

## Day 1 ARRIVAL IN TOKYO:

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Arrive to the bustling hub of Tokyo where you'll be greeted by your transfer driver and given a general welcome to the city with your included meet and greet before being taken to your lovely hotel strongly recommended the Hilton Tokyo Odaiba, part of our newly announced Amenities program. For the first night, you'll have dinner on your own, the perfect opportunity to begin to explore the city and its multi-faceted flavor profiles before beginning your more in-depth explorations the following day.

Private Transfer Haneda Airport (International Terminal only) to Tokyo Hotel

Tokyo - Hilton Odaiba – Standard, 3 Nights

## Day 2 TOKYO:

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Today you'll embark on your first taste of foodie heaven with your local gourmet evening tour. Step out from the comfort of your hotel and let your taste buds embark on a tantalizing journey through the culinary wonders of the city. Your first stop, a renowned foodie haven nearby, promises an exquisite experience. Prepare to indulge in the savory perfection of yakitori, succulent chicken pieces expertly grilled on skewers. The choice is yours: savor the pure, smoky essence with a sprinkle of salt or delve into the rich depth of flavor offered by 'tare,' a delectable sweet soy based sauce that elevates the dish to new heights. As the evening unfolds, your gastronomic exploration continues, guided by the diverse offerings depending on your location. Venture into the world of sashimi, where the freshness of raw fish is showcased with finesse. Or perhaps, immerse yourself in the lively culinary scene with monjayaki or okonomiyaki, two savory pancakes that capture the essence of Japanese comfort food. If your palate craves a delightful crunch, discover the crispy delights of Japanese style fried chicken, a testament to the country's mastery of frying techniques. The choices are as abundant as they are enticing braised vegetables providing a symphony of textures and flavors, and seafood offerings that reflect the coastal bounty of Japan. Tonight, your taste buds become the ultimate explorers, navigating a menu that reflects the richness and diversity of Japanese cuisine. Prepare for a culinary adventure where every dish tells a story, and each bite is a revelation of Japan's culinary artistry.

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Private Tokyo Local Gourmet Evening Tour via Public Transportation - 3 to 4 Hours

## Day 3 TOKYO:

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Today, your journey leads you to the charming city of Sawai, a neighboring town to Tokyo, where you'll delve into the rich tradition of sake making at Ozawa Brewery, a historic establishment tracing its roots back to 1702 making it one of Tokyo's oldest and most esteemed breweries. Affectionately known as "Sawanoi," a name derived from the pristine Sawai region renowned for its crystal-clear waters, this brewery has left an indelible mark on Tokyo's sake culture for generations. To reach Sawai, you'll embark on a local train expedition, accompanied by a knowledgeable guide (please note that, given the local nature of these trains, seat reservations are unavailable). Upon arrival, immerse yourself in the local ambiance, and savor an early yet delectable tofu based lunch before the main event guided tour of the brewery and its intricate processes, led by a seasoned brewery staff member. While the tour is conducted in Japanese, fear not, as your guide will be at your service to provide seamless translation, unraveling the mysteries behind sake production. Post tour, indulge in a complimentary cup of their famed "Okutama" sake, or exercise patience for a more extensive sake tasting experience later in the afternoon. The brewery's sake tasting center beckons, offering the opportunity to savor 25 varieties of their exquisite sake,

providing a nuanced understanding of their craftsmanship. Before bidding farewell to Sawai and heading back to Tokyo, seize the chance to explore the brewery's sake shop, where you can acquire souvenirs to commemorate your visit. Additionally, take a moment to relish the natural beauty surrounding the area an ideal way to conclude a day immersed in the time-honored artistry of sake production. (Breakfast)

Private Tokyo Sake Brewery Tour via Public Transportation - 9 Hours

#### Day 4 TOKYO

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After breakfast, meet your driver in the hotel lobby for your private transfer to Tokyo Station. You'll board the renowned bullet train in for your journey to Kyoto Station where you'll be met on arrival and escorted to your centrally located hotel. After checking into your hotel, head out to explore the city and try a few tasty eats on your own before the next day's tour.

(Breakfast)

Private Transfer Kyoto Rail Station to Central Kyoto Hotel with Meet and Greet

Kyoto - Granvia Kyoto – Standard, 2 Nights

#### Day 5 KYOTO:

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Today you'll have the chance to cook a bit of food on your own as you explore Kyoto's Nishiki covered food markets with a local guide, picking up fresh ingredients for your Japanese cooking class. Immerse yourself in the local produce and then venture through Kyoto's charming backstreets to a traditional townhouse for a sake tasting. Cap off the experience with a Japanese cooking class at a wooden townhouse. Master the art of rolled sushi, complemented by a meal featuring miso soup and a cooked salad with seasonal fruit for dessert. Savor your culinary creations for a delightful dinner.

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Private Market Visit, Sake Tasting and Cooking Lesson Tour from Kyoto - 3.5 Hours

#### Day 6 KYOTO TO OSAKA:

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After breakfast, meet your driver in the hotel lobby for your private transfer and driven directly to your Osaka hotel. After checking into your hotel, head out to explore this city known as the "kitchen of Japan".

(Breakfast)

Private Transfer - Central Kyoto Hotel to Central Osaka Hotel

Osaka - Granvia Osaka – Standard, 3 Nights

#### Day 7 OSAKA:

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Today explore Osaka's Downtown, relish in Kushikatsu (Osaka's soul food). Visit the historic Sumiyoshi Taisha Grand Shrine, a sacred site for Osaka residents. Take a nostalgic tramcar ride to Ebisu cho Station, soaking in the sights, and culminate your journey with a delectable meal of Kushikatsu, featuring deep fried meat and vegetable skewers.

(Breakfast)

Shared Downtown Osaka Walking and Local Food Tour - 4 Hours

#### Day 8 OSAKA:

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For your last day in Osaka you'll again explore the vibrant food scene with a guide who will immerse you in the culture of 'kuidaore' eating oneself to bankruptcy. Your guide will meet you at your Osaka hotel and lead you to either Shinsekai or Dotonbori, both renowned for their pedestrian only restaurant streets. These areas are celebrated as food paradises in Japan, where locals come to revel in culinary delights. Stroll through streets adorned with diverse eateries, ranging from hole in the wall takoyaki stands to upscale establishments serving the finest wagyu beef. Experience the essence of Kansai's culinary celebration as people of all ages indulge in the nation's soul food. Your culinary adventure includes sampling iconic local dishes such as takoyaki, okonomiyaki, and kushikatsu, along with one drink per person covered in the cost. Alternatively, your guide can guide you to a plethora of other establishments, from ramen noodles to izakaya bars, ensuring a personalized and delightful exploration of Osaka's food treasures.

(Breakfast)

Private Osaka Comfort Food Tour via Public Transportation - 3 to 4 Hours - Mid-Day

#### Day 9 DEPARTURE:

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After breakfast, take your private transfer to the airport for your return flight home, or to your next Avanti destination!

(Breakfast)

Private Transfer - Osaka Hotel to Kansai Airport