

TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS & THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOUR TRIP

JAPAN

(Updated March 2026)

PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP

As you prepare to embark on your upcoming Affordable World journey, please log on to your My Affordable account and click on your trip confirmation ID to review the most up to date trip details including hotel information, flight schedules, and ticket number(s). Please make sure you have all travel documents, passports, and necessary visas ready before you depart for your trip.

CHECKING IN AT THE AIRPORT

Be sure to bring your **passport** as you will need to present it when checking in at the airport. Please be advised that not all airlines assign seats in advance. Some airlines assign seats at the airport during check-in. We recommend all travelers arrive at the airport at least 3 hours prior to the flight departure time. You will receive boarding passes at the airline counter when you check in for your flight.

UPON ARRIVAL IN JAPAN

Please go through Customs and Immigrations on your own. After you pick up your luggage, exit the baggage claim area and look for the Affordable World representative holding an Affordable Asia/World flag or sign. **Please wear your Affordable badge at all times** during the tour for easy identification, as each city may be assisted by different local representatives.

AIRPORT TRANSFER UPON ARRIVAL

Airport Transfers: Land & Air Packages - AJX - Japan Highlights Travelers

Affordable World airport assistants will wait for arriving tour members outside the airport baggage claim area for up to 90 minutes after the landing time of the tour member's flight. After this time, the assistant will no longer be available. If for any reason a tour member does not meet the Affordable World representative within 90 minutes of the flight's landing, the tour member will be responsible for arranging and covering the costs of their own transportation from the airport to the hotel.

The airport assistant will provide instructions and assistance with transportation to the hotel, which is typically arranged via a shared bus, minivan, or taxi. Please be aware that specific modes of transportation cannot be requested in advance and will be assigned upon arrival.

Please note that the airport assistant will not accompany tour members from the airport to the hotel. Guests will be traveling to the hotel and checking in on their own.

Airport Transfers: Land Only Packages, Extended Stay & AJI - Affordable Japan Travelers

Round-trip airport transfers are not included for the following:

- All Land only packages
- Japan Pre and post tour extensions

- AJI - Affordable Japan package (Land only and Land & Air)

Please note, our Affordable Japan (AJI) packages are classified as semi-independent tours*. Sightseeing tours, airport, hotel and train transfers may be handled by different local representatives at each location upon arrival and departure. Guests will not be provided with porter services or assistance with getting to/from the hotel-bullet train-hotel or airport-hotel-airport. Please visit our [travel styles page](#) to learn more about our different travel styles offered. Please arrange your own airport transfer to/from the hotel as listed in your travel documents. Transfer service from the Tokyo Hotel to the Bullet Train is available for purchase prior to the trip departure date. Otherwise, please arrange your own transfer from the Tokyo hotel to the Bullet Train station.

**Semi-Independent trips are generally medium-paced and often offer more free time than Escorted tours: cue free days and evenings earmarked for you to explore alone or join optional tours. The trips include local guides and guiding services on city orientation and optional tours as per the itinerary—with some featuring the same guide and others guides who vary across cities, days, and activities. Airport-hotel transfers may be handled by different representatives, while in other cases, you may need to take airport shuttles and short cab rides independently. With these tours, you won't be provided with porter services or assistance with getting on and off any included ferry journeys.*

Roundtrip Airport transfers are not included for all Land Only packages and AJI - Affordable Japan (both Land Only and Land & Air packages). Airport transfer is not included for those extending their stay before or after the tour. Please arrange your own airport transfer to/from the hotel/airport. Hotel accommodations are not included when extending your stay. Extended stay travelers are responsible for arranging accommodations; alternatively, hotel accommodations may be purchased up to 35 days prior to the trip departure date. To purchase hotel accommodations, please log on to your My Affordable account or contact us.

Affordable Japan (AJI) Package Only - Airport Transfer service is available for purchase. To purchase the airport transfer service, please log in to your account at least 7 days prior to the trip departure date.

For Travelers who have purchased the airport transfer service:

Please go through Customs and Immigrations on your own. After you pick up your luggage, exit the baggage claim area and look for the Affordable World representative holding an Affordable Asia/World flag/sign and your name board. **Please wear your Affordable badge at all times** during the tour for easy identification, as each city may be assisted by different local representatives.

Affordable World airport assistants will wait for arriving tour members outside the airport baggage claim area for up to 90 minutes after the landing time of the tour member's flight. After this time, the assistant will no longer be available. If for any reason a tour member does not meet the Affordable World representative within 90 minutes of the flight's landing, the tour member will be

responsible for arranging and covering the costs of their own transportation from the airport to the hotel. The unused portion of airport transfer is nonrefundable.

The transfers are arranged via a shared coach basis.

The airport assistant will provide instructions and assistance with transportation to the hotel, which is typically arranged via a shared bus, minivan, or taxi. Please be aware that specific modes of transportation cannot be requested in advance and will be assigned upon arrival.

Please note that the airport assistant will not accompany tour members from the airport to the hotel. Guests will be traveling to the hotel and checking in on their own.

DAILY ITINERARY

Upon arrival in Tokyo, a tour guide or representative will provide you with a detailed day-to-day itinerary with transfer schedules for the city and optional tours as well as any necessary vouchers required for the trip.

Land Only, Extended Stay & AJI - Affordable Japan Travelers - an envelope with the above information will be left at the front desk in the Tokyo hotel.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Passports must be valid for 6 months from the return date of your trip and have at least 1 blank page.
- **US Passport holders** – No visa required for tourist stays up to 90 days
- **Non-US Passport holders** – please check with your local Malta consulate for Visa requirements
- All travelers must ensure they are eligible to enter Japan and produce all required entry documentation for this vacation. Requirements and restrictions may depend on different factors including but not limited to: your country of residence, passport nationality, transit points, as well as previous travel history.
- For detailed passport and visa requirements, all travelers are advised to check with the related embassy or consulate.
- **Visit Japan Web Application:** Travelers are recommended to register via email on the Visit Japan Web before arriving in Japan. The obtained QR codes can be presented at immigration and customs on arrival. See more details - [here](#) and [complete online](#)
- Please note that the information provided in this document is based on the time of print/publication and a country's requirements can change at any time. It is the responsibility of the traveler to check all updates and obtain all necessary documents and tests prior to departure, as well as entry back into the US. Affordable World is not responsible if you are denied entrance for any reason in any country, even if you hold a valid passport and entry visa.

BAGGAGE

- Baggage allowance for international flights varies by airline and is subject to change at any time. For up-to-date baggage allowance restrictions, please check with the appropriate airline for their latest regulations. Additional baggage charges may apply.
- **Please keep in mind within Asia the baggage limitation on all flights varies by airline. Generally, the baggage allowance on domestic flights is limited to 1 checked-in of 44 lbs. and 1 carry-on with a combined total dimension not exceeding 45 inches. Please check directly with the corresponding airline to confirm baggage allowance policies.**
- **A maximum of 2 pieces of luggage per person are allowed in the luggage storage on the airport transfer bus. Any guests with more than two pieces of luggage will need to purchase an additional seat(s) on the bus for their extra piece(s) of luggage(s). That expense will be the responsibility of the traveler.**

Important Luggage Info & Tips

- Baggage is the sole responsibility of the traveler. We recommend using a TSA approved luggage lock and Affordable World luggage tags (enclosed) showing the name and contact information of the owner. Baggage without a lock may be refused for transport
- DO NOT pack medicine, valuables, and other personal necessities in checked luggage. Keep these items in your carry-on bag
- Consider packing a change of clothing, a set of undergarments and toiletries in your carry-on bag to avoid inconvenience caused by delays or lost luggage.
- Power bank chargers over 20,000 mAh are restricted from carry on and check in luggage
- Power bank mAh capacity must be clearly labeled by the manufacturer on the charger
- Please visit www.tsa.gov for USA carry on restrictions
- No porter service will be provided throughout the tour. During the tour please always keep an eye on your personal belongings and valuables. Be aware of your surroundings when going out on your own.
- **AJI - Affordable Japan Package Only** - The luggage restriction on board your bullet train from Tokyo to Kyoto is a maximum of 1 piece per person; 63 inches total (H x L x D). Please note, guests will be charged at the train station for any oversized luggage.
- **Important note: Affordable World Tours' representatives cannot enter the luggage claim area. After you collect your luggage and exit customs, our local Affordable World representative will be waiting for you outside with an Affordable World flag or sign.**

CURRENCY

The Japanese currency is called Yen. The exchange rate is about 159.12 Yen to 1 US dollar as of March 2026. Most department stores, hotels and restaurants will accept major credit cards such as American Express, Visa, and MasterCard. However, it is more convenient to use cash especially if you are planning to shop and eat in smaller shops.

TIPPING

An important note on tipping - please note gratuities are not included in your tour cost. They are customary and their purpose is to encourage and reward quality service. Our guides greatly appreciate any tips you would like to give them. Our recommended tip amount is \$10 USD per person per night.

HEALTH & MEDICAL MATTERS

Medical and vaccination requirements vary between countries and it is important you check with your family doctor or a qualified medical professional for the most up to date travel health information for the region you are visiting. Due to the length of the trip, it is advised you consult your doctor for existing medical/dental conditions before departure

It is advised to pack any prescription medicine in your carry on hand luggage. Please make sure prescription medicine is fully labeled. It may also be useful to bring aspirin, over-the-counter medicine for the flu, indigestion, motion sickness, etc. In case of illness during the trip, please immediately notify your tour guide for assistance.

WALKING

Our Itineraries include city tours and these involve a decent amount of walking. Be prepared for many steps, uneven pavement and walking up steep inclines – comfortable walking shoes with grip are strongly recommended.

ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

Leading hotels in big cities within Japan have two outlets of 110 and 220 volts, but their sockets usually accept two-prong plugs only.

TIME DIFFERENCE

The time difference between major cities in North America and Japan is as below:

- Los Angeles & San Francisco + 17 hours
- New York + 14 hours

MEALS

Meals are included in Japan as per itinerary. We regret to inform you that Affordable World is unable to confirm any special meal requests as it is based on the availability of the restaurants, hotels, and airlines. Please contact the airlines directly to place special meal requests for your flights. Automatic vending machines are more widespread in Japan than anywhere else in the world. The machines operate 24 hours a day at all rest areas, selling soft drinks, cigarettes, cup noodles, as well as pre-paid telephone cards, and usually accept 10, 50, 100, 500 yen coins (some accept 1,000 yen bills also).

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS

Based on two adults sharing one twin bedded room, double occupancy. Generally the rooms in Japan are small, but clean and comfortable.

SHOPPING

Although Affordable World’s national guides will be happy to assist you with any shopping requirements, Affordable World does not assume responsibility for any items purchased at shops while on tour. You are never required to purchase any items while on tour and thus must be responsible for your own purchases. Any after sales correspondence must be between the passenger and the shop in question.

OPTIONAL TOURS

Optional tours may be added up to 7 days prior to the departure date. Optional tours may also be purchased while on the tour. All on-site optional tour purchases are an additional \$10 per person and must be payable in USD cash (credit cards are not accepted for on-site optional tour purchases). Optional tours that have a “pre-book” icon are only available for purchase up to 7 days prior to the departure date and are not available for on-site purchase. Unused services, including optional tours are non-refundable.

CLIMATE & CLOTHING: The weather in Japan is generally mild. Since the nation stretches for over 3,000 km from north to south, the weather varies depending on where and when you travel.

Mar-May Spring – lightweight jackets & sweaters

Jun-Aug Summer – light clothing, short sleeves

Sep-Nov Autumn – lightweight jackets & sweaters

Dec-Feb Winter – Wool and Warm overcoats, suits, sweaters & jackets.

Please note: shoes need to be removed prior to entering temples in Japan. Since the temples have no heater, during winter time, we recommend you to wear warm socks when visiting temples.

Temperature/Rainy Days in Major Cities, Japan

Major Cities	Spring (Mar-May)			Summer (Jun-Aug)			Autumn (Sep-Nov)			Winter (Dec-Feb)		
	T (F)	T (C)	Rainy Days	T (F)	T (C)	Rainy Days	T (F)	T (C)	Rainy Days	T (F)	T (C)	Rainy Days
Tokyo	58.1	14.5	10.0	81.9	27.7	10.0	65.8	18.8	8.9	45.7	7.6	4.3
Osaka	58.3	14.6	10.5	83.7	28.7	12.0	67.5	19.7	8.1	44.6	7.0	6.3
Kyoto	57.0	13.9	10.5	79.7	26.5	12.0	62.8	17.1	8.1	39.2	4.0	6.3

USEFUL JAPANESE PHRASES

ENGLISH

Hello
How are you?
I am fine
Thank you very much
Good morning
Good evening
That looks delicious
How much?
What is this?
Too expensive
How do you?
I came from America

JAPANESE

Konnichi wa
Ogenki desu ka?
Genki desu
Arigatou Gozaimasu
Ohayo Gozaimasu
Konban wa
Oishii sou
Ikura desu ka?
Kore wa nan desu ka?
Taka sugimasu
Hajimemshite
Amerika kara kimashita

JAPAN TRAVEL INFO

For detailed Japan travel guides & maps please visit: <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/pdf/>

JAPAN EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

626-677-3423

GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

We'd like to remind all guests to check their local state travel guidelines regarding travel restrictions when arriving from international destinations or other US States, as this may vary state by state.

[US State Department](#)

[CDC Travel Resources](#)

[WHO](#)

[Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan](#)

[U.S. Embassy Tokyo](#)

1-10-5 Akasaka, Minato-ku,

Tokyo 107-8420 Japan

Telephone: 81-3-3224-5000

Emergency After-Hours Telephone: 81-3-3224-5000

Fax: 81-3-3224-5856

TokyoACS@state.gov

Critical Emergency Resources/Contact Information

US State Department Emergency: +1-888-407-4747 (US/Canada)

US State Department Emergency: +1-202-501-4444 (International)

International SOS: +1-215-942-8226

Travel Insurance Assistance: Check your policy for 24/7 number

Global Emergency Resources

OSAC Duty Officer: +1-571-345-2223

Global Disaster Alert System: +1-202-647-7500

WHO Emergency Response: +41-22-791-2111

Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies: Country-specific contacts

Disaster-Specific Resources

Earthquake/Tsunami: Pacific Tsunami Warning Center: +1-808-689-8207

Hurricane/Typhoon: National Hurricane Center: +1-305-229-4470

Volcanic Activity: Volcanic Ash Advisory Centers: +44-1392-885680

CDC Travel Health Hotline: +1-800-232-4636

Regional Emergency Resources

Europe: European Emergency Number: 112

Asia Pacific: Country-specific emergency numbers

Africa & Middle East: Country-specific emergency numbers

Our experienced staff of Japan specialists take pride in providing you with the very best in service and planning. Thank you for choosing Affordable World as your partner in travel. We are confident your trip will be happy and rewarding!

Bon Voyage!