

# JAPAN

10 Days | Student Educational Tour

Brightspark<sup>SM</sup>



## TOUR SNAPSHOT

Discover a new culture with your students on this 10-day tour of Japan. Experience the many districts of Tokyo and Kyoto while you learn about the history of ancient temples, the business techniques of thriving industries and indulge in local delicacies. This tour fits perfectly into a STEM curriculum and takes your students out of their comfort zone for a trip they will remember forever.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED:



**Guided Tours of:**  
Tokyo, Asakusa, Kyoto, Nara



**Site Visits:** Tokyo Imperial Palace, Meiji Shrine, RiSuPia Panasonic Centre, Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park', Sensoji Temple, Fushimi Inari Shrine, Tenryu-Ji Temple, Todai-Ji Temple, Daisen-In Temple, Kinkaku-Ji Zen Buddhist Temple, International Manga Museum, Arashiyama Monkey Park Iwatayama, Gion District



**Local  
Tour Leader**



**Accommodations**  
3-star centrally located hotels



**Transportation**  
Flights, private motor coach, high speed train



**Meals**  
Breakfasts, dinners





# WHY BRIGHTSPARK?

## PUTTING YOUR EXPERIENCE FIRST

- **Guaranteed Flights and Hotels:** We confirm the booking of flights and hotels when you submit your deposit to avoid last minute hiccups.
- **Centrally Located Accommodations:** Save hours avoiding long commutes and maximize your time in destination with hotels within the city limits.
- **Private Tours:** Personalize your class trip to suit your needs and be assured that your students will never be joined with another group.
- **Go, Discover, Inspire:** You are not a tourist but a traveller; we will expose you and your students to the soul of the destination and ignite your sense of wonder.



## EXPERTS IN STUDENT TRAVEL

Our local partnerships allow for personalized tours that are a hybrid of traditional and unconventional.

95%  
OF TEACHERS  
LOVE OUR  
TOURS

60+  
YEARS OF  
TRAVEL  
EXPERIENCE



## WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

### 24/7 GLOBAL SUPPORT

No matter your destination or itinerary, our state-of-the-art Operations Centre is designed to proactively protect you and your students during your educational trips around the globe. From the best insurance to advanced incident management software to 24/7 emergency assistance, we've got you covered.



*"Japan is a beautiful mixture of city and nature. Tokyo reminds me of a bigger and brighter Times Square. The Harajuku area is a hub of pop culture perfect for some shopping. My favourite part was visiting Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park and floating along the scenic Lake Ashi with breathtaking views of Mount Fuji."*

*History Teacher, TDSB*

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## Day 1: Board your flight to Tokyo

### Day 2: Tokyo

- Meet your Tour Leader at the airport.
- Start your trip with a visit to the famous **Shibuya Crossing**, the busiest intersection in the world. When the lights turn red, pedestrians surge into the junctions from all four sides making this a great introduction to the hustle of the city.
- Next stop, the observation deck on top of the **Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building**, which offers breathtaking views of Mount Fuji, the Tokyo Skytree and Meiji Shrine.

### Day 3: Tokyo

- Rise and shine! Wake up early to experience the world-famous **Toyosu Fish Market**. Observe the auctions and wholesale floors to see tuna sales in action and grab a bite of fresh seafood from the stalls and restaurants.
- Visit the **Tokyo Stock Exchange Market** for a lecture on the **Japan Exchange Group** and the recent development of the Japanese Securities Market. Students will also participate in a stock trading game with special focus on Japan-Canada investment.
- Discover Japanese Culture through a **performance** by local experts. Your students can experience Traditional Japanese Kabuki, Karate Martial Arts, or Sumo Wrestling.

### Day 4: Harajuku - Tokyo

- Spend the morning wandering through the gardens of the **Tokyo Imperial Palace**, a large park right in the middle of the city! This is the primary residence of the Imperial Family and has been since the capital and residence was moved from Kyoto in 1868.
- Transfer to the **Harajuku** district of Tokyo for the afternoon.
- A brief walk through an evergreen forest leads you to the entrance of the **Meiji Shrine**. Dedicated to the Emperor Meiji and his wife, Empress Shokun, it is the most popular place in Japan for hatsum de, the first Shinto shrine visit of the year.
- Wear your brightest colours! The next stop is the **Harajuku shopping district**, which is known for its young crowds dressed in distinct and adventurous street style.
- Last stop of the day is the **RiSuPia in the Panasonic Centre** where students will be challenged in the math and science of colours, energy, water and waves at this interactive museum.

### Day 5: Hakone - Tokyo

- Begin the day with a coach trip to the **Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park**.
- Once you arrive, take in the views of **Mount Fuji**, a well-known symbol of Japan and UNESCO Heritage Site. Your students will explore the park on cable cars and mountain railways before a relaxing cruise on scenic **Lake Ashi**.
- Discover the **Hakone Checkpoint**, which controlled traffic between Tokyo and Kyoto and take a walk down the trail of the Tokaido, the old highway that linked the cities during the Edo Period.
- Don't miss out on the **black eggs!** This delicacy which is boiled in the Sulphur hot springs, hence the dark colour, is said to add seven years to your life.

### Day 6: Asakusa - Fushimi - Kyoto

- Head to the district of **Asakusa** for a visit to the **Sensoji Temple**, one of Japan's most famous and photographed temples. Students will also have time to explore the streets of this charming part of Tokyo, including the oldest shopping street in Japan, Nakamise Dori.
- Transfer to **Kyoto** on Japan's high speed **bullet train**, a unique experience for students - especially as speeds can reach up to 320km/hr.
- Once you arrive in Kyoto head to Fushimi to visit the **Fushimi Inari Shrine**. You will start at the Romon Gate, a fixture since 1589, and make your way through the shrine. Afterward, students will trek through thousands of tori gates covering the mountain trails to a peak with stunning views of the city.

### Day 7: Arashiyama - Kyoto

- Start the day with an educational trip to the **factory of a global Japanese company** where students will learn the workings of the factory and the differences in operations from Canadian companies.
- Travel to the district of **Arashiyama**, located on the western side of Kyoto.
- Wander through the unforgettably lush bamboo forests before starting the climb up to the **Arashiyama Monkey Park Iwatayama**. Enjoy the view of Kyoto from above and feed the mischievous snow monkeys - just don't look them in the eye.
- Discover the most important of Kyoto's five great Zen temples, **Tenryu-Ji Temple**. Spend time exploring the gardens, which have survived since the 14th century, and **Dharma Hall** to see the moving eyes of the Cloud Dragon.

## START PLANNING NOW!



[info.brightsparktravel.ca/startplanning](http://info.brightsparktravel.ca/startplanning)



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## Day 8: Nara - Kyoto

- Travel to the city of **Nara** for the day to see the world's largest wooden building, the **Todai-ji Temple**, and the world's largest bronze statue of the Buddha which lives inside.
- Explore the surrounding grounds of **Nara Park**, filled with wild sika deer and feed them their favourite snack, Japanese Senbei.
- After dinner, you will learn the art of paper folding with a workshop on the ancient Japanese art of **Origami** run by your Tour Leader.

## Day 9: Kyoto

- Breathe in and breathe out. Your day will begin on a journey of tranquility during a meditation class with a Zen Buddhist monk at the **Daisen-In Temple**.
- Afterwards, explore the renowned gardens, painted screens and original Hojo architecture and enjoy a cup of Japanese green tea at an **informal tea ceremony**.
- Discover the iconic **Golden Pavilion**, as it glistens in the pond before it, while you visit the **Kinkaku-ji Zen Buddhist Temple**. The present structure was built in 1955 with the top two floors fully covered in gold leaf.
- Wander through the **International Manga Museum** to see the over 300,000 publications, watch one of the manga artists at work or settle into a corner to read one of the comics.
- Head over to the **Gion District** and step into **Gion Corner** for a traditional performance. The program includes a traditional kyo-mai dance performed by real geishas, Japanese comedy, spoken word and theatre.

Day 10: Depart for the airport for your flight home.

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