

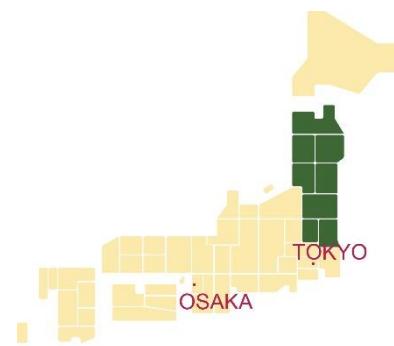
M7529

Experience the vibrant nature and rich culture at the heart of Japan's Northeastern region.

TOHOKU REGION (AOMORI · AKITA · YAMAGATA ·

MIYAGI · IBARAKI · FUKUSIMA · IWATE) & NIKKO 7

DAYS 東北地方 & 日光 7 天



HIGH LIGHTS OF THE TOUR

Discover the more remote areas of Tohoku that are challenging to explore on your own. After each day's adventures, relax and unwind, fully immersing yourself in the sightseeing experience.

DAY 0: NARITA AIRPORT OR HANEDA AIRPORT - TOKYO CITY

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 6:00 AM and 10:00 AM, we can provide meet and pick-up services at the airport. This option includes a half-day Tokyo city tour, featuring **Asakusa Temple**, the exterior of **Skytree**, the **Royal Palace**, the **Meiji Jingu Outer Garden**... (Sightseeing spots may change based on requests and circumstances.)

For flights landing **after 10:00 AM**, we offer airport pick-up and dinner arrangements only. 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: TOKYO – NIKKO – KINUGAWA ONSEN



Nikko Toshogu Shrine
日光東照宮



Kegon Falls
華嚴瀑布



Lake Chuzenji
中禪寺湖

Discover **Nikko Toshogu Shrine**, the stunning beauty of this UNESCO World Heritage site, known for its ornate architecture and tranquil surroundings. Witness the breathtaking 97-meter waterfall **Kegon Falls**, one of Japan's top three waterfalls. Enjoy the serene and picturesque lake **Lake Chuzenji** at the foot of Mount Nantai.

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DAY 2: KINUGAWA ONSEN – ZAO – YAMAGATA



Zao Ropeway
藏王索道

Experience a thrilling ride on the **Zao Ropeway**. Step through the sky-blue door and enter a stage painted by the colors of the four seasons. This is your gateway to a variety of activities, all while enjoying a stunning 360-degree panoramic view.

Ropeway route: Zao Sanroku Station - Juhyo Kogen Station / Transfer / Juhyo Kogen Station - Jizo Sancho Station

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DAY 3: YAMAGATA – GINZAN ONSEN – KAKUNODATE – LAKE TAZAWA – NYUTO ONSEN VILLAGE



Ginzan Onsen
銀山温泉



Kakunodate Samurai Residences
角館武士住宅



Lake Tazawa
田澤湖/龍子雕像

Stroll through this charming hot spring town **Ginzan Onsen**, famous for its traditional ryokan and nostalgic atmosphere. Explore **Kakunodate Samurai Residences**, the well-preserved samurai residences, offering a glimpse into Japan's feudal past. Marvel **Lake Tazawa** and Tatsuko Statue, at the beauty of Japan's deepest lake and the statue of the legendary maiden Tatsuko.

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DAY 4: NYUTO ONSEN VILLAGE – LAKE TOWADA – OIRASE GORGE – MORIOKA



Hakka Toge Observation Deck
八甲峠展望台



Lake Towada (Statue of Maidens)
十和田湖 (少女像)



Oirase Gorge
奥入瀬渓流

Start your day with a visit to the **Hakka Toge Observation Deck**, offering stunning panoramic views of the surrounding landscapes. This vantage point is perfect for capturing breathtaking photos and experiencing the serene beauty of the area.

Next, head to **Lake Towada**, a magnificent caldera lake situated on the border between Aomori and Akita prefectures. At the lake, you will find the iconic **Statue of Maidens**, a beautiful sculpture symbolizing the region's mythology and folklore.

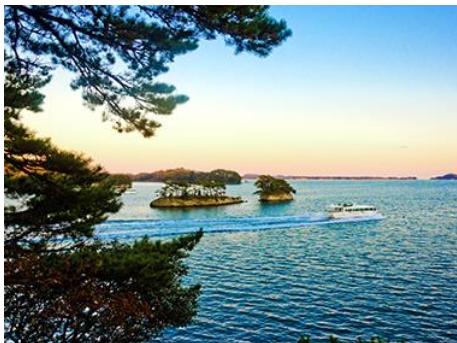
Conclude your day with a visit to **Oirase Gorge**, renowned for its picturesque streams and waterfalls. This enchanting gorge offers a series of walking trails that allow you to immerse yourself in the natural beauty of cascading waterfalls, moss-covered rocks, and lush greenery.

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DAY 5: MORIOKA – HIRAIKUMI – MATSUSHIMA – SENDAI



Chusonji Temple
中尊寺



Matsushima Bay
松島灣



Zuigan-ji Temple
瑞嚴寺

Visit **Chuson-ji Temple & Konjikido Hall**. This is a Buddhist temple built in the late Heian period. The temple's Golden Hall houses the **mummified remains of three generations** of the Oshu Fujiwara clan: Kiyohira, Motohira, and Hidehira. It also contains the head of the fourth, Yasuhira, who was defeated by Yoritomo. Hiraizumi is unique in Japan as the only place where three generations of powerful figures have been mummified and preserved.

Take another opportunity to enjoy the scenic **boat cruise Matsushima Bay**. The cruise will guide you along a **17km** course, passing through the renowned islands of Matsushima Bay, including "Kanejima" and "Niojima." You will also see the towering rocky island of "Kagedajima," "Funairijima," where Jomon period ruins were discovered, and the inhabited islands of Katsurajima and Nonojima. This journey offers exclusive views of Matsushima Bay's unique islands and landscapes that are not visible from the Matsushima Coast.

Visit **Zuigan-ji Temple in Matsushima Island**. This is a Zen temple belonging to the Myoshinji school of the Rinzai sect of Buddhism. It is the oldest temple in Oshu, completed by Date Masamune over five years. The main hall, kuri (kitchen quarters), and corridors are designated as national treasures. The stunning and luxurious paintings on the sliding doors are a must-see.

Godaido Hall stands on an island near the coast southeast of Zuigan-ji Temple. It is named "Godaido" because it enshrines the **Five Great Kings**. Godaido is a symbol of Matsushima and is designated as a national important cultural property.

Explore the remains of historic **Sendai Castle**, built by order of Date Masamune. Also known as **Aoba Castle**, it was the center of feudal domain government for 270 years. Many of the buildings were demolished or burned down during the Great Kantai Air Raid. Within the park stands the statue of Date Masamune on horseback, a symbol of Sendai. The park is surrounded by hills, offering a panoramic view of the cityscape of Sendai, known as the City of Trees.

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DAY 6: SENDAI – AIZU-WAKAMATSU – OUCHI-JUKU – TOCHIGI



Tsuruga Castle
會津若松城



Oyakuen Garden
禦藥園



Ouchi-juku
大内宿

Explore the historic **Aizu-Wakamatsu Castle**, known for its distinctive red tiles and significant role in Japanese history. Aizu-Wakamatsu Castle, also known as **Tsuruga Castle**, is often referred to by this name by locals. The current castle tower and other structures are reconstructions, while the remains of the original Wakamatsu Castle have been designated as a national historic site.

Relax in the medicinal herb garden, **Oyakuen Garden**, a strolling garden designed around a heart-shaped pond. The pond is surrounded by fir, cedar, pine trees, seasonal flowers, stones, and bridges, creating a serene and elegant atmosphere that embodies the beauty of Japan. While touring the garden, you can enjoy a history lesson about Aizu or experience a **tea ceremony in a special room** where the feudal lord once stayed.

Step back in time at **Ouchi-juku**, a post town that still retains the streetscape of the Edo period. On both sides of the road are thatched-roof houses, which historically served as stopover stations for feudal lords and travelers heading to Edo. The sight of more than **30 thatched-roof houses** lined up in a row is extremely rare, attracting about **800,000 tourists** each year.

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DAY 7: TOCHIGI – TOKYO

Return to Tokyo.

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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