

13 DAYS LUXURY JAPAN CRUISE - KOBE TO OTARU

Experience Japan's rich culture and volcanic drama across 12 extraordinary days -- from Yakushima's ancient cedar forests to hillsides studded with tiered shrines. Discover samurai heritage, geologic wonders, and the magical symbolism of Korean Buddhism. Experience the red rock formations and lush vegetation of Oki Island, and the UNESCO World Heritage mountain villages near Kanazawa. Conclude in one of Japan's most beautiful river valleys before exploring Otaru's canals and red-brick warehouses.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Kobe

The Japanese city of Kobe needs no introduction. The name is synonymous with its homegrown superstar. We are not talking of its stunning shrines, cherry trees laden with blossom during sakura, or effervescent city, buzzing with life 24/7. We are of course talking of a much more grass roots hero - its eponymous beef. The delicacy might have put the city on the map, but there is far more to Kobe than its meat. Naturally, Kobe wears its



cuisine as a badge of honor. Its port history has given it a gastronomy that is quite different from its neighbors. Seafood and sushi is naturally some of the freshest and most diverse you can find, but Kobe's multi-cultural nature (the city is home to 98 different nationalities) means that it has one of the most diverse gastronomic cultures in Japan. Bread and bakeries are also an (unexpected) delicacy. Additionally, Sake is taken very seriously - Kobe even has its own museum dedicated to the national spirit. Historically, Kobe has always been a key city for Japan. Renamed in 1889, it was known as Owada no Tomari during the Nara Period (710-784 C.E.). Kobe's location on the calm Inland Sea between Osaka and Kyoto has proven to be pivotal in Japanese history; it is mentioned in famous literary works such as The Tale of Genji (from approximately the late 9th century) and the Taiheiki (14th century). The city and region are home to many attractions including the Himeji Castle (widely considered to be Japan's most beautiful feudal castle), a short ride away.

Day 2 - Kochi

Kochi Castle, with its elegant black and white tiered roofs, is one of only twelve of the original castles remaining in Japan. Step inside to explore authentic feudal architecture and admire sweeping views over the city and mountains. The surrounding landscape is dotted with temples and forested hillsides, where the historic Shikoku Pilgrimage route winds. Beyond the castle, the Makino Botanical Garden guides visitors through pathways and greenhouses of diverse flora. The Shimanto River -- Shikoku's longest -- draws outdoor enthusiasts with peaceful hiking trails and a serene backdrop for reflection. Facing the vast Pacific on Shikoku's southern coast, Kochi is celebrated for its katsuo no tataki -- lightly seared skipjack tuna -- and thriving sake-brewing tradition.

Day 3 - Miyanoura - Yakushima

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Day 4 - Shimabara

Watched over by the black-and-white tiers of its elegant castle, Shimabara is a historic town where the past is never far behind. Located on the eastern shore of the Shimabara Peninsula beneath the active slopes of Mount Unzen, its geothermal springs promise gentle relaxation, while restored samurai houses and old merchant streets stand beside water channels. Shimabara Castle -- a five-story white fortress rebuilt in traditional style -- was first constructed in the 1600s and now houses samurai exhibits and offers panoramic views of the Ariake Sea. The town's koi-filled waterways have earned it the name "City of Swimming Carp," while nearby hot springs and the Disaster Memorial Hall reveal the give and take of the volcano, which has played such a key role in life here.

Days 5 - 6 - Busan

A tapestry of kaleidoscopic colors, intense seafood flavors, and urban beach bliss, Busan rolls across a glorious natural setting on the Korean Peninsula's southeast. One of the biggest and busiest ports in the world, 3.5 million people call South Korea's second city home, and the amiable locals help to lend the city its quirky, offbeat outlook. A spacious, playful, and cosmopolitan place, Busan is a lively, livable city, cradled by lush mountains and endless ocean scenery. Haedong Yonggung Temple nestles on a dramatic cliffside, just above the crumbling rocks and crashing waves of the East Sea. Dating back to 1376, the temple's multi-story pagoda is adorned with lions - each representing a different emotion. Elsewhere, lanterns glitter in the night sky around Mount Geumjeongsan, freshly released from the beautiful Beomeosa Temple, which was established in



AD 678. The hillside shantytown of Gamcheon Culture Village has completed an improbable transformation, blossoming from a sea of makeshift homes for Korean war refugees, into a colorful explosion of creativity and curiosity. Local artists have been let loose to create interactive installations, and the entire area is now an expansive canvas for expression. Lose yourself among vibrant alleyways of flamingo-pink, lemon-yellow, and baby-blue painted facades in this unique area. Sample bibimbap, fiery-hot beef, and rice, from street food vendors, before relaxing on one of South Korea's best beaches - Haeundae's banana bend of sand. Metallic skyscrapers offer an unusual backdrop to this pristine expanse of golden powder and are mirrored by elaborate sandcastles and sculptures during the annual sand festival - when spontaneous water fights and firework displays also take place. Gwangalli Beach is another urban option, laying out spectacular views of the reaching Gwangan Bridge - the country's second largest bridge. At night, 16,000 bulbs bathe this "engineering marvel in color."

Day 7 - Sakaiminato

From original castles to layered gardens and playful manga heritage, surround yourself with Japan's peaceful artistry. Located on the Yumigahama Peninsula in northwestern Tottori Prefecture, Sakaiminato reveals natural beauty and artistic heritage. Nearby Matsue Castle -- one of Japan's twelve surviving originals -- rises with dark timbers, evoking the grace of the feudal era. The castle town is filled with artistry -- from pottery and samurai-era architecture to museums and hands-on performances. On Daikon Island, Yushien Garden bursts with tree peonies and lotus ponds in season. In Sakaiminato, bronze statues celebrate manga heritage and the legendary Shigeru Mizuki's world of spirits. The sacred Izumo Taisha Shrine is also within reach -- one of Japan's oldest and most revered.

Day 8 - Oki Island

Sakaiminato

Day 9 - Kanazawa

The capital of the Ishikawa Prefecture, Kanazawa once rivaled Kyoto and Edo (Tokyo) as a town rich in cultural achievements. Kanazawa escaped destruction during World War II and accordingly has been able to preserve many of the old districts in good shape. The city is famous because of Kenrokuen. Located next to Kanazawa Castle, Kenrokuen is classified as "One of the Three Gardens of Japan". The garden has an artificial pond, and hills and houses are dotted within the 11.4 hectares. It has Japan's oldest fountain using natural water pressure and a teahouse dating back to 1774. Close by is the Higashi Chaya Gai Geisha District, designated a National Cultural Asset and the biggest of the Geisha districts of Kanazawa. Some of the houses not only retain the original structure but still are used as Geisha houses. Some of the streets have traditional shops creating a nostalgic atmosphere. Kanazawa is also known for its lacquer ware, Kutani-style pottery, gold-leaf workmanship, and delicately painted silk kimonos.

Day 10 - Sado Island

Sado is Japan's sixth-largest island and depends mainly on fishing and agriculture. The island's Tori Forest Park had been selected for the successful reintroduction of Crested Ibises into Japan -a bird that was down to what was believed to be a total world population of 12 birds in 1981. At that time the last five wild ibises found in Japan were taken into captivity on Sado and both Japan and China cooperated in a breeding programme for these birds. Fortunately the work has paid off and released Crested Ibises successfully nested in the wild again in 2012.



Another attraction is the Sado Gold Mine. The adventurous can descend into the deep tunnels to see the conditions under which gold was extracted for almost 400 years.

Day 11 - Noshiro

Noshiro is the gateway to Lake Tawada and the surrounding nature reserves. The port is bound by the Sea of Japan on the coastal plains of Akita Prefecture. The city of approximately 55,000 provides access to nearby Shirakami-Sanchi, a natural UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its wilderness of Japanese beech trees. The mouth of the Yoneshiro River is adjacent to the port and the highest point in the area is Mount Yakeyama at almost 1000 meters or just over 3000 feet. Following the river and then heading north, Tawada Lake and Oirase Gorge are reached.

Day 11 - Aomori

From fiery festivals to spectacular mountain scenery, soaring temples to castles surrounded by cherry blossom blooms, Aomori is one of Japan's most enchanting destinations. Framed by dark peaks clad with dense forestry, the city enjoys a picturesque location on Japan's main island Honshu. While there are gorgeous, pink-tinted parks, tiered castles and towering Buddha statues to explore, the Aomori prefecture's capital is perhaps best known for the summer festival of fire that lights it up each year. Lavish illuminated floats fill the streets during Nebuta Matsuri festival, as dancing locals wave flickering lanterns through the night sky - and drummers pound out pulsating rhythms. Nebuta Matsuri has a euphoric and energetic atmosphere which makes it stand out as an unmissable experience compared with some of Japan's more restrained festivals. At other times of the year, places like the stunning Hirosaki Castle bloom with rose-pink cherry blossom, as spring's sunshine clears away winter's plentiful snowfall. The castle's moat, glowing with the pale hue of fallen blossom, is a truly mesmerizing sight to behold. Don't worry if you are too late though, you might be able to catch the pink-flush of the apple blossom - which comes slightly later. Extraordinary prehistoric Jomon period history is waiting to be unearthed at the living archaeological site, Sannai-Maruyama Ruins. Or the untouched wilderness of UNESCO World Heritage Site Shirakami Sanchi is within reach. This sprawling mass of beech trees covers a third of the Shirakami mountain range, and the dense forestry once blanketed most of the northern Japan's land. Visit to scratch the surface of this untamed landscape's beauty and see sprawling waterfalls cascading down mountainsides, in a beautiful off-limits landscape, where black bears roam freely.

Day 12 - Day at sea

Days at sea are the perfect opportunity to relax, unwind, and catch up with what you've been meaning to do. So whether that is going to the gym, visiting the spa, whale-watching, catching up on your reading, or simply topping up your tan, these blue sea days are the perfect balance to busy days spent exploring shoreside.

Day 13 - Otaru (Hokkaido)

Otaru is a small harbor city west of Sapporo. Famous for its many hills and a nearby ski resort the town has been an important trade and herring fishing center. A wide canal that led from the port to the old town's warehouses has been maintained for touristic purposes and the old stone or brick-built warehouses have been beautifully converted to restaurants and boutiques.

Please Note:



Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: SILVER CLOUD

YOUR SHIP: Silver Cloud

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

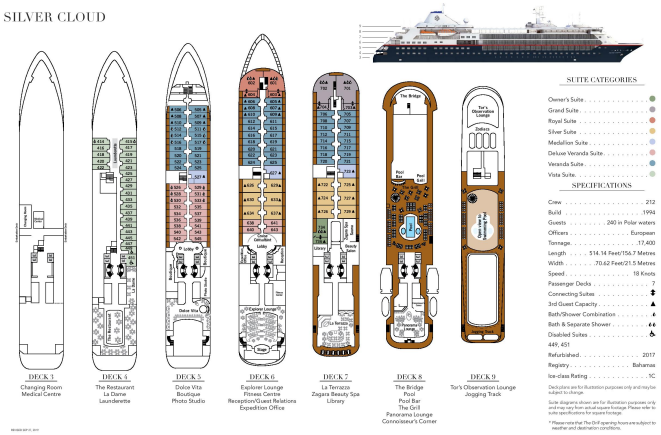
BUILT/REFURBISHED:



With 18-brand new Zodiacs, four superlative restaurants in Antarctica and a pole to pole expedition itinerary, Silver Cloud really does break the ice between expedition and luxury. Spacious yet intimate, designed to cross oceans and yet able to slip up rivers and into hidden harbours with ease, the yacht-like Silver Cloud carries just 296 guests in incomparable comfort and style. Combining spacious ocean-view suites and private verandas with stunning dining and entertainment options, Silver Cloud provides world-class cruise accommodations, service and amenities. After extensive refurbishment, Silver Cloud is the most spacious and comfortable ice class vessel in expedition cruising. Her large suites, her destination itineraries and her unparalleled service make her truly special. Her four dining options will tantalise your taste buds and as 80% of her suites include a veranda, watching a breaching whale or a few cavorting penguins has never been so personal. She carries a limited number of guests in polar waters, meaning that Silver Cloud has the highest space to guest and crew to guest ratios in expedition cruising. With her 18 zodiacs, 10 kayaks, possibilities are almost limitless with ship-wide simultaneous explorations.



INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Grand 1 Bedroom



Grand 2 Bedroom



Medallion



Midship Veranda



Owner 1 Bedroom



Owner 2 Bedroom





Royal 1 Bedroom



Royal 2 Bedroom



Silver



Veranda



Vista





PRICING

16-May-2027 to 28-May-2027

Vista	£10525 GBP pp
Medallion	£17475 GBP pp
Silver	£18525 GBP pp
Owner 2 Bedroom	£29425 GBP pp
Royal 2 Bedroom	£29855 GBP pp
Veranda	£12255 GBP pp
Grand 1 Bedroom	£19405 GBP pp
Owner 1 Bedroom	£19955 GBP pp
Royal 1 Bedroom	£18825 GBP pp
Grand 2 Bedroom	£30425 GBP pp
Midship Veranda	£14405 GBP pp