

Osaka Castle, Tsutenkaku Tower

History and Culture in the Cosmopolitan City of Osaka

Capacity: 40



Get to know the vibrant city of Osaka as we travel south of Kyoto, to see how one of Japan's most metropolitan cities balances traditional culture with modernity. We will visit Osaka Castle's Tenshukaku Tower to enjoy panoramic views that cast light on the development of the city from the times of famed shogun, Toyotomi Hideyoshi. We will then visit Minami Osaka – the southern shopping district, and finally the Tsutenkaku Tower, known as the Eiffel Tower of Naniwa after the old name of Osaka.

Itinerary

(*The itinerary is subject to change without notice.)

8:30	Meet at JR Kyoto Station	=====Chartered bus=====
10:00–11:30	Osaka Castle	=====Chartered bus=====
12:00–13:00	Lunch (Okonomiyaki)Walk.....
13:10–14:20	Namba Area: ShoppingWalk.....
14:30–15:00	Tombori River Cruise	=====Chartered bus=====
15:30–16:15	Tsutenkaku Tower	=====Chartered bus=====
17:30	Tour ends at JR Kyoto Station	

Osaka Castle: Designated as a National Historic Site, Osaka Castle was built by Toyotomi Hideyoshi in the Azuchi-Momoyama period. The gorgeous, impressive design of the castle reflects the great power and influence Hideyoshi had. The castle is a reproduction of the original building, with the great Tenshukaku Tower, magnificent stone walls, and *masugata* square restored precisely to their original state.

Tombori River Cruise: A 20-minute guided cruise along the Dotombori canal gives you a rare opportunity to view the cityscape of the Dotombori district of Osaka's Minami area from the waters.

Osaka's Minami (South) Area (Namba area): The Dotombori district is the downtown part of Osaka's Minami area and is famous for a neon-lit running-man sign. You can really feel the vibrant energy of Osaka here.

Tsutenkaku Tower: A landmark of Osaka's Shin-sekai district, the Tsutenkaku Tower has recently gained popularity as a tourist attraction because of its retro feel. The original Tsutenkaku Tower was modeled after the Arc de Triomphe and the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France.



Tombori River Cruise



Osaka's Minami area



Tsutenkaku Tower