

# South Korea & Japan

# featuring the Osaka World Expo 2025

#### **Inspiring Moments**

- Explore **South Korea**, from Seoul's bustling city to Busan's stunning coast.
- Experience Japan's rich history and culture, with its blend of Eastern traditions and Western modernity.
- Participate in the time-honored tradition and ritual of a **Japanese Tea Ceremony**.
- Journey through Japan on a thrilling high-speed bullet train.
- Witness magnificent shrines, temples, pagodas and gardens.
- Attend the Osaka World Expo 2025—
   Designing Future Society for Our Lives.
- Learn the art of Taiko, and how to make
   Korean kimchi and Japanese sweets.
- Visit South Korea's Hwaseong Fortress, a
   UNESCO World Heritage site.



Top: Haedong Yonggungsa Temple | Above: Tea ceremony



#### **Itinerary**

- Day 1 Depart gateway city •
- Day 2 In transit
- Day 3 Arrive in Seoul and transfer  $\circlearrowleft$  to hotel
- Day 4 Seoul
- Day 5 Seoul
- Day 6 Seoul
- Day 7 Seoul | Busan
- Day 8 Busan
- Day 9 Busan
- Day 10 Busan | Kyoto
- Day 11 Kyoto
- Day 12 Kyoto | Osaka
- Day 13 Kyoto
- Day 14 Kyoto | Tokyo
- Day 15 Tokyo
- Day 16 Tokyo
- Day 17 Transfer → to Tokyo airport and depart for gateway city ♣

Flights and transfers provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

#### **Included Features**

**Accommodations** (with baggage handling)

- 4 nights in Seoul, South Korea, at the first-class THE PLAZA Seoul, Autograph Collection.
- -3 nights in Busan, South Korea, at the first-class Park Hyatt Busan.
- 4 nights in Kyoto, Japan, at the first-class Hotel Nikko Princess Kyoto.
- -3 nights in Tokyo, Japan, at the first-class Imperial Hotel Tokyo.

Transfers (with baggage handling)

 Flight from Busan to Osaka, for Kyoto, and train and deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

### **Extensive Meal Program**

-14 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 5 dinners

#### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- -Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- Visit **two countries** on this program.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- AHI Connects | Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- AHI Sustainability Promise | Striving to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.

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#### A World of Discovery

#### AHI Connects | Japanese Tea

**Ceremony.** Participate in a traditional Japanese tea ceremony with a host who will share its cultural significance.

**Taiko Drumming.**Join in the sacred Japanese ritual of Taiko, and take a turn at the percussion drums.

**Gyeongbokgung Palace.** Be awed by the magnificence of South Korea's largest royal palace, built in the pagoda style in 1395. Roam the pleasure gardens and lotus ponds and visit the National Folk Museum.

**Seoul.** Immerse yourself in the culture of South Korea. See traditional *hanok* houses in Bukchon Hanok Village. Stroll the dense maze of Namdaemun Market to peruse the diverse mix of Korean items. Then, take a trip outside of Seoul to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), the de facto international border between North and South Korea. Return to Seoul to learn how to make kimchi and taste the tangy, umami dish.

**Busan.** Explore two of Busan's traditional markets. Visit Haedong Yonggungsa Temple, related to the Goddess of Buddha. Also, visit the United Nations Memorial Cemetery, honoring casualties of the Korean War. Marvel at the brightly painted houses built in staircase fashion in the foothills of Gamcheon Culture Village.

**Oryukdo Skywalk.** Venture out on this sky walk, 1,200-feet-high, with spectacular views over the Oryukdo Islands in Busan.

**Hwaseong Fortress.** Visit one of South Korea's prized historical treasures, the only remaining walled fortress in the country.

Kyoto's Shrines & Temples. Encounter inspiring landmarks in Kyoto! Marvel at the imperial Heian-jingū Shrine; the 1001 statues of Sanjūsangen-dū Temple, and the hilltop Kiyomizu-dera Temple. Admire Nijo Castle, a superb example of Momoyama architecture and Kinkaku-ji Temple's gold leaf exterior. Visit the Kitano-Tenmangū Shrine to see fragrant plum trees and Sanko Gate, or three lights of the sun, moon and stars. Savor Japanese sweet making.

**High-Speed Bullet Train.** Journey through Japan on a vaunted *shinkansen*, bullet train.

**Osaka World Expo 2025.** Explore this exciting, international event, representing nearly 200 countries—with innovative exhibits from around the world, immersive cultural experiences, more than 50 global cuisines, and groundbreaking architecture.

**Tokyo.** Drive through the chic, stylish Ginza shopping district. Witness Tokyo Skytree, the world's tallest building. Visit the colorful, Buddhist Asakusa Kannon Temple. Explore the Imperial Palace's exquisite gardens.



Shinkanzen passing Mt. Fuji

#### **Enrichment**

- Contemporary Korea
- The A to Zen Behind Japanese Gardens and Temples
- Modern Japan

## **UNESCO World Heritage**

Hwaseong Fortress, South Korea

#### Accommodations

THE PLAZA Seoul, Autograph Collection
| South Korea

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Park Hyatt Busan | South Korea

Hotel Nikko Princess Kyoto | Japan

Imperial Hotel Tokyo | Japan

Tripadvisor

**Activity Level:** We have rated all of our excursions with activity levels to help you assess this program's physical expectations. Please call or visit our website for full details.



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#### AHI Travel Expertise

For more than six decades, our dedicated team has helped travelers explore the world safely and securely.

**Travel Coordinator |** Helps with everything from arranging flights to fulfilling special requests.

**Travel Director |** Manages all details to ensure a safe and memorable trip.

**Travel information |** Prepares you fully for your journey.

**Expert local guides and lecturers |**Provide friendly, knowledgeable service and share their passion for the destination.

#### Let us arrange your flights!

**AHI FlexAir** | Our personalized air program features transfers, assistance and flexibility.

#### 2025 Departures & Pricing

#### September 2-18, 2025

Full Price From \$9,245
Special Savings \$750

#### \*Early Booking Special Price From \$8,495

\*Early Booking Special Price valid if booked by expiration date on website and paid in full at booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$250 per person.

VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$495 per person. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated)

Single accommodations are an additional \$1,895 (limited availability).

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