

The Lonely Planet logo, featuring the words "lonely planet" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with a white circle around the letter "o" in "lonely".

lonely planet

A green graphic element in the top right corner that looks like a corner of a page being pulled away, revealing a white background. The text "PULL-OUT MAP" is printed in white on the green background.

PULL-OUT  
MAP

A vibrant photograph of a traditional Japanese pagoda with a red wooden structure and a dark, multi-tiered roof. The pagoda is set against a backdrop of lush green and yellow trees, with pink cherry blossoms in the foreground. The bottom of the image transitions into a green background.

# Discover Japan

Experience the best of Japan

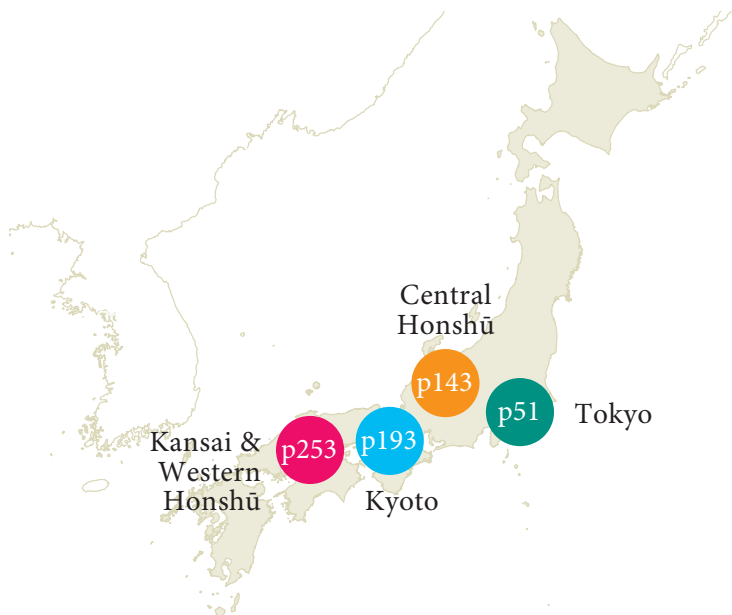


**Discover**  
**Japan**

**Experience the best  
of Japan**

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# This Is Japan

Japan is a world apart – a wonderful little planet floating off the coast of China. It is a kind of cultural Galápagos, a place where a unique civilisation has been allowed to grow and unfold on its own, unmolested by invading powers.

**Japan's ancient culture is a bounty of riches.** From the retina-burning splendour of a Kyoto geisha dance to the spare beauty of a Zen rock garden, Japan has the power to enthral even the most jaded traveller.

**Japan is a place to leave your comfort zone without suffering any real discomfort.** Whether it's staying in a ryokan (traditional Japanese inn), soaking in a bubbling onsen (hot spring) or gazing at the apparition of a geisha, Japan offers regular doses of 'Wow!' against a backdrop of ultramodern comfort.

**Savouring the delights of Japanese cuisine is half the reason to come to Japan.** Indeed, many travellers come to Japan solely to sample the delights of Japanese food on its home turf. Eat just one meal in a top-flight Tokyo sushi restaurant and you'll see why: the Japanese attention to detail, genius for presentation and insistence on the finest ingredients result in food that can change your perception of what is possible in the culinary arena.

**The wonders of Japan's natural world are a well-kept secret.** The hiking in the Japan Alps and Hokkaidō is world class, and with an extensive hut system you can do multiday hikes with just a day pack. Down south, the coral reefs of Okinawa will have you wondering if you've somehow been transported to Thailand. And you never have to travel far in Japan to get out in nature: in cities like Kyoto, a few minutes of travel will get you into forested mountains.

“  
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the power  
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even the  
most jaded  
traveller  
”



丸太町の会

天から  
ばんざい