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## Suggested Reading

**Before the Dawn**, by Shimazaki Tosen

**Shogun**, by James Clavell

**Embracing Defeat**, by John Dower

**Convenience Store Woman**, by Sayaka Murata

**The City and Its Uncertain Walls: A Novel**,  
by Haruki Murakami (Author), Philip Gabriel  
(Translator)

**They Called Us Enemy**, by George Takei &  
Steven R. Scott



*Susan has been escorting groups and in the travel industry for over 35+ years.*

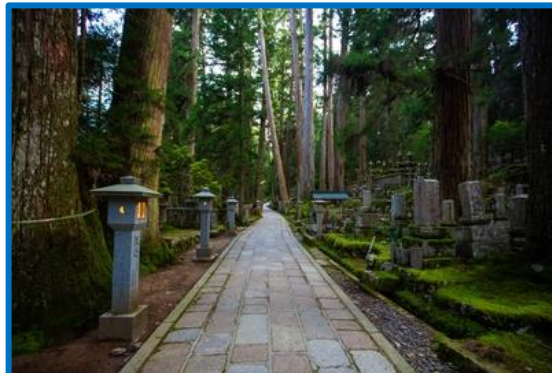
*Her travel knowledge will allow you an unforgettable experience wherever you travel.*

*This is a remarkable experience. Call today to reserve your dream vacation.*

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*Enjoy an awe-inspiring moment each day... guaranteed.*

*Very knowledgeable and experienced guides are with the group on this trip.*



**October 14-25, 2026**

**Japan, The  
Nakasendo Trail,  
Tokyo, Kyoto and  
More..**



*Join this 10-night  
unforgettable  
experience with ...*

**Susan's Custom Tours & Travel**  
52 Schooner Drive, Cotuit, MA  
02635  
[www.scttravel.com](http://www.scttravel.com)  
774.238.2332  
[scttmg@gmail.com](mailto:scttmg@gmail.com)

## Itinerary

**Day 1-Oct. 14 Depart for Tokyo.**

**Day 2-Oct. 15** Arrive Tokyo and transfer to



**Hotel Monterey Ginza 3 nights B&B.** A Welcome Dinner will be at the hotel tonight.

**Day 3- Oct. 16** After breakfast we meet our

guide via train to tour **2 exceptional gardens** in Tokyo. In the afternoon will be a craft class, maybe origami, maybe calligraphy! We might just make Ramen, the comfort food of Japan.

**Day 4-Oct. 17** Today will be a **Walking Tour** to include the infamous **Tsukiji Fish Market** and temples in Tokyo with a private guide. Experience Tokyo on this half day tour. The afternoon is free. *Dinner on own.*

**Day 5-Oct. 18-**After breakfast we board the Bullet Train to **Kyoto**. Here we stay at the **Hotel Monterey Kyoto for 3 nights B & B**. This afternoon, we take a Food Tour visiting the **Nishiki Market** enjoying Japanese Food.

**Day 6- Oct. 19-**This morning will be a visit to the **Samurai Museum and Experience**. For the Samurai Experience, you will wear the traditional clothing of the samurai. Once you are clad in the clothes of the samurai, then the lessons begin. Learn traditional movements with the sword. The Samurai master will teach you how to properly wear and draw the sword, how to cut, and then a traditional Kata. The title of Samurai will last you a lifetime.

**Day 7- Oct. 20** Something a little different today. We take the **Arashiyama Tour with Scenic Boat Ride** and a private guide. A perfect mix of culture, nature, and fun—all in one trip!

**Day 8- Oct. 21** After breakfast we ride the rails to Nagoya and meet our Guide from **Walk Japan** and

begin our journey on the **Nakasendo Trail**. The tour meets at the Nagoya Rail Station at 2pm to begin the walk along the **Nakasendo Trail and Kiso Road**. We visit a charming local museum dedicated to Hiroshige, one of Japan's famous printmakers. The tour leader holds an informational briefing at our evening meal composed of delicious Japanese fare

**Day 9- Oct. 22 Ena - O-tsumago**

After breakfast, we travel by train and taxi to the southern gateway of the **Kiso Valley**. From here we begin our walk along the Kiso Road section of the Nakasendo Way. Follow an ancient road past paddy fields and quiet farmhouses to the pleasant post town of **Magome**. We continue onto **O-tsumago**, a lovely hamlet of a few traditional houses and inns set in a valley, aside a fast-flowing river. Stay at a *Traditional Japanese inn w B, L & D*. walking:(6.2 miles)-elevation:(1,510ft).

**Day 10-Oct. 23 O-tsumago-Kaida Plateau-Kiso-Fukushima**

After an early breakfast we set off again along the Nakasendo for nearby **Tsumago**, a beautifully maintained, traditional post town. We do a little exploring before continuing our way for about (3.75 miles) to **Nagiso**. We take a local train to Kiso-Fukushima for the beginning of our walk over a pass on the Hida Rd., an old trail that connected with the Nakasendo Way that leads us through forests to the **Kaida Plateau**. The plateau is dominated by the sacred Mt. Ontake, an active volcano that provides an impressive backdrop to one of the most picturesque areas of Japan. We return to iso-**Fukushima** and our accommodation, a delightful inn with *onsen* thermal hot spring baths, for the night. Stay at a *Traditional Japanese inn with onsen hot spring baths w B, L & D*. walking:(7.5 miles)-elevation :(1,215ft).

**Day 11-Oct. 24 Kiso-Fukushima-Narai-Matsumoto**

After breakfast, we transfer by local train to Yabuhara, from where we rejoin the Nakasendo Way to climb the **Torii Pass**. The pass is named after the Shinto *torii* gate, which marks one of four protective sites surrounding Mt. Ontake. At 1,197 meters, the Torii Pass is also the second highest point on the Nakasendo. Our descent from here takes us along narrow mountain paths until we emerge at the outskirts of Narai, a lovely post town. Here we have free time to explore, relax in cafes, and shop in this well-preserved and atmospheric town before transferring by train to **Matsumoto**. We walk to our

hotel, a charming and comfortable establishment in the center of the city, where we enjoy our last dinner together. Stay at a Western-style hotel w B, L & D-walking:(6.2 miles) elevation gain:(1,220ft).

**Day 12-Oct. 25 Matsumoto**

After breakfast we depart for Tokyo on the Bullet Train and transfer to the airport and say Sayōnara to Japan.

## TOTAL PER PERSON

**\$5575.00**

*based on double occupancy-8 adults traveling*

**RESERVE with \$1500 per person Non-refundable deposit**

*Itinerary subject to change.*

**FINAL ITINERARY CONFIRMED 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.**

## Included:

Service of an English-speaking guide  
10 nights in hotels & Japanese-style inns  
Daily breakfast and 6 dinners  
All transportation between tour locations  
Entrance to museums, temples, & other sites on itinerary  
Forwarding of **1** item of luggage per person  
2-5 hours walking/hiking during the walking portion per day

## Excluded:

International Flights  
\*Drinks & meals not included in itinerary  
Entrance fees to museums, temples, etc. not mentioned in the itinerary  
\*Single room supplement for solo travelers  
Tipping (*list of suggested tips will be given*)  
Personal items and spending

**REQUIRED Travel Insurance & Visa's**

**Due to currency fluctuations prices will not be guaranteed until paid in full.**