

E.Y.H.O. Tours

Japan

Textiles Arts and Crafts

April 7– 20, 2023

In Japan, Nature held her breath. All longing was put to sleep in the stillness, and all was distilled into a clean simplicity. The smell of woodsmoke, the drift of incense; a procession of monks in black-and-gold robes, one of them giggling in a voice yet unbroken; a touch of autumn in the air, a sense of gathering rain."

Pico Iyer





Your Destination Awaits...

Explore the wonder that is Japan: a unique culture steeped in history, moving at the speed of a bullet train.

Through centuries of isolation, Japan claims unique arts and crafts handed down from generation to generation. From 10,000 BCE's first functional ceramic wares to today's fine pieces of art, traditional crafts are embedded in Japanese culture. Japanese textiles, pottery and ceramics, lacquerware, metalworking, doll-making, woodworking and papermaking are in a class of their own.

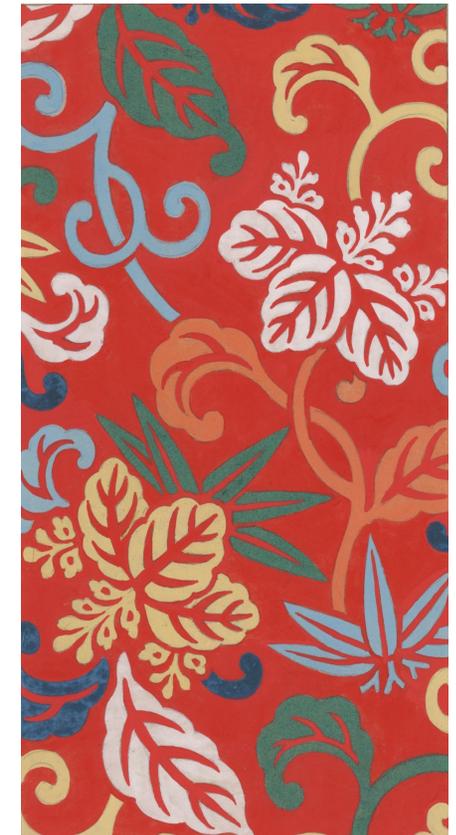
We will explore the best of Japan on this tour.

Highlights

- Tap into the spirit of artisans with intimate studio visits, workshops, and talk sessions
- Learn about traditional textiles such as Edo komon, Edo Sarasa, Kaga yuzen, Tsuzure-ori, Shibori, and Sarashi. Also, Ando Japanese doll making
- Hands on workshops in Washi papermaking, Kimono dyeing, Yuzen, Gold Leaf plate making, and Shibori
- White Heron 'Shirasagi no mai' festival at Asakusa temple
- Folk crafts, textile, and arts museum visits, and the best of formal Japanese gardens
- Take in Zen meditation, Buddhist cuisine, and a Tea Ceremony
- Home-visit local families in rural Miyama
- Explore 3 famous food markets: Tsukiji (Tokyo), Omicho (Kanazawa), and Nishiki (Kyoto)
- Commune with nature in Mt Takao, soak in a Yamanaka Onsen, and marvel as cherry blossoms bloom*
- Whizz off in Shinkansen (bullet train) and hop on public transportation like locals
- Local shopping at Nippori textile street, Tokyo Antiques Market, Harajuku, and Arashiyama
- Don a kimono and watch a Geisha show (optional)
- Plenty of must-do experiences for first-time visitors and new ones for frequent Japan travellers

*A natural phenomenon whose timing cannot be guaranteed

We support Mirai no Mori, a not-for-profit organization for abused and neglected orphaned youth in Japan, supporting their growth into happy and successful young adults <https://mirai-no-mori.jp/>





AT A GLANCE...

13 nights/14 days April 7-20, 2023

- 5 nights Tokyo
- 2 nights Kanazawa
- 6 nights Kyoto
- Day trips to Mt Takao, Arashiyama, Miyama, and Nara
- Optional 5 days Kumano Kodo Walking tour

Tour begins in Tokyo, ends in Kyoto. Nearest airports for international flights: fly into Tokyo, fly out of Kansai Airport (KIX), Osaka. Transfer Kyoto-Tokyo extra \$.

Cost

Double occupancy sharing: USD 4950

Add for own room: USD 1180

Contact: shila@eyhotours.com

“Japan’s rich traditions have long been in my sights. One cannot be a textile or arts and crafts appreciator without eventually taking the road that leads to Japan. The thrum of Tokyo’s modernity is a perfect counterpoint to generations of exquisite craftsmanship. Japan has so much to offer, the difficult part is agonizing on what to leave out! I have curated a 14-day exploration that touches every aspect of life in Japan by visiting large cities and tiny principalities alike. Intimate artisan studios, hands on workshops, meticulous formal gardens, feudal castles, splendid fibre arts, fine pottery, culinary beats . . . and cherry blossoms, of course. I cannot wait to share it all with you.

~ Shila





Tokyo

Location is everything in hyper-connected Tokyo. Our 3.5* centrally-located newly renovated hotel is a 1-minute walk from Tokyo Metro Tawaramachi Station, surrounded by restaurants and eateries, Ueno Station is within a 5-minute train ride away.

Guests can get a relaxing massage, laundry, free newspapers. Safety deposit boxes available.

Tokyo Sky Tree is within a 10-minute taxi ride, and Ginza luxury shopping district is Guests can also take a 16-minute train ride. Take a 20-minute train ride to Tsukiji Fish Market. The property offers panoramic views over Tokyo.



Kanazawa

Nicknamed "Little Kyoto," Kanazawa's rich history and culture ranges from geisha districts to a 16th-century castle. Locals here enjoy the good life away from big-city buzz, whether they're picking up fresh seafood at Omicho Market or strolling Kenroku-en Garden's manicured paths.

Kanazawa is also the place to exhale after the high energy of Tokyo. Our accommodations in Kanazawa are modelled on traditional Japanese ryokan or inn, without sacrificing western comfort. Tatami floors, Serta mattresses, on-site onsen or hot bath, and onsite traditional restaurant, this stop will restore and rejuvenate you.



Yamanka Onsen

The rejuvenating natural hot springs have been present for 1300 years. Yamanaka Onsen is of Japan's three famous hot springs that Matsuo Basho loved.

Our ryokan is conveniently situated in the Yamanaka Onsen district. This ryokan provides a hot spring bath. Yamashiro Onsen is 5 km from the ryokan. This ryokan, provides guests a theme of 'year-round cherry blossom viewing'.

The ryokan displays its roots from the time of its establishment when it first started providing guests with enjoyable stays.

Complimentary wifi and onsite Japanese restaurant.



Kyoto

Lying at the heart of Kawaramachi Sanjo, Kyoto's popular hangout area, our hotel offers guests a perfect gateway to famous tourist spots such as Pontocho and Kiyamachi (one minute walk). Approximately 4 minutes walk from Kyoto Shiyakushomae Station.

World famous Gion and the Kamo River with various seasonal views are also within walking distance.

With restful public spaces and well-appointed rooms whose décor is an integration of traditional and modern aspects of Kyoto. Tatami floor (Japanese straw floor) creates comfortable feeling as if you are staying in traditional Japanese-style house.

Accommodations are representative only. Actual will be comparable but may vary according to group size and availability.



What's included

- Fully escorted by experienced local textile arts and crafts accredited guide, will accompany throughout
- Accompanied by E.Y.H.O. founder-owner, Shila Desai
- 11 nights accommodations in 3.5* hotels
- 2 nights in Japanese Ryokan (traditional inn with natural hot springs)
- All transportation costs in public transport, high-speed trains, and private coach (Day 12) including airport shared shuttle transfers
- 5 hands on workshops including materials, 4 studio visits, demos and talks
- All entrance fees to museums, galleries, and studios
- Meals: all breakfasts, 3 lunches (Day 4, Day 9, Day 12) 3 dinners (Day1, Day7, Day 13)
- Luggage transfers

What's not

- International flight, transfer back to Tokyo at tour end if req'd, tipping for guide, and beverages at meals unless specified, insurance, early and late check in/out

COSTS

Japan main tour

USD 4950 pp double occupancy

USD 1180 single supplement

Kumano Kodo Walking Trail Excursion

From USD 3025pp/2 pax to 1460pp/08 pax.

Enquiries

To register or questions, please email:
shila@eyhotours.com

Terms and Conditions

For your complete peace of mind, we are TICO (Travel Industry of Ontario) accredited #50023991





Kumano Kodo Walking Trail | 5 nights April 20-25, 2023

*Following main tour, fully escorted * For detailed itinerary, please enquire shila@eyhotours.com*

Day 1: April 20

From tour end in Kyoto, transfer via train to Kii Mountains in the southern most part of Japan. Meet your trekking guide at ryokan.

Day 2: April 21

Hike in the Northern mountains to Hongu shrine. Approx. 18km over 7 hours with breaks.

Day 3: April 22

Visit Nachi Shrine and waterfall, then hike from Nachi to Koguchi. 14 km over 6 hrs with breaks

Day 4: April 23

Walk the Kogumotori-goe section of the Nakahechi Kumano Kodo pilgrimage route link the Hongu area and Kumano Nachi Taisha. 13 km over 4 hours with breaks

Day 5: April 24

Kumano Walking tour concludes. After a large and filling local breakfast and another soak we say goodbye to this great area. Transfer to train station to connect with Kyoto's Kansai International Airport.

Includes: Meals - All breakfasts, 4 Dinners; Transport - all transport as part of the including itinerary; Luggage transfers - 1 luggage transfer is included, 1 big piece of luggage per guest; Accommodation - 1 night at hotel 3-star standard, 3 nights at Japanese inns (Ryokan) *please note at Japanese inns, guests will get traditional Japanese rooms with Futon bedding on tatami floors. Also, toilet and bath facilities will be shared/public and not private.

*** English-speaking guide- will accompany throughout

From USD 3025pp/2 pax to 1460pp/08 pax.