

Kanazawa to Kyoto and Tango Peninsula 12 days 2022

Tour map



Introduction

Discover the enchanting lands of the Samurai. Take an unforgettable journey from Kanazawa to the historic Imperial capital of Kyoto. On your tour you will Cycle through remote northern Kyoto Prefecture, visiting mystical and beautiful Tango Peninsula along the Sea of Japan. Your journey will take you along scenic coastal roads with dramatic views of the crystal-blue sea, terraced rice fields and local fishing villages. Immerse yourself in local culture while staying at traditional Japanese Inn's called "Ryokans", enjoy natural hot springs and dining on local cuisine. During the tour we will visit a regional Japanese sake brewery, beautiful local shrines,

and the main temple of Zen, we will learn the art of making Japanese washi at a hand-made paper factory using original techniques, visit the ancient castle of Izushi and stay at historical Yamanaka Onsen and Kinosaki Onsen hot spring town which opened 1300 years ago, it is a prime example of a mostly preserved Japanese village, all of the houses have traditional thatch-roofs and are maintained in period correctness. We will cycle to a remote fishing village known for its Funaya or boat house on the Tango Peninsula, most evenings we will stay in a Japanese Ryokan with authentic local food and natural hot spring baths to soak in and reflect on the magic of the day. This tour is perfect cycling destination for enjoying the fantastic scenery, vibrant culture, exploring nature, learning the history and enjoying the food of Japan. Come join us for a bicycle tour you will never forget, let our expert guides show you the beauty, history and friendliness of Japan.

ITINERARY (12 days / 11 nights)				
Day 1	Meeting at Kanazawa	Hotel	TSO	D
Day 2	Cycle 68km Kanazawa to Yamanaka Onsen (Total accent 335m)	Ryokan	TSO	B,D
Day 3	Cycle 68km Yamanaka Onsen to Echizen (t.a. 886m)	Hotel	TSO	B
Day 4	Cycle 100km Echizen to Mikata 5 lakes (t.a. 920m)	Ryokan	TO	B,D
Day 5	Cycle 87km Mikata 5 lakes to Maizuru (t.a. 1098m)	Hotel	TSO	B
Day 6	Cycle 67km Maizuru to Ine (t.a.648m)	Ryokan	C	B,D
Day 7	Cycle 82km-105km Ine to Kinosaki Onsen (t.a. 1351m)	Ryokan	TSO	B,D
Day 8	Cycle Rest Day in Kinosaki Onsen	Ryokan	TSO	B
Day 9	Cycle 83km Kinosaki Onsen to Fukuchiyama (t.a. 587m)	Hotel	TS	B
Day 10	Cycle 67km Fukuchiyama to Miyama (t.a. 824m)	Minshuku	C	B,D
Day 11	Cycle 66km Miyama to Central Kyoto (t.a. 1097m)	Ryokan	TO	B,D
Day 12	Finish after breakfast			B

T room with toilet only **TS** room with toilet & shower **C** communal facility **O** onsen spa
B breakfast **D** dinner

Price per person for Kanazawa to Kyoto and Tango Peninsula 12 days

#of people	Service	Price	Includes
+4 clients	1 van, 1 guide	JPY 450,000	See below

Single room supplement JPY: 66,000

Includes

- 11 nights' accommodation on twin share basis
- 11 breakfasts and 7 evening meals
- Rental bike (Hybrid bike or Road bike)



*E-bike is available for extra JPY 20,000



- Other equipment comes with bike



Front bag for hybrid bike
(8 litter volume)



Helmet on request



Seat post bag for road bike
(6 litter volume)



Gloves on request

Spare tube, tyre levers, multi tool, pump, and flat patches are in the bag.
All the bikes are equipped with front and rear lights, and cycle computers.

- All transport detailed in the below itinerary
- Snacks and refreshments
- English speaking guide(s)
- Spare parts and mechanic services
- Support vehicle with seats and bike rack



Does not include

- Lunches (It cost 1000-1500yen for each lunch)
- Single room supplement

Recommended season

- April to November

Average temp. in a month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Highest in Kyoto (°C)	9	11	14	22	26	28	31	33	29	23	17	12
Lowest in Kyoto (°C)	1	1	5	11	14	19	23	24	20	14	8	3

What we offer as our services

- We have support vehicle to follow cyclists to back up water, snacks, and other necessary things for the ride. If one of you wants to stop riding at some point of the day, he or she will be welcome to have seat in our support vehicle.
- Our guides are all cyclists, we know what you need during your ride. We are trained to be a bike mechanic and cycling leader. We also completed 40 hours wilderness first aid training.
- In case of heavy rain, strong wind or other fierce weather conditions for cycling, we may change plan and give you other activities option like hiking, sightseeing, and so on.
- Guides speaks English, and all the information during the tour will be given in English.

Detailed itinerary

Day 1 Meeting at Kanazawa

Today we will meet at 5:00pm at the hotel in Kanazawa here, have a short introductory meeting where you will meet your guides and we will do a bike fitting and enjoy a Japanese welcome dinner. Kanazawa is known for its many traditional cultures and activities, such as handicrafts, tea ceremony, Noh theater (classical Japanese musical drama) and Kaga cooking (an original cuisine which utilizes fresh seafood, vegetables, and ingredients from the local Kanazawa area.) The city offers plenty of options for varied cultural experiences. We highly recommend that you arrive a day or two earlier to explore Kanazawa. One of the most beautiful and famous Japanese gardens Kenrokuen Garden is not to be missed. Kanazawa is easy to reach in approximately 3.5 hours by express train from Osaka Kansai International Airport, or 3 hours by shinkansen from Tokyo.

Accommodation - Hotel (3 stars quality)

Private bath / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (D)



Day 2 Kanazawa to Yamanaka Onsen

Our Journey starts in Kanazawa city located on the Sea of Japan and bordered by the Japanese Alps and Echizen-kaga Quasi-national park. This morning we cycle out to join the cycling path near the coast, riding through Echizen-Kaga Kaigan Quasi-National Park Est. in 1968. The path is mostly flat with a nicely maintained surface for riding a good warm up for the first day of cycling. After a pleasant first day of riding, we will stay in Yamanaka Onsen, a 7th century hot springs town located along a beautiful gorge. Yamanaka village is a lovely place to spend the afternoon, take a walk along the river, try many delicious local treats or shop for lacquer-ware and woodworkers' crafts, or take a relaxing soak in the 1300 year old hot springs and of course it's a great village for taking pictures with the traditional thatch roofs of the houses and shops.

Cycling distance - 68km / Total ascent - 335m

Accommodation - Ryokan (3 stars quality)

Private bath / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B,D)



Day 3 Yamanaka Onsen to Echizen

Today we cycle into the mountains and pass waterfall and lake, discovering the local people's life in rural Japan as we cycle next to fields of rice and vegetables, visit Eihei-ji a massive temple complex and explore the beautiful temple grounds. Eihei-ji is one of two head temples overseeing the Soto sect of Zen Buddhism. Built by the Buddhist monk Dogen (1200-1253), it has over 70 buildings set amid giant cedar trees in the mountains. After leaving Eihei-ji, we will cycle past the Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins. Designated as a national historical relic site in 1995 Ichijodani Asakura constitutes one of the largest castle town ruins in Japan. Our end of ride today we will see a Japanese paper "Echizen Washi" with a history traced back about 1500 years. Echizen washi has to be carefully made, here you will find people enjoying paper-making

using traditional tools and techniques. Most importantly Echizen Washi has been chosen for imperial ceremonies and for secure papers, diplomas, certificates and other important documents.

Cycling distance - 68km / Total ascent - 886m

Accommodation - Hotel (3 stars quality)

Private bath / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B)



Day 4 Echizen to Mikata five lakes

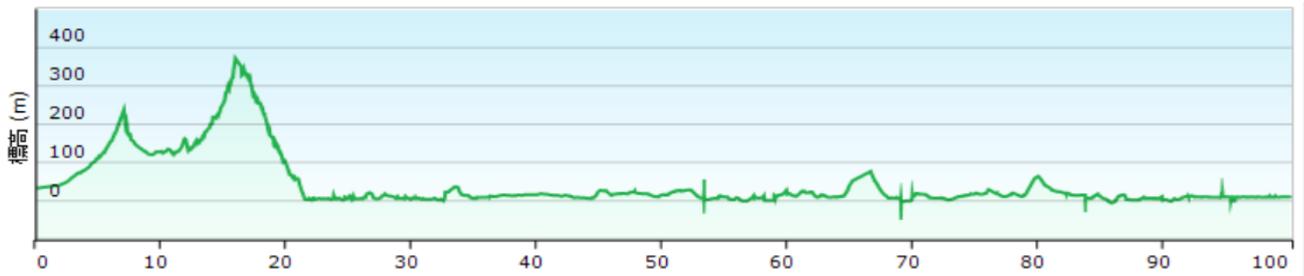
This morning we cycle to Wakasa bay. Wakasa is home to some of the clearest waters along the Sea of Japan's coast. Our ride takes us to Mikatagoko lakes. We cycle around the five lakes, Suigetsu, Suga, Kugushiand, Hiruga and Mikata, you can see the water color of each of the five lakes is different due to the Brackish, saline and fresh water of each lake, creating a fascinating mosaic and contrasting view. The level of salt as well as salt water, fresh water and brackish water varies in each lake. You can catch both sea fish and river fish in these lakes, given that sea and fresh water are mixed. En route to the last lake of Mikata, we will explore friendly local people's life of traditional fishing villages, fishing boats and fisherman, and they will invite you to their house if you are lucky. This evening we will stay by the lake town, a town whose main industry is fishing from Wakasa bay and lakes, so there is no shortage of wonderful seafood restaurants for dinner.

Cycling distance - 100km / Total ascent - 920m

Accommodation - Hotel (3 stars quality)

Private toilet / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B,D)





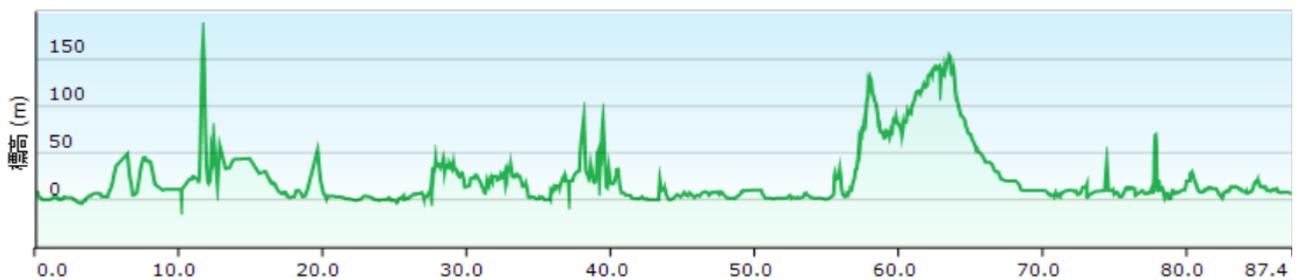
Day 5 Mikata five lakes to Maizuru

This morning we continue to cycle along the coastline following Wakasa bay and lakes with clear blue waters, visit old cultural Obama town, which was developed as a seaport even before there was a written history of Japan and was once an important trading spot with Korea and China. Exploring Obama town, you can see remnants of the city's prosperous past as a trading port and the center of trade with neighboring countries, with its old-world charm and long history you will feel like you've traveled back in time. The coastal ride takes to our stay in Maizuru town, and you will stroll the old warehouse in the town, has the distinction of being designated as a national important cultural property. It used to be one of the arsenals in 1902 but has now been remodeled into a place for communication and interaction with exhibition space, a hall, and a cafe.

Cycling distance - 87km / Total ascent - 1098m

Accommodation - Hotel (3 stars quality)

Private bath / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B)



Day 6 Maizuru to Ine

Today we cycle onto Ama-no-hashidate "Bridge to Heaven" sandbar into Tango peninsula one of Japan's three scenic views. You will see beautiful white sand beaches and the "Tango" Blue ocean and crystal-clear waters. Prepare yourself for stunning views and a magical landscape along the dynamic rolling coastline. The magnificent coast takes you through the laid-back fishing village of Ine, famous for its unique funaya, or boat houses which unlike Houseboats do not float but rather are built on stilts over the water. The wooden buildings serve as a dock on

the 1st floor with the second floor serving as the dwelling. There are over 200 such houses along the bay. Ine is a historic working town and the fisherman still set off each day as they have for hundreds of years. The night we will relax in this quiet Ine, ocean front stay, and wonderful seafood.

Cycling distance - 67km / Total ascent - 648m

Accommodation – Ryokan (2 stars quality)

Communal facility / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B,D)



Day 7 Ine to Kinosaki Onsen

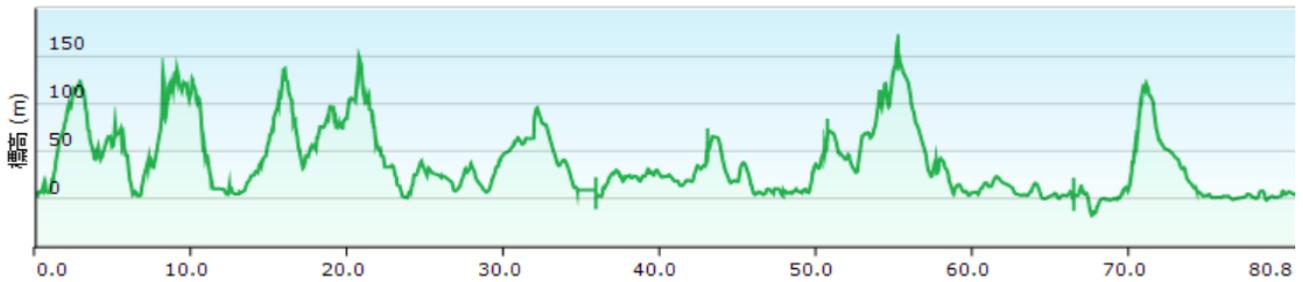
Today's ride follows the coastline through hidden shores, gorgeous beaches, rice terraces, inlets and rocky points. We are headed towards a beautiful dune area, the Shotenkyo ("Little Bridge to Heaven") beach. Shotenkyo is a similar shape to the Ama-no-hashidate ("Bridge to Heaven") sandbar, except this one just out into the sea instead of making a bridge so it's a lovely walk along clear turquoise waters to the end and back, many vacationers come here to relax and enjoy the views. At the end of today's ride, we arrive in Kinosaki Onsen here we celebrate the halfway point of the tour and have a rest the next day. Kinosaki Onsen is a hot spring resort town with a 1300 years old history. Many people come here for enjoy strolling about in yukata (Kimono made of cotton) and savoring the historical atmosphere.

Cycling distance – 82 - 105km / Total ascent – 1351 - 1500m

Accommodation – Ryokan (3 stars quality)

Private bath / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B,D)





Day 8 Rest day in Kinosaki Onsen

At Kinosaki Onsen we recommend doing the seven outdoor hot springs tour with a one-day ticket. Stroll from one relaxing Onsen to the next. The seven onsens are Kouno-yu, Mandara-yu, Goshono-yu, Ichino-yu, Yanagi-yu, Jizou-yu and Satono-yu each Onsen is Unique with a different feel. You can hike many trails around Kinosaki to the Mt. Taishi. There is a 10km hiking trail through the mountains that surround Kinosaki. Most of the trail is through forests, on the way you will see the scenic view from the summit of Mt. Taishi. After you summit if you don't feel like a return hike to town you can take the Kinosaki Onsen ropeway to get back down the mountain, the Kinosaki Ropeway/ Mt. Taishi was awarded one star in the Michelin Green Guide Japan for its spectacular view. Hiking takes 1-3 hours to the top depending on the hike you do. In Kinosaki take time to discover the many shops, restaurants and cafes that make up this wonderful town...but don't forget to have a rest as well.

Accommodation – Ryokan (3 stars quality)

Private bath / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B)



Day 9 Kinosaki Onsen to Fukuchiyama

Today's ride starts off cycling along the beautiful landscape of Kumihama Inland Bay and Mt. Kabuto through rice fields and quiet roads to Izushi old town. Izushi is a castle town that flourished about 200-300 years ago during the Edo period. There are many fine examples of traditional architecture found throughout the town, this is why Izushi is designated as a national preservation district of important buildings. The town is also known for its own original style of soba "Izushi-Soba" Japanese buckwheat noodles. Around 50 soba shops line the town's streets. Izushi also has 250-year-old sake cellars constructed of red clay walls, these are still used today to store and sell Izushi's local sake called Sasa Zuru. There are also many Showa style (Retro) buildings that line the city streets that lead to the old clock tower, built in 1871 it is still keeping time for the town today. Leaving Izushi we cycle into the mountains to reach another historic castle town of Fukuchiyama, you will stroll the town, which has a number of surviving wooden buildings and Fukuchiyama castle, was built by general samurai Akechi Mitsuhide in 1576.

Cycling distance – 83km / Total ascent – 587m

Accommodation – Hotel (3 stars quality)

Private bath / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B)



Day 10 Fukuchiyama to Miyama

This morning we along Yura river to the beautifully preserved town of Miyama. Miyama is a remote rural area in the mountains 30 kilometers north of central Kyoto it is famous for its traditional, thatched roof (Kayabuki) farmhouses. Look around and you can see over 200 dotting the countryside. Unlike those located in many other historic towns around the country, the most of Miyama's old houses survive as residential dwellings where people still work and live. This lends to a very old-world atmosphere to the area, visitors have a chance to experience the traditional, authentic real feel of rural Japan. You can enjoy visiting the folk museum, interacting with residents, and craftspeople. Many residents are skilled in basket making and roof thatching. Miyama is made up of multiple small villages and hamlets scattered along its narrow, winding valleys. The star attraction among them is the northern village or Kayabuki no Sato, which nearly 40 farmhouses with thatched roofs, Kayabuki has a higher number of thatched roof houses than any other place in Japan. We will stay in remote area in the mountain, offers to relax in Onsen.

Cycling distance – 67km / Total ascent – 824m

Accommodation – Minshuku (2 stars quality)

Common facility / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B,D)





Day 11 Miyama to Central Kyoto

Leaving Miyama village, we will continue to cycle on quiet back roads, along the Yura river, coming across people engaged in farming, fishing, thatching, charcoal making and more. This scenic route takes us on beautiful mountain roads where old traditional houses dot the landscape. We are heading towards the old Imperial city of Kyoto known as the heart of Japan. Kyoto is famous for its cherry blossoms in the spring, many magnificent shrines and temples as well as numerous UNESCO World Heritage sites. As we make our way the city center and the final stop of this amazing tour, we will get a glimpse of the many land marks that make Kyoto a destination worth the journey. At the end of today's cycle, we arrive in central Kyoto and the end of the tour. One last dinner together to celebrate our travels through the Lands of the Samurai, reflect on our time together and enjoy each other's company.

Cycling distance – 66km / Total ascent – 1097m

Accommodation – Ryokan (3 stars quality)

Private toilet / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B,D)



Day 12 Central Kyoto

The tour officially ends after breakfast. If like you can choose to spend some time in this beautiful city or leave for the other destinations. Extra nights in Kyoto can be requested at the time of booking.

Accommodation - Hotel (3 stars quality)

Private bath / Onsen Spa / Wifi / Laundry / meal (B)



About accommodation (2 - 4 stars quality)

We choose Ryokan (traditional Japanese inn) as much as possible to support local tourism and economy. Ryokan is traditional Japanese style inns often run by family and in many cases it has Onsen (natural hot springs) on site. You will sleep on a futon on the tatami floor in ryokan. It's definitely the best choice if you want to experience authentic Japanese accommodation. However, there are a few things to remember before staying there.



Room in Ryokan



Yukata



Onsen hot spring



Washing space

- Traditional Japanese room does not have bed, instead, it has Futon mat on "Tatami" straw weaving floor to sleep on. The photo is how typical Ryokan room looks like.
- Most of the accommodation provide "Yukata" traditional night robe, you can wear it to hot spring and restaurants on site. You don't have to carry your night clothing as much if you enjoy Yukata.
- Most of Ryokan provide nice public Onsen hot spring to share, then some of the rooms do not have their own shower and bath. Public onsen has washing place where you can wash yourself.
- Some of Ryokans in remote area do not have toilet in each room. They have public toilet on site.