JAPAN CHERRY BLOSSOMS TOUR

16 Day Conducted Tour
for $6,195 per person twin share

This price includes airport taxes & levies

This is amazing value for an expensive destination such as Japan, as the price covers all of the following:

* Air fares with Singapore Airlines from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane into Osaka and out of Tokyo.

* Accommodation in three to four star hotels with private facilities.

* Many meals, as stated in the itinerary.

* All transfers and transport and entrance fees to many attractions.

* A 14 day tour of Japan by coach and train.

* A Maiko Dance Performance and a Japanese Tea Ceremony.

* A 1 night stopover in Singapore.

* Prepaid gratuities to the main tour guide and drivers.

* Services of Japanese tour guides and if there are 15 or more participants, an Australian tour escort.

The tour will visit Japan in Spring, when the cherry blossoms should be in full bloom. This is an opportunity to see this beautiful country when it is at its best.

If you don't have anyone to share with but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will do our best to match you up with someone else in the same situation, but this is not guaranteed. For a single room there is an extra cost of $1,080.

The tour departs Australia on the 25th March and returns 9th April 2016

We try harder to find you the best travel deal
Itinerary for Japan Cherry Blossoms Tour

Included meals are indicated as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

25.03.16  **Australia - Singapore**
Depart Brisbane at 9.10am on SQ 256, arriving in Singapore at 3.10pm.
Depart Melbourne at 11.30am on SQ 238, arriving in Singapore at 4.10pm.
Depart Sydney at 12.15pm on SQ 232, arriving in Singapore at 5.25pm.
Upon arrival in Singapore we are transferred to our hotel in the airport area for an overnight stay.
Accommodation: Village Hotel Changi or similar

26.03.16  **Singapore - Osaka - Kobe, Japan**
(B)
We have a mid morning transfer to the airport for our flight to Japan.
Depart Singapore at 2.05pm on SQ 616, arriving in Osaka at 9.20pm. Upon arrival in Osaka we are met and transferred to our hotel in Kobe, which is approximately 40 minutes away.
Accommodation: ANA Crowne Plaza Kobe or similar

27.03.16  **Kobe - Hiroshima**
(B/L)
This morning we visit the Nada Sake Breweries Museum and then visit the Kitano area, which is one of the most popular places in Kobe. Afterwards we have lunch at Steakland Restaurant and then transfer to the train station to take the Bullet Train to Hiroshima, where we have a three night stay.
**Note:** Please prepare a small bag for the next three nights as your large luggage will remain in Kobe, as there is limited luggage space available on the bullet train.
Accommodation: ANA Crowne Plaza Hiroshima or similar

28.03.16  **Hiroshima - Miyajima - Hiroshima**
(B/D)
After breakfast we will leave the hotel for a sightseeing tour of Hiroshima and Miyajima. We start with a visit to the Hiroshima City Museum of History and Traditional Crafts. Afterwards we drive to Miyajima Island and visit the Itsukushima Shrine. Miyajima Island is the popular name of Itsuku-shima Island situated in Miyajima Town southwest of Hiroshima. It is a scenic sight in which the mountains, sea and red shrine buildings blend in harmony, and the entire island is designated as a historic site. It is one of the three most beautiful sites in Japan, along with Matsushima in Miyagi and Ama-no-hashidate in Kyoto. Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant.
Accommodation: ANA Crowne Plaza Hiroshima or similar

29.03.16  **Hiroshima - Iwakuni City - Hiroshima**
(B/D)
After breakfast we proceed to Iwakuni City, which was an unimportant village that was deep in the Mori family's vast domain until they lost all but Yamaguchi Prefecture after the battle of Sekigahara in 1600. Hiroie Kikkawa, a relative of the Mori family, was given the responsibility of transforming a backwater into a defendable and major outpost for his clan. Today, the samurai quarter that grew up around Iwakuni Castle and Kintai Bridge (Kintaikyo) is a major attraction in the city. We visit both the castle and the bridge. Afterwards we return to Hiroshima city
and visit the Peace Memorial Park, including the Atomic Bomb Dome. The Genbaku Dome (The Atomic Bomb Dome) is the symbol of Hiroshima, the city that advocates peace in the world. It is located in Hiroshima and faces Hiroshima Bay in the Seto Island Sea. It was originally the Hiroshima Industrial Promotion Hall built in 1915. While all structures vanished in the atomic bomb explosion, only this building miraculously remained standing. It was 6th August 1945 when the first atomic bomb in history was dropped on Hiroshima. We also visit the Peace Memorial Museum. Afterwards we visit the Hatchobori shopping area before transferring back to our hotel. Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant.
Accommodation: ANA Crowne Plaza Hiroshima or similar

30.03.16 Hiroshima - Kurashiki - Okayama - Kobe
(B/L) After breakfast we visit the Kurashiki Bikan District, the former Kurashiki Town Office and the Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter. Lunch today is at Ivy Garden. After lunch we travel to Okayama and visit the Korakuen Garden. We then travel to Kobe and visit the Akashi Bridge, before checking into our hotel for a two night stay.
Accommodation: ANA Crowne Plaza Kobe or similar

31.03.16 Kobe - Nara - Osaka - Kobe
(B/L) This morning we depart on a sightseeing tour of Nara. We will visit Todaiji Temple, the Daibutsuden (Great Buddha Hall) which is one of the world's largest wooden buildings and one of the best known temples in Japan. It enshrines a gigantic bronze statue of Buddha. Next we visit Nara Park, where deer roam freely, lending a pastoral atmosphere to the park. Visitors may feed or pet them (there is special food sold in the park grounds). Lunch is at a local restaurant. Afterwards we visit Osaka Castle, which is one of the most famous castles in Japan. We then continue to Shinsaibashi area, before returning to our hotel in Kobe.
Accommodation: ANA Crowne Plaza Kobe or similar

01.04.16 Kobe - Kyoto
(B/D) Today we depart for Kyoto. Upon arrival we visit Heian Jingu Shrine, the home of perhaps the world's most authentic and exquisite Japanese garden, Kyoto National Museum and Philosopher Walk. Afterwards we visit Arashiyama district including Togetsu Bridge. We will also visit the Museum of Traditional Crafts. Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant.
Accommodation: New Miyako Hotel Kyoto or similar

02.04.16 Kyoto
(B/D) This morning is at leisure in Kyoto to relax or explore this fascinating city. In the afternoon we enjoy a traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony. We are then transferred to Gion Corner where we will see a Maiko dance performance, which is an important part of Japanese culture and is similar to a ballet or opera performance in the west. Afterwards we enjoy an included dinner at a local restaurant.
Accommodation: New Miyako Hotel Kyoto or similar

03.04.16 Kyoto - Toyohashi
(B/D) After breakfast we visit the celebrated Golden Pavilion (Kinkakuji). We then visit Ryoanji Temple, followed by a Kimono fashion show. We then visit Kiyomizudera Temple, which is an independent Buddhist temple in eastern Kyoto.
The temple is part of the Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto UNESCO World Heritage Site. Then we travel to Toyohashi by coach and check into the hotel. Our accommodation this evening is in the traditional Japanese style with a tatami matted floor and private bathroom facilities in each room. This evening enjoy a traditional Japanese dinner at the hotel.

Note: Please prepare an overnight bag for this night's accommodation.

Accommodation: Hotel Hiranoya (Ryokan) or similar

04.04.16  Toyohashi - Lake Hamanako - Mt. Fuji - Hakone
(b/d)
Today we visit Lake Hamanako and continue to travel to Mt. Fuji. Climb up to the 5th station by coach, about 2300 metres above sea level to enjoy the view of Mt. Fuji. Please note that the climb to the 5th station is subject to weather and operational conditions. We also see the Visitor Centre and afterwards we depart by coach to our hotel in Hakone. Dinner this evening is at the hotel.

Accommodation: Hakone Sengokuhara Prince Hotel or similar

05.04.16  Hakone - Tokyo
(b/l)
After breakfast we enjoy a tour of Hakone, including a short cruise on Lake Ashinoko. We then visit Hakone Ropeway and the Owakudani Valley. Lunch is at a local restaurant. Afterwards we visit the Peace Park, before travelling to the nation's capital for a three night stay.

Accommodation: Asakusa View Hotel or similar

06.04.16  Tokyo
(b/l)
This morning after breakfast we visit Happo-en Garden. Happo-en means "beautiful from every angle". When visiting the Happo-en Garden you will see that the name doesn't even begin to describe this Japanese garden. We take a stroll through tree lined paths of century old bonsai, cherry and maple trees. Take in the lush gardens and budding flowers surrounding a tranquil pond. We enjoy an included lunch inside the gardens. Afterwards we visit Odaiba, which is a large artificial island in Tokyo Bay across the Rainbow Bridge from central Tokyo. It was initially built for defensive purposes in the 1850's and dramatically expanded during the late 20th century as a seaport district. It has now been developed into a major commercial, residential and leisure area. Our next visit is to the Toyota Mega Web. Afterwards we are returned to the hotel.

Accommodation: Asakusa View Hotel or similar

07.04.16  Tokyo
(b/l)
Today we depart the hotel on a sightseeing tour of Tokyo. We visit Edo Museum. Lunch is at a local restaurant. After lunch we visit Asakusa Kannon Temple and Nakamise shopping street. Legend has it that fishermen brothers discovered an image of Kan'on (the Goddess of Mercy) in the Sumida River around 1370 years ago and they were inspired to enshrine it. Its symbol is a large red paper lantern that bears the word 'Kaminari-mon' (thunder gate). Then to the Observatory of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government for a panoramic view of the city. Afterwards we visit Shinjuku area, before returning to the hotel.

Accommodation: Asakusa View Hotel or similar
08.04.16  Tokyo - Singapore - Melbourne
(B) This morning is at leisure in Tokyo. You will have the use of your hotel rooms until
the standard check out time. After this you can store your luggage at the hotel until
our afternoon transfer to the airport for our flights home.
Depart Tokyo (Haneda) Airport at 5.10pm on SQ 633, arriving in Singapore at
11.05pm.
Melbourne passengers depart Singapore at 11.55pm on SQ 237, arriving in
Melbourne at 9.20am the next morning (09.04.16).

09.04.16  Singapore - Sydney & Brisbane
Sydney passengers depart Singapore at 12.45am on SQ 231, arriving in Sydney at
10.25am.
Brisbane passengers depart Singapore at 12.45am on SQ 255, arriving in Brisbane at
10.35am.
Conditions for Macleay Valley Travel's Japan Cherry Blossoms Tour

**Deposits and Payments:** A non-refundable deposit of $400 per person is payable within 7 days of booking. This deposit is not refundable should you later cancel. The balance is payable 8 weeks prior to departure.

**Refunds and Cancellations:** Cancellations after final payment will result in a refund limited to whatever we can recoup from the airline.

**Insurance:** Adequate travel insurance is essential. We can arrange this for you if desired. Macleay Valley Travel offers Suresave Travel Insurance. Please note that we can only process your travel insurance when we have received full payment for the insurance and the signed Suresave Travel Insurance application form, located on the last page of the Suresave Travel Insurance information booklet. Until this time the travel insurance cannot be processed and will not be valid. Macleay Valley Travel will bear no responsibility for any consequences that may occur as a result of an incomplete insurance application.

**Passports:** All travellers require a current passport with at least 6 months left on it at the end of the tour. Non-Australian passport holders require a re-entry visa for Australia. No visas are required for Australian passport holders.

**Basic Tour Price and Taxes:** Air taxes and fuel levies are included in the basic tour price if the tour is paid in full on or before the due date on the final invoice. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to charge for any increase in air taxes and fuel levies if the tour is not paid in full by the due date.

**Not Included in the Cost:** All items of a personal nature such as telephone calls, drinks, excess baggage, tips, meals, (except those specified in the itinerary), etc. Also travel insurance. Similarly, credit card payments can only be accepted if 2% is added to the price to help defray the heavy merchant fees charged to us by the credit card companies. There is a 3% surcharge for Diners Club.

**Booking through other Agents:** As we keep the cost of our tours as low as possible, there is insufficient margin for us to be able to pay commission to other travel agents, so some bookings can only be accepted if the client pays the other agent's commission.

**Accreditation** - Macleay Valley Travel is a fully accredited travel agency under the AFTA (Australian Federation of Travel Agents) ATAS - AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme. As such, you are assured of a consumer focused and quality assured business, ensuring professional conduct and ethical business practices. We are happy for any prospective traveller with us to check us out with your local Consumer Affairs (Fair Trading) department.

**Breakaway Fee** - All fully inclusive prices are based on group travel and any deviation from the set itinerary will incur a breakaway fee. The breakaway fee for most deviations including a post-tour extension on this tour is $55 per person. Please inquire with our office for prices on any pre-tour extensions.

**Health and Fitness:** Macleay Valley Travel recommends that the passenger is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate in this tour. Persons with a disability requiring special assistance must be accompanied by a companion. Macleay Valley Travel and their representatives cannot provide this service. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to accept/decline or terminate a passenger's participation in the tour under certain circumstances. Macleay Valley Travel is legally not permitted to provide medical advice as to vaccinations/injections which you may require for this tour and advise you to consult your local medical practitioner for specific medical advice. There are no compulsory injections required for this tour.

**Limitation of Liability:** As Macleay Valley Travel acts only as agent for the Airlines, Hotels, Coach Companies etc., providing accommodation, transportation & other services. Macleay Valley Travel shall not be liable or responsible for death or injury to any person or loss or damage to any property including baggage arising out of or connection with any transportation, accommodation or other services, or resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of Government or other authorities, de jure or defacto wars, whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, epidemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, delays or cancellations caused by changes in schedules or itinerary, or over bookings or defaults or for any causes beyond Macleay Valley Travel's control or any loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passports, visas or other documents & neither Macleay Valley Travel, and its servants or employees shall be or become liable or responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the tour member as a result of the foregoing causes. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to modify the itinerary or the accommodation if circumstances make this necessary, provided that the amended itinerary is of equal value or greater value than that of the original program.
MACLEAY VALLEY TRAVEL - BOOKING FORM

PLEASE PRINT DETAILS CLEARLY IN BLOCK LETTERS AND ALSO

A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT MUST BE SENT WITH BOOKING FORM

Name of Tour : ____________________________ Departure Date: ____________________________

Passenger 1 (as written in passport) ______________________________________________________
Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr. _______ Age: _______________ Date of Birth: ______________________

Passenger 2 (as written in passport) ______________________________________________________
Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr. _______ Age: _______________ Date of Birth: ______________________

Postal Address: _________________________________________________________________________

PostCode Email

Telephone / Fax Number: ____________________________ Mobile ________________

Passport Number: ____________________________ Expiry Date: ____________________________

Passport Number: ____________________________ Expiry Date: ____________________________

Passport Nationality: ___________________________________________________________________

Passport Nationality: ___________________________________________________________________

(Passport must have 6 months validity from the time of tour completion)

Single room / Twin beds / Double bed: (Room type is subject to availability)

Circle which airport you wish to depart from: SYDNEY / MELBOURNE / BRISBANE

Do you have any existing medical conditions?: _______________________________________________

Special Dietary Needs: __________________________________________________________________

Optional Extensions: ___________________________________________________________________

Would you like to receive details of our travel insurance?: YES / NO (Please Circle)

In case of emergency, please notify:

Name: ___________________________________________________ Relationship: ___________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________________

Phone Number: __________________________________________________________________________

Please return this sheet with your non-refundable deposit of $400 per person.

DECLARATION. I have read and understand fully the booking conditions and I accept them.

Signature: _____________________________________________________________________________ Date: ______________________________

A copy of passport is required to verify spelling of name; If this is not provided and the information we have for the airline is incorrect and ticket is issued, then the airline will charge a reissue fee.