TOKYO → KYOTO → OSAKA

Japan field file.

Nine precise days for a first trip—street by street, exit by exit, meal by meal.

OOO DIARIES / OUT OF OFFICE DIARIES

CORE ROUTE · FROM INDIA · TWO SHARING

9 days · 8 nights

₹1.15L–1.45L per person

Planning conversion: ¥1,000 ≈ ₹580

A field-style plan sequenced from realistic rail, walking and meal buffers plus current official visitor information. It is not a claim of personal travel. Verify live hours, fares, closures, visa guidance and entry rules before paying.

DOWNLOAD EDITION · AUGUST 2026

How to run the route without turning it into homework

FLIGHT SHAPE

Tokyo in · Osaka out

Price a multi-city ticket before buying a Tokyo return. The saved backtrack is worth real time.

HOTEL SEQUENCE

Tokyo 4n · Kyoto 3n · Osaka 1n

Use one central base per city. Split a city only when the neighbourhood change itself is the point.

TRANSPORT

IC card + one Shinkansen

Use Suica/PASMO/ICOCA locally. Buy Tokyo→Kyoto separately; do not buy a nationwide pass by reflex.

DAILY CASH

¥8,000–12,000

Covers ordinary meals, local transport and small entries—not hotel, Shinkansen or major timed tickets.

Non-negotiable operating rules

01 Book timed attractions before arranging the day around them.

02 Use station exit names. A 300-metre map error can become a 20-minute station error.

03 Eat the famous lunch early; photograph the famous street late.

04 Forward the large bag only if the next hotel confirms receipt. Keep one-night essentials with you.

05 Every day has one paid anchor, one flexible block and one deliberate buffer.

Three bases that keep the route moving



TOKYO · 4 NIGHTS

The Blossom Hibiya

Hibiya / Shimbashi

Shimbashi Station · about 5 min

₹16,000–27,000 / room / night

WHY THIS BASE

Central for Ginza, Tokyo Station and west-Tokyo transfers. Ask for a high floor; room size matters more than breakfast.



KYOTO · 3 NIGHTS

Cross Hotel Kyoto

Kawaramachi Sanjo

Kyoto Shiyakusho-mae · about 4 min

₹11,000–20,000 / room / night

WHY THIS BASE

Walkable to Pontocho and food, with easier evening returns than a remote scenic stay.



OSAKA · 1 NIGHT

Hotel Monterey Grasmere Osaka

JR Namba / OCAT

Connected to JR Namba

₹7,500–13,000 / room / night

WHY THIS BASE

Good final-night logistics: Namba food outside, airport bus and rail options close by.

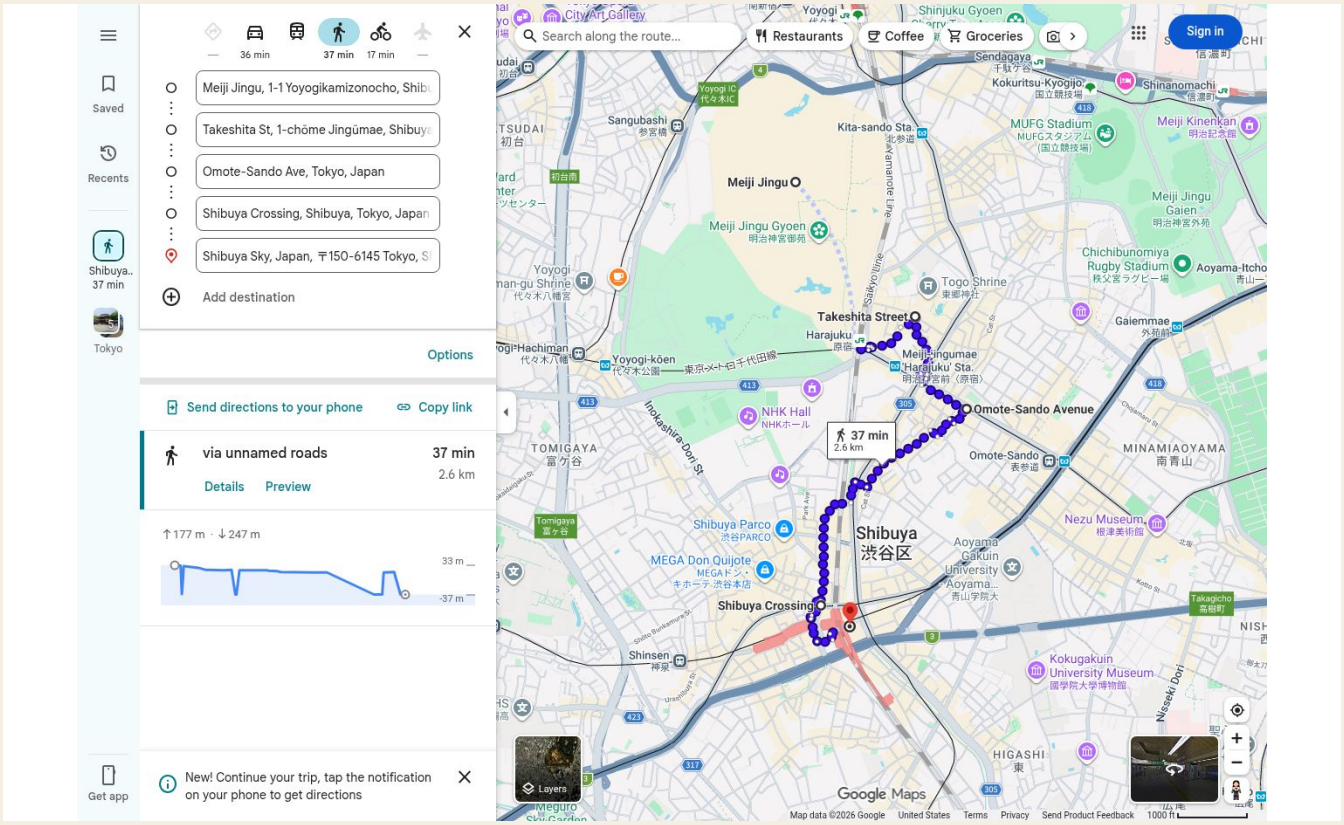
Booking filter

Shortlist only hotels that are close to the station entrance you will actually use, not merely 'near the station'.
Price the refundable room with taxes, compare room size, then open Google Maps and read the newest low-score reviews for noise, lifts, construction and luggage access.

Shrine calm to Shibuya at full voltage



TOKYO · LOCATION-CORRECT CITY VIEW



REAL ROUTE CAPTURE · GOOGLE MAPS · 09 AUG 2026

Meiji Jingu → Takeshita Street → Omotesando → Shibuya Crossing → Shibuya Sky

FIELD LOGIC

Walk the neighbourhood spine in one direction. Begin before Harajuku peaks, pause for lunch off Omotesando, then time Shibuya Sky for daylight through blue hour.

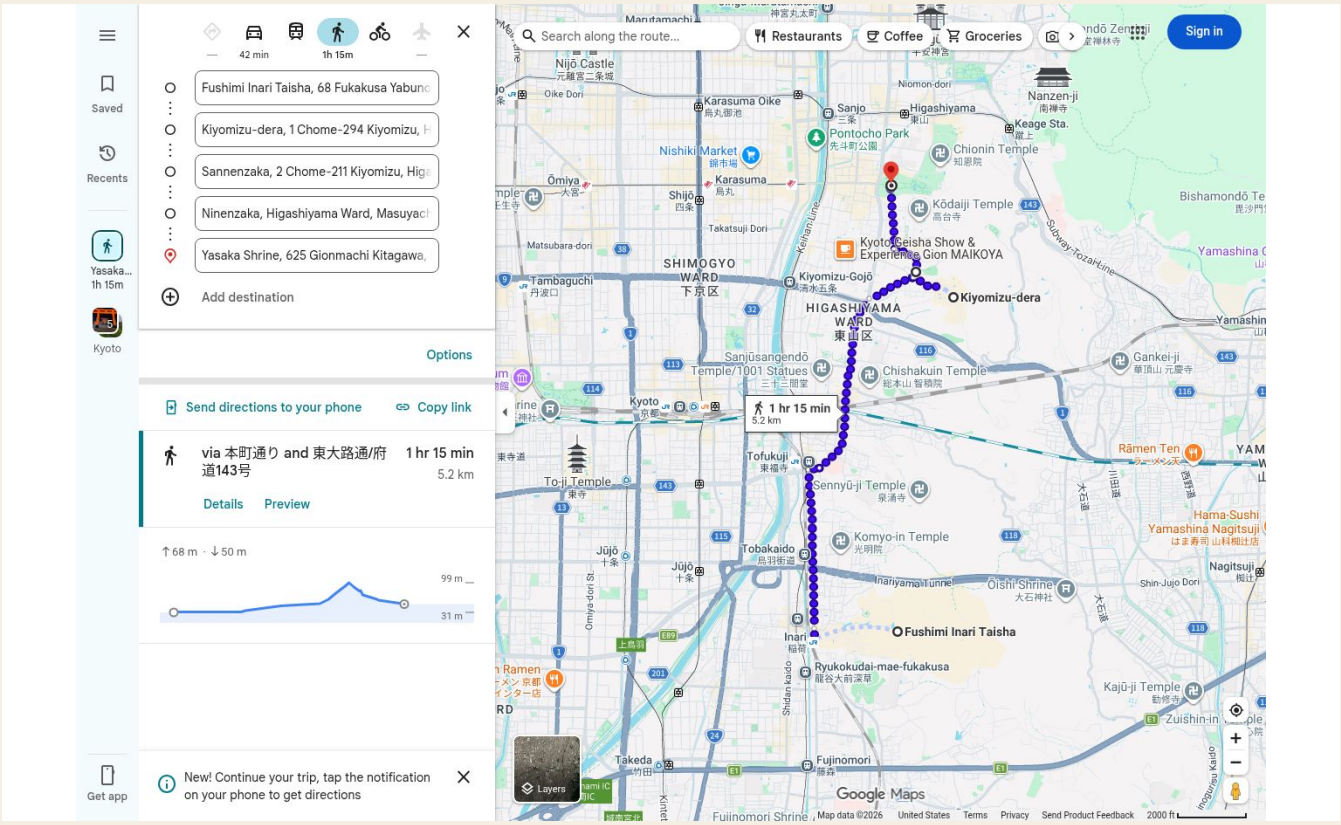
OPEN THIS EXACT ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Screenshot shown for planning; live traffic and routing can change.

Torii at dawn, old lanes downhill



KYOTO · LOCATION-CORRECT CITY VIEW



REAL ROUTE CAPTURE · GOOGLE MAPS · 09 AUG 2026

Fushimi Inari → Kiyomizu-dera → Sannenzaka → Ninenzaka → Yasaka Shrine

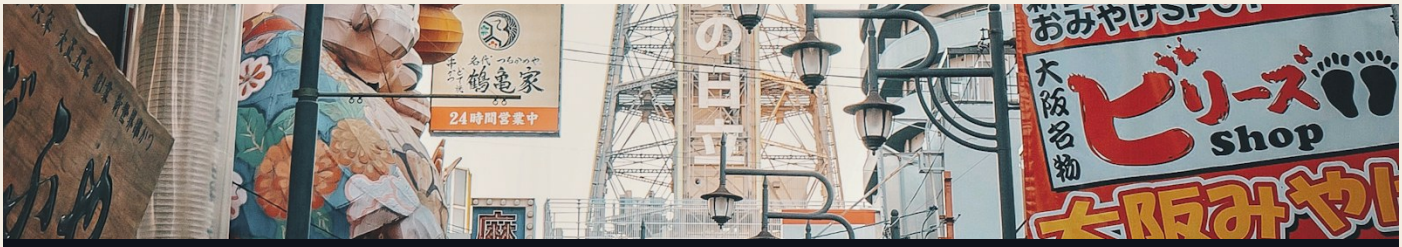
FIELD LOGIC

Treat Fushimi and Higashiyama as two linked halves, not one continuous walk. Use rail between them, taxi uphill in poor weather, then walk the historic streets downhill.

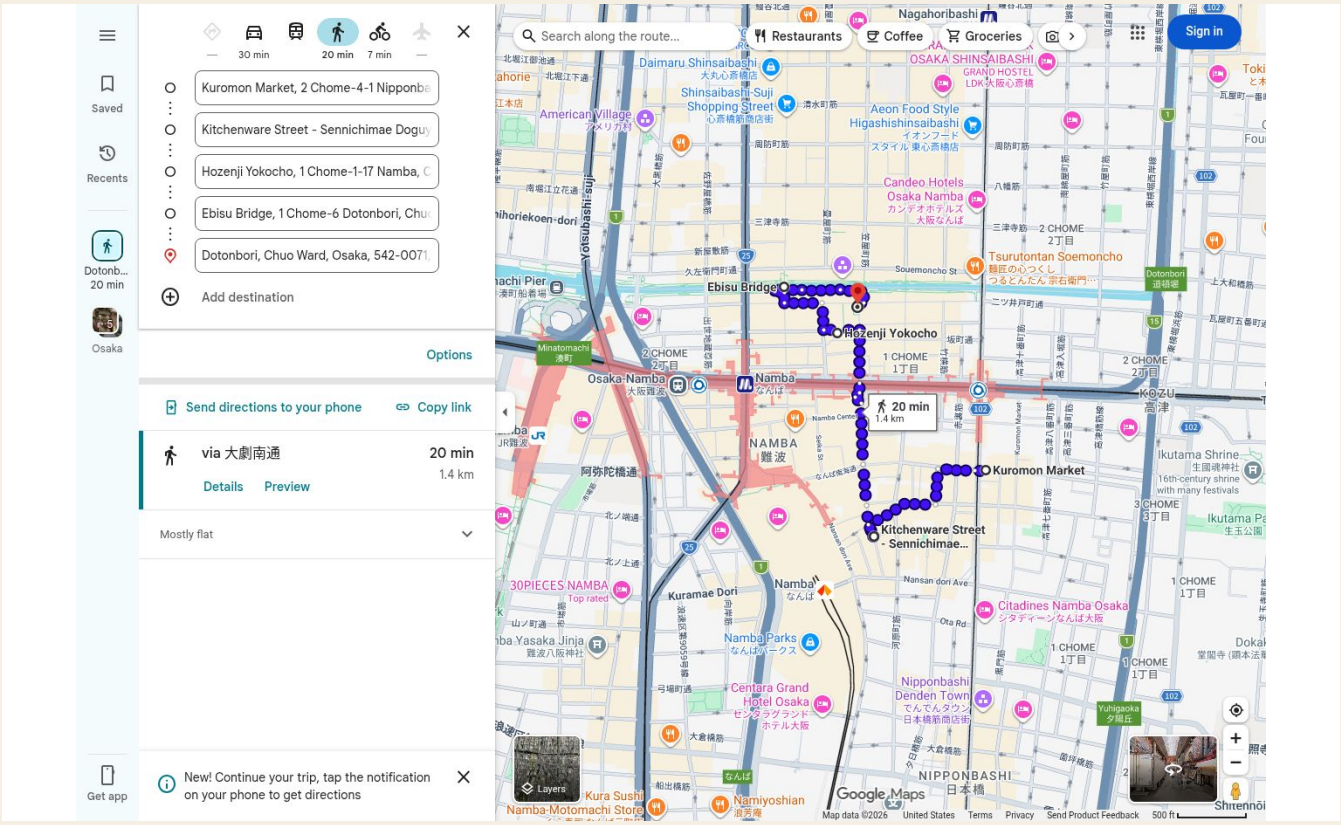
OPEN THIS EXACT ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Screenshot shown for planning; live traffic and routing can change.

Market bite to Dotonbori lights



OSAKA · LOCATION-CORRECT CITY VIEW



REAL ROUTE CAPTURE · GOOGLE MAPS · 09 AUG 2026

Kuromon Market → Doguyasuji → Hozenji Yokocho → Ebisubashi → Dotonbori

FIELD LOGIC

Start with one deliberate lunch circuit, browse kitchenware while shops are open, then reach Hozenji and Dotonbori as the signs switch on. The best dinner is often one lane off the canal.

OPEN THIS EXACT ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Screenshot shown for planning; live traffic and routing can change.

Land, recover, then earn the first neon

Haneda / Narita → hotel → Shinjuku South → Omoide Yokocho → Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building

08:00	**ARRIVAL**	Land, clear immigration, collect bags and withdraw ¥20,000–30,000. Add a digital Suica/PASMO if your phone supports it; otherwise buy an IC card at the airport rail counter.	**¥0–500 / ₹0–290**
09:30	**AIRPORT → CITY**	Haneda: Keikyu to Shinagawa, then JR to your base (allow 55–75 min door-to-door). Narita: Skyliner to Ueno or Narita Express to Shinjuku/Tokyo (allow 90–120 min).	**¥700–3,250 / ₹405–1,885**
11:30	**BAG DROP**	Do not wait for a 15:00 check-in. Leave bags, refill water, ask reception to write the hotel address in Japanese, and pin the nearest station entrance.	**Free**
12:15	**EASY LUNCH**	Order shoyu ramen or a teishoku set near the hotel. Use the ticket machine first; choose a photo-labelled standard bowl and skip customisation when jet-lagged.	**¥900–1,400 / ₹520–810**
14:00	**RESET**	Check in if ready. Shower and take a strict 45-minute rest—long enough to recover, short enough not to lose the first evening.	**—**
16:30	**SHINJUKU SOUTH**	Enter Shinjuku Station via NEWoMan / South Exit side. Walk the Southern Terrace and Takashimaya Times Square; this is the calmer orientation lap.	**Free**
18:00	**OMOIDE YOKOCHO**	Cross to the west side. Use the small lane north of Shinjuku West Exit. Pick a stall with visible seats; order two yakitori each, cabbage and one drink.	**¥1,800–2,800 / ₹1,045–1,625**
20:00	**FREE SKYLINE**	Walk 18–22 minutes along Chuo-dori to the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building observatory. Carry ID and verify same-day closing before leaving dinner.	**Free**
21:30	**BACK TO BASE**	Buy water, onigiri and yogurt for tomorrow. Stop before fatigue makes navigation sloppy.	**¥500–800 / ₹290–465**

STREET LOGIC

South Exit → Koshu-kaido crossing → West Exit underpass → Omoide Yokocho lane → Chuo-dori west → Tochomae. Shinjuku is multi-level: trust exit names, not compass direction.

FIELD NOTE

Do not schedule a paid timed attraction on landing day. Delays, immigration and fatigue are the three things you cannot optimise away.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Shrine calm to Shibuya at full voltage

Meiji Jingu → Takeshita-dori → Cat Street → Omotesando → Shibuya Scramble → Shibuya Sky

07:30	**BREAKFAST**	Konbini set: two onigiri, boiled egg or yogurt, banana and coffee. Eat before boarding; crowded commuter trains are not breakfast rooms.	**¥550–800 / ₹320–465**
08:30	**MEIJI JINGU**	JR to Harajuku; use West Exit. Walk through the first torii, keep right on the gravel approach and allow 60–75 minutes including the main shrine.	**Free**
10:15	**HARAJUKU**	Return toward JR Harajuku, cross to Takeshita-dori and walk it once. For less crowding, do not stop in the first ten shops.	**Free; snacks ¥400–700**
11:30	**CAT STREET**	Exit Takeshita toward Meiji-dori, then turn onto Cat Street. Browse selectively; this route is about the neighbourhood, not completing every store.	**Shopping optional**
13:00	**LUNCH**	Choose a tonkatsu or soba lunch set one street off Omotesando-dori. Lunch menus are the value play; add cabbage/rice refills where included.	**¥1,200–1,900 / ₹695–1,100**
14:30	**OMOTESANDO**	Walk Omotesando-dori downhill toward Aoyama, then take the metro from Omote-sando to Shibuya if feet are fading.	**¥180 / ₹105**
16:00	**SHIBUYA ORIENTATION**	Exit Hachiko. Photograph the crossing from ground level, walk Center-gai, cut up Spain-zaka, then return via Koen-dori.	**Free**
18:30	**SHIBUYA SKY**	Enter via Shibuya Scramble Square. Arrive 20 minutes before the timed slot; lockers are mandatory for loose items on the open roof.	**¥2,200–2,700 / ₹1,275–1,565**
20:30	**DINNER**	Go to a standing sushi, udon or gyoza shop away from the crossing. Order a standard set before adding sides.	**¥1,200–2,000 / ₹695–1,160**

STREET LOGIC

Harajuku West Exit → Meiji Jingu approach → Takeshita-dori → Meiji-dori → Cat Street → Omotesando-dori → Shibuya Hachiko Exit → Center-gai → Spain-zaka → Koen-dori.

FIELD NOTE

Book Shibuya Sky for 45–60 minutes before sunset, not exactly at sunset. You get daylight, blue hour and night without racing the clock.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Old Tokyo, kitchen streets and electric night

Kaminarimon → Senso-ji → Denboin-dori → Kappabashi → Ueno → Akihabara

07:00	**ASAKUSA**	Take Ginza Line to Asakusa and use Exit 1 or 3 for Kaminarimon. Early arrival is the whole trick: photograph Nakamise before shutters fully lift.	**Metro ¥180–220**
07:20	**SENSO-JI**	Walk Kaminarimon → Nakamise → Hozomon → main hall. Draw omikuji only if you want; return a bad fortune to the rack.	**Temple free; fortune ¥100**
08:45	**BREAKFAST**	Find a kissaten or bakery on Orange-dori. Order toast set + coffee; keep cash ready.	**¥650–1,000 / ₹375–580**
10:00	**KAPPABASHI**	Walk west via Denboin-dori, then north along Kappabashi-dori. Compare knives at two shops before buying; confirm tax-free minimum and checked-bag rules.	**Free; purchases variable**
12:30	**UENO LUNCH**	Walk or take Ginza Line to Ueno. Eat katsudon, curry or soba in Ameyoko rather than a themed café.	**¥900–1,500 / ₹520–870**
14:00	**UENO PARK**	Choose one: Tokyo National Museum (2 hours) or a light park/shrine walk (60 minutes). Do not combine two museums.	**Museum about ¥1,000 / ₹580**
17:00	**AKIHABARA**	JR one stop to Akihabara; use Electric Town Exit. Browse one major electronics store, one arcade and one specialist floor.	**Transit ¥150 / ₹90**
19:30	**DINNER**	Choose curry, ramen or yakiniku before queues peak again. If a shop has a vending machine, buy the base item first and hand the ticket to staff.	**¥1,000–2,200 / ₹580–1,275**
21:00	**RETURN**	Photograph the lit main street, then leave before the final convenient train becomes a calculation.	**—**

STREET LOGIC

Asakusa Exit 1/3 → Kaminarimon → Nakamise → Denboin-dori → Kappabashi-dori → Ameyoko under the tracks → Akihabara Electric Town Exit.

FIELD NOTE

Kappabashi shops close earlier than Akihabara. Buy kitchenware first; neon will still be there after dinner.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Toyosu future, Ginza polish, station ritual

teamLab Planets → Toyosu waterfront → Ginza → Tokyo Station → Marunouchi

07:00	**LIGHT BREAKFAST**	Eat lightly and wear trousers that can roll above the knee. teamLab includes water; avoid complicated footwear and bring socks for afterward.	**¥450–700 / ₹260–405**
08:15	**TRANSFER**	Yurakucho Line to Toyosu, then Yurikamome one stop to Shin-toyosu. Arrive 20 minutes before the timed entry.	**¥350–450 / ₹205–260**
09:00	**TEAMLAB PLANETS**	Use lockers, follow the one-way sequence and allow 90–120 minutes. Official hours are typically 08:00–22:00; verify your date and ticket.	**From ¥3,600 / ₹2,090**
11:15	**WATERFRONT PAUSE**	Walk the Toyosu waterfront. This is the buffer that prevents a late timed entry from collapsing lunch.	**Free**
12:15	**GINZA LUNCH**	Metro to Ginza-itchome/Ginza. Choose department-store basement food, tempura bowl or omurice set.	**¥1,200–2,000 / ₹695–1,160**
13:45	**GINZA**	Walk Chuo-dori, then choose one anchor: Itoya stationery, Ginza Six rooftop or a department-store basement. Set a 90-minute cap.	**Free; shopping variable**
16:00	**TOKYO STATION**	Walk or take Marunouchi Line. Enter on Marunouchi side for the red-brick façade, then cross inside to Character Street / Ramen Street.	**Metro ¥180**
18:30	**DINNER**	Eat on Ramen Street before the late rush or reserve an izakaya in Marunouchi. Add ¥500–800 if you want a drink.	**¥1,200–2,500 / ₹695–1,450**
20:00	**PACK FOR KYOTO**	Move heavy purchases into the large case. Optional luggage forwarding must be arranged tonight; keep a one-night bag and all medication with you.	**Forwarding about ¥2,500–3,500**

STREET LOGIC

Shin-toyosu Station → teamLab entrance → Toyosu waterfront → Ginza Chuo-dori → Marunouchi Naka-dori → Tokyo Station Marunouchi façade → Yaesu underground dining.

FIELD NOTE

Keep teamLab as the first fixed point. Ginza and Tokyo Station are flexible and absorb delays without losing a prepaid ticket.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

The bullet-train handover, done without stress

Tokyo Station → Kyoto Station → Nishiki Market → Teramachi → Pontocho → Gion

06:45	**CHECK OUT**	Leave 45 minutes earlier than your instinct says. Tokyo Station is a destination-sized station; use the exact Shinkansen gate printed on signage.	—
07:45	**EKIBEN + PLATFORM**	Buy bento, water and coffee after reaching the Shinkansen zone. Be on the platform 15 minutes early and line up at your car number.	**¥1,200–1,800 / ₹695–1,045**
08:30	**TOKYO → KYOTO**	Reserved-side tip: on many Tokyo→Kyoto trains, seats D/E on the right side can offer Fuji views in clear weather; verify the train layout.	**About ¥14,000 / ₹8,120**
10:45	**KYOTO ARRIVAL**	Exit via Central Gate for north-side hotels or Hachijo Gate for south-side stays. Drop bags; do not drag them through Nishiki.	**Local transit ¥230–500**
12:30	**NISHIKI MARKET**	Enter from Takakura-dori and move west along Nishiki-dori. Eat at the stall, not while walking. Try dashimaki, skewers and soy milk donut.	**¥1,200–2,000 / ₹695–1,160**
14:30	**TERAMACHI**	Exit Nishiki into Teramachi arcade. Use this covered street for stationery, tea and weather-proof browsing.	**Shopping variable**
16:30	**CHECK IN + PAUSE**	Hotel check-in, 45-minute reset and fresh shoes. Kyoto evenings are better when you do not arrive already exhausted.	—
18:00	**PONTOCHO**	Start at Sanjo-dori and walk south down Pontocho. Cross Shijo Bridge, then continue to Hanamikoji after the daytime crowd thins.	**Free**
19:30	**DINNER**	Reserve obanzai, yakitori or udon around Gion-Shijo. Avoid restaurants that need a street tout to explain them.	**¥1,800–3,500 / ₹1,045–2,030**

STREET LOGIC

Kyoto Central Gate → Karasuma-dori → Nishiki-dori westbound → Teramachi arcade → Sanjo-dori → Pontocho southbound → Shijo Bridge → Hanamikoji.

FIELD NOTE

Kyoto buses punish luggage. Leave bags at the hotel or station; if using forwarding, keep one change of clothes and your power adapter in the day bag.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Fushimi before crowds, Higashiyama after

Fushimi Inari → Kiyomizu-dera → Sannenzaka → Ninenzaka → Yasaka Shrine → Gion

06:15	**FUSHIMI INARI**	JR Nara Line to Inari Station (not the similarly named subway stop). Cross the street; the shrine begins immediately. Carry water.	**JR ¥150 / ₹90; shrine free**
06:30	**TORII WALK**	Walk to the Senbon Torii split. Continue to the first viewpoint if comfortable; turn back by 08:15 unless doing the full mountain.	**Free**
08:45	**BREAKFAST**	Eat near Fushimi Inari or Kyoto Station: inari sushi + udon or a bakery set. Keep the meal compact.	**¥800–1,300 / ₹465–755**
10:15	**KIYOMIZU APPROACH**	Keihan to Kiyomizu-Gojo, then taxi uphill if heat/rain is heavy. Otherwise walk Gojo-zaka; the final climb takes 20–30 minutes.	**Transit/taxi ¥300–1,500**
11:00	**KIYOMIZU-DERA**	Enter the main precinct, cross the wooden stage and descend toward Otowa Waterfall. Official opening is 06:00; closing varies by season.	**About ¥500 / ₹290**
12:30	**SANNENZAKA LUNCH**	Walk Matsubara-dori → Sannenzaka → Ninenzaka. Eat yudofu, soba or donburi before browsing sweets and ceramics.	**¥1,300–2,200 / ₹755–1,275**
14:30	**HIGASHIYAMA**	Continue through Ichinenzaka toward Kodai-ji. Pick one temple or garden, not all of them.	**¥600 / ₹350 optional**
16:30	**YASAKA + GION**	Cross Maruyama Park to Yasaka Shrine, then descend Shijo-dori. Turn onto quiet side lanes respectfully; never obstruct residents or geiko/maiko.	**Free**
19:00	**DINNER**	Eat near Kawaramachi where menus and prices are clearer. Order Kyoto vegetables, tofu and one grilled main to share.	**¥2,000–3,800 / ₹1,160–2,205**

STREET LOGIC

Inari Station → Senbon Torii → Gojo-zaka → Matsubara-dori → Sannenzaka → Ninenzaka → Ichinenzaka → Nene-no-michi → Maruyama Park → Shijo-dori.

FIELD NOTE

The route is downhill after Kiyomizu. Taxiing up and walking down is not laziness—it preserves the part of the day you came to enjoy.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Arashiyama early, gold before closing

Arashiyama bamboo → Tenryu-ji → Togetsukyo → Kinkaku-ji → Kyoto Station

07:00	**JR TO SAGA-ARASHIYAMA**	Board JR Sagano Line from Kyoto Station. Use the north exit at Saga-Arashiyama and walk 12–15 minutes to the grove.	**JR ¥240 / ₹140**
07:45	**BAMBOO GROVE**	Walk the main grove northbound. Keep moving through the first photo choke point; the quieter section is farther in.	**Free**
08:30	**TENRYU-JI**	Enter when the garden opens; use the north gate from the grove if operating. Verify seasonal opening and choose garden-only unless you want temple interiors.	**¥500–800 / ₹290–465**
10:00	**COFFEE + RIVER**	Walk to Togetsukyo Bridge via Saga-Toriimoto or the main street. Buy coffee after leaving the densest queue zone.	**¥500–800 / ₹290–465**
11:30	**EARLY LUNCH**	Order soba, udon or tofu set before noon queues. Skip the viral snack crawl if Kinkaku-ji matters more.	**¥1,200–2,000 / ₹695–1,160**
13:00	**CROSS-CITY TRANSFER**	Randen tram or bus/taxi toward Kinkaku-ji. Allow 60–75 minutes; Kyoto's west-side transfer is slower than it looks on the map.	**¥500–2,000 / ₹290–1,160**
14:30	**KINKAKU-JI**	Official hours 09:00–17:00. Follow the one-way garden loop; the classic photo appears early, so do not block the path trying to perfect it.	**¥500 / ₹290**
16:30	**FREE CHOICE**	Return to Kyoto Station. Choose the station skywalk, Kyoto Tower, a sento/public bath or simply an early hotel reset.	**Free–¥1,000**
19:00	**DINNER**	Kyoto Station ramen floor or a booked small restaurant near your hotel. Buy tomorrow's train snacks afterward.	**¥1,200–2,500 / ₹695–1,450**

STREET LOGIC

Saga-Arashiyama north exit → bamboo grove → Tenryu-ji north gate → Arashiyama main street → Togetsukyo → Randen route → Kinkakuji-michi bus stop.

FIELD NOTE

Arashiyama and Kinkaku-ji are a geographic pair, not neighbours. Start early and budget a full transfer hour between them.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Castle geometry to Dotonbori appetite

Kyoto → Osaka → Osaka Castle → Kuromon → Doguyasuji → Hozenji Yokocho → Dotonbori

07:45	**CHECK OUT**	Use JR Special Rapid if staying by Kyoto Station; use Hankyu if your Osaka destination is Umeda and Kyoto base is Kawaramachi. Avoid Shinkansen for this short hop unless timing demands it.	**¥580–1,450 / ₹335–840**
09:30	**BAG DROP**	Leave bags at the Osaka hotel. If lockers are full, use the staffed baggage counter at a major station.	**¥0–800**
10:15	**OSAKA CASTLE**	Metro/JR to Morinomiya for a clean park approach. Main keep hours are typically 09:00–18:00; last admission 30 minutes before closing.	**¥1,200 / ₹695**
12:30	**TRANSFER TO NIPOMBASHI**	Take metro toward Nippombashi. Do not walk the entire distance from the castle unless you want the walk itself.	**¥240 / ₹140**
13:15	**KUROMON LUNCH**	Do one seafood item, one grilled item and one fruit/sweet. Confirm the displayed price before ordering premium seafood by weight.	**¥1,800–3,000 / ₹1,045–1,740**
14:30	**DOGUYASUJI**	Walk west via Sennichimae Doguyasuji. Compare knives, ceramics and takoyaki tools; ask about tax-free and packing.	**Shopping variable**
16:00	**HOTEL RESET**	Check in, shower and leave shopping in the room. Return with a light bag for the evening crowds.	**—**
18:00	**HOZENJI**	Enter Hozenji Yokocho from the quieter east side, visit the moss-covered statue respectfully, then emerge toward Dotonbori.	**Free**
19:00	**DOTONBORI DINNER**	Order takoyaki as a snack, then choose okonomiyaki or kushikatsu for the actual meal. Photograph Glico from Ebisubashi after eating.	**¥1,800–3,200 / ₹1,045–1,855**

STREET LOGIC

Morinomiya Gate → castle keep → Nippombashi Station Exit 10 → Kuromon Ichiba → Sennichimae Doguyasuji → Hozenji Yokocho → Ebisubashi → Shinsaibashi-suji.

FIELD NOTE

Kuromon is not automatically cheap. Read the price card, especially for crab, uni and wagyu; the best-value Osaka meal is often one lane away.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

Last breakfast, clean airport exit

Namba / Umeda → last purchases → hotel → KIX

07:30	**BREAKFAST**	Eat a Japanese breakfast set, bakery tray or kissaten toast near the hotel. Avoid a long brunch queue on departure day.	**¥700–1,200 / ₹405–695**
08:30	**LAST PURCHASES**	Namba: Takashimaya depachika and station shops. Umeda: department-store basements. Buy sealed edible gifts; check meat and fresh-food import rules for India.	**Shopping variable**
10:30	**PACK + WEIGH**	Return to the hotel, consolidate liquids and batteries correctly, photograph receipts, and keep fragile food in cabin baggage where permitted.	—
11:30	**EARLY LUNCH**	Eat before the airport if your terminal options are limited. Choose udon, curry or sushi set with a predictable 30-minute service time.	**¥1,000–1,800 / ₹580–1,045**
12:30	**LEAVE FOR KIX**	From Namba: Nankai Airport Express or Rapi:t. From Umeda/Osaka: JR Kansai Airport Rapid or airport bus. Allow 70–100 minutes plus disruption buffer.	**¥1,000–1,600 / ₹580–930**
14:15	**AIRPORT**	Reach KIX roughly three hours before an international flight. Complete tax-free/customs steps, check luggage, then clear security.	—
15:30	**AIR-SIDE**	Refill water, buy only gifts you intentionally postponed, and keep boarding pass/passport together. Confirm the gate before settling in.	**Snack ¥500–900**
17:15	**BOARD**	Be at the gate before the airline’s boarding time, not the departure time. Keep the hotel/visa file accessible until you land.	—

STREET LOGIC

Nankai Namba north concourse → ticket gate → Airport Express / Rapi:t platform → KIX terminal rail concourse → airline check-in zone.

FIELD NOTE

KIX is not downtown Osaka. The correct departure-day mindset is airport first, last shopping second.

OPEN ROUTE IN GOOGLE MAPS ↗

A realistic example budget for two sharing

CATEGORY	ASSUMPTION	PLANNED
Open-jaw flights	₹45,000 × 2	**₹90,000**
Tokyo hotel	₹20,500 × 4n × 1 room	**₹82,000**
Kyoto hotel	₹15,000 × 3n × 1 room	**₹45,000**
Osaka hotel	₹10,000 × 1n × 1 room	**₹10,000**
Visa + service	₹1,500 × 2	**₹3,000**
Tokyo→Kyoto + Kyoto→Osaka	₹15,000 × 2	**₹30,000**
Local transport	₹4,000 × 2	**₹8,000**
Food	₹2,300 × 9d × 2	**₹41,400**
Sights + timed tickets	₹8,000 × 2	**₹16,000**
Insurance + connectivity	₹2,000 × 2	**₹4,000**
Shopping allowance	₹5,000 × 2	**₹10,000**
Contingency	5% of subtotal	**₹16,970**
ALL IN		**₹3,56,370 group · ₹1,78,185 per person**

How to bring this under ₹1.5 lakh per person

01 Use ₹12,000–15,000 Tokyo rooms: save roughly ₹22,000–34,000 per room.

02 Keep one paid skyline (Shibuya Sky) and use the free Shinjuku observatory: save ₹2,500–4,000 for two.

03 Use business-hotel breakfast only when it is under ₹900; otherwise buy a konbini set.

04 Book flights only after comparing baggage-included multi-city and return fares.

Booking timeline, packing and failure-proofing

01	**8–12 WEEKS**	Price Tokyo-in / Osaka-out flights; shortlist refundable hotels in all three cities; confirm passport validity and visa jurisdiction.
02	**6–8 WEEKS**	Book the flights and stay sequence. Prepare visa form, photograph, financial/employment proof, cover letter and the same day-by-day route you will carry.
03	**4–6 WEEKS**	Submit the visa application using the current Embassy/VFS route. Do not buy non-refundable add-ons merely to make the file look complete.
04	**3–4 WEEKS**	Book Shibuya Sky, teamLab Planets and any must-do restaurant. Check official operating calendars for Kiyomizu, Kinkaku-ji and Osaka Castle.
05	**7 DAYS**	Buy/confirm Shinkansen seats, install eSIM, download offline maps and transit apps, photograph prescriptions, and share hotel sequence with family.
06	**48 HOURS**	Check airline, weather and service alerts; download confirmations; set each hotel address in Japanese; separate one-night luggage if forwarding.
07	**DEPARTURE DAY**	Passport, visa, insurance, cards, ¥ cash, medication, power bank in cabin bag. Arrive three hours early for the international flight.

The honesty clause

This is an operationally realistic example—not a guarantee, live quote or personal-stay claim. Weather, crowds, rail disruptions, closures and your pace will change it. The best itinerary is the one that remains useful after one thing goes wrong.

Official links and last-minute checks

01 **Japan visa guidance — Embassy of Japan in India**
https://www.in.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/Visa.html

02 **Japan Visa Application Centre / VFS India**
https://visa.vfsglobal.com/ind/en/jpn/

03 **teamLab Planets official**
https://www.teamlab.art/e/planets/

04 **Shibuya Sky official visitor information**
https://www.shibuya-scramble-square.com/sky/ticket/en/

05 **Senso-ji official**
https://www.senso-ji.jp/english/

06 **Fushimi Inari Taisha official**
https://inari.jp/en/

07 **Kiyomizu-dera official**
https://www.kiyomizudera.or.jp/en/

08 **Kinkaku-ji official hours/access**
https://www.shokoku-ji.jp/en/kinkakuji/access/

09 **Osaka Castle official visitor listing**
https://osaka-info.jp/en/spot/osaka-castle-main-keep/

10 **Dotonbori official district**
https://www.dotonbori.or.jp/en/

11 **JR Central Shinkansen information**
https://global.jr-central.co.jp/en/

12 **Japan National Tourism Organization**
https://www.japan.travel/en/

THE FINAL 24-HOUR CHECK

Airline status · airport transfer service · attraction opening calendars · Shinkansen platform/train · local weather/rain radar · hotel check-in and luggage policy · live exchange rate · travel insurance contacts

Save the route. Keep the judgement.