



# Mt Fuji & Around Tokyo

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## Best Onsen

- Jinata Onsen (p188)
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## Best Sacred Sites

- Tōshō-gū (p163)
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## Why Go?

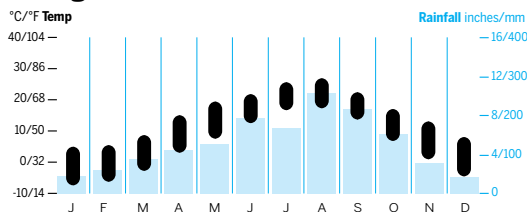
With ancient sanctuaries, hot springs, mountains and beaches, the region surrounding Tokyo is a natural foil for the dizzying capital. Really, you couldn't design it any better if you tried.

Authentic country ryokan, regional cuisines and cedar-lined trails are all within two hours of central Tokyo, as well as the symbol of Japan itself, alluring Mt Fuji. There's history here too, including a 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.

Ferries and flights also provide relatively fast access to the Izu Islands, but if you're really looking to get away from it all then set your compass for the World Heritage-listed Ogasawara archipelago that trickles some 1000km south from Tokyo and where you can spot whales, swim with dolphins and snorkel alongside green turtles and a rainbow assortment of tropical fish.

## When to Go

### Kawaguchi-ko



### Apr & May

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

### Jul & Aug

The official season for Mt Fuji climbing or beach-hopping around the Izu Peninsula.

### 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** (p155), Japan's highest mountain and national symbol.
- 2 Taking in the grandeur of old Edo at the dazzling shrines and temples of **Nikkō** (p163).
- 3 Flip-flopping between sandy beaches and seaside hot springs on the **Izu Peninsula** (p178).
- 4 Resetting your senses in the Zen temples of the medieval capital of **Kamakura** (p196).
- 5 Hopping between onsen, art museums and hiking trails around gorgeously scenic **Hakone** (p172).
- 6 Sampling craft beer and jazz tunes in cosmopolitan **Yokohama** (p189).
- 7 Getting back to nature on the pristine, subtropical **Ogasawara Archipelago** (p202).
- 8 Hiking, rafting or canyoning at **Mitake** (p171), the forested western edge of Tokyo.