

Virtuoso's Hosted Tours by Collette presents...

Japan & South Korea: From Tokyo to Seoul

October 11 – 26, 2025



For more information contact your TRAVELINK host advisor:

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TRAVELINK



VIRTUOSO.
MEMBER



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Small Group Travel rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

16 Days • 23 Meals: 14 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 7 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Tokyo, Asakusa, Tea Ceremony, Tokyo National Museum, Bullet Train, Ise Grand Shrine, *Kaiseki* Dinner, Mikimoto Pearl Museum, *Ama* Pearl Divers Dinner, Hiroshima, *Okonomiyaki* Cooking Class & Dinner, Peace Memorial Park & Museum, Discussion with an A-Bomb Survivor, Kyoto, Fushimi Inari Taisha, Gion, Arashiyama Bamboo Forest, Golden Pavilion, Women's Association of Kyoto, Seoul, Korean Demilitarized Zone, North Korean Defector Talk, Home-Hosted Lunch, Gyeongbok Palace

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

- Day 1 Overnight Flight
- Days 2 – 4 Aloft Tokyo Ginza, Tokyo
- Days 5, 6 Nemu Resort, Ise-Shima
- Days 7, 8 ANA Crowne Plaza Hiroshima, Hiroshima
- Days 9 – 11 Hotel Monterey Kyoto, Kyoto
- Days 12 – 15 Courtyard Marriott Namdaemun, Seoul

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

VIRTUOSO EXCLUSIVE amenity
PER PERSON

\$100 credit toward Economy Air or Premium Economy / \$250 credit toward Business-Class Air

OR

\$100 credit toward tour add-ons (anything beyond land package and waiver; including pre/post nights, pre/post tour extensions, optional excursions, etc.)

*These are combinable with any other offer in market.

*If land only and no pre/post or option purchase, the \$100 does not get credited towards anything else.

Day 1: Saturday, October 11, 2025 Overnight Flight From the tranquility of ancient temples to the energy of bustling cities, find a blend of all things old and new in Japan. Travel through the Land of the Rising Sun on an unforgettable journey and finally take another step farther to explore Seoul, South Korea.

Day 2: Sunday, October 12, 2025 Tokyo, Japan Say “*Konnichiwa!*” to the incredible, eclectic city of Tokyo. 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 busy cities 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.

Day 3: Monday, October 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. Set out on a walk to 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 center of Japanese Buddhism in the region, and the resting place of the royal Tokugawa family. Next, take in views of the city from the top of Tokyo Tower. Later this afternoon, make your way back to your hotel located in the popular Ginza district of Tokyo, a perfect location for spending an afternoon at leisure before getting to know your fellow travelers during a welcome dinner. (B, D)

Day 4: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 Tokyo Feel the excitement start to build as you head to Asakusa, passing by the grounds of the Imperial Palace and seeing the Nijubashi Bridge. Next, witness the subtle art of preparing green tea in a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. Enjoy free time exploring the 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. This evening, you are free to explore on your own. (B)

Day 5: Wednesday, October 15, 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 honor 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)

Day 6: Thursday, October 16, 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 7: Friday, October 17, 2025 Ise-Shima - Nara - Hiroshima Today, travel to Nara Park and Todaiji Temple. Venture inside the massive temple 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. Then, you’ll once again board the *shinkansen* bullet train and be whisked away to Hiroshima. Enjoy dinner at a local cooking studio, where you’ll learn how to make the famous Japanese *okonomiyaki*, or savory pancake, a favorite of Hiroshima residents. (B, D)



Per Person Rates*:

USD
Double \$8,249
Single \$9,849

Included in Price: Inter-flights from Osaka Kansai

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance, Hotel Transfers, Round Trip Air

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. (See registration form for consent.)

Day 8: Saturday, October 18, 2025 Hiroshima A short walk from your hotel takes you to the Peace Memorial Park. Pause to see the ruined Atomic Dome (UNESCO), a sobering reminder of the devastation caused by the dropping of the atomic bomb during World War II. Reflect at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum before a powerful **Impact Moment** connects you 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 preserve the memory of those who were lost. 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 9: Sunday, October 19, 2025 Hiroshima - Kyoto Kyoto awaits! Journey to Japan's former capital city via *shinkansen* bullet train. Your first stop takes you to 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. Later this afternoon, head to Gion, Kyoto's famous geisha district. As you walk through Gion's narrow cobblestone streets, if you're lucky, you may see a woman in full traditional geisha regalia headed to one of the hidden, exclusive tea houses. Tonight is at leisure. (B)

Day 10: Monday, October 20, 2025 Kyoto Enjoy a laid-back morning before visiting the Arashiyama bamboo forest. Set out among the towering bamboo stalks that shade the forest paths and gently sway in the breeze. Continue to Kinkaku-ji Temple (UNESCO), known as the Golden Pavilion for its top two floors that are completely covered in gold leaf. Once the lavish retirement home of a shogun, it was converted to a Zen temple in the 1400s. 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. Try your hand at making traditional Japanese food items, fold intricate origami shapes, and speak to your hostess about Japan, its culture, and women's roles in this complex society. (B, D)

Day 11: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 Kyoto This morning, make your way to Nishiki Market with your Tour Manager, where colorful stalls are filled with fresh foods and local specialties, like pickles, dried seafood, and sushi. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore how you want. Perhaps you'll take another visit to the Gion district to wander among its temples, shrines, traditional shops, and charming cafés, visit a museum, or spend time in the park and grounds of the Kyoto Imperial Palace. (B)

Day 12: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 Kyoto - Seoul, South Korea Today, jump on a flight and journey to your final destination: Seoul, the capital city of South Korea. An energetic and eclectic modern city with deep roots, Seoul has something for everyone. (B, D)

Day 13: Thursday, October 23, 2025 Seoul Head to the Korean Demilitarized Zone, or the DMZ, this morning. 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 Theater and 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. (B, L)

Day 14: Friday, October 24, 2025 Seoul This morning, learn about the struggles in North Korea firsthand when you gather for a private talk with a North Korean defector. During this **Impact Moment**, 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, leave the city and sit down for a home-hosted traditional Korean lunch with a local family, and get insight into the daily lives of a South Korean family. (B, L)

Day 15: Saturday, October 25, 2025 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 colorful 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. (B, D)

Day 16: Sunday, October 26, 2025 Seoul - Tour Ends Say goodbye to the energy and splendor of Seoul as you depart for home. Return with countless memories of your journey through Japan and unforgettable moments from the South Korean capital. (B)

PLEASE NOTE:

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Travel with an average of 19 people (maximum of 24).

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.

You will have two separate Tour Managers throughout your trip: one while traveling in Japan and another while traveling through South Korea.

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.

Bon Holiday (Obon) is a Buddhist holiday honoring the spirits of ancestors that occurs in mid-August. During the Bon holiday, many Japanese people travel to their hometowns to pay respects to their ancestors, resulting in increased traffic congestion and crowded public transportation. Some businesses may also close or operate with reduced hours during this time.

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

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

**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.

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

Golden Week is a cluster of national holidays in Japan, including Showa Day (April 29th), Constitution Memorial Day (May 3rd), Greenery Day (May 4th), and Children's Day (May 5th). During Golden Week, popular tourist destinations tend to be extremely crowded, and many businesses, including attractions and restaurants, operate on altered schedules. It's essential to anticipate traffic congestion and longer than usual wait times

for any attractions and transportation. We reserve the right to modify the order of your inclusions during this period, without prior notice.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability. Triple and child accommodations are not available.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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

Internal flights are required in order to participate on this tour and are included in the final price, quoted at time of booking.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Each traveler 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 physician for specific details on the destinations you are traveling to and from.

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.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation for land only and air inclusive reservations. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of March 05, 2025 are based upon availability. Final payment due by July 14, 2025.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279



Special Needs Form

Please complete this form, sign and return it to us within 14 days of receipt.

Email: TravelOperations@collette.com

Fax: 401.727.4745

Mail: Collette: Travel Operations
180 Middle Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

TRAVELERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

You must report any disability requiring special attention to Collette at the time the reservation is made. *Collette will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance. Neither Collette nor its personnel, nor its suppliers, may physically lift or assist clients into transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call Collette to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities. Internationally, a great deal of walking may be necessary to fully enjoy the destination. Travelers should be in good health and must be able to walk reasonable distances. In some areas, travelers may be required to walk on uneven ground, cobblestone streets or raised thresholds.

****To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveler or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom. The cruise company may take appropriate action against someone who has reserved or purchased such a stateroom fraudulently. Action may include but is not limited to removal from the stateroom to a non-accessible accommodation up to denial of boarding.***

Reservation # _____

Name: _____ Male or Female (circle one)

Are you traveling with a wheelchair? Yes No

If you answer “YES”

- Does your wheelchair collapse? Yes No
- Can you stand and climb steps to board the coach without it? Yes No
- Are you capable of lifting your own wheelchair? Yes No

If you are not capable of lifting your own wheelchair who will provide assistance?

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your wheelchair:

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

Are you traveling with a walker? Yes No

If you answer “YES”

- Does your walker collapse? Yes No

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your walker:

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

Tour Managers and drivers do not provide assistance lifting, pushing or carrying wheelchairs or walkers. Motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

Are you requesting any hotel room accommodations? Yes No

If “YES” Please indicate if one or more of the following is required in the washroom.

- Walk-in shower Yes No
- Grab bars Yes No
- Raised toilet seat Yes No

Please provide any details in reference to the nature of your request.

Most hotel rooms that can accommodate the request will be equipped with only 1 bed.

Do you understand and accept? Yes No

Collette cannot guarantee the availability of such rooms as many hotels have a limited number of rooms that are equipped with the above accommodations.

Are you traveling with an oxygen tank? Yes No

If you answer “YES”

- You must contact the airline directly to arrange transportation of the oxygen on the plane. Oxygen requests vary by airline and location and can take up to 2 weeks to request.
- You are responsible for supplying your own electrical cords, and converters as needed.

This form must be remitted within 14 days of receipt for any special needs accommodation request.

Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities and motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

The Americans with Disabilities Act only applies in the United States. Many international destinations cannot accommodate passengers’ requests. Collette will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants, but we cannot guarantee that all requests will be honored on international destinations.

Collette also regrets that it cannot provide individual assistance to a tour member with special needs for walking, dining, or other special personal needs. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable and totally responsible for the assistance.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Internal Use Only

Reason: _____

Tour: _____ Reservation # _____

TS/Group: _____

Tour Date: _____