



Travel with
The American Institute of Architects

October 27 - November 8, 2018

Japan's Allure

A journey to the
Land of the Rising Sun

led by Yuji Kishimoto, AIA

Book today! Call 1.800.293.5725 ext. 2

Discover a fascinating land of rich traditions and dizzying modernity with Architectural Adventures on an amazing journey through Japan.

From the vibrant contemporary architecture in Tokyo, to renowned temples and the captivating culture of Kyoto, experience the Land of the Rising Sun in all its wonder. Visits include the majestic Mt. Fuji; a traditional ryokan in Hakone; a bullet train ride to the historic Takayama; the UNESCO World Heritage site of Shirakawa-Go with traditional thatched-roof homes; Kanazawa – one of the best preserved cities of the Edo period; and finally, Kyoto, Japan's Imperial Capital for a millennium and now the country's cultural and artistic capital.

Cover image: Shirakawa-Go



EXPERT ON THE TOUR

"I am eager to share Japan's rich culture and innovative architecture with our Architectural Adventures travelers. From Tokyo and Takayama to Kanazawa and Kyoto, we will be immersed in the sights, sounds, and tastes of this wonderful country, while experiencing its variety of historical and modern architecture."

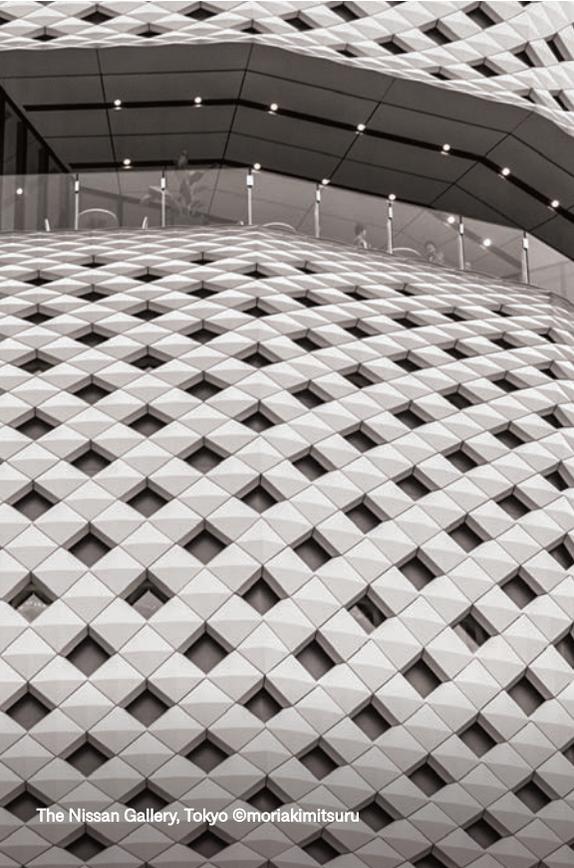


Yuji Kishimoto, AIA

Emeritus Professor of Architecture

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Marvel at the incredible Nomura Family Residence.**
- **Take in Takayama**, and see a 16th-century castle, a beautifully preserved Old Town, and historic buildings dating to the Edo period of 1600 to 1868.
- **Enjoy Shirakawago Gassho-zukuri Village**, a UNESCO World Heritage site comprising traditional thatched-roof homes.
- **Discover the Asakusa Kannon Temple**, which contains a golden image of the Buddhist Kannon.
- **Explore the famed Meiji Jingu Shrine.**
- **Visit the Todai-ji Temple**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Buddhist temple complex that was once one of the powerful Seven Great Temples.
- **See the Tokyo National Museum**, housing an extensive collection of art and antiquities from Japan.
- **Awe at Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park**, home to one of the most photographed sights in Japan: Mt. Fuji.



JAPAN'S ALLURE

Day 1: Depart Gateway City

Saturday, October 27

Depart your gateway city for Tokyo, Japan.

Day 2: Arrive in Tokyo

Sunday, October 28

After arriving in Tokyo, Japan, transfer to your hotel and meet with your tour director. Today is at leisure and dinner is on your own.

Accommodations: Dai-ichi Hotel Tokyo

Day 3: Tokyo

Monday, October 29

Meet your fellow travelers for a welcome briefing on the journey ahead, followed by a city tour. Your half-day excursion in Ancient Tokyo includes a visit to the famed Meiji Jingu Shrine, a peaceful enclave of temples and gardens dedicated to late 19th-century Emperor Meiji and his wife. Built in traditional Shinto style, the shrine is one of Tokyo's most popular attractions. Next, visit the gallery of preeminent calligrapher Koshun Masunaga and learn about this ancient art of artistic writing and browse the collection. The tour ends in Ginza, Tokyo's famed shopping, dining, and entertainment district, where you can stay to explore the department stores, boutiques, and galleries or return to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure. Tonight, gather for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodations: Dai-ichi Hotel Tokyo

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Day 4: Tokyo

Tuesday, October 30

Visit the Imperial Palace, surrounded by moats and ramparts and home of the Imperial Family. Called Kokyo, the huge complex dates to the 15th century, when territorial disputes required massive fortifications and complex societal norms demanded elaborate palaces to reflect the high positions of the feudal lords. When completed, the Imperial Palace was the largest district in the world. Discover the East Gardens, part of the innermost circle of defense of the historic Edo Castle that once stood here. Continue on to the Asakusa Kannon Temple, which contains a golden image of the Buddhist Kannon, goddess of mercy. Guests can make their way to the front of the temple to bathe in smoke from the incense cauldron; it is said that the smoke brings good health. There will be time to explore the Nakamise Shopping arcade outside the temple, filled with stalls selling local dishes and popular souvenirs. From here we visit the Tokyo National Museum, housing an extensive collection of art and antiquities from Japan and other Asian countries. This afternoon is at leisure.

Accommodations: Dai-ichi Hotel Tokyo

Meals: Breakfast

Day 5: Tokyo/Mt. Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park/Hakone

Wednesday, October 31

Travel by motorcoach today to Fuji-Hakone-Izu

National Park, home to one of the most photographed sights in Japan, if not the world: Mt. Fuji. Embark on a leisurely boat ride on Ashi Lake. For a different perspective, take a motorcoach ride to the "fifth station" of Mount Fuji, which is the embarkation point for those climbers brave enough to attempt the summit. Leaving the park, continue on to the town of Hakone and your traditional ryokan lodgings for the night. Upon arrival at your intimate inn, you'll be shown to your Japanese-style rooms. Then, savor a traditional tea, followed by a dinner featuring dishes using fresh local ingredients. **Please note:** In addition to your one piece of checked luggage, you also will need to bring along a smaller, overnight carry-on bag with wheels for your overnight stay at the ryokan. You will meet your original luggage upon arrival at the hotel in Takayama.

Accommodations: Aura Tachibana (ryokan)

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Day 6: Hakone/Takayama

Thursday, November 1

Travel via bullet train and Wide View Hida express to the Hida Mountain town of Takayama, considered one of Japan's most attractive settings with its 16th-century castle, a beautifully preserved Old Town, and historic buildings dating to the Edo period of 1600 to 1868. Experience a tea ceremony and learn the 12th century style of preparing tea. Enjoy an optional bento box lunch. Dine tonight at your hotel.

Accommodations: Takayama Green Hotel

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Day 7: Takayama

Friday, November 2

Visit Takayama's centuries-old Miyagawa Morning Market, where stalls selling everything from fresh fruit, vegetables, and flowers to pickles, crafts, and fish line the streets leading to the river. While here, gather fresh ingredients to take to your next activity – a hands-on cooking class. For lunch, enjoy the food you have prepared. Then, visit the Takayama Jinya, a former government outpost, and discover its long list of past uses. After leaving Takayama Jinya, visit a sake brewery and taste the variations of this warm national beverage and learn about the unique traditional brewing methods. Next, head to the Old Takayama District comprised of three narrow streets in the San-machi-suji district. Arrive to the hotel in Takayama in the late afternoon. Dinner today is on your own.

Accommodations: Takayama Green Hotel

Meals: Breakfast and lunch

Day 8: Takayama/Shirakawa-Go/Kanazawa

Saturday, November 3

Depart for Shirakawago Gassho-zukuri Village, a UNESCO World Heritage site comprising traditional thatched-roof homes. In addition to its status as a World Heritage site, the village also is a vibrant community whose residents work together to preserve the Gassho-style architectural style unique to this region. Tour one of the residences that also presents this style of

architecture, and the Ogimachi District – a cluster of 59 houses preserved to show how its inhabitants lived long ago. For lunch, enjoy a Japanese-style lunch at a local restaurant. In the early afternoon, depart to Kanazawa, known as the country's best-preserved Edo-period city. Visit the Higashi Chaya District and view the historical row of teahouses, beautiful lattice homes and journey through the maze of alleys. Arrive to the hotel in Kanazawa in the late afternoon. Dinner is on your own.

Accommodations: Hotel Nikko Kanazawa

Meals: Breakfast and lunch

Day 9: Kanazawa

Sunday, November 4

Enjoy a full day of touring this culture-rich city, which includes the Hakukokan Gold Leaf Center, a museum that celebrates the art and craft of gold leaf technology and a collection dating to the late 16th century. Also visit the renowned Kenrokuen Garden, a national landmark whose origins date to 1676. Finally, explore the Nomura Family Residence. The Nomura family successively held executive posts from generation to generation under rule of the Maeda family. The house has a coffered ceiling made completely of Japanese cypress and fusuma-e (paintings on sliding door panels). The garden inside the home has a Japanese bayberry more than 400 years old and a meandering stream surrounded by ancient rocks. Dine tonight at a local restaurant.

Accommodations: Hotel Nikko Kanazawa

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Day 10: Kanazawa/Kyoto

Monday, November 5

Board a train for a two-hour journey south to Kyoto, Japan's Imperial Capital for a millennium and now the country's cultural and artistic capital. A true gem with more than 1,600 temples, hundreds of shrines, three imperial palaces, artful gardens, and well-preserved wooden architecture. Upon arrival, visit the Kinkakuji Temple or The Golden Pavilion, one of the most famous buildings in Japan. The lakeside Temple of the Golden Pavilion was originally constructed in the 14th century as a retirement villa and later converted to a temple. Burned to the ground by a fanatic in 1950, the temple has been entirely reconstructed following the original design including the three distinct styles of architecture and is covered in gold leaf from Kanazawa all the way up to the upper floors. Next, visit Ryoan-ji, a Zen Buddhist temple, where you will see the site's famous rock garden. Continue on to Unrakugama Pottery, a family-owned pottery house producing fine handmade ceramics and earthenware. Dine tonight at your hotel.

Accommodations: ANA Crowne Plaza Kyoto Hotel

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Day 11: Nara

Tuesday, November 6

Embark on an excursion by coach to Nara, Japan's 8th-century capital renowned for its shrines and temples. Explore the Todaiji Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Buddhist temple complex that was

once one of the powerful Seven Great Temples. It also houses the world's largest bronze statue of the Buddha Vairocana and serves as the Japanese headquarters of the Kegon school of Buddhism. Next, visit the Kasuga Taisha Shrine, established in 768 AD and another UNESCO World Heritage Site. The shrine's interior is famous for its many bronze lanterns. Return to Kyoto to have the evening at leisure for dinner on your own.

Accommodations: ANA Crowne Plaza Kyoto Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Day 12: Kyoto

Wednesday, November 7

The first stop is Nijo-jo Castle (c. 1603), the extravagant residence and fortifications of the shoguns who ruled Japan for more than 250 years. Featuring imposing stone walls and deep moats, the castle has many interior security measures as well, including hidden rooms for the shogun's bodyguards and "nightingale floors" which purposely squeak when stepped on to alert occupants of intruders. Next, visit Sanjyusangendo Hall (c. 1266), an important Buddhist temple housing 1,000 statues of the Thousand Armed Kannon deity. From here, venture to the Gion district, the most famous of Kyoto's several geisha districts with its traditional tall wooden merchants' homes. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. Tonight, toast your Japan adventure over a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodations: ANA Crowne Plaza Kyoto Hotel

Meals: Breakfast and dinner

Day 13: Depart from Japan

Thursday, November 8

Transfer to the Kansai Airport and depart for the U.S.

Meals: Breakfast

**PRICE**

\$6,757 per person, based on double occupancy including airfare

Air and land inclusive price of \$6,495 from Los Angeles or San Francisco plus \$262 airline taxes and fees. Pricing for other US departure cities available upon request.

\$5,995 land only price, per person, based on double occupancy

\$1,295 single supplement

A deposit of \$500 per person, payable by credit card or check is required to reserve a space. Deposits are applied to payment of the total price.

ALSO INCLUDED

An experienced Tour Director, in addition to the Architectural Adventures Educational Expert; entrance fees for all included visits; private motorcoach transportation throughout the trip; gratuities for local guides, bus drivers, porters, airport, hotel and restaurant staff; luggage handling for one bag per person.

Book today! Call 1.800.293.5725 ext. 2



WHAT TO EXPECT

- Appropriate for people in good health with overall good mobility.
- Travelers should be comfortable participating in a full day of sightseeing.
- Activities range from light to moderate intensity at an easy pace, but with lengthy walks, sometimes on uneven terrain, and climbing stairs.

Not included: Airfare and air departure taxes and fees if purchasing a land-only package; passport/visa fees not specified; meals not specified in the itinerary; food and beverages not part of the included meals; personal items and expenses; gratuities to tour director, gratuities other than specified; travel and trip cancellation insurance; airline baggage fees and excess baggage fees; pre or post-tour extension; optional sightseeing; communication charges; other items not specifically mentioned in the itinerary or as included. **Prices, itinerary, accommodations and experts subject to change.**

Architectural Adventures tours are managed by professional tour operators retained as independent contractors by The American Institute of Architects. To read Architectural Adventures full Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer visit architecturaladventures.org/travel-terms. To read the tour-specific terms and conditions from our tour operator Odysseys Unlimited visit architecturaladventures.org/odysseys

**Architectural
Adventures**



Imperial Palace, Tokyo
@Name here

Travel with The American Institute of Architects

Japan's Allure

A journey to the Land of the Rising Sun

October 27 - November 8, 2018

architecturaladventures.org/gojapan



Architectural Adventures is a special
program by The American Institute
of Architects.

**Book today!
1.800.293.5725
ext. 2**

