

PICKLEBALL TRIPS PRESENTS



MAY 9-17, 2018

THE PLACE

Japan is the home of delicious cuisine, admirable hospitality and breathtaking sights.

During the trip, you will explore top travel destinations such as Tokyo, Nagano and Osaka as well as gain insight into the local culture and traditions for a truly once in a lifetime experience!

THE PERKS

- Pickleball with national champions Jennifer Lucore and Daniel Moore
- Sightseeing and cross-cultural experiences with Japanese players and bi-lingual guides in one of the most interesting, ancient and beautiful places in the world

THE PICKLEBALL

- Sharpen your skills and be a part of launching pickleball in Japan.
- Play with experienced and new players from Japan and around the world.

THE PRICE

\$2550 per person double occupancy

\$2950 per person single occupancy

Includes: room, all breakfasts, dinners, some lunches, pickleball and activities

Excludes: alcohol, airfare and JR Rail Pass



ITINERARY

May 2018 Japan Pickleball Itinerary

*This itinerary is subject to change and should not be considered final

Day 1: Wednesday, May 9th

Arrival in Narita International Airport

Plan your trip to arrive in Tokyo on May 9th (this means you will need to leave the US on May 8th). We will be staying at the Radisson Hotel near Narita International Airport. Before going to the hotel, please validate your JR Pass to begin on May 13th at the JR ticket office in Narita International Airport. There are numerous information desks around the airport to help you find the ticket office. From the airport, there is a free shuttle to the hotel where we will have our welcome dinner. Please ask at an information desk about the shuttle times and departure platform, this will also be provided in e-mails as the trip approaches.

Hotel: Radisson Hotel Narita

Contact: +81 476-93-1234

Website: <https://www.radisson.com/narita-hotel-jp-286-0221/jpnarita>

Facilities: Western-Style Accommodation

Day 2: Thursday, May 10th

Narita – Shibu Onsen

We leave early this morning by bus from Narita to the town of Yamanouchi (4 hours). The first stop is a traditional farmhouse where we make and eat our own buckwheat noodles under the careful supervision of a soba (buckwheat) master. After this, we drive to the famous Snow Monkeys. It's about a 30 minute walk each way through a pleasant forest path. We then check into our hotel, an old traditional Japanese inn with its own hot springs. The town where we stay is over 1300 years old. Dinner is a Kaiseki style meal in the accommodation.

Hotel: TBD

Facilities: Japanese-style Accommodation

*Note: Japanese style accommodation means sleeping on a comfortable futon mattress laid on top of a tatami mat floor. All the rooms will have showers but this inn has hot springs if you want to try soaking in them.

Day 3: Friday, May 11th

Pickleball and Sightseeing around Shibu Onsen

This morning we head to a local gym (wood floor) for our first game of pickleball in Japan. This will be a private clinic and time to play amongst ourselves. After a home cooked meal in a local lady's restaurant, we drive into a national park for an optional 1 hour round trip walk. The other options are relaxing in the hotel or walking around the town.

Dinner is in an izakaya style restaurant.

Hotel: TBD

Facilities: Japanese-style Accommodation



ITINERARY

Day 4: Saturday, May 12th
Shibu Onsen – Saku

This morning we drive 1.5 hours to Saku to play with members of the local pickleball club. We have an all-day pickleball extravaganza planned with food, USA vs Japan matches and time for free rec play. The surface today is an outdoor artificial grass tennis court with sand overlaid called Omni. After the event, we play a round of the indigenous Nagano sport – mallet golf. Those who wish can bathe in the natural hot spring located at the facility or shower at the hotel. Dinner is a Japanese hot pot.

Hotel: Toyoko Inn Saku

Contact: 0267-62-0031

Website: http://www.toyoko-inn.com/e_hotel/00140/

Facilities: Western-Style Accommodation

Day 5: Sunday, May 13th
Saku – Hachioji (Tokyo)

We use our train passes for the first time this morning to head to the outskirts of Tokyo. There, we will join the Hachioji pickleball club for another pickleball event in the afternoon. This is the highest level pickleball club in Japan and will also feature special matches, demonstrations, prizes and of course lots of fun. In the evening, we go out to dinner with members of the local club.

Hotel: Keio Plaza Hotel Hachioji

Contact: +81 42-656-3111

Website: <http://www.keioplaza.com/hachioji/>

Facilities: Western Style Accommodation

Day 6: Monday, May 14th
Tokyo Tour

There is no pickleball today as we explore Tokyo. We will see the famous Scramble Crossing (the busiest crossing in the world), the Edo Tokyo Museum, the Asakusa Shrine, and the grounds of the Imperial Palace. If there is something else specific you would like to see in Tokyo, feel free to explore on your own. Instructions for returning home will be provided. Dinner is in a restaurant in Hachioji.

Hotel: Keio Plaza Hotel Hachioji

Contact: +81 42-656-3111

Website: <http://www.keioplaza.com/hachioji/>

Facilities: Western Style Accommodation



ITINERARY

Day 7: Tuesday, May 15th
Hachioji - Osaka

We take a train from Tokyo to Osaka this morning (3.5 hours). We have some free time in the afternoon to explore Osaka's famous Dotonbori shopping area located just a few minutes from our hotel. Dinner is hosted by Daikichi Coverall, an Osaka-based company leading the efforts to start pickleball in the city. Prepare your karaoke song of choice because having to sing is a distinct possibility.

Hotel: Hotel Nikko Osaka
Contact: +81 662-44-1111
Website: <http://www.hno.co.jp/english/>
Facilities: Western-Style Accommodation

Day 8: Wednesday, May 16th
Pickleball and Sightseeing in Osaka

We will visit Osaka Castle this morning, a castle and museum overlooking the center of the city. You have some free time in the afternoon to explore or rest, before we have our final pickleball session in the evening with the local pickleball club. This session will be held in an indoor gym. Dinner is a Japanese-style savory pancake called Okonomiyaki.

Hotel: Hotel Nikko Osaka
Contact: +81 662-44-1111
Website: <http://www.hno.co.jp/english/>
Facilities: Western-Style Accommodation

Day 9: Thursday, May 17th
Osaka – Narita International Airport

We depart from Osaka to Narita International Airport this morning. Please do not book your ticket earlier than 2:00 PM as the journey from Osaka to Narita International Airport will take around 3.5 hours.

*If you would like to stay additional days in Kyoto after our time in Osaka, please let us know. Kyoto is a fantastic city with over 1,000 years of history. We will advise you on sightseeing, hotels and logistics in Kyoto.

