

M4261

Inviting travelers to experience the serene, sacred sites of Japan, offering a unique and profound cultural journey.



SPIRITUAL TOUR MIE - WAKAYAMA

6 DAYS 三重 - 和歌山 心靈之旅 6 天

HIGH LIGHTS OF THE TOUR

Embark on a pilgrimage deep into the sanctuaries of Shinto and Buddhism in Japan's Mie and Wakayama, exploring three major **World Heritage Sites: Ise Jingu Grand Shrine, Kumano Kodo trail and Mt. Koyasan**. Reflect on your inner self and discover profound peace within your soul, offering a transformative spiritual journey unlike any other.

DAY 0: ARRIVAL

This day can be flexible to accommodate various versions and is **NOT INCLUDED** in this itinerary, except for the **hotel**. We refer to these 2 options:

Option 1: HOTEL + AIRPORT TRANSFER + WITH or WITHOUT SIGHTSEEING

If you arrive on this day and your flight lands between **5:30 AM and 7:30 AM**, we can provide meet and pick-up services at the airport, and begin **Day 1** of the itinerary.

For flights landing between **8:00 AM and 12:00 PM**, we offer airport pick-up and a half-day Osaka city tour, featuring Osaka's landmarks such as Osaka Castle, Shinsaibashi Shopping Arcade, Dotonbori, Kuromon Market, Nipponbashi, and Shinsekai.

For flights arriving after **12:00 PM**, we can only arrange airport transportation. We can also provide pick-up services at the port, train station, or any location upon request.

Lunch, dinner, or both can be arranged upon request.

Option 2: HOTEL ONLY

If you do not need airport transportation or if each member arrives on different flights, you can transfer to your hotel on your own. We can provide full instructions for bus and train routes from the airport to Tokyo Station upon request. Additionally, we are happy to arrange private airport pick-up services for each member upon request.

You can also arrive a few days before our trip and arrange your own accommodations. Just ensure you check into the hotel we have arranged for the trip on this day by yourself. Check-in time starts at 3:00 PM.

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DAY 1: KANSAI AIRPORT / OSAKA CITY – IGA – ISE



Iga Ninja Museum
伊賀流忍者博物館



Ise Jingu Shrine Geku
伊勢神宮外宮



Married Couple Rocks
夫婦岩

Transport to **Iga city** in Mie Prefecture, known as the **hometown of Ninja** before they spread throughout ancient Japan. In Iga, we will visit **the Iga Ninja Museum**, where you can see and hear fascinating stories about Ninja and Ninjutsu. You also have the opportunity to rent and **experience Ninja cosplay** (self-payment). Additionally, a **Ninja show** is a must-see part of this sightseeing tour, featuring real Ninja performing their legendary Ninjutsu right in front of you, with a chance to take photos with them (self-payment).

The next spot will be Japan's most sacred Shinto shrine, **The Ise Jingu Shrine Geku**. The Shrine, dedicated to the sun goddess Amaterasu. Established over 2,000 years ago, it consists of two main shrines: the Inner Shrine (Naiku) and the Outer Shrine (Geku). The shrine complex undergoes Shikinen Sengu, a ritual rebuilding every 20 years, symbolizing renewal and continuity. This tradition has been maintained since the 7th century, reflecting the shrine's enduring cultural and spiritual importance. Ise Jingu is a **pilgrimage destination** for millions, embodying Japan's ancient traditions and spiritual heritage.

Next, we visit **Meoto Iwa** or **the Married Couple Rocks**, a serene spiritual site believed to enhance and mend relationships, beautifully symbolizing the bond between partners and the harmony of nature. End of day 1

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DAY 2: ISE – TOBA – SHIMA – ISE



Mikimoto Pearl Island
御本木珍珠島



Seafood BBQ
海鮮燒烤午餐



Ago Bay Cruise & Daio Lighthouse
英虞灣遊船&大王燈塔

Our second day begins with a visit to **Mikimoto Pearl Island**, located in Toba Bay, Mie Prefecture, where **Kokichi Mikimoto** first cultivated pearls in 1893. Initially for dignitaries and media, it opened to the public in 1951, **showcasing pearl farming and female divers**, and has since welcomed over **51 million** visitors from Japan and abroad.

Lunch will be an unforgettable highlight of this trip. Enjoy **freshly caught luxury seafood BBQ**, grilled right in front of you by an **Ama** (female diver). Hear their captivating **stories of pearl harvesting** and more, making this **a truly unique and memorable experience**.

Our trip continues with a **boat cruise around Ago Bay**. This sightseeing boat, modeled after a carrack ship from the **Spanish Age of Discovery**, features an open observation deck. Enjoy the captain's entertaining commentary, including the history and behind-the-scenes stories of Kashikojima.

Take a short visit to **Daio Lighthouse**, one of the "**50 Best Lighthouses in Japan**," before enjoying a warm and delicious **dinner at the hotel** and relaxing for the evening.

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DAY 3: ISE – NANKI KATSUURA



Ise Grand Shrine Naiku
伊勢神宮内宮



Okage Yokocho
禦影横丁



Onigajo
鬼城

The third day of our trip begins with a visit to **Ise Grand Shrine Naiku**, Japan's most revered Shinto shrine, dedicated to the sun goddess Amaterasu. It offers a **profound spiritual experience** amid ancient forests and serene rivers. This sacred site provides a unique cultural journey, deeply connecting you with Japan's spiritual heritage and traditions.

Stop at **Okage Yokocho**, a **charming retro town** reminiscent of the golden age of ancient Japan. Enjoy a leisurely stroll through the streets and **have lunch at your own pace**, savoring the local cuisine and atmosphere.

In the afternoon, we will transfer to Kumano, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and part of the "**Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range**." Visit **Onigajo**, features a large rock wall formed by earthquake uplift, weathering, and wave erosion. Visit **Kumano Hayatama Taisha Shrine**, one of the **Three Grand Shrines of Kumano**, features brilliant vermillion-lacquered pavilions and dates back to **128 AD**. The **Holy Treasure House** exhibits over 1,200 national treasures. Its sacred 1,000-year-old podocarpus **nagi tree** symbolizes safety, peace, and love, with pilgrims historically carrying its leaves for protection. Dinner at the hotel.

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DAY 4: NANKI KATSUURA – KUSHIMOTO



Seiganto-ji Temple & Nachi Falls
青岸渡寺&那智瀑布



Kumano Kodo – Daimonzaka
熊野古道-大門坂



Hashiguiiwa Rock
橋奎岩

This day is called “Pilgrimage Day” as we visit five of the most sacred sites of the **World Heritage “Kumano Kodo trail”**: **Kumano Hongu Taisha Shrine**, **Kumano Kodo – Daimonzaka**, **Kumano Nachi Taisha Shrine**, **Seiganto-ji Temple**, and **Nachi Falls**. Immerse your soul in the serene atmosphere, wishing for a lucky and successful life.

The day ends by the seaside at **Hashiguiiwa Rock**, where you’ll be captivated by the rare beauty of nature. Enjoy dinner at the hotel and unwind in the soothing hot spring bath.

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DAY 5 : KUSHIMOTO - SHIRAHAMA



Shionomisaki
潮見崎



Sandanbeki
三段壁



Senjojiki
千疊敷



Shirahama Beach
白良濱



Engetsu Island
圓月島

A full day immersed in local lifestyle experiences. Visit the **southernmost point of Honshu, Shionomisaki**, and stand before the Pacific Ocean to feel the greatness of Mother Nature and her creations:

Sandanbeki, a range of cliffs 50-60m high, where the Kuroshio Current crashes violently against the rock surface stretching 2km from north to south, **creating a dynamic sight**.

Senjojiki, large sandstone rocks eroded into slopes by rough waves. The **sunsets sinking into the horizon are particularly spectacular**, making it one of **Japan's 100 Best Sunsets**.

Enjoy a **fresh seafood lunch** at your leisure at a **local seafood market**.

In the afternoon, visit **Shirahama Beach**. Shirahama's name comes from its white sand beach, one of the best in the Kansai region, and selected as one of Japan's "**100 Best Swimming Beaches**." With its **white sand, emerald green ocean, and palm trees**, it resembles Waikiki Beach, giving a resort feel.

End the day with a brief stop at **Engetsu Island**. Originally called "Takashima," it was renamed "Engetsuto" (Engetsu Island) due to the **crescent-shaped hole**, about 9m in diameter, in its center. During the spring and autumn equinoxes, the **sunset can be seen through the hole**, making the island particularly popular with tourists.

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DAY 6: SHIRAHAMA – KOYASAN – OSAKA CITY / KANSAI AIRPORT



Koyasan
高野山



Koyasan
高野山



Koyasan
高野山

On the last day of the trip, we will visit Mount Koyasan, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and one of Japan's most powerful spiritual sites. **Mt. Koyasan**, a sacred site in Japan with a rich history spanning 1,200 years and recognized as a World Heritage Site, has long been renowned as a place imbued with mystical powers that can fulfill wishes. Mt. Koyasan is home to numerous spots considered lucky, many of which hold a special appeal to foreign travelers seeking to experience its mystical energy. (**Okunoin, Danjo Garan, Konpon Daito**, etc.)

Enjoy a special lunch of **Shojin ryori (Japanese vegan cuisine)**. The trip concludes at Kansai Airport or in Osaka city.

Hotel: ×	B: ○	L: ○	D: ×
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Note: The photos are intended solely to inspire your imagination. Meaning of symbols: × = NO / ○ = YES / B = Breakfast / L = Lunch / D = Dinner