

**Location** The mainland is on the biggest island of the Japanese Archipelago, Asia. Tokyo is the capital.

**How to get there** London's Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted all have direct flights to Japan. Otherwise smaller UK airports can fly indirect via hubs such as Amsterdam.

**Climate throughout the year** Climate varies throughout the islands. On the mainland spring and autumn tends to be cool with cherry blossom and golden leaves respectively. Summer is hot while winter brings snow.

### **Vaccinations and Visas**

None needed for less than 90 days travel but you must have a ticket for onward travel. Be sure to check prescription medications though as Japan has strict laws.

**Currency** Yen

**Who is it suited for?** Japan has a reputation for manners and strict rules but many visitors find all are welcomed including children and babies (there are even baby holders on the wall in toilets!)

**Where to stay** If you only have time for one location head to Tokyo. Otherwise try a multicentre trip in Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka

### **Top 5 must-dos**

- 1 Explore the bright lights and bustling streets of Tokyo
- 2 Head to a unique theme park such as Disney Sea or Ghibli Park
- 3 Experience history in castles and temples such as Meiji Shrine and Nijo Castle
- 4 See deer in Nara Park or Monkeys in Jigokudani
- 5 Visit a modern museum such as Ghibli Museum or KitKat Chocolatory

**Recommended Food** Reserving a table at sit-down restaurants is a must, unless you arrive at open (generally 5pm). However, Japan is full of amazing snack options from meals at 7/11, wild popcorn flavours like garlic shrimp in theme parks or interesting flavours of well-known products such as soy sauce Kit Kats.

**How to find the magic** The whole country offers a wide range of magical experiences from cherry blossoms to autumn leaves. For more magic head to a theme park such as Disneyland, Disney Sea, Universal Osaka or Ghibli Park

# Destination Factfile for Japan (Mainland)