

TOUR ITINERARY

Friday, Oct. 2.

9:00 a.m. – Depart from Concord City Hall to San Francisco Airport (SFO) by van
11:00 a.m. – Assemble at Int'l Terminal in front of Japan Airlines (JAL) Counter
1:10 p.m. – Depart SFO for Narita - JAL Flight 001

Sat. Oct. 3

4:20 p.m. – Arrive Narita
6:30 p.m. – Depart for Osaka – JAL 3007
7:55 p.m. – Arrive Osaka (Itami) – where you will meet your guide and transfer to your hotel

Accommodations: Kyoto Hotel Okura (3 Nights)

Sun. Oct. 4 - Kyoto

Full Day Sightseeing (8 hours) by private motorcoach including: Nijo Castle, Kiyomizu Temple, Heian Shrine, and Kinkakugji Temple (Golden Pavilion)

Mon. Oct. 5 - Kyoto/Nara/Kyoto

Morning Sightseeing (5 hours) by private motorcoach to Nara to visit Todaiji Temple and Nara Park (Deer Park)

Tues. Oct. 6 - Kyoto/Odawara/Hakone

Depart Kyoto for Odawara by Bullet Train. The motorcoach will be awaiting at Odawara station. Enjoy sightseeing of Hakone National Park, cruise on Lake Ashi and visit Owakudani Valley

Accommodations: Palace Hotel Hakone (or similar) (1 night)

Wed. Oct. 7 - Hakone/Nikko/Kinugawa Onsen

Depart by motorcoach for Kinugawa, sightseeing Nikko en route to the Toshogu Shrine. Possible stops at Kegon Waterfall, Lake Chuzenji, and/or Futarasan Shrine, as you proceed to Kinugawa, a famous hot spring town, where you will experience Japanese style accommodations, hot springs bath, a wonderful Japanese banquet dinner and breakfast the following morning. You will be sleeping Japanese-style on tatami mats on the floor and will only be able to take a single overnight bag of belongings for your evening stay in Kinugawa.

Accommodations: Kinugawa Gyoen (1 night)

Thurs. Oct. 8 - Kinugawa/Matsushima/Sendai

Motorcoach to Matsushima Bay one of Japan's three most scenic views. The bay is dotted by over 260 small islands covered by pine trees. You will enjoy your sightseeing by cruise boat from Shiogama to Matsushima. You will also visit Zuiganji Shrine, Godaido Hall and Kanran-tei Villa in Matsushima before continuing by motorcoach to your hotel in Sendai

Accommodations: Hotel Sendai Plaza (1 night)

Fri. Oct. 9 - Sendai/Kitakami

This is the morning you will continue your trip by motorcoach to your Sister City of Kitakami. Time permitting, a stop will be made to visit Chusonji Temple at Hiraizumi enroute to Kitakami. On arrival in Kitakami, you will say "Sayonara" to your guide, and you will be hosted by your sister city hosts for the next 2 days. This will surely be an unforgettable experience.

Accommodations: 2 nights of Home Stays (unless other arrangements have been made.)

Sat. Oct. 10 - Kitakami

Enjoy your stay with your hosts in Kitakami

Sun. Oct. 11 -Kitakami/Tokyo

Today you must say "sayonara" to your hosts in Kitakami. Your hosts will be sending you off on the Bullet Train to Tokyo where you will be met by your guide at the Tokyo Station who will assist with your transfer to your hotel.

Accommodations: Sheraton Miyako Hotel Tokyo (1 night)

Mon. Oct. 12 - Tokyo/Narita Airport/San Francisco

Morning shopping opportunity. Upon check-out you will take a private motorcoach to Narita Airport for your flight back to San Francisco

6:05 p.m. – Depart Tokyo (Narita) Japan Air Lines (JAL) Flt: 001
11:10 a.m. – Arrive in San Francisco
1:00 p.m. – Vans will meet you at the San Francisco Airport for your trip back to Concord
2:30 p.m. – Approximate return to the Concord City Hall