):

Day 1: Thursday, May 28, 2026

Columbus International Airport

9am Approximate departure time from Columbus International Airport to Tokyo (Narita Airport - NRT)

Day 2: Friday, May 29, 2026

Tokyo and Travel to Mashiko

3pm Approximate arrival in Tokyo, Japan (Narita Airport, NRT)

Arrive in Tokyo, meet tour guide at airport and transfer to in Mashiko, Hotel Mashikokan (One way transfer provided)

Day 3: Saturday, May 30, 2026

Mashiko (Breakfast /Lunch/ Dinner)

Rehearsal all day.

Day 4: Sunday, May 31, 2026**Mashiko (Breakfast /Lunch/ Dinner)**

Performance day

Day 5: Monday, June 1, 2026**Mashiko and then travel to Kyoto (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)**

Dublin Taiko will spend the morning with local Mashiko students learning about Japanese culture. Then, we'll take in the sights of the Japanese landscape as we travel on a bullet train to Tokyo and then ultimately to Kyoto. The afternoon and evening will be primarily travel.

Day 6: Tuesday, June 2, 2026**Kyoto (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)**

We'll explore one of Japan's most enduring images, Kinkakuji, or The Golden Pavilion. This three-story pavilion overlooking Kagayako Pond is a representative example of Muromachi period pavilion architecture, and features opulent gold leaf on the second and third floors. The garden is designated as a Special Historic Site and a Special Place of Scenic Beauty. Experience the serenity of Zen Buddhism at Tenryu-Ji Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site nestled in the picturesque Arashiyama district of Kyoto. Explore the temple's meticulously maintained gardens, featuring tranquil ponds, lush foliage, and stunning views of the surrounding mountains. Experience a landscape never-before-seen with a visit to the lush bamboo forest at Chikurin-no-Michi in Arashiyama. Stroll through this magical space filled with the fresh scent of bamboo and lush greenery, embodying the beauty of Arashiyama. Discover the magic of the old cobblestone streets of Ichinenzaka, Ninenzaka, and Sannenzaka that have prospered since ancient times. These sloping streets are lined with historic Japanese architecture that typify Kyoto, even including many souvenir shops. Nearby there are many temples and shrines, making it a popular sightseeing spot. Be immersed in the atmosphere of Kyoto, with Kiyomizu's three-tiered pagoda overlooking houses and scattered temples as you ascend the gentle incline.

Day 7: Wednesday, June 3, 2026**Kyoto/Nara/Osaka (Breakfast /Lunch/Dinner)**

We will travel to multiple locations on this date and end in Osaka. We will visit the Fushimi Inari Shrine, a major Shinto shrine complex on Mount Inari. To get onto the beautiful walking trails at the back of the shrine, we'll pass through corridors of thousands of bright red gates. The seemingly endless path of vibrant gates is an impressive setting and is one of the most famous images of Japan. Then enjoy a half-day trip to Nara. Visit the Todaiji Temple, see the world's largest Buddha statue, and encounter deer as you explore the temples and halls (including Kasugataisha Shrine) in the surrounding grounds of Nara Park. You might even feed the deer with their favorite snacks - Japanese Senbei! (Rice crackers)

Day 8: Thursday, June 4, 2026**Osaka (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)**

We'll spend the day at Universal Studios Japan, the theme park filled with attractions like The Wizarding World of Harry Potter, Super Nintendo World, Universal Cool Japan 2017, The Amazing Adventures of Spider Man, Jaws, Backdraft and Terminator 2.

Day 9: Friday, June 5, 2026

Osaka/Tokyo

We'll travel more on this date, taking in the sights of the Japanese landscape as we travel on the bullet train (Shinkansen) from Osaka to Tokyo; the bullet train used for this journey will vary by train type, taking approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes for the fastest Nozomi trains and up to 3 hours and 54 minutes for the Kodama trains. We'll also visit and walk through the district of Asakusa, where the atmosphere of ancient Tokyo survives. Discover the charming streets lined with traditional craft shops and street-food stalls and visit Sensoji Temple, one of Tokyo's most colorful and popular Buddhist temples.

Day 10: Saturday, June 6, 2026

Tokyo (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

We'll visit the beautiful Meiji Shrine, dedicated to the Emperor Meiji and his wife, who, in the early 20th century, began Japan's transformation from a feudal to a modern society. Then, we'll move on to the Harajuku district, Tokyo's cultural epicenter, to see Pokémon, punks, goths, and fashionistas. Anything goes in Harajuku! Enjoy spending time in Tokyo's trendy Omotesando and Takeshita District. Omotesando is quite pretty and luxurious, while Takeshita is bursting with shops for all kinds of goodies! We'll then pay a visit to the famous Shibuya Crossing, where when the lights turn red at this busy intersection, pedestrians surge into the junction from all sides like a floodgate opening. It's arguably one of the most iconic modern sights in Tokyo!

Day 11: Sunday, June 7, 2026

Tokyo (Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner)

We'll explore the gardens of the Tokyo Imperial Palace, built on the site of the old Edo Castle. Then, we'll experience the hustle and bustle of the world-famous Tsukiji outer market. And we'll take a trip to Akihabara, nicknamed Japan's 'Electric Town' thanks to its postwar industry. Today, it's a cultural centre for anime and manga lovers, and is also home to Japan's most famous J-pop group, AKB48.

Day 12: Monday, June 8, 2026

Tokyo (Breakfast)

Time to head home! Departure time is to be determined. We will arrive back in Columbus on June 8th, our time.