

Sakura and Maiko tour

Hirano Shrine 09:15~10:00

We begin with Hirano Shrine, which is known for staggering 400 cherry trees of 60 different varieties planted in its precinct with street vendors offering foods for spectators during a cherry blossom season. The flower here can be seen for as long as about one and a half months from mid-March thanks to its many varieties with different timing of blooming, so there will always be something for you to see whenever you come!



Kyoto Imperial Palace

10:30~11:45

The next visit is the garden of Kyoto Imperial Palace, Japanese Emperors' residence until the 19th century. In this 1300 meter long and 700 meter wide park, more than 1000 cherry trees bloom roughly between late March and mid-April. If you bring a picnic sheet, you can even have a brunch banquet under a cherry tree.

Takase Canal 12:10~13:00

Have lunch looking over cherry blossoms along Takase River, a narrow stream running down the lively Kiyamachi street. The river may not be the first you would find on a cherry blossom's guide book, but it's gained local popularity. The tree branches hanging over the river will give you a peaceful mind while enjoying local cuisine.



Keage Incline &

Philosopher's path 13:15~15:00



The Keage Incline, located in the eastern part of the city, refers to a railroad line that had been used to transport boats from Biwa Lake in Shiga prefecture from 1891 to 1948. The 581 meter long tracks are now lined with breathtaking 90 cherry trees on both sides, and easily one of the most picturesque sites in spring in Kyoto.

Continuing the walk further up the north we will come across the all too famous Philosopher's path, yet again an impressive viewing spot for cherry blossom. The path covers 1.5km and its name derives from a philosopher pondering the meaning of life while strolling this road. If the time allows, we can visit Ginkakuji Temple too, until which the path leads up.



Miyako Odori 15:35~17:00

What comes to your mind when hear a word Japan? Maiko, presumably would be the first or the second to come up alongside cherry blossoms, and guess what this tour stars two of them! Despite mostly being closed to the public eye, the world of maiko widely opens up for us to see during this month long stage performance in spring. Also, don't miss out a chance to be served matcha green tea by a maiko before the showdown on stage begins.



Gion Shimbashi & Dinner 17:10~

After the show head out on to the Gion Shimbashi area, where is designated as one of historical preservation districts in Kyoto, to indulge yourself in authentic Japanese food.



Cherry Blossom Light-up in Nijo Castle 19:30~

Our final destination is Nijo Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy the light up of cherry blossoms inside the moat as well as projection mapping on the wall of the castle. By the way, if you come to the light up wearing kimono, the entrance fee is free. Isn't it amazing?

