



Toll Free: 1-877-388-1777  
www.signettours.com

# 7-Day Kansai

Osaka, Kobe, Nara, Kyoto, Lake Biwa...

Depart Every Sunday in April 2009

Depart Every Saturday from May to Dec 2009

7 days/ 5 nights starting from \$2199\*

\* Prices include land, air, fuel surcharges, and taxes(Disclaimer: prices based on double occupancy and subject to seasonal and currency exchange rate changes)

## Highlights:

### **Luxurious and atmospheric accommodations:**

- Luxurious centrally-located hotel
  - Stay in the Swisshotel Osaka, located right next to the region's largest train station, putting access to most urban sights right at your doorstep.
- Hot spring spa resort
  - Spend one evening in Lake Biwako Hot Spring Hotel; designed to resemble a large ship, playing into the theme of its lakeside locale with all rooms facing Lake Biwa.

### **Special site arrangements:**

- See the ancient Japanese capital of Nara.
- Sample Osaka, the "Kitchen of Japan."
- Visit Kobe, a seaside trading town featuring a curious blend of Japanese-European culture.
- Experience the elegance of Kyoto, voted the top destination in Asia by TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Awards 2008™.
- The Imperial Palace of Kyoto.

### **Trip flexibility:**

- Frequent departures available.
- Extended stays in Kyoto or Osaka are available per your request.
- This itinerary is ideal for traveling to other locations in Asia. Airfare add-ons to other Asian cities start from as low as \$50.

## Today's Travels:

**Day 1 • Depart North America for Osaka, Japan**

## **Day 2 • Arrive in Osaka**

Welcome to Osaka! Distinctively different from Tokyo, Osaka is known as Japan's commercial and culinary capital. Upon arriving at the airport, you will be escorted to your hotel by a Signet representative where you can take time to explore the area or rest for tomorrow's sightseeing. *(Dinner)*

## **Day 3 • Osaka • Nada • Kobe**

A morning tour of Osaka city will give you a diverse view of life in modern Japan. After lunch, visit Osaka Castle, the largest castle in Japan and offers fantastic view from top floor and exhibits relevant historical information about Japan's reunification in the late fifteen hundreds. Venture into Nada, a district famous for its deliciously pure water, used to produce Japan's finest sake where you can visit a local brewery and partake in taste-testing. For dinner, spend the night in Kobe to enjoy Kobe Beef, teppanyaki style. Spend the remainder of the night relaxing at the Mosaic Kobe Harborland, an atmospheric rendezvous spot where locals come to shop, socialize and stroll peacefully by the waterfront. *(3 meals)*

## **Day 4 • Nara • Kyoto**

The day start off at Nara Park, play with free roaming deer, fabled messengers from the heavens. Inside the park is Todai-ji Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage landmark and home to Nara Daibutsu, the world's largest bronze Buddha statue. In Kyoto, visit the beautiful Nijo Castle, personal residence of the great Shogun Tokugawa. Spend the night at a lakeside Japanese hot spring resort. After enjoy hot spring ryokan, change to Ukata and dinner is serve as a Kyoto-style Kaiskei banquet dinner and partake the fun time singing with Kareoke. *(3 meals)*

## **Day 5 • Kyoto**

Kiyomizu Temple is peaceful and nature-filled playground of sorts, perfect for a morning stroll. Venture off to Sannenzaka and Ninenzaka, old-fashioned side streets of Kyoto lined with shops selling local specialties. Afterwards, a visit at Kinkakuji Temple, built as a chateau for Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, it now serves as a Buddhist temple. At the Nishijin Textile Center, learn about Japan's rich and luxurious textile culture through a kimono fashion show. Spend the night at a lakeside Japanese hot spring resort. This evening is spent in Gion, the geisha district of Kyoto, a bustling late night hang out. Tonight after dinner, you will be provided with a map of Kyoto to discover the city on your own. *(3 meals)*

## **Day 6 • Kameoka • Kyoto • Osaka**

The day starts with a scenic ride along the Sagano Romantic Train following the rushing rivers of the breathtaking Hozagawa Valley. Outside of Arashiyama, take a brief walk along the bamboo path, a fairytale-like forest, to Tenryuji Temple. At The Imperial Palace observe where Japanese Emperors lived at once and architecture at its finest. Spend the night experiencing Osaka's

nightlife in shopping and food districts Shinsaibashi and Dotonbori on your own with city guides provided by Signet Tours. (*Breakfast and Lunch*)

**Day 7 • Depart from Osaka**

You will be escorted to the airport for your next destination by a Signet representative. Sai-yo-na-ra (Good bye - Since it must be so)! (*Breakfast*)