

# Yoshino - 2 Days Cherry Blossoms in early April

If you are a fan of cherry blossoms, Mount Yoshino is the place for you. More than 30,000 cherry trees are spread over its mountains and offer a landscape with colors gradations from white to pink that will take your breath away.

## Day 1: Tokyo / Yoshino

Departure around 8:00am for Yoshino by Shinkansen and train from Tokyo station via Kyoto (duration: about 4.30).

Visits and meals at your convenience.

The highland village of **Yoshino**, with its terraced houses a remote mountainside, is one of the most beautiful places in Japan to admire cherry blossoms. Mount Yoshino is adorned with more than 30,000 cherry trees of 200 different species and their staggered flowering patterns provides three weeks of magic (late March to mid-April).



Mount Yoshino

#### Visit Suggestions:

## Kinpusen-ji Temple

Its main pavilion, Zao-do, is one of the most imposing wooden buildings in Japan.

## Yoshimizu-jinja

The former residence of Emperor Go-Daigo. Its architecture resembles that of a 14th century palace. Inside you can admire a collection of armor and painted screens.

Dinner and night at a Ryokan.



#### Day 2: Yoshino / Tokyo

Breakfast at the Ryokan.

Visits and meals at your convenience.

Take advantage of your second day in Yoshino to take one or more hikes among the cherry blossoms. **We can provide you with hiking itineraries on request.** 

It is also possible to participate in workshops (reservations required, prices on request):

- Washi Paper crafting
- · Kaki leaf-wrapped sushi making
- Shugyo (training/spiritual practice in a temple)

#### Other visit suggestions:

### Sakuramotobo Temple

Like many other temples around Yoshino, is a Shugendo center of worship. Founded about 1350 years ago, it was built by Emperor Tenmu where he dreamed of a beautiful cherry tree in full bloom in the middle of winter. This vision heralded his ascension to the throne.

## Nyoirinji Temple

Founded 1000 years ago, this is a temple is of the Jodo sect located away from the other sites of Yoshino on the mountain slope in front of the city. Nyoirinji was the main place worship of emperor Go-Daigo, who died and was buried in Yoshino.

## Chikurin-in Temple

Temple on Mount Yoshino well known for its beautiful landscaped garden, the Gunpo-en. The garden surrounds a large pond lined with dozens of cherry trees. Trails lead to the hill behind the pond from where the view extends to the Kinpusenji temple.

## Yoshino Mikumari Shrine

A small Shinto shrine dedicated to a female water and fertility deity. It is one of the four most important mikumari shrines in Japan. The magnificent bark-layered roof was renovated in 2011 and the structure has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2004.

Return to Tokyo at the end of the day.

We can shorten or extend your stay, or add other destinations.

## 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.