



TRAVELRITE
INTERNATIONAL

ARCHITECTURE TOUR OF JAPAN

with Malcolm Carver

04 to 21 November 2023

ITINERARY

HOW TO REACH THE GRAND PRINCE HOTEL OSAKA BAY:

Kansai International Airport

Limousine Airport Bus:

The airport limousine bus to the hotel departs from Bus Stop 7 of terminal 2 and Bus Stop 3 of terminal 1. Take the bus bound for Osaka Nanko for JPY1,600 per person. (Travel time: 50 minutes.)

Taxi:

A direct taxi ride from the airport to the Hotel would cost approximately JPY14,000 per car (4 persons maximum). The travel time is approximately 45 minutes depending on traffic. Note: this is the most convenient way to reach the Hotel outside the operating hours of the limousine bus service.

Hotel limousine car:

Hotel limousine takes approximately 45 minutes depending on traffic and costs JPY22,000 per car per trip. Advance reservation is necessary.

Train:

Take a Limited Express Haruka to JR Osaka station. From there catch the Hotel's complimentary shuttle bus service OR a taxi. Travel time is approximately 25 minutes and the cost is approximately JPY7,000 per car (4 persons maximum).

Itami Domestic Airport

Taxi:

The most convenient way to reach the Hotel is via a taxi. The journey takes approximately 35 minutes at a cost of JPY8,000 per car (4 persons maximum).

DAY 1

SATURDAY 04 NOVEMBER 2023

OSAKA

Tour members arrival day in Osaka – check in will be available from **3.00pm**.

Grand Prince Hotel Osaka Bay (Formerly Hyatt Regency Osaka)

1-13-11 Nanko-Kita, Suminoe-Ku, Osaka, 559-0034, Japan

Tel: +81-(0)6-6612-1234

Boasting 5 restaurants, a fitness centre with indoor/outdoor swimming pools and massage treatments, the four star Grand Prince Hotel Osaka Bay offers modern accommodations right on Osaka Bay. Free WiFi is available throughout the property. The spacious air-conditioned rooms feature a flat-screen satellite TV and a safety deposit box. Each comes with city or bay views and an electric kettle with green tea bags. The en suite bathrooms come with a hairdryer and free toiletries. International buffets can be enjoyed at The Café.

The Travelrite tour manager is Wendy Carver. Throughout the tour, you can contact Wendy on her mobile: +61 412 416 535. Our local guide throughout the tour is Yasuko Miyamoto.

Please wear your Travelrite International NAME TAGS for easy identification throughout the tour. This helps tour members identify each other and contributes to the smooth running of the tour.

This evening Malcolm and Wendy will welcome the group to Japan, inviting you for drinks and a chat. Please meet in the hotel lobby at **6:00pm**.

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm and Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm**.

PLEASE NOTE:

Each time the group leaves a hotel the luggage will be transferred to the next hotel by truck. This has been arranged as Japanese coaches don't have sufficient luggage space for a large group. A big advantage of this arrangement is that your luggage will be in your room or the hotel's secure room when you check into the hotel, thus making for a smoother check in (where available). If you need anything during the day- medication, umbrella, water, food, rain jacket, jumper, camera, etc- make sure you keep them in a day bag.

DAY 2**SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2023****HIROSHIMA**

Breakfast

Wendy will let you know what time you need to bring your luggage down to the lobby for collection.

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **8.00am**.

The tour begins this morning with a transfer to Osaka Train Station for a high speed Shinkansen train to Hiroshima. Our luggage will be transferred by truck.

Lunch will not be available to purchase on the train, so please purchase something at Osaka station.

Depart	Shin Osaka Station	09.41	Nozomi #9	First Class
Arrive	Hiroshima Station	11.02		

On arrival, we will explore some of Hiroshima's fascinating contemporary buildings including the Museum of Art (Kisho Kurokawa), and the Simose Art Museum Otake.

This afternoon we will take the ferry across to Miyajima Island and visit the Itsukushima Shrine at sunset with our local guide.

We then check into our hotel.

Sheraton Grand Hotel Hiroshima

12-1 Wakakusacho, Higashi Ward, Hiroshima, 732-0053, Japan

Phone: +81 82-262-7111

Email: Reservation.Hiroshima@sheraton.com

The four star Sheraton Grand Hiroshima Hotel is located just a short drive from the Atomic Bomb Dome. It offers 4 dining options, an indoor pool and a fitness centre. All rooms offer both air conditioning and heating facilities. Each room is fitted with a fridge, ironing equipment and a flat-screen TV with a DVD player. A humidifier and a trouser press are provided. The en suite bathroom comes with toiletries and a bathtub. Guests can work out at the fitness centre or swim at the indoor pool at a charge. Luggage storage can be found at the 24-hour front desk.

DAY 3**MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2023****KURASHIKI**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **8.00am**.

This morning we visit the Peace Memorial Park and Museum. Afterwards we travel to Fukuyama for a photo stop at the Ribbon Chapel.

After lunch, we continue to Kurashiki where we will visit the gardens at the Kohtei Pavilion then a traditional house in Ohashi. This is a 1796 Kurashiki merchant's house with unique architectural features- notably the gate, the wall, windows, and lattice. It has been designated as a nationally important cultural asset.

We check into our hotel late afternoon.

Kurashiki Kokusai Hotel

1 Chome-1-44 Central, Kurashiki, Okayama 710-0046, Japan

Phone: +81 86-422-5141

Email: info@kurashiki-kokusai-hotel.co.jp

The four star Kurashiki Kokusai Hotel is located right near the entrance to the Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter, and adjacent to the Ohara Museum of Art. Each room has a desk and a flat-screen TV, air-conditioning, free Wi-Fi and a private bathroom. There is a restaurant and bar onsite.

This evening we will enjoy a special dinner at a local restaurant. Please meet in the hotel lobby at **6.45pm** for the short 300m walk to the restaurant.

DAY 4**TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2023****KURASHIKI**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **7.45am**.

This morning we travel to Naoshima Island, known for its art museums, architecture and sculpture. We will see the Uno Ferry Terminal before visiting the spectacular, Chichu Art Museum, Benesse House and Ando Museum all by Tadao Ando. Chichu Art Museum has paintings from Monet's "Water Lilies" series. Benesse House Museum shows contemporary sculpture. We also have a photo stop at the Yellow Pumpkin Sculpture (Yayoi Kusama).

We return to our hotel late afternoon.

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 5**WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2023****KOBE**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **8.30am**.

This morning we travel to Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art – Ando Gallery. After lunch, we will visit the Tazaemon Yamamura House (Yodoko Guest House), the first of two Frank Lloyd Wright buildings we will see in Japan. We then transfer to the Chapel of the Wind.

We check into our hotel late afternoon. Kobe is the capital of Hyogo Prefecture and one of Japan's ten largest cities. Located between the sea and the Rokko mountain range, Kobe is also considered one of Japan's most attractive cities.

Kobe Bay Sheraton Hotel & Towers

2 Chome-13 Koyochonaka, Higashinada Ward, Kobe, Hyogo 658-0032, Japan

Phone: +81 78-857-7000

Email: rsv@sheraton-kobe.co.jp

The four star Kobe Bay Sheraton Hotel and offers spacious and stylish accommodation, all with mountain or ocean views, as well as thoughtful amenities to enhance your stay. Relax at the hotel's state-of-the-art fitness centre including fully-equipped gym, outdoor tennis courts, indoor pool and onsen spa. Recharge at a variety of local and international restaurants,

including the panoramic 21st floor restaurant, vibrant coffee house and room service. Room amenities include TV, internet access, mini bar and ironing facilities.

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 6

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2023

OSAKA

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **9.00am**.

This morning we visit another of Tadao Ando's spectacular works – the Water Temple, Awaji Island. This is a modern Buddhist temple built of concrete and located underground, with a circular pool of water planted above the prayer space. Tadao Ando was also the architect for the nearby Yumebutai Hotel & Observation Terrace research centre, which we will also visit. We then continue on to Koshino Hiroko House. Ando designed the Koshino House for fashion designer Hiroko Koshino and her family during 1979 - 1984.

We check into our hotel late afternoon.

Grand Prince Hotel Osaka Bay (Formerly Hyatt Regency Osaka)

1-13-11 Nanko-Kita, Suminoe-Ku, Osaka, 559-0034, Japan

Tel: +81-(0)6-6612-1234

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 7

FRIDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2023

KYOTO

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **9.00am**.

This morning we have a photo stop at Ando's Azuma House. This is a private residence so will not be able to enter. We continue on to Oyamazaki Museum (Ando). Our final visits of the day are to the Garden of Fine Arts (Ando) and the Apple Store Kyoto.

We check into our hotel late afternoon.

Kyoto Tokyu Hotel

Japan, 〒600-8357 Kyoto, Shimogyo Ward, Kakimotocho, 580

Phone: +81 75-341-2411

The four star Kyoto Tokyu Hotel features 3 restaurants, a bar and a fitness gym. The modern rooms have Tempur comfort pillows and a satellite LCD TV. Free WiFi is available throughout the property. You can kick back with a drink from the minibar (at own expense) or have a hot soak in the private bath. All rooms are air-conditioned and include a fridge and an electric kettle. Guests are entitled to complimentary access to the on-site fitness centre.

This evening Mark Horvane, who is the Director of Kyoto Garden Experiences, will provide an overview of the design principles and cultural roots of the Japanese Garden. Mark has given a similar presentation to groups in Japan and Australia. Please meet in the hotel lobby at **6:20pm**.

DAY 8**SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2023****KYOTO**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **8.00am**.

Kyoto is old Japan with atmospheric temples, sublime gardens, traditional teahouses and is the heart of Japan's geisha world. It is most well known in Japanese history for being the former Imperial capital of Japan for more than one thousand years. Today we explore some of the outstanding modern works in Kyoto.

We begin with a visit to the spectacular Arashiyama Bamboo Grove, one of most photographed sights in Kyoto, followed by a stop at Kyoto Concert Hall (external view only). We then visit Shisendo Temple. Former samurai, Chinese classics scholar, and landscape architect Ishikawa Jozan built the shrine in 1641 as a retirement villa.

After lunch we visit the Kiyomizu-Dera Temple, with a spectacular view over Kyoto. We conclude the day with a visit to Nishjin Lifestyle Museum.

We return to our hotel late afternoon.

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 9**SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2023****KYOTO**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **8.30am**.

This morning we visit the Ryoan-ji Temple. Originally an aristocrat's villa during the Heian Period, the site was converted into a Zen temple in 1450 and belongs to the Myoshinji school of the Rinzaï sect of Zen Buddhism. It is popular for its rock garden.

We then continue on to the famous Kinkaku Ji (Golden Pavilion), a Zen temple in northern Kyoto whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf.

After lunch, we will visit Katsura Imperial Villa (completed in 1645), for a guided tour of one of the finest examples of Japanese architecture and garden design. *The group has been booked across different timeslots and so Wendy will advise you of your meeting time for the taxi transfer. Katsura does not allow time changes.*

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 10**MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2023****KYOTO**

Breakfast

A free day in Kyoto to visit some of its historic sites. You may wish to visit Gion, Kyoto's geisha district made famous from the novel and film, *Memoirs of a Geisha*. It is filled with shops, restaurants and ochaya (teahouses), where geisha and maiko (geisha apprentices) entertain.

DAY 11**TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2023****NAGOYA**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **9.00am**.

We depart Kyoto and travel to Nagoya today. Along the way, we will visit Miho Museum (I M Pei) and Ise Grand Shrine, Naiku. Ise Grand Shrine is Japan's most sacred Shinto shrine and dates back to the 3rd Century. It is considered to be the spiritual home of the Japanese and its national religion Shinto.

We check into our hotel late afternoon.

Crowne Plaza Hotel Grand Court

1 Chome-1-1 Kanayamacho, Aichi 460-0023, Japan

Phone: +81 52-683-4111

Email: info@anacrowneplaza-nagoya.jp

The four star Grand Court Nagoya boasts a restaurant and bar with 30th floor views and 5 total dining choices. Rooms have free wired internet and an LCD satellite TV. Free Wi-Fi is available at the lobby. The spacious rooms at ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Grand Court Nagoya all include a minibar and an electric kettle with green tea. The en suite bathroom has a bath, slippers and amenities. A beauty shop and gift shop are on site, as is a beautiful wedding chapel.

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 12**WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2023****CHINO**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **9.00am**.

Today we visit GC Prostho Museum Research Centre (Kuma) and the Imperial Hotel Foyer at Museum Meiji-Mura (Wright). Meiji- Mura is an open-air architectural museum near Nagoya. The museum preserves historic buildings from Japan's Meiji (1867–1912), Taisho (1912– 1926), and early Shōwa (1926–1989) periods. Over 60 historical buildings have been moved and reconstructed. The most noteworthy being the main entrance and lobby of Frank Lloyd Wright's landmark Imperial Hotel, which originally stood in Tokyo from 1923 to 1967, when the main structure was demolished to make way for a new, larger version of the hotel.

We check into our hotel late afternoon.

Hoshino Resorts Risonare Yatsugatake

129-1 Kobuchisawacho, Hokuto, Yamanashi 408-0044, Japan

Phone: +81 50-3134-8093

Email: info-mice@risonare.com

Located on the border of two of Japan's most renowned wine regions, this charming four star resort is set inside a richly conceived European townscape designed by Italian architect Mario Bellini. Room amenities include TV, refrigerators, humidifier, electric kettle and a safety box. There is a pool onsite, as well as spa facilities. At 150 meters long, Piment Street has restaurants and cafes with the theme of the wonderful life of Yatsugatake, as well as shops

that make the most of its unique features, making it a place that you can always enjoy.

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 13

THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2023

TOKYO

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **9.00am**.

This morning we visit the Mt Fuji Heritage Centre (Shigeru Ban), a striking museum dedicated to the iconic Mt. Fuji, with interactive exhibits & an observation deck. There will be time for lunch here and we then visit House at Atami (Kidosaki Architects).

We arrive in Tokyo late afternoon. There aren't many places on Earth that blend ancient tradition and the ultra-modern quite like Tokyo. Centuries-old gardens and cobblestone laneways live in perfect harmony with soaring skyscrapers and dazzling neon lights.

Metropolitan Hotel Ikebukuro

1—6—1 Nishi-Ikebukuro Toshima-ku, 171-8505, Tokyo, Japan

Phone: +81 3 3980 1111

Email: info@metropolitan.jp

The Hotel Metropolitan Tokyo Ikebukuro, a four- star property, is located in the heart of the bustling international metropolis of Tokyo, conveniently located adjacent to the Ikebukuro train/subway station. In addition to restaurants and banquet rooms, the Hotel Metropolitan Tokyo Ikebukuro offers a wide range of facilities including a shopping arcade, drug store and beauty salon. Room amenities include Free WIFI, Hairdryer, Refrigerator, Slippers, bath & shower products and an air purifier with a humidifier.

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 14

FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2023

TOKYO

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **9.00am**.

This morning we visit the Sumida Hokusai Museum, followed by the Tokyo International Forum (Rafael Vinoly).

After lunch we depart for a special visit to Hiroataka Kidosaki's own house (Kidosaki Architects).

Our day concludes with a Showcase Tokyo Retail Tour including the Mikimoto Ginza 2 Building (Ito), Tod's Omotesando Building (Ito), Omotesando Hills (Ando), the Apple Store plus more.

Before returning to the hotel, we will visit the neon lights at Shinjuku.

We return to our hotel around **7.30pm**.

DAY 15 **SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2023** **TOKYO**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **8.00am**.

A full day of exploring more of Tokyo's architecture including the Architecture Museum Edo W, the Olympic Stadium (Kuma), 2121 Design Sight (Ando), and Nezu Museum.

We return to our hotel late afternoon.

For those wishing to dine as a group (own expense) please meet Malcolm or Wendy in the hotel lobby at **7:00pm** so they can share Yasuko's suggestion(s) for dinner.

DAY 16 **SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2023** **TOKYO**

Breakfast

A free day to explore Tokyo.

DAY 17 **MONDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2023** **TOKYO**

Breakfast

Please meet in the hotel lobby ready to depart at **9.00am**.

Our final day in Tokyo. We will see the Sky House (Kitutake), St Mary's Cathedral (Tange) and National Art Centre, and Taiwan's famed Sunny Hills pineapple cake store (Kengo Kuma).

The afternoon will be free for individual sightseeing or last minute shopping.

We will have a farewell dinner this evening to celebrate a wonderful tour. Please meet in the hotel lobby at **6.45pm** for a short walk to the restaurant.

DAY 18 **TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2023** **DEPARTURE**

Breakfast

Please check out of your room by **10.00am**. Tour arrangements conclude after breakfast.

Travelrite International
October 2023

THE TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL TOUR MANAGER WILL ANNOUNCE ANY CHANGES TO THE TOUR PROGRAMME ON THE COACH EACH DAY.

INDEPENDENT TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Travellers who have arranged tour extensions and special arrangements at the end of the tour should consult their specially prepared itineraries for travel arrangements from the end of the tour. PLEASE NOTE that Travelrite International will reconfirm all group flights. It is the responsibility of independent travellers to reconfirm their own flights within 72 hours of the scheduled flight departure time.

IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION

1. Baggage Allowance.

Due to coach and luggage transfer allowances, tour members are restricted to 1 large suitcase. Please make sure luggage is clearly labelled with your name, so where hotel portage is available it can be delivered direct to your room.

2. Travel Documentation

All travellers must be in possession of a valid passport with at least six months validity.

3. Travel Insurance

ADEQUATE TRAVEL INSURANCE IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.

Travelrite International will not be responsible for any costs or other liabilities incurred directly or indirectly by tour members as a result of the tour member not arranging travel insurance or the tour member arranging inadequate travel insurance.

4. General Travel Advice

Please consult the Australian Government website www.smartraveller.gov.au for security, health and other advice on travel for Australian citizens.

5. Legal Responsibility

The legal responsibilities of Travelrite International Pty Ltd in arranging this tour are set out in the published tour brochure.

6. Daily Tour Programme

The tour programme for the next day, including coach departure times, will be announced in the coach before returning to the hotel each evening.

7. Coach Departures.

Please note that because of strict rules relating to coach parking in the towns and cities visited and the hotels used in the tour programme and the full touring programme on many days, the coach must depart at the advised departure time. No guarantee can be given that the coach will wait for latecomers.

8. Tour Programme

The tour programme timing is subject to scheduling changes requested by local guides and other operators.

9. Problems and Complaints

We do our best to make your holiday a success. However in the event that you have any problems concerning your tour, you must notify the tour manager who will do everything possible to put things right. It is a condition that you communicate any problem to the tour manager during the tour.

Travelrite International Pty Ltd
October 2023