

Dear Esther & Family -

Thank you for choosing Explorient! We are delighted to once again have the opportunity to serve you on your next Asia adventure! Please find your final trip itinerary below. We're excited to have you on board with us!

**TOUR SUMMARY:**

**14 Day / 13 Night Japan Family Spectacular (Modified) – Land Only**

- 14-Day Japan Rail Pass (First Class / Green Seat\*\*) covering most in-country transportation
- 3 nights at Cerulean Tower Hotel in Tokyo (Superior Room)
- 2 nights at Ryokan Biyu No Yado in Yudkanaka (Japanese-Western Room))
- 2 nights at Hyatt Centric Hotel in Kanazawa (Deluxe Room)
- 3 nights at Hotel Okura in Kyoto (Executive Room)
- 1 night at Sheraton Grand Hiroshima (Club Room)
- 1 night at Hotel Kyukamura in Okunoshima (Japanese Room)
- 1 night at Swissotel Nanaki in Osaka (Executive Rooms)
- Hotel Breakfasts Daily
- Dinners (3) during ryokan stays in Yudanaka and Okunoshima
- Sightseeing by private guide with use of a public transportation (except where otherwise noted in Kanazawa & Kyoto)
- Private airport transfers upon arrival and departure
- Separate baggage transfer between Tokyo / Kanazawa / Kyoto / Osaka (6 pcs)

**TOUR ITINERARY**

Day	Activity Summary
June 08	<p><b>Arrive Tokyo:</b> Upon arrival at Narita Airport in Tokyo, be met and transferred to CERULEAN TOWER HOTEL by private vehicle for your next 3 nights' accommodations. Enjoy the balance of the evening to eat, shop and explore the vibrant area surrounding your hotel.</p> <p><b>Meals:</b> N/A <b>Accommodations:</b> Cerulean Tower Hotel (Superior Room)</p>
June 09	<p><b>Tokyo:</b> Today, enjoy a private morning tour of several of Tokyo's must-sees. Visit Meiji Jingu Shrine, Tokyo's most famous Shinto Shrine dedicated to the late 19th-century emperor who opened Japan to the West, home to a 40-foot-high torii gate and a 200-acre park made of 1,500-year-old cypress. Next, proceed to Tsukiji Fish Market, the former site of the world's largest fish market, now a vibrant marketplace filled with produce and seafood stands and sushi joints. Continue to Tokyo's oldest Buddhist Temple at Senso-ji in Asakusa followed by a stroll thru its colorful Nakamise Shopping Street before returning to your hotel. Enjoy the balance of the afternoon for a brief rest before your night out around town.</p> <p>Later this afternoon, we'll head to Yurakucho and mix with the "salarymen" (office workers) who relax with a beer and a grilled chicken skewer ("yakitori") in the so-called yakitori alley. You will enjoy two yakitori of your liking, ramen and a drink in a typical yakitori establishment. At the end of the dinner, your guide can drop you off at an izakaya (Japanese pub) in central Tokyo (you will then be on your own and all orders will be on you – the guide will explain how to go back to your hotel) or take you back to your hotel. (B,D)</p> <p><b>Pick-up Time:</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning city tour: 9am at hotel lobby</li> <li>• Night Foodies Tour: 5pm at hotel lobby</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some sights may be moved/swapped with the next day's program depending on logistics and interest</li> <li>2. Please ask your guide to assist with rail pass exchange and train reservations (see suggested trains on the last page of this document). <a href="#">Please bring your passports.</a></li> </ol> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast, Dinner (local fares)</p> <p><b>Accommodations:</b> Cerulean Tower Hotel (Superior Room)</p>
June 10	<p><b>Tokyo:</b> Today, enjoy a day of fun exploring Tokyo's "cool" spots with your guide at disposal. Begin the morning with a stroll through local markets of Ueno lined with the day's fresh catch and produce. Continue to Akihabara, known as Electric Town, this area was originally famous for its many electronics shops sporting the latest and greatest Japanese electronics. In addition, Akihabara has also become the center of Japan's otaku (diehard fan) culture, where you'll find many anime-themed shops and establishments as well as the 6-storey Namco Game Center!</p> <p>Next, visit Mirakan or The National Museum of Emerging Science &amp; Innovation for some of the planet's most advanced gadgets and technologies. Continue to the impressive Tokyo SkyTree for a bird's eye view of the world's most populous city. If time permits, concluding your day at Harajuku, a hotspot for Japanese youth pop culture with its plethora of eclectic shops and fashion boutiques. (B)</p> <p><b>Pick-up time:</b> 9am at hotel lobby</p> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today's program is "free and easy" where you'll have your guide at disposal to explore the areas of your interest. The above program can be modified based on your preferences and logistics.</li> <li>2. Entrance fees to Tokyo SkyTree Observation Deck is included. Entrance fees to other venues are at passengers' expense.</li> <li>3. Your guide is allocated for 8 hours.</li> </ol> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast</p> <p><b>Accommodations:</b> Cerulean Tower Hotel (Superior Room)</p>
June 11	<p><b>Tokyo / Yudanaka:</b> This morning, proceed to Tokyo Station by taxi or JR Train on your own for your bullet train ride for Nagano. Upon arrival at Nagano Station, transfer to an express train to Yudanaka.</p> <p>Upon arrival at Yudanaka Station, transfer to RYOKAN BIYU NO YADO by complimentary hotel shuttle. Enjoy the balance of the afternoon at leisure to enjoy the onsens at the resort, or a stroll around the Historical Shibu Onsen Village a short walk from your hotel. This evening, enjoy a Kaiseki style (multi-course traditional Japanese style) dinner at your ryokan. (B,D)</p> <p><b>Suggestion:</b> While in Nagano between trains, suggest taking a short 10-minute bus/taxi ride to Zenko-Ji Temple located approximately 1.5 miles from Nagano Station (bus stop is located directly in front of Nagano Station main entrance/exit). Zenko-ji is one of the most important and popular Buddhist temples in Japan founded in the 7th century. It features an underground tunnel beneath the temple that is completely pitch black. Visitors can make their way through by feel, without seeing a thing. It's a fun experience not to be missed!</p> <p><b>Pick-up time:</b> N/A. Passengers are to make their own way to Yudanaka</p> <p><b>How to Get There (with break in Nagano):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hotel → Tokyo Station: Taxi on your own (15-20 minutes)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tokyo Station → Nagano: Kagayaki No.509: Depart 10:24am; Arrive 11:41am</li> <li>• Break in Nagano to Zenkoji Temple (per suggestion above)</li> <li>• Nagano → Yudanaka: Yukemuri Express Train Depart: 02:27pm; arrive 3:12pm. Express train station entrance (with stairs to underground station) is located to the right of Nagano Station main entrance/exit</li> <li>• Yudanaka Station → Hotel: complimentary hotel van</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Baggage transfer (6 pcs) between Tokyo and Kanazawa will be arranged (please leave your bags with bell stand at checkout). Bags will be transferred to your hotel in Kanazawa the <u>next</u> day. For ease of travel, please bring a small carry-on size bag for your 2 nights' stay in Yudanaka</li> <li>2. Today's travel is without guide</li> <li>3. Train tickets between Nagano and Yudanaka cannot be arranged in advance and must be purchased on the spot. Cost is Approx JPY 1,200 (about US\$10) each way.</li> <li>4. <b>Hotel transfer from Yudanaka Station will be arranged based on schedule above (i.e. 3:12 arrival at Yudanaka Station). If you do NOT wish to visit Zenkoji Temple, you may take the Nagano/Yudanaka Train departing at 12:44pm. In this case, please contact Biyu No Yado by telephone: +81-269-33-4126 or by email: <a href="mailto:biyunoyado@yudanakaview.co.jp">biyunoyado@yudanakaview.co.jp</a> to inform them of your change in arrival.</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast, Dinner <b>Accommodations:</b> Ryokan Biyu No Yado (Japanese-Western Triple Room)</p>
June 12	<p><b>Yudanaka (Snow Monkey Park):</b> After breakfast at the ryokan, proceed to by hotel shuttle to Snow Monkey Park where you spend the morning with a light hike to the park where you can observe the playful snow monkeys bathing, swimming and jumping in &amp; out of the hot spring pools. Afternoon at leisure to relax or explore the small but charming Shibu Onsen Town located a short 10-minute walk from your ryokan. Dinner is served at the hotel. (B,D)</p> <p><b>Pick-up time:</b> To be advised by hotel based on shuttle schedule</p> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please inquire with hotel front desk on complimentary shuttle schedule to/from Snow Monkey Park</li> <li>2. Snow Monkey Park tickets can only be purchased at the park entrance (not included in package).</li> </ol> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast, Dinner <b>Accommodations:</b> Ryokan Biyu No Yado (Japanese-Western Triple Room)</p>
June 13	<p><b>Yudanaka / Kanazawa:</b> Transfer to Yudanaka Station by hotel shuttle and journey west for Kanazawa by Express Train and Shinkansen to Kanazawa (with connection at Nagano Station). Upon arrival, drop off your bags at HYATT CENTRIC KANAZAWA located next to Kanazawa Station before meeting your guide for a tour of Kanazawa City.</p> <p>Visits this afternoon include Kenrokuen Garden, one of Japan's three most famous gardens, and formerly the outer garden to the Kanazawa Castle. Next visit Myoryuji, a.k.a. Ninja Temple (subject to availability), a former military outpost during the Edo Period, famed for its many deceptive defenses and secret escape routes in the event of an attack. Continue to Higashi Chaya District, Kanazawa's beautiful old town lined with quaint shops and tea houses. Tourists have also been known to have an occasional Geisha sighting. Overnight in Kanazawa. (B)</p> <p><b>Pick-up time:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yudanaka / Kanazawa Transfer: N/A. Passengers are to make their own way to Hyatt Centric Hotel</li> <li>• Kanazawa Tour: 1pm at Hyatt Centric hotel lobby</li> </ul> <p><b>How to Get there:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hotel → Yudanaka Station: Complimentary hotel shuttle</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yudanaka → Nagano: Yukemuri Express Train: Depart 09:54am; arrive 10:42am</li> <li>• Nagano → Kanazawa: Hakutaka 557: Depart 11:05am; Arrive 12:27pm</li> <li>• Kanazawa Station → Hyatt Centric: located next to train station. 2-3 minutes by foot</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This afternoon's tour in Kanazawa is provided by private car. Please meet your guide at the hotel lobby at 1pm.</li> <li>2. Ninja Temple tickets available for purchase 3-days prior to visit and is subject to availability on a first come-first serve basis.</li> </ol> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast <b>Accommodations:</b> Hyatt Centric Kanazawa (Deluxe Room)</p>
June 14	<p><b>Kanazawa:</b> This morning, enjoy a foodies experience of Kanazawa. We'll start our journey with a short walk to Omicho Seafood Market -- the hub of Kanazawa's food culture. Here, we'll explore the stalls and wind our way through the bustling crowds to seek out the day's freshest ingredients. Continue to the <a href="#">In-Kanazawa House</a> cooking studio where your chef will teach you the tips and tricks on how to cook your very own delicious Kanazawa meal (dishes will vary by season, and available ingredients. However, each meal (cooking class) will include: Soup, Sashimi, Rice, Egg Dish, a Traditional Kanazawa Dish, Dessert). Afternoon at leisure to relax and explore Kanazawa on your own. (B,L)</p> <p><b>Pick-up time:</b> 9:45am at hotel lobby</p> <p><b>Tips:</b> places to visit while on your own:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Kanazawa is a bike friendly city. You may rent a bike share and explore areas around Kanazawa Castle and throughout much of the city.</li> <li>➤ Korinbo District: shopping, dining and entertainment area not far from Kanazawa Castle. Great place for a night out in the evenings.</li> </ul> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast, Lunch <b>Accommodations:</b> Hyatt Centric Kanazawa (Deluxe Room)</p>
June 15	<p><b>Kanazawa / Kyoto:</b> After a leisurely breakfast, board a Shinkansen for Kyoto. Upon arrival, proceed to HOTEL OKURA on your own by taxi, located 10-15 minutes from Kyoto Station. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore the local area on your own. Tickets are included for a visit to Ninja and Samurai Museum located 10 minutes from your hotel by foot. Be sure to also check out the Kyoto's famous Nishiki Market (vibrant food &amp; seafood market) just 2 blocks away where you can grab some delicious bites. (B)</p> <p><b>Pick-up Time:</b> N/A. Passengers are to make their own way to Kyoto by train</p> <p><b>How to Get There:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hotel → Kanazawa Station: by foot</li> <li>• Kanazawa → Kyoto: Thunderbird 18: Depart 10:56am; arrive 1:09pm</li> <li>• Kyoto → Hotel Okura: by taxi on your own (approx. 15 minutes)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today's program is without guide</li> <li>2. Baggage transfer (6 pcs) between Kanazawa and Kyoto will be arranged (please leave your bags with bell stand at checkout). Bags will be transferred to your hotel in Kyoto the <u>next</u> day. For ease of travel, please bring a small carry-on size bag for your first night's stay in Kyoto.</li> <li>3. Ninja and Samurai Museum Entrance &amp; Experience Tickets are included, to be delivered on arrival in</li> </ol>

	<p>Tokyo. Ninja Experience (activity) to be booked for 5pm (to be confirmed)</p> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast <b>Accommodations:</b> Hotel Okura Kyoto (Executive Room)</p>
June 16	<p><b>Kyoto:</b> Today, enjoy a full day sightseeing of Kyoto by private car. Visit Fushimi Inari Shrine. This popular shrine is famous for its thousands of vermilion torii gates straddling a network of trails behind its main buildings leading into the wooded forest of the sacred Mount Inari. We'll then explore Kyoto's gems in the western part of the city beginning with a visit to the beautiful Kinkaku-Ji (Golden Pavilion), one of the most photographed landmarks in all of Japan. Continue to Arashiyama for a stroll through the beautiful Bamboo Forest before hiking up Iwatayama Monkey Park, home to over 150 Japanese Macaque Monkeys boasting panoramic views of the city. Visit the Ryoan Temple famous for its rock garden before returning to your hotel. (B)</p> <p><b>Pick-up Time:</b> 9am at hotel lobby</p> <p><b>Note:</b> A private car will be provided for today's tour</p> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast <b>Accommodations:</b> Hotel Okura Kyoto (Executive Room)</p>
June 17	<p><b>Kyoto (Lake Biwa):</b> This morning, proceed on your own to Kyoto Station where you'll be met by your guide and accompany you on a 30 minute train ride to Lake Biwa. Here, we'll spend a relaxing and culturally-inspiring day in a traditional farm village mingling with the locals. The tour showcases a slow-paced, off-the-beaten-path experience of the countryside to see a different side of Japan. Your Lake Biwa tour begins with a leisurely bike ride along a beautiful lakeside road up to the stunning rice terraces where you'll spend a relaxing and culturally-inspiring day in a traditional farm village. Here, get a chance to visit a local family's residence where a simple Japanese lunch is prepared (with your help) and mingle with the locals. After the tour, return to Kyoto by train on your own. (B,L)</p> <p><b>Pick-up Time:</b> 9:15am at Kyoto Station. Meeting time is 9:15am in front of the 7-Eleven located at the WEST GATE of JR Kyoto Station.</p> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Passengers are to make their own way to/from Kyoto Station. Hotel Okura offers a free shuttle to/from Kyoto Station. Please inquiry with hotel on shuttle schedules.</li> <li>2. Please bring your rail passes for the day's excursion as train transportation is covered under these passes.</li> </ol> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast, Lunch <b>Accommodations:</b> Hotel Okura Kyoto (Executive Room)</p>
June 18	<p><b>Kyoto / Hiroshima:</b> Transfer to Kyoto Station on your own by taxi or hotel shuttle for your Shinkansen to Hiroshima. Upon arrival, be met by your guide and enjoy a walking tour of Hiroshima starting with a visit to the A-Bomb Dome, Peace Memorial Park and Peace Museum. Afterward, proceed to Miyajima Island via ferry to the remarkable Itsukushima Shrine and its Floating Torii Gate. Take a stroll along the colorful Omotesando Shopping Street, which is lined with colorful shops and delectable food stands, before returning to Hiroshima. Overnight at SHERATON GRAND HIROSHIMA. (B)</p> <p><b>Pick-up Time:</b> Guide for Hiroshima tour will meet you at Hiroshima Station upon arrival</p> <p><b>How to Get There:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hotel → Kyoto Station: Taxi or free hotel shuttle</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kyoto Station → Hiroshima: Hikari 535: Depart 8:29am; arrive 10:32am</li> </ul> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast <b>Accommodations:</b> Sheraton Grand Hiroshima (Club Room)</p>
June 19	<p><b>Hiroshima / Okunoshima (Rabbit Island):</b> This morning, make your own way to Okunoshima (please refer to directions below), also known as Rabbit Island. As the center of chemical weapons research and production during WWII, Rabbit Island was completely off the map and workers on the island were sworn to secrecy. Today, the island is a small enclave occupied by over 1,000 wild rabbits with picturesque scenery of the Setouchi Inland Sea. Here, enjoy time at leisure to observe these fun loving animals and explore the island on foot or by bicycle. Dinner and overnight at HOTEL KYUKAMURA. (B,D)</p> <p><b>How to Get there</b> (option 1 is preferred. Option 2 available in case Etsetora is fully booked):</p> <p><b>Option 1 (Preferred):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hotel → Hiroshima Station: 1-minute walk.</li> <li>➤ Hiroshima / Tadano-Umi Station: JR Etsetora (Scenic Train): Depart 9:32am; arrive 11:41am</li> <li>➤ Tadano-Umi Station → Tadanomi Port: 7-minute Walk</li> <li>➤ Tadanomi Port → Okunoshima: Ferry: Depart 12:00pm; arrive 12:15pm (Fare JPY380 adult / JPY180 child each way).</li> <li>➤ Okunoshima Ferry Terminal → Hotel Kyukamura: Free Hotel Shuttle</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 2 (only if unable to book Etsetora Train):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Hotel → Hiroshima Station: 1-minute walk.</li> <li>➤ Hiroshima → Mihara Station: Kodama 846: Depart 10:38am; arrive 11:03am</li> <li>➤ Mihara Station → Tadanomi Port: By taxi (approx. 30 minutes @ ~\$50 per taxi)</li> <li>➤ Tadanomi Port → Okunoshima: Ferry: Depart 12:00pm; arrive 12:15pm (Fare JPY380 adult / JPY180 child each way).</li> <li>➤ Okunoshima Ferry Terminal → Hotel Kyukamura: Free Hotel Shuttle</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No guide is provided on this day.</li> <li>➤ Baggage transfer (6 pcs) between Kyoto and Osaka will be arranged (please leave your bags with bell stand at checkout). Bags will be transferred to your hotel in Osaka. For ease of travel, please bring a small carry-on size bag for your 2 nights stay in Hiroshima and Okunoshima.</li> <li>➤ Rail Pass covers JR Etsetora (Hiroshima/Tadano-umi) and Kodama 842 (Hiroshima/Mihara) per options below</li> <li>➤ Taxi (option 2) and Okunoshima Ferry fares are NOT included.</li> <li>➤ Rabbit Island information including ferry Schedules: <a href="http://rabbit-island.info/en/">http://rabbit-island.info/en/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast, Dinner <b>Accommodations:</b> Hotel Kyukamura (Japanese Room)</p>
June 20	<p><b>Okunoshima / Osaka:</b> Today, make your way to Osaka by ferry, local train and Shinkansen (multiple transfers required). Upon arrival at Shin Osaka Station, proceed to your hotel by Taxi. This afternoon/evening, explore the surrounding bustling Dotonburi/Namba District where an endless array of dining and shopping options abound. Overnight at SWISSOTEL NANKAI HOTEL. (B)</p> <p><b>How to Get there:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Okunoshima → Tadanomi Port: Okunoshima Ferry: Depart 1:48pm; arrive 2pm</li> <li>➤ Tadanomi Port → Tadano Umi Station: 5 minute walk</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tadano Umi Station → Mihara Station: Depart: 2:20pm; arrive 2:43pm</li> <li>➤ Mihara → Shin-Osaka Station: Komdama 854: Depart 3:12pm; arrive 5:25pm</li> <li>➤ Shin-Osaka Sta. → Swissotel Nankai: by taxi (approx. 20 minutes)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Today's program is without guide.</li> <li>2. Rail Pass covers all trains between Tadano-umi Port and Shin-Osaka Station</li> </ol> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast <b>Accommodations:</b> Swissotel Nankai Osaka (Executive Room)</p>
June 21	<p><b>Depart Osaka:</b> Morning transfer to Kansai Airport (KIX) for your departure flight home. (B)</p> <p><b>Meals:</b> Breakfast <b>Accommodations:</b> N/A</p> <p>****END OF PROGRAM****</p>

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