



ADAM LIAW Culinary Tours – JAPAN JULY 2026

Air and Land package Special Offer

From A\$9,980/twin share/person + airline taxes and fees

13 Day Culinary tour of Japan with Adam Liaw

09 – 21 July 2026

1,100 year old Gion Festival in Kyoto & North Island Hokkaido

Escape the Australian winter chills and join us on a special summer culinary tour in Japan. 11 Days in Honshu and Hokkaido in their verdant summer foliage, travelling with Adam Liaw on a fully escorted tour with an experienced tour leader. Since winning Masterchef in 2010, Adam has moved on to write an array of cookbooks and his series on SBS Destination Flavour saw him take home an AACTA award in 2016 for the Best Lifestyle Television programme. In 2016, the Japanese government appointed Adam as an official “Goodwill Ambassador of Japanese Cuisine” and traveling with him provides an amazing opportunity to learn about the culture and cuisine of Japan as we travel together.

Experience for yourself two quite different views of the mosaic of Japanese culture and history. Explore the northern island of Hokkaido and learn about its indigenous Ainu people whose culture dates back tens of thousands of years and the stunning wilderness areas of the Shiretoko Peninsula. By way of contrast, experience the colour, sound and pageantry of the 1100 year old Gion Festival in Kyoto, the centre of high culture in Heian and Edo period Japan. The Gion Festival (Gion Matsuri) is one of the 3 great festivals of Japan, culminating in a massive parade on 17th of July.

Adam Liaw
CULINARY TOURS

**AUSTRALIA - TOKYO [- - -]****Thu 09 JUL Day 1**

20:55 Depart from Sydney by All Nippon Airways' overnight flight NH880. Departure details for interstate travellers are shown at the end of this brochure.

TOKYO – SHIRETOKO [- - D]**Fri 10 JUL Day 2**

05:45 Arrive at Haneda Airport Tokyo. After clearing quarantine and customs, check in for your connecting flight to Hokkaido Island, Flight NH377 dep. Haneda at 12:35, arr. Nemuro Nakashibetsu at 14:15. We head on to the peaceful rustic fishing village of Utoro in the World Heritage listed Shiretoko Peninsula National Park, home to deer, foxes and squirrels. If time allows, we visit The Shiretoko World Heritage Conservation Center. We make our way to our hotel and check in for 2 nights. Dinner at hotel. **Accommodation: 2 nights at The Shiretoko Daiichi Hotel** or similar

SHIRETOKO [B - D]**Sat 11 JUL Day 3**

Morning at leisure. This afternoon we will visit Shiretoko Goko (5 lakes) and do a little bush walking along carefully curated tracks and take in the scenery. Visit also Shiretoko National Park Nature Centre. Dinner at hotel.

SHIRETOKO – LAKE MASHU - LAKE AKAN [B - D]**Sun 12 JUL Day 4**

We leave the hotel by chartered coach this morning to view the beautiful caldera lake, Lake Mashu. After viewing the lake we travel on to Lake Akan, the centre of Ainu culture in Hokkaido. Ainu from all over Japan congregate at Lake Akan in October each year for the ancient Marimo Festival, celebrating their unique culture. We check in at the Tsuruga hotel hot spring resort for 1 night. After dinner at the hotel we will soak up some of the local culture with a walk around the Lake Akan shopping strip, lined with little shops plying handicrafts and sculptures for which the Ainu are so famous. Dinner at hotel. **Accommodation: 1 night at Lake Akan Gozensui** or similar



LAKE AKAN – SAPPORO [B - -]

Mon 13 JUL Day 5

After checking out from our hotel we travel by chartered coach to Sapporo.

On the way to Sapporo, we will visit The Nibutani Ainu museum in the Biratori region. This museum has Ainu crafts designated as important tangible folk cultural properties and lots of audiovisual and book materials. The exhibitions in this museum are utilized for the study of Ainu culture of the Saru Valley. Upon arrival at Sapporo, we transfer to our hotel and check in for 1 night. Our hotel is located in the heart of Sapporo's shopping district. Remainder of the day is free at leisure. Your tour coordinator will be happy to assist you with your dinner arrangements. Sapporo is famous for its "Ramen" noodles. Why not try some tonight at a local noodle bar – just like the locals?

Accommodation: Sapporo Stream Hotel or similar for 1 night

SAPPORO – OSAKA [B - D]

Tue 14 JUL Day 6

08:30 Check out from hotel and transfer to Sapporo domestic airport.

11:10 Depart from Chitose by All Nippon Airways' flight NH774, arriving at Itami at 13:00.

On arrival, we board a coach for a visit to Arima. Enjoy strolling through Arima onsen before transferring to Kobe to enjoy dinner at a Kobe beef teppanyaki restaurant tonight. "Kobe beef", synonymous with branded beef of the highest quality, has enchanted gourmets around the world. Tonight's restaurant offers beef graded A4 and A5 by strict standards, from Tajima cattle raised in Hyogo Prefecture, the only beef allowed to bear the name of "Kobe beef." After dinner, transfer to hotel in Osaka, check in for 1 night. This evening if you feel energetic enough, follow your tour leader for an evening walk to Dōtonbori, a vibrant precinct filled with towering neon signs and restaurants serving up local specialties.

Accommodation: Hotel Nikko Osaka or similar for 1 night

OSAKA - KYOTO [B L -] *Kyoto Gion Festival – YOI-YOIYAMA night*

Wed 15 JUL Day 7

10:00 Check out from hotel and travel to Kyoto. Enjoy a gourmet lunch in Kyoto at Michelin hatted restaurant, Kinobu. The Gion Festival began over 1100 years ago as procession to appease the gods following a plague and sickness. The festival floats have grown in stature and opulence with each year to become the spectacle we will see over the next couple of days. One of the most prestigious floats will be parked just outside the restaurant, affording us a closer look. We will also experience the sights, sounds and smells of historic Nishiki arcade, the provedores to Kyoto's leading restaurants. Check in at hotel for 3 nights. This evening, join the locals and other visitors walking along the main streets of Kyoto to absorb the general buzz of celebration of the Gion Festival "Yoi-yoi-yama" night and view the famous floats - the "Hoko" that will pass by some distance away on festival day and which will be on display in the streets in the neighbourhood northwest of the parade route.

Accommodation: Hotel Okura Kyoto or similar for 3 nights

KYOTO [B L -]

Kyoto Gion Festival - evening session YOIYAMA

Thu 16 JUL Day 8

Morning at leisure. For lunch today, we enjoy a teppanyaki lunch.

We hop onto a train and head off to visit Fushimi Inari, a Shinto shrine famous now for its vermilion torii gates. There we will explore the array of almost 10,000 vermilion torii gates wending their way through the hills behind Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine. The rest of afternoon is free at leisure.

This evening, join the locals and other visitors walking along the main streets of Kyoto to absorb the carnival atmosphere of Gion Festival "Yoiyama" night. There will be music and many more people enjoying the rows of little stalls brimming with street food, trinkets and children's luckydip games along the closed-off streets.



KYOTO [B - -]

Kyoto Gion Festival Parade

Fri 17 JUL

Day 9

Enjoy the colourful Gion Festival procession of floats this morning, some of them over 25m in height from the ground to the roof and weighing up to 12 tonnes.

14:00 After the parade has passed, we meet again for sightseeing by chartered coach, travelling to the Sagano Arashiyama area at the foot of the mountains in the northwest corner of Kyoto. Once the exclusive domain of the feudal aristocracy it is famous for its seasonal beauty and bamboo groves. We also visit the UNESCO world heritage Golden Pavilion (Kinkakuji), a beautiful Zen temple whose top two storeys are completely covered in gold leaf.

KYOTO - TOKYO [B L -]

Sat 18 JUL

Day 10

Check out from hotel. We will travel from Kyoto to Tokyo by Bullet Train. Upon arrival at Tokyo Station, we catch a local train (4 minutes) to the Ginza area for a meal at a gourmet restaurant Rokusantei. After lunch, we walk to our hotel. We end our trip with a stay in the 5-star Imperial Hotel Tokyo for 2 nights.

Accommodation: Imperial Hotel Tokyo or similar **for 2 nights**

TOKYO [B - D]

Sun 19 JUL

Day 11

09:00 Meet at lobby for full day sightseeing, visiting Kappabashi wholesale kitchenware district. Visit also Asakusa Temple and Tsukiji outer market.

18:30 Farewell get-together at Aqua Lounge on the 17th floor of the hotel, looking out over the serene landscape of the Imperial Palace grounds.

TOKYO [B - -]

Mon 20 JUL

Day 12

Today is our last day in Japan, so you might wish to do some last-minute souvenir hunting or an optional half day activity. The official hotel check-out time is 12:00.

18:00 Transfer from the hotel to Haneda airport by chartered coach, to check in for your flight back to Australia.

22:45 Depart Haneda by All Nippon Airways' overnight flight NH879 dep. HANEDA 22:45, Arr. SYDNEY at 09:25 the following morning.

SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

Tue 21 JUL Day 13

09:25 Arrive in Sydney. Interstate passengers make their way to Virgin Australia Airlines connecting flights.

Air & Land package prices 2026

Departing Airport	Air and Land package per person, twin share			Plus Airline tax & fees*
	Economy CL	Premium Economy CL	Business CL	
Sydney	\$9,980	\$12,790	\$14,900	\$243*
Canberra	\$10,420	\$13,230	\$15,340	\$338*
Melbourne	\$10,480	\$13,290	\$15,400	\$294*
Brisbane	\$10,480	\$13,290	\$15,400	\$300*
Adelaide	\$10,440	\$13,250	\$15,360	\$296*
Gold Coast	\$10,360	\$13,170	\$15,280	\$297*
Perth	\$10,940	\$13,750	\$15,860	\$310*
Single room arrangement: \$ 2,080				

*taxes and fares are subject to change

International & Japan domestic flights - by All Nippon Airways

Australian domestic flights - by Virgin Australia Airlines

Interstate travellers fly to Sydney on 09 July 2026 to join flight for Japan.

The inflight service on Virgin Australia Airlines is not included in the tour & air package deal.
Travellers wishing to request any service on Virgin Australian Airlines flights can organize them individually on the Virgin Australia website after the group tickets have been issued.

International and Japan domestic flights: by All Nippon Airways (NH)

Flight No.	Date	Departure/Arrival	Time
NH880	09 JUL '26	Sydney / Haneda Tokyo	20:55 / 05:45 + 1 day/ 10 JULY
NH377	10 JUL '26	Haneda/ Nakashibetsu	12:35 / 14:15
NH774	14 JUL '26	Chitose Sapporo / Itami Osaka	11:10 /13:00
NH879	20 JUL '26	Haneda / Sydney	22:45 /09:25 + 1 day/ 21 JULY

Hotel Selection:

Day	City	Hotel /type of rooms	Twin use	Single Use
2 & 3	SHIRETOKO	Shiretoko Daiichi Hotel or similar	36m ²	33.75m ²
		https://shiretoko-1.com/en/ Room type: West wing Twin room 36m ² – 2 people use. Room type: East wing Twin/Double room 33.75m ² Single use.		
4	LAKE AKAN	Lake Akan Gozensui or similar	30m ²	30m ²
		https://gozensui.com/rooms Room type: Lake view Japanese room		
5	SAPPORO	Sapporo Stream Hotel or similar	24.2m ²	24.2m ²
		https://www.tokyuhotels.co.jp/en/sapporostream/index.html Room type: Superior twin room		
6	OSAKA	Hotel Nikko Osaka or similar	24m ² ~27m ²	20m ²
		https://www.hno.co.jp/english/ Room type: Superior Twin /Double rooms		
7, 8 & 9	KYOTO	Hotel Okura Kyoto or similar	37 m ²	22 m ²
		https://www.okura-nikko.com/japan/kyoto/hotel-okura-kyoto/ Room type: Superior Twin East side – 2 people use Room type: Standard Single room – Single use		
10 & 11	TOKYO	Imperial Hotel Tokyo or similar	32m ²	32m ²
		https://www.imperialhotel.co.jp/en/tokyo?stt_lang=en Room type: Regular floor superior room		

Tour Code: 13PR090726-AL (v7)

TOUR INCLUSIONS

All international and domestic flights

1.From Haneda to Nemuro Nakashibetsu and 2. Sapporo to Itami/Osaka airport.

Chartered coaches and Bullet Train rides. All transportation as specified

11 nights – 3.5~5 star hotel accommodation

Baggage portorage service – 1 piece per person and tips/service fees

Sightseeing of Shiretoko, Lake Mashu, Lake Akan, Sapporo, Osaka, Kyoto, Tokyo

Total 18 meals: Breakfasts x 10, Lunches x 3 and Dinners x 5,
Including Michelin-hat-winning restaurant.

All tipping – Coach drivers, hotels (incl. service fees) and restaurants

EXCLUSIONS

Your travel insurance. Please have your personal travel insurance cover to protect yourself.

Passengers are responsible for securing any necessary visas, health and vaccination certificates and any medical tests required by Governments or airlines.



JANESCO Travel

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Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm (AEST)