

Kyoto, Japan

PRE-CRUISE PACKAGES



olivia™

USA & CANADA: (800) 631-6277 | INTERNATIONAL: (415) 962-5700 OPTION 1

Welcome to Kyoto!



Once the capital of Japan and the emperor's residence from 794 A.D. until 1868 A.D., Kyoto is one of the country's ten largest cities and is on the island of Honshu. It is known for its 2,000 Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines, sublime gardens, traditional teahouses, wooden houses, and geisha. Due to Kyoto's exceptional historic value, it was taken off the list of target cities for the atomic bomb, escaping destruction during World War II.

With its rich colors, tradition, history and culture, Kyoto is a city which allows visitors a glimpse into the past. The city embodies the Japanese aesthetic concept of *wabi-sabi*—the art of finding beauty in transience or imperfection. It also happens to have one of the world's largest collections of UNESCO World Heritage sites.

With so many temples and shrines to see, things to do and culture to experience, Kyoto is truly a city steeped in history and culture and should not be missed!

THREE-NIGHT KYOTO HIGHLIGHTS (APRIL 23-26, 2019)

\$1,999 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY - SUPERIOR ROOM

\$2,249 PP SINGLE OCCUPANCY - SUPERIOR ROOM

INCLUDED

- Three nights at the Kyoto Brighton Hotel, inclusive of a full buffet breakfast and Wi-Fi
- Hotel check-in is at 3 pm (April 23)
- Full-day Nara Tour, inclusive of lunch (April 24)
- Kyoto City Tour, inclusive of lunch (April 25)
- Welcome Dinner (April 25)
- Osaka Castle Tour with transfer to the port in Osaka, inclusive of lunch (April 26)
- Hotel dates are April 23–26, 2019, with checkout on April 26
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary
- Round-trip hotel luggage portage
- Olivia staff assistance throughout

NOT INCLUDED

International air, transfer from the Osaka Kansai International Airport (KIX) or Osaka Itami International Airport (ITM) to hotel*, meals where not listed

*As taxis and private transfers can be expensive from the airport to Kyoto, the most economical way to transfer from one of the Osaka international airports to Kyoto is by booking a transfer through the Yasaka Airport Shuttle Service, Viator has a number of shuttle options, or the Osaka Airport Shuttle. From the Osaka Itami International Airport, there is the MK Taxi shuttle service. Alternatively, if you are feeling adventurous, you can take the train to Kyoto and then a taxi to the hotel.

IMPORTANT - ACTIVITY LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

*This pre-package does require a **high level of mobility** as all the tours require extensive walking (up and down stairs and hills) and standing for long periods of time. If you do have limited mobility and feel that you are still able to do the activity level requirements, you are required to travel with someone who can assist you.*

TWO-NIGHT KYOTO HIGHLIGHTS (APRIL 24-26, 2019)

\$1,569 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY - SUPERIOR ROOM

\$1,739 PP SINGLE OCCUPANCY - SUPERIOR ROOM

INCLUDED

- Two nights at the Kyoto Brighton Hotel, inclusive of a full buffet breakfast and Wi-Fi
- Hotel check-in is at 3 pm (April 24)
- Kyoto City Tour, inclusive of lunch (April 25)
- Welcome Dinner (April 25)
- Osaka Castle Tour with transfer to the port in Osaka, inclusive of lunch (April 26)
- Hotel dates are April 24-26, 2019, with checkout on April 26
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary
- Round-trip hotel luggage portage
- Olivia staff assistance throughout

NOT INCLUDED

International air, transfer from the Osaka Kansai International Airport (KIX) or Osaka Itami International Airport (ITM) to hotel*, meals where not listed

*As taxis and private transfers can be expensive from the airport to Kyoto, the most economical way to transfer from one of the Osaka international airports to Kyoto is by booking a transfer through the Yasaka Airport Shuttle Service, Viator has a number of shuttle options, or the Osaka Airport Shuttle. From the Osaka Itami International Airport, there is the MK Taxi shuttle service. Alternatively, if you are feeling adventurous, you can take the train to Kyoto and then a taxi to the hotel.

IMPORTANT - ACTIVITY LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

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ABOUT YOUR TOURS



Nara, Japan



Todaiji Temple



Kasuga Taisha Shrine

FULL-DAY NARA TOUR WITH LUNCH (With Three-Night Package Only)

Today after breakfast, you will board your coach and depart for Nara.

During the eighth century, Nara was Japan's capital for 74 years and many of the temples and shrines built at that time still stand today. As the influence and political ambitions of the city's powerful Buddhist monasteries grew to become a serious threat to the government, the capital was moved to Nagaoka in 784 A.D. and a few years later to Kyoto. Today, Nara is the capital of Japan's Nara Prefecture in south-central Honshu.

First, we will visit Todaiji temple, the world's largest wooden structure and home to Japan's largest Buddha. The park surrounding the temple is called Nara Park, but is referred to by many as "Deer Park" due to the large population of more than one thousand tame deer who freely roam the streets and will bow their heads in exchange for a treat. These "treats", deer cookies, can be purchased all around the park if you want to take your turn at feeding them in exchange for their bowing head!

Next stop is Nara's most celebrated shrine, Kasuga Taisha. Established in 768 A.D. the shrine is dedicated to the deity tasked with the protection of the city and is famous for its hundreds of bronze and stone lanterns which have been donated by worshipers over the years.

Our next stop will be for lunch in a local restaurant for a traditional Japanese lunch.

After lunch, you'll visit Fushimi Inari Shrine, which is the head shrine of the god Inari, the god of rice. However, the merchants and manufacturers have traditionally worshiped Inari as the patron god of business. The shrine sits at the base of a mountain, also named Inari, which is 764 feet above sea level. It is home to over 10,000 red torii gates, which form a path up the mountain behind the temple, which makes for an amazing photo opportunity, and was used in the movie *Memoirs of a Geisha*.

After enjoying Fushimi Inari Shrine, you'll board your coach for the ride back to Kyoto. Tonight, will be on your own for dinner and exploring Kyoto.



Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)



Arashiyama



Tea Room, Nijo Castle

FULL-DAY KYOTO CITY TOUR WITH LUNCH (With Two- and Three-Night Packages)

After breakfast you will meet in the lobby to board your coach for tour around the ancient and culturally rich Kyoto.

You'll start your day with a visit to Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion), officially named Rokuon-ji, originally built in 1397 A.D. as a villa for court noble Kintsune Saionji and then sold to Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu as a retirement villa. After his death it was converted into a Zen Buddhist Temple at his request and is now one of Kyoto's most famous temples.

Next, you'll visit the district of Arashiyama, a nationally designated Historic Site and Place of Scenic Beauty. Arashiyama also refers to the mountain across the Oi River which is the amazing backdrop of the district. Located just outside of downtown Kyoto, it is filled with temples and shrines and is home to the famed bamboo groves, which are unlike any other place in Japan. The wind brings whispers as it passes through the long stalks of bamboo. As they creak and sway, they create a beautiful dappling of sunlight on the paths, known as komorebi in Japanese.

You will enjoy a rickshaw ride through this mystical place of bamboo, continuing on to the nearby Tenryuji Temple. Ranked among Kyoto's five great Zen temples, Tenryuji is the largest and most impressive temple in Arashiyama. Founded in 1339 A.D. at the start of the Muromachi Period, the temple is now considered important cultural property and ranked by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

Here, inside the temple grounds, you will enjoy a lunch of traditional shojin-ryori, (vegetarian) cuisine that was made by Buddhist monks and still eaten today by ascetics.

After lunch, you'll board your coach for Nijo Castle, a flatland castle that consists of two concentric rings of fortifications, the Ninomaru Palace, the ruins of the Honmaru Palace and many beautiful gardens. This ornamental castle, surrounded by stunning gardens, was built by the founder of the Edo Shogunate as his Kyoto residence. The main building was completed in 1603 A.D. and is well-known for its Momoyama architecture, decorated sliding doors, and 'chirping' nightingale floors that would alert occupants to the presence of intruders.

You'll end your day exploring Kyoto with a private tea ceremony. Your tea master will demonstrate and explain the meaning and significance behind each of the steps of this iconic Japanese tradition.

After the tea ceremony, you will go back to the hotel to freshen up for this evening's dinner.



Monolith Restaurant, Kitayama District



Savor Creative Kyoto-style Dishes



Experience a Taiko Drum Performance

WELCOME DINNER (With Two- and Three-Night Packages)

Tonight, you will enjoy dinner at the serene Monolith restaurant hidden away in the quiet area of the Kitayama district. The restaurant features a stunning outdoor terrace and pond, where you'll savor creative dishes based on Kyoto-style cuisine. You will begin with a welcome cocktail as a Geiko (Senior Geisha) and a Maiko (an apprentice Geisha), perform traditional Japanese dance. During dinner you will experience an authentic taiko drum performance.

After dinner, you will be transferred back to the hotel for a good night's sleep before embarkation day and your continuing adventure!



Osaka Castle



Taiko-en



Luxele

OSAKA CASTLE WITH LUNCH (With Two- and Three-Night Packages)

Today after breakfast, you will leave the hotel one last time and board your coach for Osaka and the magnificent Osaka Castle. The castle is one of Japan's most famous and played a major role in the unification of Japan during the sixteenth century. It has been completely rebuilt, faithful to the original appearance, after its destruction during World War II; the inside is modern and functional and serves as a museum of Osaka history as well as artifacts from the history of Japan and from the castle's creator, Toyotomi Hideyoshi.

After enjoying Japan's most famous castle, you will head to the sophisticated and historical residence, Taiko-en, utilized by dignitaries and cultural figures, for a wonderful French gourmet meal at Luxele with a garden view. The garden is filled with statues, lanterns, and gates dating as far back as 1185 A.D.

After tantalizing your taste buds, you will board your coach for your ride to the port of Osaka to board your ship for your next adventure around the south of Japan.

ABOUT YOUR HOTEL



Kyoto Brighton Hotel



Superior Room



Hotaru Restaurant Garden

Kyoto Brighton Hotel

Situated in a quiet neighborhood near the Imperial Palace and the Kyoto Gyoen, the Kyoto Brighton Hotel offers spacious rooms accented with Japanese-design elements and set around an atrium, four restaurants, a lobby lounge bar and concierge services. The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle bus service to the Karasumi Oike subway station, bicycle rentals for exploring the city on your own, a souvenir and flower shop.

In-room amenities include flat-screen TV with satellite, DVD player and complimentary Wi-Fi, coffee maker, hairdryer, rainfall shower, deep soaking tub, memory foam mattress and pillow menu. Hotel amenities include four restaurants, one bar/lounge, souvenir shop, flower shop, and complimentary Wi-Fi in the lobby.

NEED MORE INFO? READY TO BOOK?

Our Travel Consultants can be reached at USA: (800) 631-6277 or INTERNATIONAL: (415) 962-5700, option 1. Due to high demand, our vacation stretchers sell out very quickly!

DEADLINE TO BOOK IS SEPTEMBER 28, 2018 OR UNTIL SOLD OUT!

Reserve early as our packages are very popular and this is a popular time in our destination.

Any unused space will be released early!

Cancellation Policy: Olivia Companies, LLC is required to honor their contractual agreements with hotels, ground operators, and other outside vendors; therefore, the following cancellation fees apply: All Vacation Stretcher packages are non-refundable. A handling fee of \$75 will be charged for any name changes to hotel and tour packages. Your booking/payment for vacation stretchers with Olivia Companies, LLC indicates your compliance with the above policies.

While we do our best to confirm hotels and itineraries in advance, they are always subject to change.

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