

# JAPAN TRIP ITINERARY

July 31 – August 12 | Kanto & Hokkaido

13 Days | Solo Travel | Blog: [mariasometimesniskie.wordpress.com](https://mariasometimesniskie.wordpress.com)

## FLIGHTS SUMMARY

Expense	JPY (¥)	PHP (₱)
Round-trip MNL ↔ Tokyo (Cebu Pacific, 20kg baggage + travel tax)		<b>₱18,637</b>
Tokyo → Sapporo (ANA, 10kg carry-on + 2x20kg checked)		<b>₱6,252</b>
Sapporo → Tokyo (JAL, 10kg carry-on + 2x20kg checked)		<b>₱6,178</b>
<b>TOTAL FLIGHTS</b>		<b>₱31,067</b>

## ACCOMMODATION SUMMARY

Expense	JPY (¥)	PHP (₱)
Imano Tokyo Ginza Hostel (2 nights, mixed dorm)	¥4,970	
Plat Hostel Keikyu Sapporo Sky (3 nights, mixed 6-bed dorm)	¥5,085	
Hostel Tomar, Furano (1 night, female dorm)	¥1,956	
Nikko Station Hotel II (1 night, double room)	¥4,806	
MyCUBE Capsule Hotel Asakusa (1 night, female dorm)	¥4,230	
<b>TOTAL ACCOMMODATION</b>	<b>¥21,047</b>	

Expense	JPY (¥)	PHP (₱)
Welcome Suica + Skyliner (Narita → Ginza)	¥1,017	¥2,580
Noboribetsu Hokutū Limited Express JR	¥1,885	¥4,780
Sapporo–Furano Area Pass (unlimited rides)	¥4,342	¥11,000
Spacia X train Asakusa → Nikko (Spacia X limited express)	¥987	¥2,520
Nikko All Day Pass (4 days)	¥1,872	¥4,780
Taxi: Narita Airport → Tokyo (split ride recommended)	~¥3,000	~¥7,500
Taxi: Noboribetsu Station → Hell Valley	¥1,026	¥2,600
Taxi: Toya Station → Lake Toya	~¥590	~¥1,500
e-SIM (Klook, 1GB/day x 15 days)	¥700	

## DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### Day 1 — July 31 | Arrival in Tokyo

- Depart Manila NAIA T3 via Cebu Pacific at 1:15 PM
- Arrive Tokyo Narita ~7:00 PM local time
- Purchase Welcome Suica + Skyliner ticket — ¥2,580 (~₱1,017)
- Train to Ginza → Check in Imano Tokyo Ginza Hostel
- 2 nights | ₱4,970 total | Mixed dorm, luggage storage, separate shower/toilet
- Late dinner at Sukiya (24/7) — unagi + beef gyudon + lemon squash
- Cost: ¥1,829 (~₱724)

## Day 2 — August 1 | Kamakura & Enoshima

- Board retro Enoden train to Kamakura (under 1 hr from Tokyo)
- Hasedera Temple — ¥400 (~¥157) | Goddess of Mercy statue + sea views
- Daibutsu Great Buddha at Kotokuin Temple — ¥400 (~¥157)
- Brunch at Bills Restaurant, Shichirigahama beach — ¥2,700–3,500 (~¥1,200–1,800)
- Full Aussie: scrambled eggs, grilled bacon, sausage, sourdough
- 3-min train to Kamakurakoko-Mae Station (Slam Dunk anime crossing)
- 19-min train to Enoshima Island (connected by 400m bridge)
- Snacks: tako senbei (octopus crackers) + ice cream pudding
- Seafood lunch at Enoshima-tei — ¥2,500–3,200 (~¥986–1,260)
- Enoshima Shrine escalator — ¥700 round trip (~¥276)
- Stroll Komachi-dori shopping street
- Dinner at Sushizanmai Tsukiji — ¥2,500–3,500 (~¥1,200–1,800)

## Day 3 — August 2 | Tsukiji + Fly to Sapporo

- Early morning: Tsukiji Outer Market (opens 5 AM, some closed Wed)
- Street food: grilled tuna, wagyu, uni, tamagoyaki
- Coffee at Bongen Cafe near Tsukiji
- Fly Haneda → New Chitose Airport via ANA — ¥6,252
- Depart 4:00 PM | Arrive Sapporo ~6:00 PM
- Train: New Chitose Airport → Sapporo (45 min)
- Check in: Plat Hostel Keikyu Sapporo Sky — ¥5,085 (3 nights)
- 2-min walk from Hosuisusukino Station | 500 yen/night luggage storage
- Surprise: Caught Yosakoi Soran Dance Festival on Susukino Street (FREE)
- Dinner at Yukikaze Ramen (1-hr wait) — ¥1,500–2,000 (~¥591–800)
- Sapporo's famous miso ramen birthplace + Sapporo beer

## Day 4 — August 3 | Otaru + Sapporo

- Day trip: Otaru (45 min by JR from Sapporo)
- Otaru Music Box Museum — world's largest steam clock, 80,000 music boxes
- Le Tao Main Store cafe — Fromage Double cheesecakes, pudding, Hokkaido ice cream
- Cost: ¥450–600/serving (~¥180–300) | Bring passport for tax-free shopping
- Bank of Japan Otaru Museum — FREE, closed Wednesdays
- Stained Glass Museum — ¥1,200 (~¥473) | Victorian-era church glass from England
- Otaru Canal — historic waterfront walk + photos
- Craft beer at Otaru Soko No.1 — ¥250–300 (~¥100–200) | Free brewery tour
- Return to Sapporo | Dinner at Sapporo Beer Garden
- Jingsukan (Hokkaido lamb BBQ) + Sapporo draft beer
- Sapporo TV Tower observation deck — ¥1,200 (~¥473) | 360-degree city view
- Walk past historic Clock Tower (exterior, built 1878)

## Day 5 — August 4 | Noboribetsu & Lake Toya

- JR Limited Express to Noboribetsu — ¥4,780 (~¥1,885) | ~1 hr 5 min
- Taxi to Jigokudani Hell Valley — ¥2,600 (~¥1,026)
- Volcanic steam vents, sulfurous streams, demon statues
- Free shuttle every 30 min from Hell Valley to tourist center
- JR train to Toya → Taxi to Lake Toya
- Lake Toya scenic ferry cruise — ¥1,420 (~¥560) | Every 30 min, 8:30 AM–4:30 PM
- Part of Shikotsu-Toya National Park | Active volcano views
- Early dinner at Boyotei — tonkatsu + fruit parfait — ¥1,200–4,000 (~¥500–1,600)
- Last JR train back to Sapporo | Ramen at Sapporo Ramen Street

## Day 6 — August 5 | Furano & Asahikawa

- Breakfast: Miyakoshiya Coffee (basement of Sapporo Station) — rich nel-drip coffee
- Purchase Sapporo–Furano Area Pass — ¥11,000 (~¥4,342)
- Covers: New Chitose Airport, Sapporo, Otaru, Furano, Biei, Asahikawa
- Scenic sightseeing train to Furano
- Check in: Hostel Tomar Furano — ¥1,956 | 5-10 min walk from station, female dorm
- Lunch at Kumagera — Furano beef sukiyaki — ¥5,000 (~¥1,973)
- Side trip to Asahikawa (Hokkaido's 2nd largest city)
- Shoyu ramen at Asahikawa Station — ¥300 (~¥120)
- Dinner: Robata Izakaya Furano — yakitori, grilled mackerel (hokke), cold sake
- Cost: ¥2,000–5,000 (~¥780–1,973)

## Day 7 — August 6 | Biei Flower Tour

- Self-guided Klook bus tour from Furano Station — ¥3,527
- Stops: Tomita Farm, Senbo Pass, Shikisai No Oka, Shirogane Blue Pond, Shirahige Falls, Hokusei No Oka
- Tomita Farm — iconic lavender fields, lavender snacks + drinks, fresh watermelon
- Shikisai No Oka (Four Seasons Hill) — tractor ride + alpaca ranch — ¥500 (~¥197)
- Tulips, lupine, lavender, sunflowers, dahlias — April to October blooms
- Shirogane Blue Pond — vivid turquoise/cobalt water from Shirahige Falls minerals
- Shirahige Falls (White Beard Waterfall) — underground river source; no swimming
- Grilled corn + iced coffee stalls — ¥400 (~¥157)
- Patchwork Road scenic drive through farming fields
- Hokusei No Oka Tenbo Park — pyramid observatory, Tokachi mountain views
- Return to Sapporo | Dinner: Katsutoku Toyohira — tonkatsu + crab croquette
- Cost: ¥2,000–3,000 (~¥789–1,184)

## Day 8 — August 7 | Fly Back to Tokyo

- Check out of Sapporo hostel
- Fly New Chitose → Haneda via Japan Airlines — ¥6,178
- Depart 1:00 PM | Arrive ~2:35 PM
- Train to Shibuya | Check in hostel near Shin-Okubo
- Dinner: Tsukemen Gonokami Seisakusho (behind Shinjuku Takashimaya)

- Ebi (shrimp) tsukemen — from ¥1,000 | 1-hr wait, order via vending machine
- Shopping: Uniqlo Shibuya (tax-free with passport)
- Dessert: 2D Cafe, Shin-Okubo — sweet potato drink

## Days 9–10 — August 8–9 | Mt. Fuji Hike

- Guided group hike up Mt. Fuji (separate blog)
- Climbing season: summer only | Stay in group hostel near Shinjuku/Shibuya

## Day 11 — August 10 | Nikko

- Board Spacia X train: Asakusa → Nikko — ¥2,520 (~¥987) + Nikko All Day Pass ¥4,780 (~¥1,872)
- GOEN cafe on board Car No. 1 | 1 hr 47 min journey
- Check in: Nikko Station Hotel II — ¥4,806 | Double room, 5-10 min walk from station
- Shinkyo Bridge — ¥300 (~¥118) | World Heritage site, dating to 17th century
- Lunch: Sobadokoro Shinkyōan — soba restaurant near the bridge
- World Heritage Shrines and Temples of Nikko (103 structures, all walkable)
- Toshogu Shrine — lavish mausoleum of Tokugawa Ieyasu
- Rinnoji Temple — founded 8th century, three giant Buddha statues
- Dinner: Izakaya Hanamusubi — draft beer, karaage, grilled scallops, Nikko tofu
- Cost: ¥3,000–5,000 (~¥1,175–1,958)

## Day 12 — August 11 | Nikko National Park + Edo Wonderland

- Bus to Nikko National Park (covered by Nikko All Day Pass)
- Kegon Waterfall — ~100 meters tall, Japan's most famous waterfall
- Free observation platform + paid elevator platform (100m deep) — better views
- Lake Chuzenji — Japan's highest natural lake at 1,269m elevation (FREE with pass)
- 20 mins walk from Kegon | Relaxing lake cruise + mountain views
- Try agemanju snack (deep-fried red bean bun) at bus stop stalls
- Taxi to Edo Wonderland Nikko Edomura — ¥5,000 after 2 PM (~¥1,958)
- Standard: ¥5,800 | Afternoon discount: ¥5,000 (enter after 2:00 PM)
- Oiran Parade — traditional Edo-period courtesan procession
- Multiple period shows, Edo-style architecture, actors in costume
- Free shuttle bus back to Nikko Station
- Train (Kegon) → Asakusa | Check in MyCUBE Capsule Hotel — ¥4,230

## Day 13 — August 12 | Asakusa + Departure

- Breakfast at February Cafe (walking distance from hostel)
- Cheese toast + pudding + coffee
- Work in cafe/hostel before checking out
- Depart hostel 3:30 PM | Train to Narita Airport (~1.5 hrs, regular train)
- Farewell dinner at Gyukatsu Kyoto Katsugyu (Narita Airport)
- Japanese Premium Wagyu tenderloin zen — ¥4,000 (~¥1,567)

- Last-minute souvenir shopping at Narita Airport
- Depart Japan ~8:00 PM via Cebu Pacific | Arrive Philippines next day ✈️

## ENTRANCE FEES & ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

Expense	JPY (¥)	PHP (₱)
Hasedera Temple, Kamakura	₱157	¥400
Daibutsu Great Buddha, Kamakura	₱157	¥400
Enoshima Shrine escalator (round trip)	₱276	¥700
Bank of Japan Otaru Museum	FREE	FREE
Stained Glass Museum, Otaru	₱473	¥1,200
Sapporo TV Tower observation deck	₱473	¥1,200
Lake Toya Ferry Cruise	₱560	¥1,420
Biei Klook Self-Guided Tour (Furano bus)	₱3,527	
Shikisai No Oka Alpaca Ranch	₱197	¥500
Shinkyo Bridge, Nikko	₱118	¥300
Kegon Waterfall paid platform	~₱217	~¥550
Lake Chuzenji cruise (free w/ Nikko Pass)	FREE	FREE
Edo Wonderland (afternoon discount)	₱1,958	¥5,000



Expense	JPY (¥)	PHP (₱)
Sukiya (gyudon + lemon squash), Tokyo	₱724	¥1,829
Bills brunch, Shichirigahama beach	₱1,200–1,800	¥2,700–3,500
Enoshima-tei seafood rice bowl	₱986–1,260	¥2,500–3,200
Sushizanmai Tsukiji, Tokyo	₱1,200–1,800	¥2,500–3,500
Yukikaze Ramen (miso), Sapporo	₱591–800	¥1,500–2,000
Le Tao cheesecakes + iced tea, Otaru	₱180–300	¥450–600/serving
Sapporo Beer Garden (Jingisukan lamb BBQ)	₱1,184–1,973	¥3,000–5,000
Boyotei (tonkatsu + fruit parfait), Toya	₱500–1,600	¥1,200–4,000
Kumagera (Furano beef sukiyaki)	₱1,973	¥5,000
Asahikawa Station ramen	₱120	¥300
Robata Izakaya, Furano (yakitori + sake)	₱780–1,973	¥2,000–5,000
Katsutoku Toyohira (tonkatsu + crab croquette)	₱789–1,184	¥2,000–3,000
Tsukemen Gonokami Seisakusho (ebi tsukemen)	from ₱394	from ¥1,000
Izakaya Hanamusubi, Nikko	₱1,175–1,958	¥3,000–5,000

Gyukatsu Kyoto Katsugyu, Narita Airport	₱1,567	¥4,000
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## PRACTICAL TIPS

### Money & Cards

- Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY). Rate during trip: ₱1 = ~2.56 JPY (or 1 JPY = ~₱0.39)
- GCash Debit Card works at Japanese convenience store ATMs (7-Eleven, FamilyMart, Lawson)
- ATM transaction fee: ¥110 per ¥10,000 withdrawal
- Always withdraw in JPY — converting to PHP incurs extra bank charges
- Carry cash — some establishments are cash-only

### Transport

- Welcome Suica card — use for trains, buses, and IC-logo stores | No deposit, valid 28 days
- Shinkansen — buy at train stations (no reservation fee); avoid Klook (adds ₱550 convenience fee)
- Google Maps — essential for navigating Japan's train network
- Taxis are expensive; Narita → Tokyo ~₱3,000 (share if possible)

### Shopping

- Tax-free shopping for foreigners — purchase ¥5,000+ and show passport at the register
- General goods (Uniqlo, electronics, jewelry) can be used in Japan — tax-free immediately
- Consumables (food, cosmetics, medicine) must be sealed and cannot be used in Japan

### Logistics

- eTravel PH registration required 72 hrs before departure from the Philippines (etravel.gov.ph)
- Visit Japan Web registration required before entering Japan (present QR code at immigration)
- e-SIM: Buy from Klook before departure — ₱700 for 1GB/day x 15 days
- Luggage lockers available at airports and train stations — ¥300 (small) / ¥400 (medium) / ¥500 (large) per day
- Laundromats: coin-operated, ¥100 = 30 min wash or dry
- Power socket: Type A (same as Philippines) | Voltage 110V
- Time zone: GMT+9 (1 hour ahead of Philippines)

### Packing Tips

- Comfortable walking shoes — Japan involves a LOT of walking

- For summer (Tokyo): cap, cooling wet wipes, umbrella, portable fan (36–40°C in Tokyo)
- Hokkaido summer is cooler: 26–30°C — layers recommended
- Bring a notebook for temple and shrine stamps (hanko)
- Waterproof bag/case for boat rides and waterfalls

## VISA REQUIREMENTS (Filipino Citizens)

- Tourist visa required — apply via accredited agencies (e.g., Attic Tours, MOA)
- Single Entry Visa — ₱1,650 via agency | Returned within 2 business days
- Maximum stay: 15 days on Single Entry Visa
- Required bank balance: at least ₱100,000 recommended for longer stays
- No need to book hotel/flight tickets in advance for visa application
- Multiple Entry Visa available if you've visited Japan 2+ times in the last 3 years

## ESTIMATED TRIP COST SUMMARY

Expense	JPY (¥)	PHP (₱)
Flights (MNL–Tokyo R/T + domestic)	₱31,067	
Accommodation (all hostels/hotels, 13 nights)	₱21,047	
Visa fee	₱1,650	
Japan transport (trains, passes, taxi estimates)	~₱16,000	
e-SIM (Klook)	₱700	
Food & activities (estimate, varies by choices)	~₱30,000–50,000	
<b>ESTIMATED GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>~₱100,000–120,000</b>	

