



# SOUTHERN JAPAN 2022

MARCH 20 - APRIL 2

*Explore Kyushu, the southernmost island of Japan, and see a different side of Japan. Rich variety of foods, perhaps their famous ramen. Some of the best hot springs to purify your skin and calm your spirits. Take your breath away at the remote Yakushima, a natural wonder. Appreciate the history including samurais and wars against the oppressive Tokugawa shogunate. Come to Kyushu to have new experiences of the old.*

## MARCH 20 •••

Arrive in Fukuoka Airport in Fukuoka anytime and transfer to hotel. Rest, dine, and recover from jet lag. Stay in Fukuoka for 2 nights.

## MARCH 21 •••

Go to Dazaifu by train, eat the famous yatai ramen in Fukuoka. Walk around Fukuoka city to see the nightlife.

## MARCH 22 •••

Drive to Beppu and see the 7 Hells, pits of smoldering hot springs. Meet the resident alligators basking in the steam. Eat the famous sashimi caught fresh from the Beppu Bay, or some pudding steamed from the Hells. Soak in a hot springs. Overnight in Beppu for 1 night.

## MARCH 23 •••

Drive towards the mountains to the scenic town Yufuin and eat some cheesecake and do some shopping. Continue on over the Kuju Mountains, Kyushu's highest mountain range to the famous, gorgeous Kurokawa Onsen. Stay at a ryokan, take a private bath and eat a sumptuous dinner at the ryokan. Overnight in Kurokawa for 1 night.

## MARCH 24 •••

Drive toward Aso, see the panorama of the Aso mountains, shaped like a reclining Buddha. Eat ice cream and enjoy a cup of coffee at a cafe in the middle of the farmland with a full view of the Aso Mountains. Drive up to the smoking caldera of Mt. Aso. Take a stop at a deaf-owned cake shop before going to Kumamoto City. Overnight in Kumamoto for 1 night.

## MARCH 25 •••

A walking tour of the Kumamoto City. Eat horse sashimi, if you dare. Visit the rugged Kumamoto Castle, recently damaged by the earthquake, but still standing tall, a testimony to the skill of ancient builders. Eat Kumamoto's famous black ramen. Leave for Nagasaki in the afternoon. Stay in Nagasaki for 3 nights.

### MARCH 26 . . .

Make an unforgettable visit to their Peace Museum and Park commemorating the atomic bomb it suffered almost 75 years ago. Visit the historical area of Dejima, where foreigners were confined during the Edo period.

### MARCH 27 . . .

Two surprises today! One will include a ferry ride in the morning, and the other include a beautiful view. Free time in the afternoon.

### MARCH 28 . . .

Long drive to Kagoshima, the southernmost part of Kyushu, and behold the Vesuvius of Japan, Sakurajima. Enjoy Kagoshima's delicious liqueur, shochu, and some of their local and varied Satsuma cuisine. Easy walking tour of Kagoshima City. Eat waffles made by Deaf people, Satsuma Waffles. Stroll around downtown and stop by the picturesque Sengansen garden villa. Learn about the samurai Saigo Takamori, a hero of Japan, who also inspired the movie The Last Samurai. Stay in Kagoshima for 2 nights.

### MARCH 29 . . .

Drive to the Ibusuki Peninsula, the location of sand bath by the sea where you will be buried in sand up to your neck for 10 minutes! Visit the Chiran museum, where the last letters and memoirs of kamikaze pilots are stored, and ponder about what their thoughts might have been before their flew on their final mission. Return to Kagoshima for dinner.

### MARCH 30 . . .

Take a ferry to the amazing Yakushima Island, where deer and monkeys roam freely. Take a short hike into the dense forest of Yakushima to see a mossy paradise, Shirotoni Unkyo. Eat a dish of flying fish. Stay in Yakushima for 2 nights.

### MARCH 31 . . .

Go see the giant cedars thousands of years old. Take a bath in the tidal pool, only available two times a day for a couple of hours, when the tide's low. Visit some waterfalls and see more monkeys in the wildest portion of the Yakushima coast, the western part. Visit a Deaf-owned farm and have a BBQ dinner.

### APRIL 1 . . .

Some free time in the morning to see some final sights on the island, if desired. Take the ferry in the afternoon back to Kagoshima. Drive to the airport hotel. Overnight in Kagoshima for 1 night.

### APRIL 2 . . .

Transfer to Kagoshima airport to catch your flights.

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\$500 deposit per person is required to reserve space. The availability of space is based on a first come, first serve basis. 100% of the balance is required 90 days before the first day of the tour.

**\$3,450**  
per person /double occupancy

**14 DAYS**

**SMALL GROUP 8 - 12**

**TOUR LEADER:** Martin Dale-Hench • [martin@handson.travel](mailto:martin@handson.travel) • 888-822-1577

## WHAT'S INCLUDED??

- 13 nights in 3-star and 4-star accommodations.
- 15 meals: Breakfast (13), Dinner (2)
- Services of a deaf Tour Leader on call 24 hours a day.
- Services of local deaf and/or hearing guides.
- All transportation expenses.
- All admission fees for attractions and museums mentioned in the itinerary.
- Most tips, except for your Tour Leader.
- Informative travel preparation packet.
- Pre-tour and/or post-tour itinerary consultation.
- \$100 discount per person on your next regular tour.

## WHAT'S EXCLUDED?

- Domestic and/or international airfares.
- All other meals not mentioned in the itinerary and personal expenses.
- Any COVID-19 related tests.
- Travel insurance.

## WHAT TO EXPECT?

- Tour begins in Fukuoka and ends in Kagoshima.
- Tour will be confirmed when we meet the minimum number of participants.
- When the tour is confirmed, additional deposits/payments may be required.
- There will be limited airport pick up and drop off windows at the start and end of the tour. Early/late arrivals and early/late departures outside of pick up or drop off windows are not included.
- Substantial amount of walking expected during the tour. Appropriate physical fitness is necessary.
- Please consult the most recent version of the HOT terms and conditions.  
<https://handson.travel/resources/terms/>
- Hands on Travel recommends that you purchase a travel insurance plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. To learn more, please view the following link:  
<https://handson.travel/resources/protection/>
- Tour itinerary and price are subject to change.