

Kyushu Explorer

World Masters Special Edition Kyushu Explorer

August 12th to 21st

With its blend of ancient traditions and cutting-edge modernity, Japan is undoubtedly one of the most intriguing places in the Orient and our Kyushu Explorer visits some of its least traveled areas a short trip from Fukuoka.

From the modern port city Fukuoka with its famous Hakata Ramen to historic Kunisaki and its monk trails, the farmer culture of Aso area and its rural lifestyles, island escape on UNESCO forested Yakushima, our journey into the many great areas of Kyushu life and sights is one of learning and discovery as we delve beneath it and Japan's fascinating surface.

Join us with our local expert leader on a unique journey and experience all things Japan on her hidden ancient isle of Kyushu.

Tour Pricing:

(16 maximum)

AUD \$2,990

Single Supplement is AUD \$650 for 6 of the 9 nights

Highlights

- Nagasaki city walking tour
- Mt Aso volcano area
- Kagoshima garden and town walking insight
- Yakushima world heritage walks and experiences
- Beppu Hells Onsens and sand bathing
- Mix of local cuisine at each location
- Range of local accommodations

Inclusions

- 9 nights accommodation
- All Breakfast, 4 Lunch, 7 Dinner
- English speaking leader/guide and local guides as per itinerary
- Entrance fees as per the itinerary
- All transport included as part of the itinerary (train, ferry, bus, taxi)

Exclusions (Not Included)

- International and domestic flights, visas
- Travel and medical insurance
- All services, meals other than those indicated above
- Any changes to the proposed and confirmed program.
- All items of a personal nature e.g., drinks, laundry, telephone calls, tips etc

Daily Itinerary

B for Breakfast, L for Lunch, D for Dinner

| Day | Destination | Itinerary | |
|-------------|-------------|--|------|
| August 12th | Nagasaki | <p>Welcome to your post meet Kyushu Explorer journey! Your local English-speaking leader will meet you at the Fukuoka accommodation and your Japan adventure begins with transfer to Nagasaki.</p> <p>We arrive in Nagasaki for lunch - sushi - and have an orientation walk with our leader to stretch our legs after our journey. Though its name has strong connotations of bombs and war – and the military history sites are important to visit – Nagasaki is a delight to explore, with its hills and harbour, shrines and temples, churches and other remnants from its long involvement with Asian and European traders.</p> | L |
| August 13th | Nagasaki | <p>This morning, visit the Peace Park and Atomic Bomb Museum for a sobering reminder on what happened on that dreadful day of 9 August 1945.</p> <p>If you wish to reflect and explore further, there are other interesting museums nearby worth visiting. With a tram pass at your disposal, take the time to explore other parts of Nagasaki in the afternoon.</p> <p>Consider heading over to Dejima. This fascinating artificial island, once a Dutch trading post in the 17-19th centuries (and the sole foreign presence in the whole country at one point) is well worth exploring.</p> <p>The 26 Martyrs Memorial, Oura Catholic Church, Glover Garden and Dutch Slopes also give you a glimpse into the life of the early Christians and European traders in Japan.</p> <p>Then in the evening, slurp on some champon noodles – ramen Nagasaki-style!</p> | B, D |
| August 14th | Mt Aso | <p>This morning we visit the local fish market and the interesting names to some of the seafood we ate earlier in our trip.</p> <p>Later today we travel to the mountain and volcano area of Aso in Kumamoto prefecture. We watch the scenery change and landscape go by on fast and local train rides before enjoying an afternoon on the volcano (if safe to do so!) with stunning views and a change of pace from Nagasaki and Fukuoka city.</p> <p>We stay locally in a small local accommodation and enjoy a great multi course feast the area is famous for.</p> | B, D |

B for Breakfast, L for Lunch, D for Dinner

| Day | Destination | Itinerary | Meals |
|-------------|-------------|--|---------|
| August 15th | Kagoshima | <p>We say goodbye to the mountains and head back to the coast in the south area of Kyushu Island.</p> <p>Kagoshima is our destination. A stunning seaside (and volcano viewing) city where we enjoy a night walk exploring Tsurumaru castle wall and Shiroyama observatory amongst some other hidden samurai secrets in this ancient and proud city.</p> | B, L |
| August 16th | Yakushima | <p>This morning we are up early to explore Kagoshima.</p> <p>Comfortable now with Japan and equipped with some local phrases the leader can give you some suggested areas and locations to enjoy some self-discovery or you can just wonder and enjoy your own adventure.</p> <p>Japan is safe, great food is everywhere and locals will never let you be lost for long.</p> <p>Our 2-hour fast ferry to Yakushima provides great views of active volcano Sakurajima, the most active volcano in a country full of active volcanos.</p> <p>We arrive and enjoy an informative orientation walk to learn about the UNESCO island Yakushima, her fauna and flora and history (and future).</p> | B, D |
| August 17th | Yakushima | <p>This trip is filled with many highlights but today will be very high on the list as we'll get to jump right into nature on a trek of the Shiratani Unsuikyou route of Yakushima.</p> <p>This part of the UNESCO natural park is a lush green forest filled with hundreds of kinds of moss, ferns, ancient cedars and mountain streams, which was the inspiration for Miyazakis film `Princess Mononoke`.</p> <p>This is a fun full day not so strenuous hike - around 6 hours that'll run approximately for 6 kms on paths along the ravine, between 600 to 1,070 m above sea level. Some of these footpaths date back to the Edo period 400 years ago.</p> <p>If weather and the sun permit, you can enjoy a panoramic view of the valley at the end of the route.</p> | B, L, D |

B for Breakfast, L for Lunch, D for Dinner

| Day | Destination | Itinerary | Meals |
|-------------|--------------|---|---------|
| August 18th | Yakushima | <p>Today is no less special than yesterday as we again wake and stretch on our island home for a longer day and enjoy some more great hiking - about 22km hike over 8 hours - as we visit the the Yakusugi area with its 1,000+ year old cedar trees.</p> <p>We'll get to see more of the cedar forest, on weaving paths lined with huge rugged twisted trees and roots, across bridges and along train tracks.</p> <p>We'll be rewarded by the awe-inspiring sight of Jomon Sugi at the end of the path (some attest to a spiritual experience), which sits at 1,300 m above sea level on the highest peak on the island. Jomon Sugi is the oldest conifer on the island and possibly the largest in Japan.</p> | B, D |
| August 19th | Oita(Beppu) | <p>Today we retrace our steps back to Kagoshima and then travel to Beppu (Ferry + Train - around 6 hours) our gateway to Kunisaki but an interesting stop in her own right.</p> <p>We have an orientation walk the includes the Beppu market and Bamboo craft museum, but you have some time to stretch your legs and enjoy a beach sand bath, steaming your own food in the public steamer, visit the different colored local springs, or even the sex museum.</p> <p>After a couple of days hiking on Yakushima a popular option is to enjoy some well earned soaking time in our ryokan (local accommodation) onsen (hot spring) before some local sake, a well known cure for aches and pains.</p> <p>A fitting dinner is done at a local izakaya restaurant where we can enjoy a final taste of Japanese eating atmosphere as well as some more local cuisine.</p> | B, D |
| August 20th | Oita (Beppu) | <p>A stunning day today as we enjoy time on the Kunisaki Trail. From Beppu we head 2 hours by train and bus to the beautiful Iwatoji temple area to explore. Our chosen trail is around 6 hours and we enjoy some Japanese religious history of gravestones, ancient stone structures, amazing temples all with wonderful trail views all the way to Honshu on a clear day.</p> <p>It truly is an open air museum we are surrounded by on today's walk.</p> | B, L, D |
| August 21st | | <p>We depart today and take some time to enjoy the area and surrounds before we depart the 2 hours back to Fukuoka/Hakata with the leader able to help you transfer to the airport or onward travel within Japan.</p> | B |



For further information, please contact

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To book this package

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2. Complete Booking Form – Kyushu Explorer Package
3. Email Booking Form to: info@trainingfortrips.com
4. Pay 10% deposit as per Booking Terms and Conditions