



Mt Fuji & Around Tokyo

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Best Places to Eat

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Best Places to Stay

- » Hōshi Onsen Chōjūkan (p130)
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Why Go?

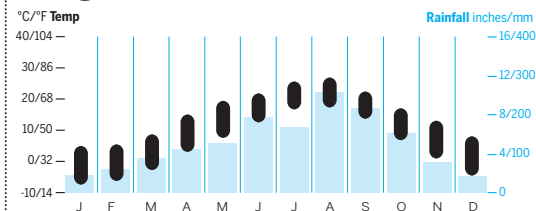
With ancient sanctuaries, hot springs, mountains and beaches, the region surrounding Tokyo is a natural foil for the dizzying capital. Really, you couldn't design it any better if you tried.

Authentic country ryokan, regional cuisines and cedar-lined trails are all within two hours of central Tokyo. There's history here too, including an old medieval capital and ports that were among the first to open to the West. These are, for better or for worse, well-visited places and you'll find transport and communication to be a comparative breeze.

The Izu-shotō and Ogasawara-shotō, island chains that trickle some 1000km south from Tokyo, are the exception. Though they're technically still part of the capital, you'll find many Tokyoites only vaguely familiar with them – so much the better for those looking for total escape.

When to Go

Kawaguchi-ko



May Experience the flush of spring in the mountains north and west of Tokyo.

Summer The season for Mt Fuji climbing and Izu Archipelago island-hopping.

Sep–Nov Pleasant temperatures and fewer crowds, save when the autumn leaves blaze red.

Mt Fuji & Around Tokyo Highlights

- 1 Watching the sunrise from the summit of majestic Mt Fuji (p.132), Japan's highest mountain and national symbol
- 2 Taking in the grandeur of old Edo at the dazzling shrines and temples of **NIKKŌ** (p.122)
- 3 Dipping into onsen culture in the mountains of **GUNMA Prefecture** (Gunma-ken; p.128)
- 4 Flip-flopping between sandy beaches and seaside hot springs in the **Izu Peninsula** (p.143) and **Izu Archipelago** (p.161)
- 5 Resetting your senses in the Zen temples and sywan hills of the medieval

