

Q&A



1. Which is better for us, Kamakura or Hakone?

In your case, since you're visiting Kawaguchiko after Tokyo and it has a similar vibe to Hakone, I'd recommend going to Kamakura instead so you can experience something different. 👍

2. Where should I go as a day trip other than Hakone?

I recommend Nikko. You come to Japan in November and Nikko hits different in autumn like October and November.

3. Is it possible to go to all places I mentioned?

**Honestly, I don't think you can visit every place you mentioned in your itinerary...
I would skip Nagoya after Kyoto. If you skip it, you can go back to Tokyo and visit cool places like Enoshima.**

4. Where should I buy souvenirs?

You should buy them at Kappabashi in Asakusa. Since you like ceramics, it'll be the best option for you. The best shop in Kappabashi is "Dengama". I highly recommend it.



DAY BY DAY REVIEW



Day 1: Tokyo (Arrival)

When you arrive in Japan, you should buy Suica card. you might know you need Suica, but sometime you need Suica card, not mobile version.

Day 2: Tokyo

When you go to Asakusa, you should also go to Kappabashi after Senso-ji. It has many gifts like ceramics and kitchen items.

Day 3: Tokyo

you try to go to Shibuya sky in the morning, but Shibuya sky is better in the evening or at night, so I recommend visiting there after Harajuku.

Day 4: Nikko

Honestly, I personally recommend Kamakura and Enoshima as a day trip instead of Nikko. If you have something you really want to do in Nikko, that's okay, but if you don't, Kamakura and Enoshima will be more fun for you.

Day 5: Kyoto

Good timing, good transportation, if you don't decide where you stay, here're my recommendation

- yutone
- Sumiya ryokan
- Nazuna
- Nol Kyoto samjo

preview

RECOMMENDATIONS AND TIPS



Recommendations

Ryokan & Hotels

Tokyo

- **Yanaka Inn** — Small family-run guesthouse in old Tokyo neighborhood. Quiet, local, no tourists.
- **Shinjuku Stay** — Modern design hotel, 2 min walk from east exit. Best location in the city.

Kyoto

- **Higashiyama Machiya** — Traditional townhouse stay in the best neighborhood. Book 3 months ahead.
- **Gion Retreat** — Right in Gion, walking distance to everything. Small, intimate, worth every yen.

Hakone

- **Setsugetsuka** — Tattoo-friendly. Mountain views. Best ryokan experience near Tokyo.

Kusatsu

- **Tokinoniwa** — The real onsen experience. Not touristy. Locals actually come here.

Restaurants

Tokyo

- **Ginza Sushi Ko** — Counter seating, 8-piece omakase, no English menu. That's the point.
- **Shibuya Ramen Alley** — Skip the famous chains. Third shop on the left. Always a line.
- **Yanaka Coffee Stand** — Standing coffee, no Wi-Fi, no nonsense. Best in Tokyo.

Preview