

SPRINGTIME SPLENDOUR IN JAPAN CRUISE: A 10-DAY EXPLORATION OF JAPAN IN SPRING

Coinciding with the tail end of Japan's famed Cherry Blossom season and Japan's most enchanting season, Heritage Expeditions brand new 10-day Springtime Splendour in Japan Cruise will immerse you in the beauty of the soul of Japan. Considered one of the best times to visit Japan, this all-inclusive cruise will see you exploring Japan's main island, Honshu, the southern wonders of Honshu, the UNESCO registered Global Geopark of Oki Islands as well as South Korea's Ulsan. Combining Japan's ancient culture and storied history with the vivid beauty of spring, this voyage explores castles, gardens and sacred shrines, dramatic coastlines and geological wonders, all while savouring the flavours of Japan's indelible culture and world-renowned experiences, cuisine and sake. Departing from Osaka, dubbed the 'Nation's Kitchen' and Japan's bustling commercial centre, our Japan spring cruise will visit iconic highlights alongside rarely visited gems only accessible by expedition ship. Discover Kyoto's famed 1,001 Senju Kannon statues, historic Pontocho Alley, Nishiki Market and Fushimi's sake heritage. Sail the Seto Inland Sea and visit historic Hiroshima and its Peace Memorial Park and eternal Flame of Peace, marvel at Miyajima's famed floating Torii Gate and sacred Itsukushima Shrine. Travel along the Sea of Japan to discover the 300-million-year-old Akiyoshido Cave in the former samurai-dominated Hagi. Sure to be a highlight is the hidden-gem, Oki Islands. Part of the Daisen-Oki National Park and a UNESCO registered Global Geopark, these dramatic and sparsely populated islands are home to soaring cliffs, pristine coves and Mt Daimanji, which is more than 600 metres above sea level. We will also explore Mt Daisen on the mainland, another dramatic highlight of this volcanic region. Discover Japan's 'Pufferfish/Fugu Capital' in Shimoneseki where we will have the opportunity to sample this local delicacy at the world famous Karato Fish Market. In Ulsan, South Korea discover ancient Gyeongju, capital of the Silla Dynasty and visit the Gyeongju National Museum, while having the opportunity to experience authentic Korean cuisine and cultural performances. Surrounded by changing colours of springtime Japan, we plan to visit, Shiranoe Botanical Garden the elegant Yuushien Garden, alongside one of Japan's three great gardens, the 28-acre formal 17th Century Koraku-en Garden. History and culture connoisseurs will relish visits to Adachi Museum of Art and Ohara Museum of Art and Japan's renowned art island Naoshima, while chances to explore Osaka, Hagi, Kokura and Matsue Castle, one of Japan's few original 17th Century castles, will transport you back to feudal Japan. Further enhancing your Japan cruise, on board expert guest speakers and Japanese guides, as well as local, on the ground guides, will share Japan's ancient history, customs and traditions of this captivating country as this unforgettable





adventure unfolds.

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Osaka

Arrive at Honshu's largest port city Osaka where modern architecture and a vibrant dining scene are nestled alongside the 16th Century shogunate Osaka Castle and make your way to your hotel where our group will spend the first night of the expedition. This evening, meet your fellow voyagers and expedition guides over dinner at the hotel.

Day 2 - Osaka

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before exploring Osaka, opportunities here include visiting Minoh Park and Osaka Castle. With an area of just 9.6 square kilometres (963 hectares) Minoh Park is one of Japan's smallest National Parks and home to iconic 33-metre high Minoh Waterfall and diverse wildlife including Japanese Giant Salamander and protected Mino Monkeys. Explore Osaka Castle, one of Japan's most famous landmarks, take in the views from Osaka Castle Main Tower and relive dramatic stories of warlords and Osaka's fascinating history. Alternatively, enjoy an excursion to Kyoto, where you can explore the city's spiritual heritage at the 12th-Century temple Sanj sangen-d and its 1,001 statues. Stroll through Kyoto's historic and iconic lanes, where 16th-Century geiko and maiko culture is brought to life, before visiting Nishiki Market, known as 'Kyoto's Kitchen', to discover the city's renowned culinary delights. Board Heritage Adventurer as your Captain and Expedition Team welcome you later this afternoon.

Day 3 - Hiroshima/Miyajima

Despite its history, including being the site of the world's first atomic bomb attack on 6 August 1945, Hiroshima is a vibrant and thriving cosmopolitan community. We plan to visit the beautiful Peace Park and Museum, with its sombre cenotaph containing names of atomic bomb victims and the permanently lit 'Flame of Peace'. We plan to time our visit to Miyajima Island to experience the floating Torii Gate. Considered one of Japan's most scenic spots it is also the location of the famed Daisho-in Buddhist temple. Choose to indulge in fresh local oysters and ice cream, while native Sika deer wander the streets, and enjoy the views of the Itsukushima Shrine and Torri Gate.

Day 4 - Hagi

Hagi was a minor fishing port until Mori Terumoto fortified it in 1604 and it was Mori Samurai that helped spark off the anti-Tokugawa revolt in the mid-19th century. Today it is better known for its traditional pottery making. This morning, we will explore the Teramachi District with its temples and shrines, the Jokamachi District, where we find the old Samurai houses and take time to explore Hagi Castle, Shizuki Park and Tokoji Temple.



This afternoon travel to the outskirts of the city and the Yoshika Taibi Memorial Museum which is dedicated to a large collection of Hagiyaki pottery which was highly prized in the Edo period as wares for tea ceremonies. Alternatively, discover the natural wonders of 300-million-year-old limestone Akiyoshido Cave.

Day 5 - Oki Islands

Picturesque, otherworldly and rarely visited, the Oki Islands are an archipelago in the Sea of Japan, part of the Daisen-Oki National Park and a UNESCO registered Global Geopark. Accordingly, these islands are home to some outstanding coastal and island scenery to explore and experience. Rich in history, these anachronistic islands combine clear water beaches, bays, inlets and coves with impressive towering cliffs and rock formations to the dense forests, ancient sacred sites and steep mountains, including Mt Daimanji which rises more than 600-metres. This evening, upon arrival at the port of Sakaiminato, you will have the opportunity to join an evening excursion and experience the beauty of Matsue by night.

Day 6 - Matsue

Discover Sakaiminato, entry point to Matsue. It is also known as 'the town of water', due to being situated between Lake Shinji and Lake Nakaumi. We plan to visit Matsue Castle, a national treasure and one of only 12 original 17th Century castles in Japan. Other options today may include exploring Daisen-Oki National Park, steeped in beauty and history it's also the home of rare flora and fauna including the Japanese Giant Salamander. You may visit the picturesque Yuushien Garden which coincides with the iconic annual Yuushien Peony Festival, the Adachi Museum of Art or learn about the art of Japanese paper making at the Yakumo-mura village. Alternatively, you may wish to spend some time exploring the picturesque streets and local canals.

Day 7 - Ulsan, South Korea

Today we cross the Sea of Japan to Ulsan in South Korea, where we plan to visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Gyeongju. The capital of the Silla Dynasty and dating back to the first millennium, Gyeongju is known as 'the museum without walls' and is full of ancient Korean history and Buddhist culture. Enjoy strolling through hundreds of excavated monuments, temples, tombs and pagodas, and experience Korean delicacies, cultural performances, and visit the National Museum with its gold jewellery, metal weapons, and distinctive pottery. Today provides a perfect taste of the best South Korea has to offer.

Day 8 - Shimonoseki, Japan

This morning, we return to Japan and Shimonoseki Port perched above the 650-metre-wide Kanmon Straits and tucked away at the western end of Japan's main island Honshu. Surrounded by water on three sides, Shimonoseki is rightly famous for its seafood and, in addition to being considered the gateway to Kyushu, is also known as 'Japan's Pufferfish/Fugu Capital' - the potentially deadly local delicacy requiring takumi-level preparation by specially trained Fugu chefs. Other highlights include city's iconic Kanmon Bridge spanning Honshu and Kyushu Islands, world famous Karato Fish Market and the beautiful Akama Shinto Shrine built to honour drowned child Emperor Antoku. Our excursions today include time to explore Kokura Castle and its rich history at the crossroads of Japanese history, and discover the beautiful Shiranoe Botanical Garden, accompanied by its resident gardeners. There is also time to explore the world famous Karato Fish Market, adjacent to where Heritage Adventurer, is docked and visit Akama Shinto Shrine on the shores of the Kanon Strait.



Day 9 - Tamano

From the port of Uno-Ko we will visit one of Japan's most famed gardens, Koraku-en, which translates as 'garden of pleasure after'. This 17th Century formal garden has 28 acres of walking trails, ponds, plum and cherry trees. This afternoon we will continue to Kurashiki where we explore the old merchant quarter and its 17th Century wooden warehouses painted white with traditional black tiles, along a canal framed with weeping willows and filled with koi. There is also a chance to visit the Ohara Museum of Art which includes rare works by Matisse, Picasso and Renoir as well as collections from Japan's famous Mingei movement including ceramics by Hamada Shoji. For those interested in art you may wish to travel to Naoshima Island - Japan's stunning art island. Your time exploring Naoshima Island will have you admiring its architecture, art museums and Labyrinth of Cherry Blossoms, including Chichu Art Museum and Benesse House, featuring work by Japanese and international artists including the iconic pumpkins by Yayoi Kusama.

Day 10 - Osaka

This morning sail back into Osaka, after breakfast there will be a complimentary coach to a central hotel or the Kansai International Airport. To allow time for disembarkation procedures and travel from Osaka, we do not recommend booking flights departing before 1300 hours.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: HERITAGE ADVENTURER

YOUR SHIP: **Heritage Adventurer**

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

Heritage Adventurer is a true pioneering expedition vessel of exceptional pedigree. Often referred to as the 'Grande Dame of Polar Exploration' due to her celebrated history and refined design, she was purpose-built for adventure in 1991 at Finland's Rauma shipyard and specifically designed for Polar exploration.Setting a peerless standard in authentic expedition travel, Heritage Adventurer (formerly known as MS Hanseatic) combines the highest passenger ship ice-class rating (1A Super) with an impressive history of Polar exploration. Having held records for the most northern and southern Arctic and Antarctic navigations, and for traversing both the Northwest and Northeast Passages, makes Heritage Adventurer perfect for pioneering experiential expedition travel. Originally designed to accommodate 184 guests, Heritage Adventurer now welcomes just 140 expeditioners ensuring spacious, stylish and comfortable voyages, while a fleet of 14 Zodiacs ensures all guests are able to maximise their expedition adventure. Heritage Adventurer proudly continues our traditions of exceptional, personalised expedition experiences as Heritage Expeditions flagship. Observation Lounge - One of the most celebrated and best-known features of Heritage Adventurer is the awe-inducing Observation Lounge, Library and Bar. Located on Deck 7 and perched directly above the Bridge, enjoy sweeping 270-degree views through floor to ceiling windows, perfect for wildlife spotting and quick access to the outer deck. Bring your binoculars to spot wildlife, observe the ever-changing landscape, write in your journal or relax with a book. Observation Deck - Enjoy 360-degree views from the highest point on the ship. The Observation Deck sits above the Observation Lounge and provides exceptional outside viewing options. Stretching the full width of the vessel, this is the perfect spot to take in the surrounding land and seascapes. Perfect on a sunny day, recline in the comfortable sun loungers protected from the wind and elements and watch your voyage unfold. The Bridge - No expedition is complete without visiting Heritage Adventurer's busy nerve centre. Located on Deck 6, Heritage Expeditions' Open Bridge Policy means you are welcome to observe the Captain and crew at work while enjoying some of the ship's best views. It's a fascinating place to learn about navigation and vessel operations, however please note the Bridge will be closed when departing or arriving at port. Dining Room - Indulge in fine international cuisine from our talented chefs in the lavish surrounds of our Dining Room on Deck 4. Sensational 270-degree views provide a stunning backdrop to meals here along with an international wine list featuring many outstanding regional wines. With relaxed seating arrangements, all guests can enjoy dining in a single sitting from hearty breakfasts setting you up for the day's adventure to sumptuous lunches and multi-course evening dining. Bistro - Simple fast and delicious meals and snacks are on offer in our relaxed



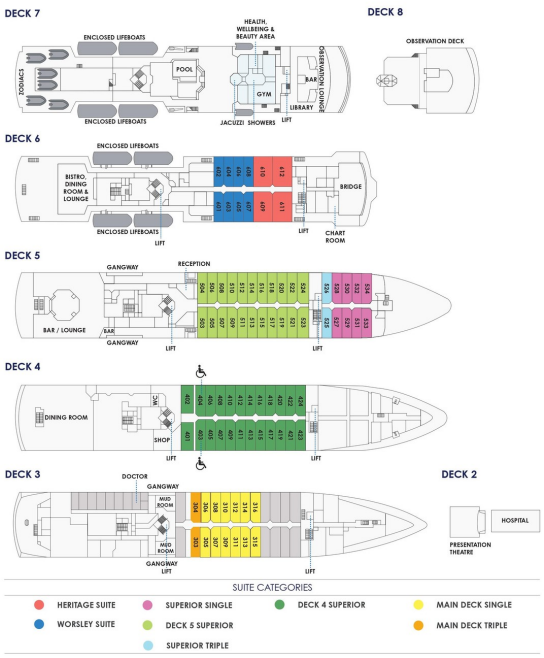
Bistro on Deck 6. Perfect for early risers to enjoy tea, coffee and light breakfast options the Bistro provides great views and opens directly onto a covered and heated teak-deck outdoor dining area. The Bar and Lounge - The social hub of Heritage Adventurer, the Bar and Lounge on Deck 5 features seating for all guests. Enjoy a beverage at the bar, sink into an armchair, relax on one of the many spacious loungers and watch the world go by through the panoramic windows or make new friends at the communal seating. This multi-tasking space also doubles as the location of daily briefings and evening recaps with the expedition team. The Gym - Featuring spectacular ocean views, the well-equipped gym is adjacent to the pool, hot tub and sauna in Deck 7's wellbeing zone. Maintain your routine with an elliptical cross trainer, treadmill, rowing machine, stationary bikes, TRX as well as free weights, yoga mats and fitness balls. Towels are provided with change room and shower amenities nearby. Sauna and Steam Room - True to her Nordic origins, Heritage Adventurer features a dry-heat Finnish sauna and European steam room on Deck 7. Perfect for warming up post Polar plunge or unwinding after a day's adventures, the sauna and steam room include change room facilities, showers and towels. Swimming Pool and Hot Tub - Surrounded by relaxed teak seating including sun loungers, the open-air saltwater pool can be heated or chilled. Encased in glass the hot tub ensures all-weather use, perfect for those who like to relax with a view following a day of exploring. Lectures and Presentations - Enjoy informative and entertaining lectures on history, biology, wildlife, and ecology in the comfort of the Presentation Theatre. With state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment, our world-renowned expedition team will bring your adventure to life through interactive presentations and



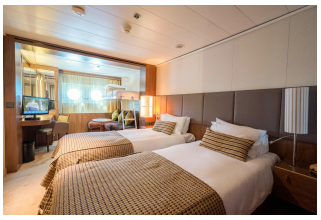
discussions.



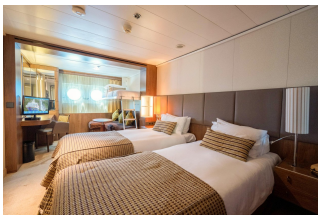
INSIDE YOUR SHIP



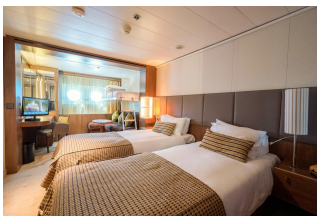
Deck 4 Superior



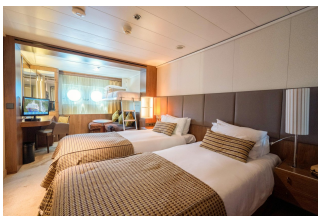
Deck 5 Superior



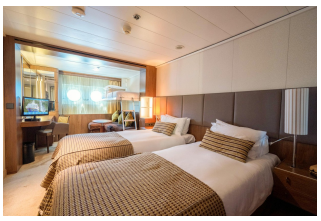
Heritage Suite



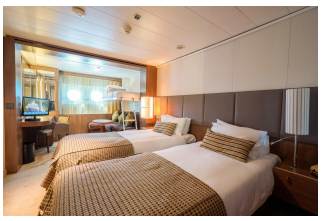
Main Deck Single



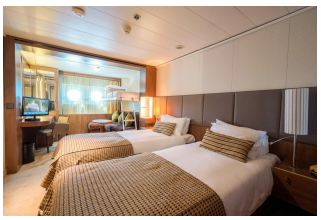
Main Deck Triple



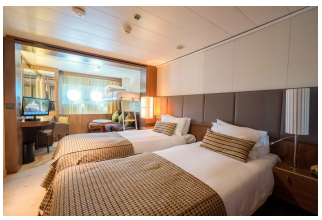
Superior Single



Superior Triple



Worsley Suite





PRICING

17-Apr-2027 to 26-Apr-2027

Main Deck Triple	£6300 GBP pp
Superior Triple	£6450 GBP pp
Deck 4 Superior	£7150 GBP pp
Deck 5 Superior	£7600 GBP pp
Main Deck Single	£8600 GBP pp
Superior Single	£9850 GBP pp
Worsley Suite	£9850 GBP pp
Heritage Suite	£11550 GBP pp