

# *J Yang Tours* Customized Group Travel Specialist to Asia

China • Vietnam • Cambodia • Thailand • Laos • Bhutan • Japan • Mongolia

## Wonders of Japan and China

**Duration:** 14 nights/15 days

**We visit:** Tokyo, Hakone, Kyoto, Shanghai, Xian, Guilin, Beijing

The history, mystery and charm of Japan are yours to discover on this journey. Walk the tree-lined path to Kamakura's Great Buddha and stroll the beautiful gardens of the Hase Kannon Temple. Take the Komagataki Ropeway to view iconic Fuji. In Kyoto, the former imperial capital of Japan, visit Nijo Castle, completed in 1603 as the official residence of Shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu. You also visit Kinkakuji, the Temple of the Gold Pavilion, and the Heian Shrine & Garden. A full day of leisure in Kyoto gives you time to enjoy the many temples, shrines, palaces, and pagodas at your own pace.

The next part of your trip takes you to China. First we take you to fabulous Shanghai, China's pulsating commercial heart. Moving on to Guilin there is a cruise on the picturesque Li River, viewing the fantastic limestone mountains for which the area is renowned. Then on to Xian, the ancient Tang capital. Here you will see the Terracotta Warriors archeological site, the Big Goose Pagoda and other features of the country's fabulous past. While in Beijing walk along the Great Wall, see the Ming Tombs and Tiananmen Square, explore the splendors of the Forbidden City and wander through the grounds of the Summer Palace. All this together with spectacular evening entertainments and a genuine Peking Duck dinner will make this a tour to remember.

### Highlights:

- Tokyo - Meiji Shrine, traditional Japanese tea ceremony, Asakusa Kannon Temple, Nakamise Shopping Arcade
- Hakone - Kotokuin Temple Great Buddha, Cable car ride to view Mount Fuji
- High-speed bullet train Odawara-Kyoto
- Kyoto - Fushimi Inari Shrine, Temple of the Gold Pavilion, Yuzen Handmade Corner, Heian Shrine and Garden, Philosophers Walk, Nijo Castle
- Shanghai - The Bund, Yu Garden and its market, Shanghai World Financial Center, Huangpu River Cruise, acrobatic show
- Guilin - Li River Cruise
- Xian - City Wall, Bell Tower, Terracotta Warriors & Horses, Tang Dynasty Dinner Show
- Beijing - Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Summer Palace, The Great Wall, Sacred Walk of the Ming Tombs, Peking Duck Dinner

### Tour Itinerary

Day 1      **Arrive Tokyo**  
On arrival into Tokyo transfer to your hotel.

Day 2      **Tokyo**  
Morning visit Meiji Shinto Shrine which is dedicated to the deified spirits of Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shiken. Enjoy a Traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony, and then go to Senso-ji Temple, popularly known as Asakusa Kannon which is Tokyo's most sacred and spectacular temple and visit its famous Nakamise Arcade by boat. (B/D)

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Day 3 **Tokyo-Hakone-Odawara**

Travel by coach to Hakone, stop at Kamakura to see the Great Buddha, located on the grounds of the Kotokuin Temple. At a height of 43.8ft, the bronze statue of Amida Buddha is the second largest Buddha statue in Japan. Arrive in Hakone, the city famous for the view of nearby Mt. Fuji, which is the highest mountain in Japan at 12,388 ft. You will take a cable car ride for the spectacular view. Overnight at Odawara. (B/D)

Day 4 **Odawara-Kyoto**

Travel by bullet train to Kyoto, where you will visit Fushimi Inari Shrine, the head shrine of Inari. Experience the glimmering legacy of medieval Japan, Kinkaku-ji, also known as the Golden Pavilion. Visit the brightly colored Heian Shrine and garden. And visit Yuzen Handmade Corner to learn about the Yuzen dyeing technique used to decorate Kimonos by painting dye directly on the cloth. (B)

Day 5 **Kyoto**

Morning visit to Philosophers Walk along the canal in Kyoto. It is a pleasant stroll alongside the canal, past numerous temples and old wooden houses. Next you will visit Nijo Castle which is best known for its unusually ornate interiors and so-called nightingale floors. (B)

Day 6 **Kyoto**

Today is at your leisure. You will enjoy your farewell dinner tonight. (B/D)

Day 7 **Kyoto-Shanghai**

Transfer to the Kansai International airport for your flight to Shanghai. Transfer to your hotel on arrival. (B/D)

Day 8 **Shanghai**

Dominating the Yangtze Delta, Shanghai is the pulsating commercial heart of China. Walk along the famous Bund past the facades of the colonial buildings lining the Huangpu River and look across to the fantastic skyscrapers of the Pudong district on the opposite side. After lunch you will visit the beautifully maintained Yu Garden, an outstanding example of a classical garden now surrounded by a bustling market area. Later you will cruise across Huangpu River to ascend the Shanghai World Financial Center Observatory Tower, one of the world's tallest buildings, for an astonishing view over the whole city. This evening you will be entertained by one of Shanghai's famous acrobatic troupes. (B/L/D)

Day 9 **Shanghai-Guilin**

Free time before you transfer to the airport for your flight to Guilin where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. (B/L)

Day 10 **Guilin**

This morning you will embark upon an enchanting cruise from Guilin down the Li River, (famed in Chinese painting for millennia) to the charming river town of Yangshuo, a cruise during which fascinating scenes appear one after another. The river banks are lined with

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extraordinary limestone peaks; many shaped liked animals, birds and mythological characters. (B/L/D)

Day 11 **Guilin-Xian**

You transfer to the airport for your flight to Xian. Transfer to the hotel upon arrival. Later you will walk along Xian's massive City Wall, one of the best preserved in China and visit the famous Bell Tower. This evening you will enjoy the lavish spectacle of the Tang Dynasty Dinner and Show. (B/L/D)

Day 12 **Xian-Beijing**

Today you will visit the army of some 6000 life-size Terracotta Warriors and their Horses made and buried, lined up facing east in battle array, over 2000 years ago to guard the tomb of Qinshihuang, the first emperor who died in 210 BC. Later you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Beijing. You transfer to your hotel. (B/L/D)

Day 13 **Beijing**

After breakfast you will visit Tiananmen Square, look across the vast space to the Great Hall of the People and stand before the massive Tiananmen (Heavenly Peace) Gate bearing a huge portrait of Mao Zedong. Lying behind is the Forbidden City, as the former Imperial Palace is called, where the magnificent marble courtyards, huge halls, gilded temples and ornate pavilions, the residence of the emperors and their families, are now open to your wonderment. Then you will visit the Summer Palace, the famed pleasure gardens of the Qing emperors. Beautiful ornamental plantings, languid willows and painted pavilions surround a scenic lake, across which are enchanting views to the pagoda-capped Jade Spring Hill and the mountains beyond. (B/L)

Day 14 **Beijing**

You will be taken north today to pace the ramparts of China's famed Great Wall, originally constructed over 2000 years ago to keep northern invaders at bay. Later there is a visit to the picturesque Shisanling Valley to see the Ming Tombs, where the evocative 'spirit way' is lined with pairs of stone statues of officials, warriors and animals which stand guard over the resting places of 13 emperors and their families. This evening a traditional Peking Duck dinner completes a very special day. (B/L/D)

Day 15 **Depart Beijing**

Transfer to airport for your departure flight. (B)

For tour price or customize this itinerary, please contact us

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