

Detailed Travel Itinerary -

Day 1 - - Arrival in Tokyo

Arrive at Narita Airport Terminal

Note: Your letter with the train tickets will be available on the 3rd floor (Departure Lobby) of Narita Airport. I've sent them to the Kuroneko Yamato parcel service pick-up counter under the name for collection.

Narita Airport Terminal 2 : Pickup

Narita Baggage Delivery Service Counter



19:00 Take the Limousine Bus from Narita Airport T2 to Shinjuku.

Note: You can find ticket counters on the 1st floor (Arrival Lobby) of Terminal 2. There are two main counters: the Airport Limousine Bus Ticket Counter near Exit B and another counter near Exit A. You can pay with cash, credit card, or IC cards like Suica/Pasmo. After purchasing your ticket, head to Bus Stop No. 1 on the 1st floor for boarding. Follow signs for "Bus" to locate the boarding area easily; the bus stops are within walking distance of the Arrival Lobby.

21:00 Get off the bus at the Shinjuku Station West Exit (Expressway Bus Terminal) and head to BELLUSTAR TOKYO, A Pan Pacific Hotel, Shinjuku.

Address:

BELLUSTAR TOKYO, A Pan Pacific Hotel

1-29-1 Kabukicho, Shinjuku City

Tokyo 160-0021

Day 2 - - West Tokyo

9:30 Head to JR Shinjuku Station platform 14 and board the JR Yamanote Line train (Green) bound for Shinagawa. Get off at Shibuya Station.

10:20 Visit the SHIBUYA SKY observation deck.

11:15 Explore the Shibuya neighborhood: Visit the Hachiko Statue near Shibuya Station and the Parco department store (the Nintendo store is inside Parco).

12:00 Have lunch at the Parco food court or in the Center Gai shopping area.

13:00 Continue exploring the Center Gai shopping area

14:00 Board the JR Yamanote Line train (Green) at Shibuya Station platform 2 bound for Tokyo and get off at Akihabara.

14:30 Explore the Akihabara neighborhood.

Note: Be sure to stop by Maidreamin for a unique experience at a maid café, where you can enjoy themed service and delicious treats. Check out Animate for an extensive selection of anime and manga merchandise—perfect for fans looking for collectibles. Don't miss Yodobashi Camera for a massive array of electronics and gadgets. Take a stroll through the side streets to discover charming smaller shops and arcades that showcase the vibrant otaku culture!

16:30 Board the JR Chuo Line train (Yellow) at Akihabara Station platform 5 bound for Nakano and get off at Shinjuku Station.

17:00 Free at leisure until the end of the day.

Note: I recommend using the East Exit of JR Shinjuku Station due to construction work at the West Exit, providing a smoother route to your hotel. The Shinjuku Batting Center is nearby and can be reached by foot. You can also explore the vibrant streets of Kabukicho, where you'll find unique shops, colorful neon signs, and interesting themed cafes. For a fun experience, enjoy a karaoke session at one of the many venues, allowing for a night of singing and laughter!

Day 3 - East Tokyo

10:00 Board the Toei Oedo Subway Line at Shinjuku Higashiguchi Station bound for Daimon. Get off at Ueno Okachimachi and transfer to the Ginza Subway Line heading to Asakusa. After just two stops, you'll arrive at Asakusa Station.

10:40 Explore the traditional Asakusa area, including Sensoji Temple and the surrounding Nakamise area. Everything is within walking distance.

12:00 Lunch at Nakamise.

Note: A great little hidden café in the Nakamise shopping street area is Kagetsudo, famous for its melon bread (melon pan) and cozy atmosphere, perfect for enjoying a sweet treat and

tea or coffee. Another option is FUGLEN ASAKUSA, a popular spot among tourists. Both cafes offer a great place to relax while exploring Nakamise!

13:00 Board the Toei Asakusa Subway Line at Asakusa Station bound for Nishi-Magome. Transfer to the Yurikamome Monorail Line at Shimbashi Station bound for Toyosu (TeamLab). Get off at Daiba Station.

14:00 Explore the artificial island Odaiba and its various shopping centers on the way to TeamLab Planets.

16:00 Board the Yurikamome Monorail Line at Daiba Station bound for Toyosu and get off at Toyosu.

16:30 Visit the TeamLab Planets museum.

18:30 Board the Yurakucho Subway Line at Toyosu Station bound for Wako. Transfer to the Toei Shinjuku Subway Line at Ichigaya Station bound for Shinjuku and get off at Shinjuku Station. Free at leisure until the end of the day.

Day 4 - - Tokyo City Area

10:00 Board the JR Yamanote Line train (Green) at Shinjuku Station platform 14 bound for Shinagawa and get off at Harajuku Station East Exit.

Note: The West Exit leads you directly to the Meiji Shrine.

10:15 Explore Takeshita street, located right across from the Harajuku train station exit.

Note: Takeshita Street is a favorite spot for teenagers. Don't miss the delicious crepes from Marion Crepes, which offers a variety of sweet and savory options. For shopping, check out Baby, The Stars Shine Bright for lolita fashion and Spinns for trendy clothing.

11:45 Visit Meiji Shrine near the Harajuku JR train station.

Note: Surrounded by a beautiful forest, the Meiji Shrine offers a peaceful escape from the bustling city. Visitors can participate in traditional Shinto rituals, such as writing wishes on ema (wooden plaques). The iconic torii gate at the entrance provides a stunning photo opportunity, making it a perfect spot to experience a blend of nature and culture in Tokyo.

13:30 Board the Chiyoda Subway Line at Meiji-jingumae 'Harajuku' Station platform 2 bound for Abiko and get off at Otemachi Station Exit C10.

Note: The entrance to the Chiyoda Subway Line is located directly next to the JR Harajuku Station East Exit.

14:00 Explore the Imperial Palace Garden, which is within walking distance of Tokyo Station and Otemachi Station

16:00 Board the JR Yamanote Line train (Green) at Tokyo Station platform 4 bound for Shinjuku and get off at Ikebukuro Station East Exit.

16:30 Explore the Ikebukuro area.

Note: There's a large shopping center called Ikebukuro Sunshine City, which offers plenty of shopping options, including a big capsule toy store called Gacha Gacha no Mori. Near Sunshine City, you'll also find a popular conveyor belt sushi restaurant called Kura Sushi. The Kura Sushi Sunshine 60 Street location is usually not very crowded and conveniently located on the way to Ikebukuro Sunshine City. They have a number system, so you can either pull a number when you arrive and shop at Sunshine City while waiting, or go shopping first and pull a number afterward. From my experience, the waiting time should be minimal in both cases.

Address:

Kura Sushi Ikebukuro Sunshine 60 Store
1-29-1, Higashiikebukuro, Toshima-ku,
Tokyo St. fatty tuna PE Ikebukuro building 6F

19:30 Board the JR Yamanote Line train (Green) at Ikebukuro Station platform 6 bound for Shinjuku and get off at Shinjuku Station. Free at leisure until the end of the day.

Day 5 - [REDACTED] - Transfer to Kiso-Fukushima

To send your luggage from BELLUSTAR TOKYO to a hotel in Kyoto using the Kuroneko Yamato luggage delivery service, you can request the service through the hotel's concierge. The hotel is conveniently connected to the Kuroneko Yamato service counter within the same building, making the process even smoother. Be sure to make your request before 8 am to ensure next-day delivery. Provide the destination hotel details, and your luggage will typically arrive by the following day. Delivery costs, usually between ¥2,000 and ¥3,000, depend on the luggage size and distance, and payment options include cash or credit card.

9:00 Head out and board the JR Yamanote Line train (Green) at Shinjuku Station platform 15 bound for Tokyo and get off at JR Takadanobaba Station. Walk to CAPPINESS Capybara Cafe.

Address:

CAPPINESS Capybara Cafe
9th Floor, Nikkō Takadanobaba Building
4-40-12 Takadanobaba,
Shinjuku City, Tokyo 169-0075

Reservation at CAPPINESS

On [REDACTED]

For 3 People

3 × 1 session (50 min)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Visit CAPPINESS Capybara Cafe.

11:00 Board the JR Yamanote Line train (Green) at JR Takadanobaba Station bound for Shinjuku and get off at Shinjuku Station.

12:00 Pick up your luggage from the hotel and head to JR Shinjuku Station.

13:00 Board the [REDACTED] Limited Express train at Shinjuku Station platform 10 bound for Matsumoto. Get off at Shiojiri Station and transfer to the Limited Express train SHINANO 18 at platform 1 bound for Nagoya. Get off at the next station, Kiso-Fukushima. Your seat numbers for [REDACTED] are Car [REDACTED] Seats A, B, C, as indicated on the tickets. Tickets for [REDACTED] are for the non-reserved compartment.

16:30 Arrive at Kiso-Fukushima Station.

17:00 Hotel transfer and free at leisure until the end of the day.

Address:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Day 6 - [REDACTED] - Magome Trail Walk and Kyoto Transfer

6:45 Board the bus from Umahashi Bus Stop near the hotel, bound for Kiso Hospital. Get off at Kiso-Fukushima Eki Mae (bus stop in front of Kiso-Fukushima Station) and board the Chuo Line local train at platform 2 bound for Nakatsugawa. Get off at Nakatsugawa Station. Board the local bus in front of the station at platform 3, bound for Magome, and get off at Magome.

9:45 Start the Magome-Tsumago Hiking Trail. Baggage can be dropped off and sent to your destination at the Magome Tourist Information Center before starting the tour. It is within walking distance of the bus stop.

Address:

Magome Tourist Information Center
4300-1 Magome, Nakatsugawa
Gifu 508-0502

13:00 Finish the trail at Tsumago and pick up your luggage from the Tsumago Tourist Information Center.

Address:

Tsumago Tourist Information
2196-1 Azuma, Nagiso, Kiso District
Nagano 399-5302

13:15 A taxi is ordered and will wait for you in front of the Tsumago Tourist Information to bring you to Nakatsugawa Station.

Tel: [REDACTED]

Note: You can pay by credit card or cash. The ride will cost around 10,000 JPY.

14:06 Board the [REDACTED] Limited Express train at Nakatsugawa Station bound for Nagoya. [REDACTED] tickets are for the non-reserved compartment.

Alternative:

13:45 Board the local bus (Hogami Line or Magome Line) at Omatabashi, near the Tourist Information Center, bound for Nagiso Station.

The buses in this region are very infrequent. You should take the Magome Line bus departing at 13:49 at the latest to avoid a late arrival in Kyoto later that evening.

14:42 Board the Chuo Line local train at Nagiso Station bound for Nakatsugawa. At Nakatsugawa Station, transfer to the connecting Chuo Line local train bound for Nagoya, departing at 15:22. Arrival at Nagoya Station is at 16:37.

Tickets from Nagiso Station to Nagoya Station can be bought at Nagiso Station.

[REDACTED] Board the [REDACTED] Shinkansen bullet train at JR Nagoya Station platform 17 bound for Hakata and get off at Kyoto Station.

Note: Your Shinkansen tickets are for non-reserved seats, so you have the flexibility to board any Shinkansen running on this line. If you miss your planned train or can catch an earlier one, simply board another Nozomi or Hikari Shinkansen at the same platform. All of these trains will stop at Kyoto.

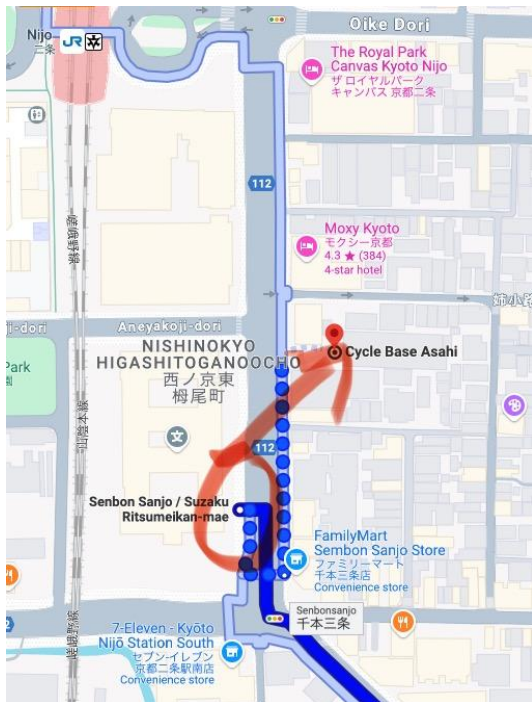
16:00 Board bus [REDACTED] at platform [REDACTED] directly in front of Kyoto Station, bound for Higashiyama/Gion, and get off at Kiyomizumichi for a short walk to the hotel. Buses can be boarded with an IC card.

Address:

The Hotel Seiryu Kyoto Kiyomizu
2 Chome-204-2 Kiyomizu, Higashiyama Ward
Kyoto 605-0862

Day 7 - [REDACTED] - Bike Tour and Historical Area in Kyoto

9:30 Walk to the Gion bus station (near Yasaka Shrine) and board bus 46 bound for Kamigamo-jinja Shrine. Get off at Senbon Sanjo / Suzaku Ritsumeikan-mae. From that station, you can already see a sign that says "Cycle Base Asahi" on the opposite side of the street. Right in front of the store are rental bicycles. I believe these are the bicycles you will take on the tour.



10:30 Start of the bike tour.

13:30 To get back to your hotel or the Gion district, take the same bus 46 in the opposite direction on the other side of the street.



If you'd like to visit a local café or bakery on the way, I recommend Maruki Bakery, which is near the cycling shop, or Inoda Coffee, which has a branch near the 'Gion' bus stop close to your hotel.

15:00 Arrival at Gion station. Free at leisure until the end of the day.

Note: I highly recommend visiting Yasaka Shrine along with the nearby Maruyama Park, exploring the historic Gion district, and experiencing the stunning Kiyomizu-dera Temple. These are must-see places in Kyoto that truly capture the city's beauty and cultural heritage!

Day 8 - - Arashiyama Bamboo Forest and Departure to Kansai Airport

9:45 Walk to Kiyomizumichi bus station and board bus 206 bound for Kyoto Station. Get off at Kyoto Station and walk through the station to the opposite side (Hachijo West Exit) for direct access to the Sanco Inn Kyōto Hachijōguchi hotel.

Address:

Sanco Inn Kyōto Hachijōguchi
48-1 Higashikujo Kamitonoda-cho, Minami Ward
Kyoto 601-8002

11:00 Board the JR San-In Line train at Kyoto Station platform 32 bound for Kameoka. Get off at Saga-Arashiyama Station, then walk 30 minutes to Adashino Nenbutsuji Temple, located in the Arashiyama Forest area.

12:00 Explore Adashino Nenbutsuji Temple and the nearby temples in the surrounding area.

15:30 Board the JR San-In Line train at Saga-Arashiyama Station bound for Kyoto and get off at Kyoto Station.

19:00 Pick up your luggage from the hotel. Sarah can see her husband and daughter off at Kyoto Station before they head to Kansai Airport.

19:30 Board the Limited Express Train  at Kyoto Station , bound for Kansai Airport through Osaka, for a quick and easy transfer to Kansai International Airport.

20:52 Arrival at Kansai International Airport.