



Majestic Japan

Land of the Rising Sun

26. September — 11. Oktober, 2020

27. September — 12. Oktober, 2021 | 16. Oktober - 31. Oktober, 2021

Japan is one of the most desired destinations for many tourists, at IMTBIKE we have prepared a Motorcycle route that highlights little known roads, sophisticated Japanese food, its refined culture and rich history. On this tour you will enjoy breathtaking views of Mount Fuji, lush forests of the Japanese Alps and relax in the famous natural hot springs that we find along our way. Live this autumn in a different way on this incredible motorcycle tour in Japan.

Tourdaten

Start /Ende: Tokyo	Gesamtstrecke: 2.818 km / 1.740 Meilen
Dauer: 16 Tage	Fahrtage: 14 Tage
Rasttage: 3: Kyoto, Hiroshima, Kusatsu	Frühstück: 15 Frühstück inbegriffen
Abendessen: 12 Abendessen inbegriffen	Daily mileage: 160 - 220 km / 250-350 Meilen
Hotelübernachtungen: 15 Nächte	Fahrsaison: Herbst
Highlights: Tokyo, Mount Fuji, Japanese Alps, Tsumago, Shikoku, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Eihei-ji, Matsumoto, Kusatsu, Nikko.	Hotels: quality hotels and Japanese Ryokans. Ryokans are a type of traditional Japanese Inn that has existed since the 8th century. The oldest hotel in the world is a Japanese Ryokan founded in 718 A.D.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Touring Roads: 70%

Challenging Roads: 30%

Scenery:

History / Culture:

Riding Time: 5 to 7 hours

Asphalt:



9

10

Mountains:



7

10

Prices

Pilot*:	8050€	Passenger:	5800€	Single Room:	1200€
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* Sharing a double room and riding a Honda NC750X/ Suzuki VStrom650

Bike Upgrade:

BMW F750GS	+ 350€	BMW F850GS/R1200RS	+ 600€
BMW R1250GS	+ 895€	BMW R1250RT	+ 1215€

Tours@IMTBIKE.com

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Day 1: Arrival in Tokio.	Arrive to Japan and transfer to hotel. You will have some free time to relax or explore the Odaiba bay area before the welcome briefing. After the briefing we will have a welcome dinner at a traditional Japanese izakaya restaurant.
Day 2: Hakone - Kawaguchi lake	Our first riding day will get us outside of the bustling Tokyo, through Yokohama and its impressive suspension bridges. Then we will continue riding through the picturesque west of Kanagawa prefecture to reach the famous Mazda Turnpike Road. At the top we will be greeted with a beautiful view of Mount Fuji. We will continue to ride towards it through two skylines. After reaching the fifth station of Mount Fuji we will visit the second world heritage site of the day; the old town of Oshino Hakkai. Then we will continue to the hotel at Kawaguchi Lake, riding around Mount Fuji.
Day 3: Lake kawaguchi - Kiso Valley - Gero Hot Springs	We will head west, having the Japanese Southern Alps on the left to reach the Suntory Hakushu Whisky Distillery, enclosed in a forest in the mountains, for a tour of how they make this acclaimed spirit. Then we will continue towards Suwa Lake to enter the Kiso Valley and ride its winding roads to Tsumago Village, and old town that has been restored to its appearance as Edo-era post town. It was the 42 of the 69 post towns that connected Edo (present Tokyo) with Kyoto. After we will go to Gero city, famous for its hot springs.
Day 4: Gero Hot Springs - Kyoto	We will ride through Gifu Mountain roads to reach Ibuki Driveway, a fun toll road that that goes all the way up to Ibuki Mountain for a wonderful view of the area from the top. Then we will continue to pass by Hikone city and its castle, one of only 12 Japanese castles with the original keep, and one of only five castles listed as a national treasure. And continue to ride along Biwa Lake, the largest freshwater lake in Japan to reach the old capital of Kyoto.
Day 5: Kyoto (Rest day)	Today is a rest day in Kyoto, most well known in Japanese history for being the former imperial capital of Japan for more than one thousand years. Due to its exceptional historic value, the city was dropped from the list of target cities for the atomic bomb and escaped destruction during World War II. Countless temples, shrines and other historically priceless structures survive in the city today. We suggest taking a walk in the bamboo grooves in the morning followed by visits to some of the most beautiful temples the city has to offer, like Kinkakuji (the golden temple) or Kiyo Mizudera.
Day 6: Kyoto – Takamatsu	Today we will ride through Osaka and Kobe to reach the Akashi Kaikyo Bridge. It was opened in 1998 and with a length of almost four kilometers, it is the world's longest suspension bridge. Through it we will reach Awaji Island first and then head into Shikoku Island. Shikoku (literally meaning "four countries") is Japan's fourth largest island. True to its name, Shikoku is divided into four prefectures. In the city of Takamatsu we will visit the Ritsurin Gardens, one of the most famous historical gardens in Japan, build by the local feudal lords during the early Edo period.
Day 7: Takamatsu - Hiroshima	Today we will ride through Shikoku island and some of its mountain roads, and then cross back to Honshu the main island. We will do so through the impressive Shimanami Kaido, a 60km long toll road that connects six small islands in the Seto Inland Sea. Beautiful scenery can be enjoyed all along the way. Once back in Honshu we will head to Hiroshima city, where we will stay for the night.
Day 8: Hiroshima. Rest day	Today is a rest day in Hiroshima. When the first atomic bomb was dropped over Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, the city became known worldwide for this unenviable distinction. The destructive power of the bomb was tremendous and obliterated nearly everything within a two kilometer radius. Only the atomic bomb dome building was left standing. A visit to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and to the near Miyajima Island are highly recommended. Miyajima is most famous for its giant torii gate, which at high tide seems to float on the water. The sight is ranked as one of Japan's three best views. While officially named Itsukushima, the island is more commonly referred to as Miyajima, Japanese for "shrine island". This is because the island is so closely related to its key shrine, Itsukushima Shrine, in the public's mind. Like the torii gate, the shrine's main buildings are built over water. Miyajima is a romantic place and there are also wild deer on the island roaming around. Watch out, they like to eat maps and any paper you have on your hands!
Day 9: Hiroshima - Tottori	Today we will cross Honshu Island to reach the Sea of Japan, going through mountain roads on three different prefectures; Hiroshima, Okayama and Tottori.

Day 10: Tottori - Fukui	Today we will ride to Amanohashidate, one of the known as best three scenic views of Japan. We will continue to ride through Obama city and then ride the Mikata Five lakes Rainbow Road. A beautiful winding road that has the sea of Japan on one side and the Mikata five lakes on the other. The panorama from the top is astonishing. We will then continue riding to Fukui prefecture.
Day 11: Fukui - Takayama	Today we will visit Eiheji, a large temple complex and active monastery standing on a cedar covered slope in the mountains just outside Fukui City. The temple was founded in 1244 by Dogen, the Buddhist scholar who introduced Soto Zen from China to Japan in 1228. We will then continue to visit the World Heritage Site of Shirakawago in the remote mountains that span between Gifu and Toyama. They are famous for their Gassho-Zukuri farmhouses, some of which are more than 250 years old. Then we will reach Takayama where we will spend the night.
Day 12: Takayama - Kusatsu	Today we will visit Matsumoto Castle. It is one of the most complete and beautiful among Japan's original castles. It is unique for having both a secondary donjon and a turret adjoined to its main keep. The castle structures, in combination with their characteristic black wainscoting, give off an air of grandeur and poise. We will then continue to ride to the Japanese Northern Alps, including the highest public road in the country. On the way there we will visit the largest wasabi farm in Japan to learn more about this iconic element of Japanese cuisine. An idyllic scene of old-fashioned, wooden water wheels alongside the river of the farm can also be enjoyed from the walking trails. The water wheels were constructed here for the filming of Kurosawa Akira's "Dreams" in 1989 and have been left standing. We will spend the night at the Hot Spring town of Kusatsu.
Day 13: Kusatsu. Rest day	Today is a rest day in Kusatsu. It is one of Japan's most famous hot spring resorts and is blessed with large volumes of high quality hot spring water said to cure every illness except lovesickness! Well known as a hot spring resort for many centuries, Kusatsu's fame was further boasted by German doctor Erwin Von Baelz, who served at the imperial court in the late 1800s and recommended Kusatsu for its water's health benefits. Kusatsu is situated at an altitude of 1200 meters above sea level in the mountains of Gunma Prefecture and is a great place to walk and relax in their hot springs. It also offers great day trips for riding in the near mountains for those who want to keep exploring on two wheels.
Day 14: Kusatsu - Nikko	Today we will ride the Japanese romantic road, and through two lakes in volcano craters. One is Mount Haruna, and the other Mount Akagi, which has a temple inside an island, inside a lake, inside the crater. Then we will continue riding winding roads all the way to Nikko.
Day 15: Kusatsu - Nikko	One the last day before heading back to Tokyo we will ride through the 400 year old Sugunami Cedar Avenue. It is the longest tree lined avenue in the world with cedar trees that stand 30 meters tall and enclose over 35 kilometers of road. Originally about 200,000 trees were planted in a project which began around 1625, and extended over approximately 20 years. We will also go to the Twin Ring Motegi Circuit and enjoy the extensive Honda Collection Hall Museum where hundreds of motorcycles are displayed and kept in running condition.

