

Hammond Tours and Travel presents...

Japan: Past & Present

including 2-Night Tokyo Pre Tour Extension
with Optional 4-Night Seoul Post Tour Extension

May 8 – 23, 2025



For more information contact
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Hammond Tours & Travel
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Small Group Travel rewards travellers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

16 Days • 21 Meals: 14 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 6 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Tokyo, Asakusa, Tea Ceremony, Tokyo National Museum, Ginza, Bullet Train, Ise Grand Shrine, Kaiseki Dinner, Mikimoto Pearl Museum, Ama Pearl Divers Dinner, Kyoto, Gion, Arashiyama Bamboo Forest, Golden Pavilion, Women's Association of Kyoto, Okunoin Cemetery, Monastery Stay, Hiroshima, Okonomiyaki Cooking Class & Lunch, Peace Memorial Park & Museum, Discussion with an A-Bomb Survivor, Osaka

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 6	Prince Park Tower Hotel Tokyo, Tokyo
Days 7, 8	Nemu Resort, Ise-Shima
Days 9 – 11	Hotel Granvia Kyoto, Kyoto
Day 12	Sekisho-in, Mt. Koya
Days 13, 14	ANA Crowne Plaza Hiroshima, Hiroshima
Day 15	Centara Grand Hotel Osaka, Osaka

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Thursday, May 8, 2025 Overnight Flight

Your tour begins with an overnight flight to Tokyo, Japan.

Day 2: Friday, May 9, 2025 Tokyo, Japan - Tour Begins

Welcome to Japan, the "Land of the Rising Sun." Uncover the electrifying city of Tokyo, where pop culture is turned all the way up and traditions are rich and long kept. Enjoy time to get to know the place where your journey begins.

Day 3: Saturday, May 10, 2025 Tokyo

Tokyo is an incredible city for exploration; with a world-class public transportation system that's easy to use and can get you everywhere. The day is yours to spend how you please. Perhaps you will take a tour of the Imperial Palace or visit the Meiji Jingu Shrine. (B)

Day 4: Sunday, May 11, 2025 Tokyo

Say "Konnichiwa!" to the incredible, eclectic city of Tokyo where your tour begins today. Japan is a land of contrasts, and you're about to discover the thousand facets of culture, art, and life that make up its incredible spirit. From neon-lit streets filled with people to quiet shrines filled only with silence, you'll come face-to-face with a culture thousands of years in the making. Storied history, artistic traditions, cutting-edge technology – it's all part of Japan's everyday life. You'll soon discover that you could explore Japan for a thousand years and only experience a part of what this country has to offer. Enjoy an extra day at leisure as the rest of the group arrives today to begin your cultural journey through Japan. (B)

Day 5: Monday, May 12, 2025 Tokyo

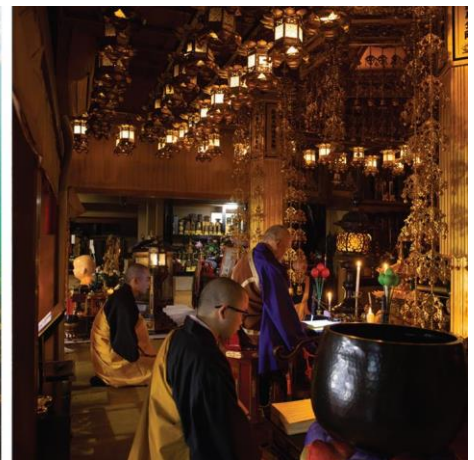
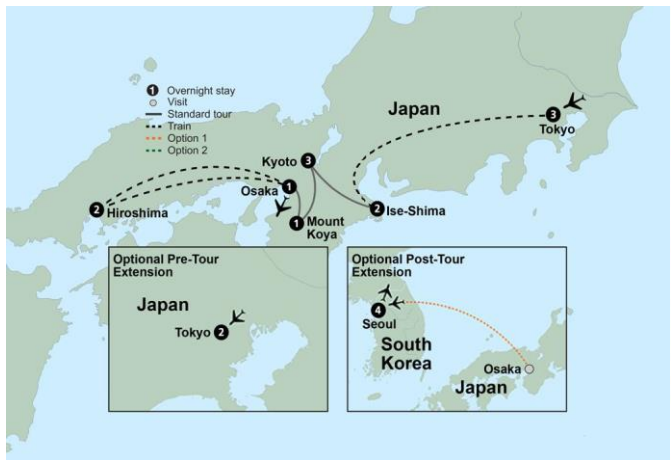
Feel the excitement start to build as you head to Asakusa, passing by the grounds of the Imperial Palace and see the Nijubashi Bridge. Next, witness the subtle art of preparing green tea. Prepare your own cup of this local staple and learn the gentle practice of making tea using a traditional method. Enjoy free time exploring Nakamise shopping street, where you can stroll between the stalls leading to the Sensoji temple to buy local souvenirs and sweets. Then, head to Tokyo National Museum to learn about the fascinating history and culture of the city. The museum displays artwork and antiques from Japan and the surrounding area. Tonight, sit down and get to know your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner. (B, D)

Day 6: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 Tokyo

This morning, start your day in Tokyo like a true local – by hopping on the subway. Clean, efficient, fast, and easy to use, the Tokyo subway system is one of the best in the world. Follow your Tour Manager on a walk through Ginza, one of the most elegant and luxurious streets in the world. Enjoy shopping at some of the most renowned "department stores" in Japan. This afternoon, visit Zojoji Temple, standing in the shadow of Tokyo Tower and painting a powerful picture of Tokyo's ancient roots and modern culture. Zojoji is the centre of Japanese Buddhism in the region, and the resting place of the royal Tokugawa family. Head back to the hotel through the lush and beautiful Shiba park, a green oasis in the urban landscape. (B)

Day 7: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 Tokyo - Ise-Shima

Climb aboard the high-speed *shinkansen*, or bullet train. Sleek, modern, and comfortable, the bullet train will flash through the idyllic Japanese countryside at 200 miles per hour, but you'll barely feel or hear a thing. Keep an eye peeled for Mt. Fuji in the distance.* Arrive at one of the most important shrines in Japan – Ise Shrine. This grand shrine is built to honour the Shinto sun goddess Amaterasu. Wander among the thatched roofs and raw wood of buildings, taking in the serenity of this spiritual wonder. Tonight, your meal will be a traditional and delicious Japanese *kaiseki* dinner, an artfully prepared and presented, multi-course meal using ingredients at the absolute peak of freshness. (B, D)



Per Person Rates*:

Double \$11,914; Single \$14,154

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Toronto Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges of \$150 per person (subject to increase until paid in full), Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$499 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

Day 8: Thursday, May 15, 2025 Ise-Shima

This morning, you'll head to the Mikimoto Pearl Museum. Explore the island and the legacy of the skilled *ama* pearl divers, women who defied conventional gender roles to dive in the sea to harvest oysters and their pearls. Watch divers take the plunge and learn about the history and science of pearl diving. This evening, set out for Azurihama Beach, where you'll venture across the sands to an *ama* hut for an incredible dining experience. While local seafood is grilled in a charcoal fire right before your eyes, hear tales from the *ama* women about their lives and the sacred rights of their profession. (B, D)

Day 9: Friday, May 16, 2025 Ise-Shima - Kyoto

Kyoto awaits! Before arriving in Japan's former capital city stop at Nara Park and Todaiji Temple. Venture inside the massive building to take some time in this sacred place and find the huge bronze Buddha statue. Wander the grounds outside and discover the famous "bowing" deer of Nara. Next, it's off to Kyoto, one of the nation's top cosmopolitan cities. (B)

Day 10: Saturday, May 17, 2025 Kyoto

Head to Gion, Kyoto's famous geisha district. Here, your Tour Manager leads you through the narrow cobblestone streets and if you're lucky, you may see a woman in full traditional geisha regalia headed to one of the hidden, exclusive tea houses. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure to explore how you want. Perhaps you'll stay in the Gion district to wander among its temples, shrines, traditional shops and charming cafes. Or, you could make your way to the Nishiki Market, where colourful stalls are filled with fresh foods and local specialties, like pickles, dried seafood, and sushi. (B)

Day 11: Sunday, May 18, 2025 Kyoto

Begin your day at Arashiyama bamboo forest. Set out among the towering bamboo stalks that shade the forest paths and gently sway in the breeze. Depart for Kinkakuji (UNESCO), the Golden Pavilion, a Zen temple whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf. Once the lavish retirement home of a shogun, it was converted to a Zen temple in the 1400's. It has survived wars, been rebuilt after

fires, and still stands as an impressive piece of historic architecture. Later, visit the Women's Association of Kyoto in a traditional Kyoto town house. Here, delve into a wide array of enlightening Japanese activities, guided by your knowledgeable hostess. Sip different *sakes*, try your hand at making sushi, fold intricate origami shapes, and speak to your hostess about Japan, its culture, and women's roles in this complex society. (B, D)

Day 12: Monday, May 19, 2025 Kyoto - Mt. Koya

This morning, explore Fushimi Inari Taisha for a glimpse into the most revered shrine of Inari. Follow the rows of orange torii that weave through the forest, leading you to the inner shrine. Then, head for the mountain village atop Mount Koya. A special and sacred site, Mount Koya is filled with shrines, temples, and monasteries. This afternoon, walk into the heart of the awe-inspiring Okunoin Cemetery, and make your way to the mausoleum of Kobo Daishi, the founder of Shingon Buddhism. Kobo Daishi hasn't passed on – Buddhist belief says he waits in eternal meditation, answering the calls of those who would pray to him. After, settle into your accommodations for the night – a traditional Japanese monastery,** complete with sliding paper doors and tatami mats. Meet with one of the monks of the temple and learn about life there before sitting down for dinner, where you'll eat a vegetarian meal, featuring tempura-fried favourites. (B, D)

Day 13: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 Mt. Koya - Hiroshima

If you so choose, you can rise in the early morning to join the Buddhist monks in prayer. Sit in the serenity of the temple shrine as the monks ring their gongs, chant, burn incense, and centre themselves for the activities of the grand day ahead. Then, you'll once again board the *shinkansen* bullet train and be whisked away to Hiroshima. Enjoy lunch at a local cooking studio, where you'll learn how to make the famous Japanese *okonomiyaki*, or savoury pancake, a favourite of Hiroshima residents. After, visit the Peace Memorial Park, and pause to see the ruined Atomic Dome (UNESCO), a sobering reminder of the devastation caused by the dropping of the

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1200634>

atomic bomb during World War II. Reflect at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. (B, L)

Day 14: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 Hiroshima

Head back to the Peace Park and Memorial Museum this morning for a powerful **impact moment**, a meeting with someone who experienced the devastating effects of the Atomic bomb firsthand.*** They'll talk about what it was like to live in Japan during that time, the aftermath of that terrible day, and how they keep the memories of those who were lost alive. After, board a ferry for the short trip to Miyajima Island, or "Shrine Island" (UNESCO). Famous for the Itsukushima Shrine and its mythic O-torii Gate standing proudly in the water. (B)

Day 15: Thursday, May 22, 2025 Hiroshima - Osaka

Today, journey to your final destination, the energetic city of Osaka. Set out on a walking tour through the famous Dotonbori district. From shopping, to dining, to nightlife, Dotonbori has it all – bathed in the neon glow of huge electric signs. Learn why Osaka is known as the "Kitchen of Japan" as you sample its famous and delicious street food. Tonight, sit down and say your fond farewells to your travel companions at a farewell dinner. Raise a cup of *sake* and toast to the colourful spirit of Japan, and the adventures you've had. (B, D)

Day 16: Friday, May 23, 2025 Osaka - Tour Ends

Take a quiet moment to reflect on all the new memories you have created before heading home. (B)

PLEASE NOTE:

PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP: PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Documentation is required by foreign governments for all trips outside Canada. You should visit Global Affairs Canada at <https://travel.gc.ca/> for general information about passports and visa requirements. Some countries require a visa in addition to a valid passport for entry, so it is important that you check with the appropriate foreign consulate or embassy for specific entry requirements and details you need to know regarding how and when to obtain the visa. Please remember the possession of valid passports and necessary visas are the responsibility of each client/passenger. If you would like assistance in ensuring you have the proper visa(s) for your trip outside of Canada, we would be happy to refer you to a company that can assist you. We strongly recommend that you have a valid passport (with seven-month validity) for all travel outside Canada.

Please be advised transit visas may be required if connecting through a country on route to your final destination.

INSURANCE

When travelling outside Canada, health insurance is required. Contact your booking agent for more details.

TRAVEL CONDITIONS

There may be different living standards and practices and different standards and conditions with respect to the provision of services and accommodations outside of Canada.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Triple and child accommodations are not available.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

Some venues, such as temples and shrines, require guests to remove their shoes in order to enter. We recommend wearing footwear that is easily removed for sightseeing on these days.

*Mt Fuji is only visible from the train on a clear day and cannot be guaranteed based on weather conditions.

***In the event that an atomic bomb survivor is unavailable, a legacy successor (relative or friend of a survivor) will meet the group and share their relative's experiences and stories.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by the observance of religious or local holidays.

Travel with just 16-24 guests on this tour where a smaller group setting means a more personal travel experience.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 4. You're ready to seize the day, whatever it may bring. You lead an active life at home (walking, biking, and half or full day hikes are things you may enjoy) and 10,000 steps a day is normal for you. You can handle longer walking tours (more than 3 hours covering 3+ miles at a steady clip) and activities that involve traversing uneven terrain, steep slopes, standing for periods of time, and varying altitudes and temperatures. You don't mind being on the go with some early starts, late-nights, and full days. This tour features a one-night stay at a traditional monastery and all guests will sleep on tatami mats that are placed on the floor. You can handle altitudes of 9,000 feet or higher with little to no issue. This level is not appropriate for travellers who use wheelchairs, walkers, and other mobility assistance devices.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Please be aware that if your flight schedule is via Dubai or if you are stopping over in Dubai and are carrying narcotic drugs, controlled or semi-controlled drugs, then you will be required to complete an electronic form prior to entering the country, to obtain approval to carry medication. Please use the link <https://mohap.gov.ae/en/services/issue-of-permit-to-import-medicines-for-personal-use> to view the guidelines. A user's guide is available to explain the application and the supporting documents required.

Each traveller is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal doctor for specific details on the destinations you are travelling to and from.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Our air passengers will arrive into Tokyo airport and depart from Osaka airport.

This tour provides authentic Japanese dining experiences. Any special meal requests, including vegan, vegetarian, or gluten-free may not be able to be accommodated as these are not widely catered to. If you have any dietary restrictions, please notify us at time of booking so we can accommodate you as best as possible.

**This tour features a one-night experiential stay at a traditional monastery. During this stay, portage is not available and rolling luggage is not allowed inside. An overnight bag is required and your main luggage will stay on the coach. You will not be able to access your main luggage until we check-in at our Hiroshima Hotel (approx. 5:00 p.m. following day.) Accommodations at the monastery are traditional. All guests will sleep on tatami mats that are placed on the floor. Western-style beds are not available. Therefore, this tour is not recommended for those with mobility restrictions. Shoes are not permitted inside the monastery. Socks are highly recommended for use during your time here. Meals are also traditional and served on trays that you eat from while sitting on the floor on a cushion. All meals served at the monastery are vegetarian.

Return flights should not be booked from Osaka airport prior to 9:00 a.m.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more travelling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of September 04, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by March 12, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until September 11, 2024.

BC Reg. #23337; Travel Industry Council of Ontario Reg. # 3206405

For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1200634>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.



40 Queen Street South
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Phone: 1-866-358-0333 Fax: 401-727-9014

If paying by credit card, please complete this form and return to Hammond Tours & Travel. We can only charge your credit card for the amount noted if the signature, address and phone number are listed below. Thank you!

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM

BOOKING NUMBER: 1200634

TOUR: Japan: Past & Present *A Cultural Journey from
Tokyo to Osaka*

DEPARTURE DATE: May 8, 2025

GROUP NAME: Hammond Tours and Travel

Name of Passenger:

Salutation: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____ Suffix: _____
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print as it appears on Passport) (Jr., Sr.)

Cardholder Name: _____
(Please print as it appears on your Credit Card)

Cardholder Address: _____
(as it appears on your credit card statement)

Cardholder Phone: _____

Credit Card Type: ___ American Express ___ MasterCard ___ Visa

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Amount to be charged: \$ _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept Collette cancellation policy, terms and conditions.

Participating credit card companies are now requiring a billing address and phone number for **FRAUD PREVENTION**. All information **MUST** be provided. Thank you for your cooperation!
If using your credit card for payment, please return this Authorization Form by mail to:

Hammond Tours & Travel

Attn: Connie Day
PO Box 569 Stn Main
450 Ecclestone DR
Bracebridge, ON P1L1T8

Or by Fax to: (705) 645-3629

Above credit card information has been called in to Collette.

For Reservations Contact: Connie Day 705-644-0358 email: cday@hammondtraveltours.ca
Hammond Tours & Travel, PO Box 569 Stn Main, 450 Ecclestone DR, Bracebridge, ON P1L1T8

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YOUR INFORMATION:

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

Nickname: _____ Gender: () Male () Female Date of Birth: month _____ day _____ year _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: () _____ Cell: () _____ Email Address: _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiration Date: (dd/mm/yy) _____ Date of Issuance: (dd/mm/yy) _____

City, Province, Country of Issuance: _____ Citizenship: _____

Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not travelling with you): _____ Phone: () _____

ROOMING WITH: Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

AIR GATEWAY: Departure airport for this tour: _____

Air Seat Request: () Aisle () Window () Next To Travelling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times. Please be advised, when travelling as part of a group, many airlines do not provide seat assignments. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

"Federal law forbids carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries & flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveller-information/prohibited-items>."

TRAVEL PROTECTION: () Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$499 () No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's travelling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

EXTENSION: I wish to purchase "4-Night Seoul" () Yes () No

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: Hammond Tours & Travel () Check () Credit Card

Waiver/Insurance Amount: \$ _____ Deposit Amount: \$ _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Cardholder Name (if paying by Credit Card): _____

Cardholder Billing Address: Check if address is the same as above _____

Cardholder Phone: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____
M M Y Y

SIGNATURE REQUIRED for acceptance of the below conditions and agreement to credit card use:

Date: _____

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation policy, terms and conditions. See <http://www.gocollette.com/about-collette/terms-and-conditions> for full terms and conditions of your purchase.

Important Conditions: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees.

Extend your holiday with

Optional 4 Days 4-Night Seoul Post Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$3,575.00 CAD double, \$4,095.00 CAD single, land & air inclusive
7 Meals: 4 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 1 Dinner

Day 16: Osaka - Seoul, South Korea

Journey from Osaka to the capital city of South Korea, Seoul. An energetic and eclectic modern city with deep roots, Seoul has something for everyone. This evening is at leisure to relax. You may also choose to explore, as your hotel is centrally located only minutes from Namdaemun market and the popular Myeongdong neighbourhood, well-known as a haven for foodies and fashionistas.

Day 17: Seoul

Today, head to the Korean Demilitarized Zone, or the DMZ, on our private coach. This conflict-ridden stretch of 150 miles between North and South Korea has been sealed tight for the last 68 years, and the struggles of the Korean War have yet to be resolved. Take an exclusive tour of this storied border, seeing Imjingak Park, the Bridge of Freedom, the DMZ Theatre & Exhibition Hall, the Dora Observatory, the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, and more. This is a rare opportunity to see the "Hermit Kingdom" of North Korea up close, and the long cold war between the two countries. Tonight, your evening is at leisure. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included.*

Day 18: Seoul

This morning, learn about the struggles in North Korea firsthand when you gather for a private talk with a North Korean defector. Learn about their life in North Korea, how they escaped to the south and are adjusting to their new life and the struggles they face in a new country. After, sit down for a home-hosted traditional Korean lunch with a local family, and get insight into daily life for a South Korean family. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included.*

Day 19: Seoul

Start your day by hopping on the subway and heading to the awe-inspiring Gyeongbok Palace. Take a tour of the sprawling grounds and watch the elaborate and ceremonial changing of the guard. Next, visit Insadong Street, Seoul's charming and colourful shopping area. Tour the narrow maze of alleys that hold tea shops, boutiques, galleries and cafes. You have the afternoon at leisure to explore the area, perhaps heading to the Museum of Contemporary History with its multimedia exhibitions, or the National Museum of Korea with its statues, paintings, and artifacts. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 20: Seoul - Tour Ends

Say goodbye to the energy and splendour of Seoul as you depart for home. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Please Note:

Extensions are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

Fully-guided extensions are perfect for travellers who want the complete experience of a new destination and local experiences. Travellers will have a dedicated guide throughout this entire extension.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

An additional air segment is required for this extension, quoted at time of booking. Additional air charges may apply.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable as is climbing 3 flights of stairs. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time. This level is not a fit for travellers that require mobility assistance devices.