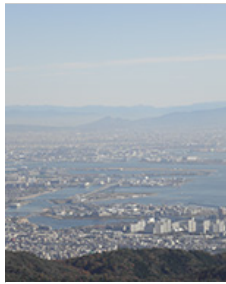


## Ports & Excursions



### Kobe, Japan

Kobe is the fifth-largest city in Japan and is the capital city of Hyogo Prefecture on the southern side of the main island of Honshu. Its name comes from "kanbe", an archaic title for supporters of the city's Ikuta Shrine. With a population of about 1.5 million, the city is part of the Keihanshin (Keihanshin) metropolitan area along with Osaka and Kyoto.

The earliest written records regarding the region come from the Nihon Shoki, which describes the founding of the Ikuta Shrine by Empress Jing? in AD 201. For most of its history the area was never a single political entity, even during the Tokugawa Period, when the port was controlled directly by the Tokugawa Shogunate. Kobe did not exist in its current form until its founding in 1889.

Kobe was one of the cities to open for trade with the West following the end of the policy of seclusion and has since been known as a cosmopolitan port city. While the 1995 Great Hanshin Earthquake diminished much of Kobe's prominence as a port city, it remains Japan's fourth busiest container port. The city is the point of origin and namesake of Kobe beef as well as the site of one of Japan's most famous hot spring resorts, Arima Onsen. Kobe is also your gateway to Kyoto, Japan's ancient imperial capital and the nation's cultural and spiritual center.

### Points of Interest

#### 1 Golden Pavilion (Kyoto)

The Golden Temple is considered the premier example of Muromachi Era (1337 - 1573) design.

#### 2 Ryoanji Temple (Kyoto)

Ryoanji famous Zen rock garden features 15 rocks set in meticulously raked white gravel.

#### 3 Nijo Castle

Built by Tokugawa's first shogun, the majestic 410-year-old castle is the site of two lavish palaces.

#### 4 Kitano-cho (Kobe)

Explore the former mansions of foreign merchants that are now preserved as museums in this city district nestled at the foot of the Rokko Mountains. The cafés and shops you will see are converted from these homes.

#### 5 Mt Rokko

Climb to the highest peak for panoramic views of Kobe from this 3,000-foot vantage point. A botanical garden, observation deck, aerial cable car and other outdoor activities can be enjoyed.

#### 6 Sake Brewery Museum

Tour an original museum, showcasing Kobe's excellence in sake production. Here, you'll learn the history and production of this rice-based liquor through life-size exhibits.

#### 7 Awajishima Island

At this largest island in the Seto Inland Sea, visitors marvel at the natural scenery, including the whirlpools of the Naruto Strait. The longest suspension bridge in the world links the island with Kobe.

#### 8 Ishiyama-dera Temple

Founded in 749 as the headquarters of one of the Shingon Buddhist sects, this magnificent temple complex is situated on a mountaintop.

### Special Child Pricing Available!

Children age 12 and younger, savings up to 50%. For actual pricing information, click on tour title or Reserve button.

### Sightseeing & City Tours



**Most Popular World Heritage Site**  
**Best of Kyoto (Guided in English)**  
 UKB-100 | Kobe, Japan

You will visit:



9.5 hours

from \$149.00

Spend a day visiting some of Kyoto's most iconic and beautiful attractions. A few of the highlights include Nijo Castle, built for Shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu; and exterior view of the Golden Pavilion. Visit the Heian Shrine; shopping at the Kyoto Handicraft Center. A western style lunch will be served at a local hotel.



**World Heritage Site**  
**Temples of Nara (Guided in English)**  
 UKB-130 | Kobe, Japan



8 hours

from \$129.00

A full-day motorcoach tour showcases the best historic and breathtaking temples of Japan's first permanent capital of Nara.



**World Heritage Site**  
**Temples of Nara (Guided in Japanese)**  
 UKB-134 | Kobe, Japan



8 hours

from \$109.00

A full-day motorcoach tour showcases the best historic and breathtaking temples of Japan's first permanent capital of Nara.



**Highlights of Osaka (Guided in English)**  
 UKB-200 | Kobe, Japan | Group Size: 40



5.5 hours

from \$69.00

Discover two of Osaka's historical treasures. Your guided tour through the city includes a visit to Osaka Castle, Osaka's most famous landmark. Then, marvel at the architecture of the Sumiyoshi Shrine, one of the oldest Shinto shrines in Japan.



**World Heritage Site**

**Kyoto: Golden Pavilion, Ryoan-ji Temple & Bamboo Forest (Guided in English)**

UKB-110 | Kobe, Japan | Group Size: 40

You will visit:

2

You will see:

1



9 hours

from \$119.00

Visit the celebrated temples and gardens of Japan's old imperial capital. The sights range from the enigmatic Zen rock garden at Ryoan-ji - to the 14th-century Kinkaku-ji - the Temple of the Golden Pavilion. Stroll past a bamboo grove to the Okochi Sanso.

**World Heritage Site**

**Enryakuji & Ishiyama-dera Temples (Guided in English)**

UKB-165 | Kobe, Japan | Group Size: 40

You will visit:

8



8.5 hours

from \$149.00

A spiritual journey awaits when you travel to Lake Biwa and discover two of its most renowned and historic temples. Explore the temple complex of Enryaku-ji and the serene, mountainside Ishiyama-dera Temple. A delicious lunch will be served during your day.



**Kobe, Sake Brewery Museum & Mt Rokko (Guided in English)**

UKB-205 | Kobe, Japan | Group Size: 40

You will visit:

5

6



4 hours

from \$55.00

Kobe has been renowned for its delicious sake for centuries. Visit a sake brewery museum, peruse life-size exhibits depicting the brewing process, and discover the secrets of sake making before sampling Japan's famous rice wine. Then, continue to the top of scenic Mt. Rokko to photograph the spectacular views.



**Arima Onsen & Mt Rokko Observatory (Guided in English)**

UKB-260 | Kobe, Japan | Group Size: 40

You will visit:

5



5 hours

from \$99.00

Kobe's surrounding scenery is breathtaking and serene, and you'll experience both on this refreshing outdoor adventure. Thrill to the panoramic views from the observation deck atop Mt Rokko's 3,000-foot peak, then visit the resort town of Arima for a soak in a traditional Japanese hot spring.



**Arima Onsen & Mt Rokko Observatory (Guided in Japanese)**

UKB-264 | Kobe, Japan | Group Size: 40

You will visit:

5



5 hours

from \$89.00

Kobe's surrounding scenery is breathtaking and serene, and you'll experience both on this refreshing outdoor adventure. Thrill to the panoramic views from the observation deck atop Mt Rokko's 3,000-foot peak, then visit the resort town of Arima for a soak in a traditional Japanese hot spring.

**Kitano & Sake Brewery (Guided in Japanese)**

UKB-384 | Kobe, Japan | Group Size: 40

You will visit:

6



4 hours

from \$49.00

Explore the Kitano Ijinkan district of Kobe on foot. Located at the foot of the Rokko mountain range this historic area of the city still has more than a dozen of the former mansions, known as Ijinkan. Visit Kazamidori House which is one of the most famous. Afterwards travel to the Sake Brewery Museum. Peruse life-size exhibits depicting the brewing process, and discover the secrets of sake making before sampling Japan's famous rice wine.

**Debark Tour - Osaka Castle & Sumiyoshi Shrine (Guided in English)**

UKB-960 | Kobe, Japan



5.5 hours

from \$109.00

Discover two of Osaka's historical treasures. Your guided tour through the city includes a visit to Osaka Castle, Osaka's most famous landmark. Then, marvel at the architecture of the Sumiyoshi Shrine, one of the oldest Shino shrines in Japan.

**Special Interests**

**Off the Beaten Path**

**Awajishima Island (Guided in Japanese)**

UKB-174 | Kobe, Japan | Group Size: 40

You will visit:

7



8 hours

from \$119.00

Adventurous travelers will delight in exploring the wonders of Awaji Island on this full-day tour complete with a Japanese lunch. Cross the world's longest suspension bridge and marvel at the turbulent whirlpools of the Naruto Strait.

**Exploring on Your Own**

**Kyoto on Your Own (Escorted in English)**

UKB-185 | Kobe, Japan



9.5 hours

from \$59.00

Independent travelers will relish the opportunity to experience magnificent Kyoto on their own schedule. From dazzling temples to graceful geishas, the city will charm and amaze you. Enjoy exotic delicacies, explore colorful shops and soak up the local color as you wish. Motorcoach transportation is provided to and from port.