

Japan 2026 Itinerary

Travel Dates: May 28 – June 5, 2026

May 28th - 29th - Day 1&2 - Tampa - Tokyo

- Students meet their travel group in the U.S. and fly overnight to Osaka, Japan. When the group arrives in Japan the next day (Day 2), the group will meet the guide for an onground briefing.
- We will then go on a walking tour of Tokyo. On the tour the group will become oriented with their neighborhood, the public transportation systems, nearby pharmacies, markets, ATMs, etc.

Meals Included

Welcome Dinner

May 30th – Day 3 – Tokyo

We will start the day with breakfast at the hotel. We will then have a walking tour of the following sites:

- Asakusa Sensoji Shrine & Nakamise Street The Asakusa Sensoji Shrine is Tokyo's oldest-established temple and famous for its stunning red gate and massive lantern. We will then walk Nakamise Street, where you can find crafts, souvenirs and famous snacks.
- **Kimono Wearing Experience** We will participate in the art of traditional kimono attire and stroll around the Asakusa district. The kimono is a traditional garment of Japanese culture.
- **Ueno National Museum** We will explore one of Japan's finest museums, showcasing samurai armor, calligraphy, and historical artifacts.

Meals Included

Breakfast

<u>May 31st</u> – Day 4 – Tokyo

We will start the day with breakfast at the hotel. We will then visit the following sites:

- Shibuya Crossing & Hachiko Statue— We will experience the world's busiest pedestrian crossing and take a picture with the famous statue of Hachiko, the loyal dog.
- **Meiji Shrine** A peaceful Shinto shrine surrounded by lush forests, dedicated to Emperor Meiji.
- **Harajuku** We will stroll through Takeshita Street, the heart of Japan's quirky fashion scene, with trendy shops, crepes, and themed cafés.

Meals Included

o Breakfast

June 1st – Day 5 – Kyoto

While having breakfast at the hotel, we will have a day briefing about our travel to Kyoto via bullet train. Once we arrive, we will make a pit stop to the hotel and then begin our day of activities. We will then visit the following sites:

- **Toei Anime Museum** A paradise for anime lovers, featuring exhibits on famous Toei Animation works such as One Piece and Dragon Ball.
- **Traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony-** We will participate in an authentic tea ceremony, learning about its rituals and significance in Japanese culture.
- **Gion District** We will stroll through the city's most famous entertainment district and the center of its traditional arts.

Meals Included

Breakfast

June 2nd - Day 6 - Kyoto

Following breakfast and day briefing at the hotel, we will visit the following sites:

- **Arashiyama Bamboo Grove** We will explore the breathtaking bamboo forest, an iconic Kyoto landmark.
- **Ryoanji Temple** This Zen temple is famous for its rock garden, designed to inspire meditation.

• **Kinkakuji** (**Golden Pavilion**)— Kinkakuji is a Zen temple in northern Kyoto who's top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Each floor represents a different style of architecture.

We take a lunch break and then visit the famous **Japanese Calligraphy Workshop**.

Also called Shodo, this is an ancient art said to reflect the writer's mind as well as their
writing skill. A Shodo expert will kindly explain the connection between meditation and
Japanese calligraphy and teach you how to use the brush to create strokes like the
Japanese. You will be able to create your own calligraphy after a few practice attempts
and bring your creations home with you.

Meals Included

o Breakfast

<u>June 3rd –</u> Day 7 – Hiroshima

While having breakfast at hotel, we will have a day briefing about our travel to Hiroshima via train. We will then visit the following sites:

• Atomic Bomb Dome & Peace Memorial Museum— The museum continues to spearhead the global movement towards nuclear disarmament and a lasting world peace. A visit to the historic site where the atomic bomb fell in 1945, with exhibits about the impact and a message of peace.

Then we will take a ferry to Miyajima Island. In Japanese means "Shrine Island".

• We will visit the **Itsukushima Shrine** – Famous for its "floating" torii gate in the sea, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Then we will return to Kyoto.

Meals Included

o Breakfast

<u>June 4th</u> – Day 8 – Hiroshima

On our last day of this trip, we will start the day with breakfast at the hotel then we will take the bullet train to Tokyo.

• We will have the afternoon to explore and enjoy the city.

Meals Included

- o Breakfast
- o Farewell Dinner

<u>June 5th</u> Day 9 – Hiroshima

We will begin our travel day with breakfast at the hotel. Then, we will get on our international flight back to the U.S.A.

Meals Included

o Breakfast