“All you’ve got to do is decide to go and the hardest part is over. So go!”

TONY WHEELER, COFOUNDER – LONELY PLANET
(Left) **Ponto-chō p56**
Spot geisha on this atmospheric street.

(Above) **Tea ceremony p173** Take part in an age-old ritual.

(Right) **Nishiki Market p55** See an amazing array of local delicacies.
**Top Itineraries**

**Day One**

**Southern Higashiyama (p78)**

Start your Kyoto experience by heading to the city’s most important (and popular) sightseeing district: Southern Higashiyama. This area contains the thickest concentration of worthwhile sights in Kyoto.

*Lunch* Sobadokoro Shibazaki (p87); filling noodles and a lacquerware gallery.

**Northern Higashiyama (p91)**

If you have the energy after lunch, continue heading north along the base of the Higashiyama mountains. Start at Nanzen-ji and follow the Path of Philosophy (Tetsugaku-no-Michi) all the way to Ginkaku-ji, stopping at Hōnen-in along the way.

*Dinner* Omen (p99); brilliant udon and more within minutes of Ginkaku-ji.

**Downtown Kyoto (p53)**

After dinner, head back to your lodgings (which may very well be located in Downtown Kyoto). You’ll probably be pretty walked out if you’ve done both Southern and Northern Higashiyama in one day, so a short amble around the streets of Downtown Kyoto will probably be sufficient to round out this day.

**Day Two**

**Arashiyama & Sagano (p108)**

After exploring the Higashiyama area, you’ll want to head west to the Arashiyama and Sagano district, which has a dense concentration of first-rate sights. Start at Tenryū-ji and work your way north to Giō-ji or Adashino Nembutsu-ji.

*Lunch* Buddhist vegetarian fare at Shigetsu (p115).

**Northwest Kyoto (p101)**

It makes sense to stay on the west side of town in the afternoon of this day. Take a taxi from the end of the morning’s route to Kinkaku-ji and/or Ryōan-ji. If you still have energy to burn, you can check out Myōshin-ji late in the afternoon.

*Dinner* Delicious eel in retro surroundings at Kyōgoku Kane-yo (p60).

**Downtown Kyoto (p53)**

This is a pretty big day, with a fair bit of transport, so you probably won’t feel like doing too much walking on this evening. We recommend some strolling around Downtown Kyoto. The atmospheric lane of Ponto-chō is a great place to wander, as is Kiyamachi-dōri, particularly the stretch between Shijō-dōri and Gojō-dōri.
Day Three

Southeast Kyoto (p75)

You’ll probably be feeling like a break from the crowds about now. For this reason we suggest heading to Southeast Kyoto. Here, you’ll find two absolutely stunning attractions: Tōfuku-ji (don’t forget to enter the Hōjō Garden) and Fushimi Inari-Taisha, Kyoto’s mind-blowing Shintō sanctuary.

Downtown Kyoto (p53)

After exploring Southeast Kyoto in the morning and eating lunch downtown, it makes sense to spend the afternoon exploring Downtown Kyoto and perhaps doing some shopping. Be sure to take a pass through the wonderful Nishi-ki Market, then visit one of the awesome depachika (department store food floors) at nearby Daimaru or Takashimaya department stores. Then, walk through the Teramachi Shopping Arcade. When the covered section runs out, keep following Teramachi as far as Marutamachi-dōri (the last few blocks contain some of Kyoto’s best traditional shops).

Gion (p82)

This day involves less walking than the preceding two, so it’s ideal for

Day Four

Kitayama Area (p116)

Today’s the day to step off the beaten track and immerse yourself in some greenery. Heading north into the Kitayama (Northern Mountains) is the perfect way to relax after three days of urban sightseeing. Heading to Kurama and hiking over the hill and down to Kibune is our favourite day trip out of the city. Other options include Ōhara or Takao.

Central Kyoto (p68)

If you spend the morning in the Kitayama, you will probably return to Kyoto city in the early afternoon. If this is your last day in the city, you might want to spend the remainder of the day shopping for souvenirs in Downtown Kyoto. But, if you still have the energy for sightseeing, you might consider visiting the enclosed Zen world of Daitoku-ji. Other options include Nijō-jō or a stroll in the Kyoto Imperial Palace Park.

Downtown Kyoto or Gion (p82)

If you haven’t done it yet, take a stroll through the Gion district and consider a stop in Bar Main Higashiyama. If you have, consider instead a stroll
MAP INDEX
1 Downtown Kyoto (p208)
2 Central Kyoto (p211)
3 Kyoto Station Area (p212)
4 Southern Higashiyama (p214)
5 Northern Higashiyama (p216)
6 Arashiyama & Sagano (p219)
7 Northwest Kyoto (p220)
8 Ōhara (p222)
9 Kurama & Kibune (p223)
# DOWNTOWN KYOTO Map on 208

## Top Sights (p55)
- Osaka Castle
- Dazaifu Tenman-gū
- Gion
- Kiyomizu-dera
- Nijo Castle

## Sights (p56)
- Nishiki Market
- Sannei Street
- Ponto-chō
- Biotei
- Shiori-an

## Eating (p57)
- Le Bouchon
- Biotei
- Ganko Nijō-en
- Café Bibliothèque

## Drinking & Nightlife (p62)
- Liberte
- Mew'z cafe
- Mew's
- Biotei

## Shopping (p65)
- Takashimaya
- Tsukiji Sushisei
- Uosue

## Information (p189)
- KNT

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## Additional Information
- **Top Sights**
- **Sights**
- **Eating**
- **Drinking & Nightlife**
- **Shopping**
- **Information**
KYOTO STATION AREA

Sights (p50)
1 Higashi Hongan-ji ................................................... D1
2 Kyoto Station .......................................................... D3
3 Kyoto Tower ................................................................ D2
4 Nishi Hongan-ji........................................................... B1
5 Shōsei-en .................................................................. E1
6 Caffe Velocé ............................................................ D3
7 Cube ........................................................................ D3
8 Shusai Jōjō ............................................................... C2
9 Æon Mall Kyoto ...................................................... C4
10 Avanti .......................................................... E4
11 Bic Camera ............................................................. C3
12 Isetan Department Store .............................................. D3
13 Kōjitsu Sansō .......................................................... D2
14 Kungyoku-dō ........................................................... B1
15 Kyōsō-dō .............................................................. E1
16 Popondetta Æon Mall Kyoto Shop .......................... C4
17 Porta Shopping Mall ............................................... D3
18 Yodobashi Camera ................................................. D2
19 Budget Inn ............................................................ B2
20 Capsule Ryokan Kyoto ........................................... B2
21 Dormy Inn Premium Kyoto Ekimae ......................... E3
22 Hotel Granvia Kyoto ............................................... E3
23 Ibis Styles Kyoto Station ........................................ D4
24 K’s House Kyoto .................................................... F2
25 Kyōmachiyā Ryokan Sakura .................................. C1
26 Matsubaya Ryokan .................................................. E1
27 Ryokan Shimizu ....................................................... C1
28 Tour Club .................................................................. C1

Information (p182)
29 Kyoto Prefectural International Center .................. D3
30 Kyoto Tourist Information Center ......................... D3
31 Tōkai Discount Ticket Shop ................................ D3
32 Airport Limousine Bus Stop ................................. E4
33 Kyoto Bus Information Centre ................................ D3
34 Kyoto Cycling Tour Project .................................. C3
35 Kyoto Station Bus Terminal ................................. D3
36 Nissan Rent-a-Car .................................................. D3
37 Toyota Rentacar Kyoto Eki Shinkansen-guchi Branch ........................................ D4

Transport (p176)
32 Airport Limousine Bus Stop ................................. E4
33 Kyoto Bus Information Centre ................................ D3
34 Kyoto Cycling Tour Project .................................. C3
35 Kyoto Station Bus Terminal ................................. D3
36 Nissan Rent-a-Car .................................................. D3
37 Toyota Rentacar Kyoto Eki Shinkansen-guchi Branch ........................................ D4
SOUTHERN HIGASHIYAMA

Top Sights (p80)
1. Chion-in ............................................ D3
2. Gion ..................................................... D3
3. Kiyomizu-dera .................................... D5
4. Kawai Kanjiro Memorial Hall .................. B5
5. Kennin-ji ........................................... B3
6. Kôdai-ji ............................................. D3
8. Maruyama-kôen ................................... D2
9. Ninenzaka & Sannenzaka ....................... D4
10. Rokuharamitsu-ji .................................. B4
11. Sanjûsangen-dô Temple ......................... B7
12. Shôren-in ......................................... D1
13. Yasaka-jinja ....................................... C3
14. Yasui Konpô-gû .................................. B4

Sights (p82)
15. Bamboo ............................................. C1
16. Café 3032 .......................................... C4
17. Gion Karyô ......................................... B3
18. Hisago ............................................. C4
19. Issen Yôshoku ...................................... B2
20. Kasagi-ya .......................................... D4
21. Kikunoi ............................................. D3
22. Omen Kodai-ji .................................... D4
23. Oshokujidokoro Asuka ......................... D1
24. Rakushô ........................................... C3
25. Rômen Santôka .................................. B1
26. Ryûmon ............................................. C1
27. Senmonten ........................................ B2
28. Sobadokoro Shibaizaki ......................... C5
29. Yagura .............................................. B2
30. Yagura .............................................. B2

Eating (p86)
31. Bar Main Higashiyama ......................... C4
32. Gael Irish Pub .................................... B2
33. Gion Finlandia Bar .............................. B3
34. Pig & Whistle ..................................... B1
35. Gion Corner ...................................... B3
36. Gion Odori ........................................ C2
37. Kyô Odori .......................................... A4
38. Kyoto Cuisine & Maiko .......................... C3
39. Minami-za ......................................... B3
40. Kagoshin .......................................... C1
41. Kyoto Sanjô Takematsu ......................... B1
42. Tessaï-dô ........................................... C3

Entertainment (p88)
43. Camellia Tea Experience ...................... D4
44. En ..................................................... C2
45. Maika ............................................... A3
46. Gion Apartments ............................... B5
47. Gion House ........................................ B3
48. Gojô Guest House ............................... B5
49. Hyatt Regency Kyoto ............................ B7
50. JAM Hostel Kyoto Gion ....................... B2
51. Kyoto Yoshimizu .................................. D2
52. Motonago ......................................... C3
53. Ryokan Uemura .................................. C4
54. Sakara Kyoto ....................................... C1
55. Seikôrô ............................................. A5
56. Shiraume Ryokan ............................... B2

Shopping (p90)
40. Kagoshin .......................................... C1
41. Kyoto Sanjô Takematsu ......................... B1
42. Tessai-dô ........................................... C3

Sports & Activities (p90)
43. Camellia Tea Experience ...................... D4
44. En ..................................................... C2
45. Maika ............................................... A3

Sleeping (p139)
46. Gion Apartments ............................... B5
47. Gion House ........................................ B3
48. Gojô Guest House ............................... B5
49. Hyatt Regency Kyoto ............................ B7
50. JAM Hostel Kyoto Gion ....................... B2
51. Kyoto Yoshimizu .................................. D2
52. Motonago ......................................... C3
53. Ryokan Uemura .................................. C4
54. Sakara Kyoto ....................................... C1
55. Seikôrô ............................................. A5
56. Shiraume Ryokan ............................... B2
NORTHERN HIGASHIYAMA  Map on p216

Top Sights  (p93)
1 Ginkaku-ji .....................................................G2
2 Nanzen-ji .....................................................F6

Sights  (p95)
3 Eikan-dō .....................................................F5
4 Heian-jingū ..................................................C5
5 Hōnen-in ......................................................G3
6 Konchi-in ....................................................E7
7 Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art ...............D6
8 Miyako Messe & Fureai-Kan Kyoto Museum of Traditional Crafts ..........C6
9 Murin-an ......................................................E6
10 Nanzen-in ...................................................F7
11 Nanzen-ji Oku-no-in ...................................G7
12 National Museum of Modern Art ............C6
13 Nomura Museum ..........................................F6
14 Okazaki-kōen Area ......................................D6
15 Path of Philosophy (Tetsugaku-no-Michi) ......G2
16 Reikan-ji ......................................................G4
17 Tenju-an ......................................................F6

Eating  (p98)
18 Au Temps Perdu ..............................................C6
19 Café de 505 ....................................................C6
20 Earth Kitchen Company ..............................A4
21 Falafel Garden ..............................................A1
22 Goya .............................................................C6
23 Hinode Udon ..................................................F5
24 Hyōtei ...........................................................D6
25 Karako ...........................................................B6
26 Kiraku ...........................................................D7
27 Okariba ..........................................................E5
28 Okutan ..........................................................F6
29 Omen ...........................................................F2
30 Shinshindō Notre Pain Quotidien ..............C1
31 Torito ...........................................................A4
32 Zac Baran .....................................................C4

Drinking & Nightlife  (p100)
33 Kick Up ..........................................................E7
34 Metro ........................................................ ..A5

Entertainment  (p100)
35 Kyoto Kanze Kaikan Nō Theatre ...............C6

Shopping  (p100)
36 Chion-ji Tezukuri-ichi .................................C1
37 Kyoto Handicraft Center ............................C5
38 Tōzandō ..........................................................C5

Sleeping  (p141)
39 Koto Inn ..........................................................C7
40 Kyoto Garden Ryokan Yachiyo .................E6
41 Westin Miyako Kyoto ....................................E7

Information  (p182)
42 French Consulate ...........................................C2
43 Kyoto International Community House ..........E6
44 Kyoto University Hospital ...........................B4

Transport  (p181)
45 Toyota Rentacar Hyakumamben Branch ..........C1
**Sights**
1. Adashino Nenbutsu-ji
2. Arashiyama Bamboo Grove
3. Arashiyama Monkey Park Iwatayama
4. Daikaku-ji
5. Giō-ji
6. Jōjakō-ji
7. Kameyama-kōen
8. Nison-in
9. Ōkōchi Sansō
10. Rakushisha
11. Takiguchi-dera
12. Tenryū-ji
13. Togetsu-kyō

**Eating**
14. Arashiyama Yoshimura
15. Hakko Shokudo Kamoshika
16. Hiranoya
17. Kameyama-ya
18. Kitcho Arashiyama
19. Komichi
20. Mikazuki
21. Yoshida-ya
22. Yudōfu Sagano
23. Arashiyama Benkei
24. Hoshinoya Kyoto
25. Hotel Ran-tee

**Sleeping**
23. Arashiyama Benkei
24. Hoshinoya Kyoto
25. Hotel Ran-tee
Sights
1 Hōsen-in.................................................. E2
2 Jakkō-in.................................................. A1
3 Jikkō-in.................................................. E2
4 Sanzen-in................................................. E2
5 Shōrin-in................................................. E2
6 Soundless Waterfall
   (Oto-nashi-no-taki).................................. E3

Eating
7 Seryō-Jaya............................................... E2

Sights
1 Hōsen-in.................................................. E2
2 Jakkō-in.................................................. A1
3 Jikkō-in.................................................. E2
4 Sanzen-in................................................. E2
5 Shōrin-in................................................. E2
6 Soundless Waterfall
   (Oto-nashi-no-taki).................................. E3

Eating
7 Seryō-Jaya............................................... E2
Kibune-gawa
Kurama-gawa
Kurama-yama (634m)

Funicular
Eizan Kurama Line

Kyoto (7km)
Kibune-guchi Station (400m)
Hanase (6km)

Sights (p120)
1. Kurama-dera
2. Okuno-in Maō-den
3. Ōsugi-gongen
4. Sōjō-ga-dani Fudō-dō
5. Yuki-jinja

Eating (p122)
6. Aburaya-Shokudō
7. Hirobun
8. Kibune Club
9. Yōshūji

Sports & Activities (p123)
10. Kurama Onsen

Sleeping (p142)
11. Ryokan Ugenta
Chris Rowthorn has been based in Kyoto since 1992. He became a regional correspondent for *The Japan Times* in 1995 and joined Lonely Planet in 1996. He’s worked on Lonely Planet’s *Japan*, *Kyoto*, *Hiking in Japan* and *Tokyo* guidebooks. He speaks and reads Japanese fluently and has appeared on local TV to introduce secret temples in Kyoto. Chris’s wife is from Kyoto’s Arashiyama district and his two children are proudly multicultural. Chris runs Chris Rowthorn Tours (www.chrisrowthorn.com), which offers private tours and consulting about Kyoto and the rest of Japan. He also curates www.insidekyoto.com, his personal blog about the city of Kyoto.