



Kamakura and Hakone – 3 Days
Hydrangea flowers: June to early July

The hydrangea flower, symbol of Tsuyu (rainy season) can be found in many parts of Japan during this period. Located near Tokyo, Kamakura is one of the best places to see these colorful flowers. Enjoy a 3-day weekend getaway to visit Kamakura and Hakone, with its pleasant hot springs and treat yourself to a night in ryokan (Japanese inn). The Hakone Tozan train, which slowly climbs the hills of Hakone is known as the "hydrangea train". The flowers along the track that connects the stations of Hakone-Yumoto and Gora bloom at different times depending on the altitude and offer a magical landscape.

Day 1: Tokyo / Kamakura / Hakone

Depart Tokyo station for Kamakura at 9:00am.
(Duration: about 1 hour).

Visits and meals at your convenience.

*Located on the seafront, about an hour from Tokyo, the city of **Kamakura** has a rich historic heritage. The oldest feudal capital of Japan between 1192 and 1333, its heyday also corresponds to a period of strong development of Buddhism, denoted by the presence of many temples.*



Meigetsu-in Temple



Visit Suggestions:

- **Hase-dera Temple**
Famous for its huge statue of Kannon and its 2500 hydrangeas.
- **Kotoku-in Temple**
Home of the Great Buddha.
- **Meigetsu-in Temple**
Also known as "Ajisai-dera", which means "Temple of the hydrangea".
- **Engaku-ji Temple**
One of the great Zen temples in Kamakura.

Depart for Hakone-Yumoto at 4:00pm.

*An ideal destination for those looking to get away from the ongoing hustle and bustle of Tokyo for a day or two, **Hakone** is located in the heart of Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park, about an hour and a half by train from the capital. The beautiful landscapes, the lakes with stunning views of nearby Mount Fuji and the many onsens (hot springs).*

The 35-minute train ride from Hakone-Yumoto to Gora is particularly beautiful in June and July when thousands of hydrangeas bloom along the tracks. They are also illuminated at night. Their flowering is usually at its peak around the beginning of July and can be seen from inside trains and around the stations.

Check-in at the Ryokan at 5:30pm.

Dinner and night in Ryokan

Day 2: Hakone / Tokyo

Breakfast at the Ryokan.

Visits and meals at your convenience.

Visit Suggestions:

- **Amidaji Temple**
There are more than 4000 hydrangeas on its access road. The best time to see them is the second half of June.
- **Gora Park**
The oldest French-style garden in Japan, opened in 1914. The park has the distinction of having red Hydrangeas.
- **Hakone Glass no Mori Museum**
Its garden contains a number of large glass sculptures. The hydrangea garden has 4,500 specimens of about 70 different species.
- **Owakudani**
Ride the cable car to the Owakudani Valley, famous for its hot springs and Sulphur fumes, and as an observation point for Mount Fuji.
Mount Fuji visible on clear days. Depending on seismic and volcanic conditions, cable cars can be stopped.
- **Lake Ashi Cruise**
Cruise on Lake Ashi, where Mount Fuji is reflected.

In the late afternoon, depart for Tokyo by train (duration: about 1:35).



FRANCE TRAVEL CENTER

Do you enjoy **freedom and lack of constraints**?

We can leave you with a personalized list of interesting activities and locations, giving you the freedom to wander around as you please during your stay.

Do you want a bulletproof plan and **hassle-free getaway**?

We can arrange everything for you in advance, whether it be reserving activities, luggage shipments, car rental or guided tours, and more.

Don't hesitate to contact us for a personalized itinerary.