



# Ultimate Tour

## JAPAN Winter Wonderland

PHOTO TOUR - Commences and finishes in Tokyo.  
February 7-20, 2025



### HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Targeting stunning winter landscapes.
- \* Fantastic Snow Monkey experience.
- \* Targeting Stella Sea-eagles.
- \* Targeting Japan's cranes.
- \* Beautiful cultural shoots.
- \* We offer the best Japanese meals with western options.

### INCLUSIONS

- \* Professional WPA Photo guides - your images come first!
- \* All accommodation - high quality western and traditional Japanese.
- \* All land transport with professional driver.
- \* Two domestic flights
- \* Meals as per itinerary. (A highlight of the holiday.)
- \* Local expert guide.
- \* 2X boat cruises for the best eagle/nature experiences.



Our 4th tour to beautiful Japan, will offer you a unique holiday! We target winter because it will offer you rare nature like the famous snow monkeys of Jigokudani (Hell Valley), plus beautiful Japanese cranes, swans, eagles and other natural wonders of Japans wild northern region. The walks are short, and we target the best locations.

We also include cultural experiences from palaces to a traditional Japanese Geisha experience. You will be stunned at Japan's unique wildlife and amazed at the diversity of its winter landscapes and beautiful creative photo options.

Our accommodation is of a high standard and a mix of western style and traditional Japanese for an authentic local experience. Our accommodation is very warm!

We include our famous WPA professional photo guides and a local expert guide throughout the tour to help you enjoy your adventures. Your guides will work hard to maximise the many unique photo opportunities of this photo holiday.

Japan is richly endowed with nature and has beautiful mountains, trees, rivers, lakes and seas. We target these important jewels of a land that is not commonly offered as a photography destination. Be prepared for beautiful and different photo opportunities!

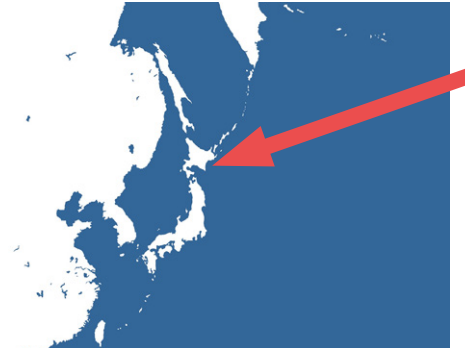
Exclusive Small Group Expeditions: WPA offers small group expeditions limited to 6-8 adventurers. This ensures a more intimate and personalised experience, allowing you to connect with fellow travelers and experience some of life's most amazing adventures.

Quality Time for Photography: The Leal family, considers Japan one of their favorite places on earth. They guarantee quality time for photography, ensuring you have ample opportunities to capture the unique landscapes and special locations that Japan offers. Whether you're a professional photographer or simply enjoy taking photos, this tour will provide outstanding results.

Experienced and Qualified Team: WPA is backed by the expertise of Darran and Julia, who have over 80 years of combined experience in photography, travel, and tour industries. Their sons Pearce and Frazer also contribute their unique experiences and knowledge. With their extensive backgrounds, you can trust that you're in capable hands throughout the journey.

Registered and Insured Tour Operator: WPA is a registered tour operator with the Queensland government and is covered by Tour Operator Insurance. This accreditation ensures that the business adheres to strict standards and procedures, providing you with peace of mind and professionalism. For more details, go to: <https://www.qtic.com.au/industry-development/accreditation/qtf/>

By joining WPA, you'll have the opportunity to explore and photograph some of the world's most stunning locations while being guided by experienced professionals who are passionate about creating memorable journeys.





# Ultimate JAPAN - Winter Wonderland

Itinerary to photo adventure ...  
February 7-20, 2025

This adventure commences at Haneda (near airport) & ends in Central Tokyo.

## DAY 1 - TOKYO

February 7

Your accommodation tonight is included at Haneda Airport in Tokyo. We meet today at 5pm at reception. (We suggest that you should arrive a day earlier.) Your guides offer you more information and confirm departure details for the next morning. We include dinner tonight.

Western Style Accommodation - (D)

## DAY 2 - TOKYO TO MT FUJI

February 8

We drive in our exclusive bus stopping at Oshino Hakkai and Lake Kawaguchi for views of Mt Fuji. We need the weather to be kind to us. If this happens, be prepared for that classic Mt Fuji scene! We overnight with access to view Mt Fuji. We also include a workshop as time allows.

Western Style Accommodation - (B,L,D)

## DAY 3 - MT FUJI TO MATSUMOTO & YUDANAKA OONSEN

February 9

We depart and drive to Matsumoto, cultural city of Nagano Prefecture. This includes exploring Matsumoto Castle. The cultural history of Japan is fascinating and this location will offer you special cultural images. We then depart to Yudanaka Onsen and close to our key next target of the region - snow monkeys!

Japanese Style Accommodation - (B,L,D)

## DAY 4 - YUDANAKA OONSEN - JIGOKUDANI

February 10

Today we arrive for the opening of the park and early shoot of the world famous Snow Monkeys. Your guides will help to optimise techniques and shoot opportunities. This location also offers fantastic and authentic Japanese winter wonderland photo opportunities. The snow monkeys are fed three times daily and 100 or more of them may be in the feeding area at the same time. The feeding is traditional in an open wild location. Following the meal, many of them retire to the comfort of their geothermal hot pool for a comforting soak. We photograph these hot-tubbing monkeys, as well as babies clutching their mother's fur, dominant males as they argue over territory, old matriarchs, and juveniles playing with "snowballs." Some of the antics are hilarious!

Japanese Style Accommodation - (B,L,D)



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## DAY 5 - YUDANAKA ONSEN TO TOKYO TO HOKKAIDO

February 11

We depart early for our drive back to Tokyo and in time for our flight (this flight is included) to the winter wonders of Hokkaido. We board our flight and arrive where we are met by our local guide and driver for the next few days in our exclusive mini bus. A long travel day will reward us with a very different region and unique images.

Western Style or Japanese Accommodation - (B,L,D)

## DAY 6 - HOKKAIDO

February 12

Our first target is the Japanese (red-crowned) cranes, which could be displaying their unique mating ritual. These large birds are beautiful and the snow conditions only add to the results. Your professional photo guides will help to optimise shoot opportunities and offer on the spot technical assistance. They are famous for their hard work in the field.

Western Style or Japanese Accommodation - (B,L,D)

## DAY 7 - HOKKAIDO

February 13

Early start for one of Japan's great nature experiences. We shoot Japanese cranes from Otawa Bridge. This perspective, along with the weather conditions of frosts and fog can result in very special imagery. We return to enjoy breakfast and warm up before we shoot cranes at other crane feeding areas. Cranes are not the only subject as you are surrounded by a winter wonderland. Your cards will be filling up due to the mix of subjects to shoot and the fantastic creative options. Again your guides will help.

Western Style or Japanese Accommodation - (B,L,D)

## DAY 8 - HOKKAIDO - KAWAYU

February 14

New opportunities result in new images as we travel to our next location. We drive to Lake Mashuko for beautiful landscapes draped in snow. Look out for deer and perhaps an eagle. Kawayu offers us lunch, followed by a fantastic whooper swan shoot. White swans in white snow - your guides will help with the best angles and techniques. The lakes edge is great to explore.

Japanese Style Accommodation 2 nights - (B,L,D)



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## DAY 9 - KAWAYU REGION

February 15

Full day exploring this region. We are in a geothermal location, this helping the swans to enjoy a warmer experience to the snow world around them. Flocks of swans arrive to feed during the day, this offering unique flight images. However, the creative options do not stop in the air. Other opportunities include landing and 'swan action' while on the ice or in the water. To add to this, other animals might be available to shoot from small birds to mammals like deer. Your photo guides will help you with unique creative shoot options as the snowy landscape is every changing.

Japanese Style Accommodation - (B,L,D)

## DAY 10 - KAWAYU TO RAUSU

February 16

We drive through snow covered national parks on the way to Rausu and the Shiretoko Peninsula. We include opportunistic stops to photograph beautiful scenery, perhaps sika deer and red fox. We arrive for lunch. Soon after, we take our first cruise to photograph the giant eagles of the region. Your photo guides will help to optimise the many different angles and offer some great creative techniques.

Western Style Accommodation for 2 nights - (B,L,D)

## DAY 11 - RAUSU

February 17

Our key target is the white-tailed and steller sea eagles. We take our second cruise out of the fishing village of Rausu. The different timing for each cruise will offer different lighting and results. This is an outstanding opportunity to photograph the giant steller sea eagle and its smaller cousin the white-tailed. Everything from eagles in flight, to portraits and even fighting eagles. Stunning action and the chance for you to shoot very unique images with snow capped mountain backdrops. Afternoon exploring the local area. Your guides will help you.

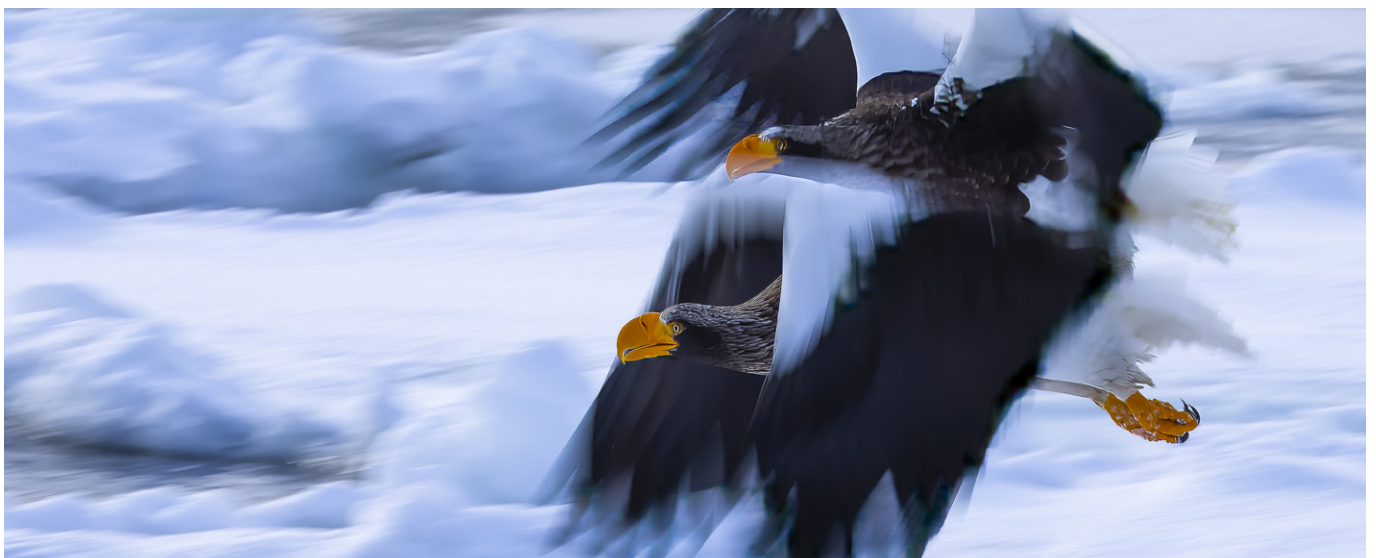
Western Style Accommodation - (B,L,D)

## DAY 12 - RAUSU TO KUSHIRO

February 18

We drive south through a winter wonderland of stunning scenery. We stop to shoot creative subjects and target anything unique. However, we have also stopped for houses and other opportunistic subjects in the past. Some of our best images are shot through the bus window. A great challenge! This day is guaranteed to offer new images and experiences.

Western Style Accommodation - (B,L,D)





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DAY 13 - HOKKAIDO TO TOKYO (Geisha experience)

February 19

We fly back to Tokyo (this flight is included) and book into our central Tokyo hotel. Our final Japanese experience today is a traditional dinner and to shoot a traditional Japanese Geisha. While the photo opportunities are outstanding, you might also find the history and other information very interesting. A chance to tell a few tall stories from your unique photo holiday...

Western Style Accommodation - (B,L,D)

DAY 14 - TOUR ENDS

February 20

You depart for home, or continue on your adventures.

(B)

(B,L,D) - Confirms if - Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner - are included that day.  
Itinerary and price is subject to change.



# PHOTO TOUR PRICE

**ESTIMATED TOUR PRICE - AU\$16,995.00 - price to be reviewed 12 months (or earlier) before starting.  
Twin Share per person**

FANTASTIC SMALL GROUP VALUE...

Details include, as per itinerary - all accommodation - high quality, meals, access to unique photo opportunities, small group size - 6/8 - local expert driver/guide, and experienced professional WPA photographer.

**EVENT DEPOSIT REQUIRED - AU\$3,000.00 pp.**

Please read our terms & Conditions and fill in our booking form. At this time, you should organise travel insurance, including deposit protection insurance. Note that your deposit is refundable up to one year before departure, except for a \$500 cancellation fee. After this time, deposits are non refundable. NB: Some events have special terms and conditions.

## ACCOMMODATION

If requested, we will try our best to find someone to share with you. On most occasions this is possible. However, part of the booking conditions is that a single supplement is applicable if no one is available to share.

**ESTIMATED SINGLE SUPPLEMENT - AU\$1,750.00 pp -price to be reviewed 12 months before starting.**

This offers you private accommodation throughout the tour. Julia will confirm this with you.

**TO BOOK & FOR OUR TERM & CONDITIONS: Please use our on line booking form:**

<https://worldphotoadventures.com.au/booking-form/>

Or ask Julia for our booking form with T&C's.

## NEED MORE HELP?

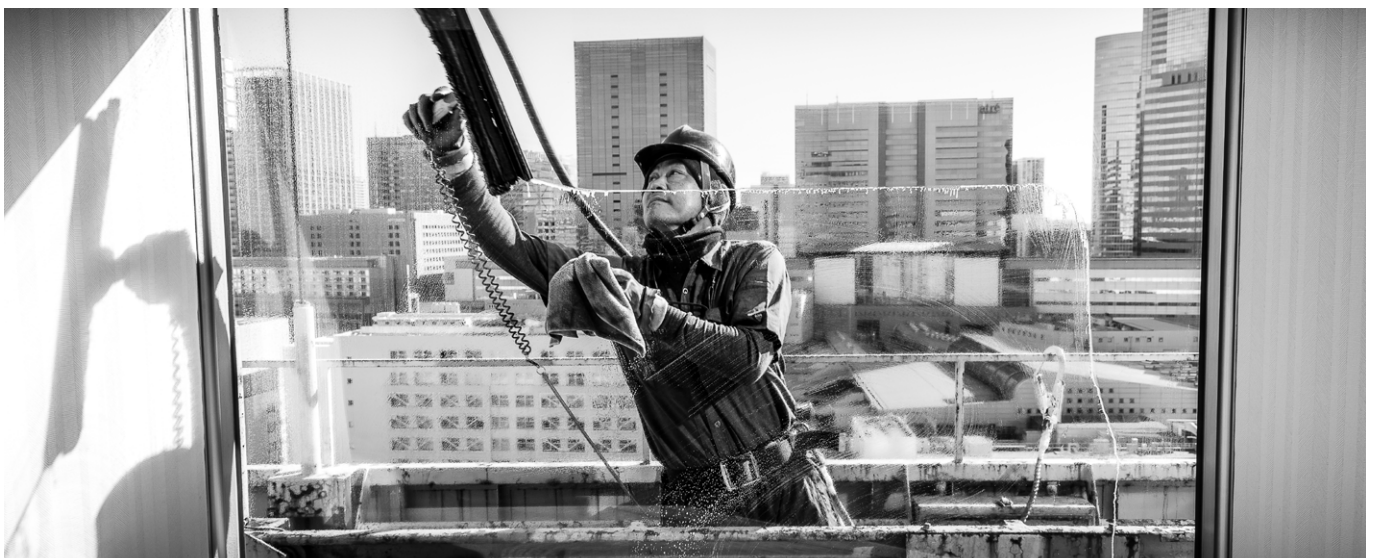
For booking contact Julia:  
julia@worldadventures.com.au  
or call - 0427205331

For equipment or tour information, contact Darran:  
darran@worldadventures.com.au  
or call - 0416205330

## SICKNESS WHILE TRAVELLING

Viruses, bacteria and other health risks have always been possible when travelling. We select accommodation and operators to limit risk to your health. Before departure, we suggest that you consider limiting your exposure to large groups and other high risk location/situations at least 7 days before departure. Please bring face masks, and hand sanitizer. Should you feel unwell during the event, please let your tour leader know ASAP. Some form of isolation maybe required, or professional medical help maybe sort. Your tour leader is happy to help at all times. Please look at the following site for more helpful details. You can also register at this site for updates.

<https://www.smartraveller.gov.au>



# OTHER DETAILS

## THE COST INCLUDES

- All land tour costs as per itinerary.
- Accommodation - lodge/hotel.
- Two domestic flights.
- Two boat cruises for eagles.
- All meals as detailed in the itinerary.
- Entrance fees to parks as per itinerary.
- Professional photo guide.
- Local expert driver/guide.

## NOT INCLUDED

- International Air tickets & flights
- Personal expenses
- Items not included in the itinerary
- Tips and drinks
- Travel Insurance
- Any Visa's

## PRE TOUR

Accommodation, and services start for this tour - DAY 1. All travel services before this are not included. We suggest that you arrive at the start point at least 48 hours before this tour begins. This timing will give you a chance to relax and acclimatise to the new time zone. We generally commence booking pre/post tour accommodation/flights about 8/9 months before departure.

NOTE: This itinerary is flexible to allow your guides to maximise your photo and travel interests to weather and unique opportunities. Specific targeted subjects will be offered the night before departure each day. This will offer you 'the best of the region'. Meals not included in the itinerary, are organised to 'fit in' with the days shoots.

## FINAL ITINERARY

Note that a final itinerary will be sent to you about one month before departure.

## IMPORTANT

To make sure you book the correct dates and times, we would request the following:

1. Don't purchase any air tickets, until our guides flights have been booked, which we will do approximately 8 - 9 months prior to the tour departure. We will advise you when the guides flights are booked and you can then use this itinerary, to help you use points or similar. This will also coincide with confirming the tour departure, making sure we have met minimum passenger numbers for the tour and the logistics of the tour have not changed.
2. We suggest you arrive a minimum of 24 hours prior to the tour departure - even 48 hours - to help with jet lag and in case of airline delays.





# OUR GOALS

There are many reasons our tours are so successful. Here are just a few ...

## **WHO BOOKS OUR PHOTO HOLIDAYS?**

From animated 'point and shoot' amateur photographers to seasoned photographic veterans, we get a broad cross-section of photo enthusiasts on every tour. Not super keen on snapping? No problem. You are still guaranteed a great time. Whether your finger never leaves or hits a camera during a tour, you will have an unforgettable experience. Our unique locations, top guides and small travel groups ensure it. While our clients vary in age and experience, all attend with the same goal – to have a fantastic holiday. We ensure every client gets exactly that.

## **UNTAMED QUALITY AND EXPERIENCE**

With over 100 years of combined experience in tailoring premium travel quests, our family team ensures you never settle for less than the best. We predominately offer lovely 4 star accommodation for your comfort and enjoyment.

## **EXCEPTIONAL END-TO-END EXPERIENCE**

We work towards delivering the time of your life. Our office gem Julia helps you with all your pre-and post-tour needs. Once you are 'out in the field,' our professional local drivers and guides are right by your side. Your photo guides are the best in the world! World Photo Adventures and its expert team know this beautiful land better than anyone.

## **GREAT TOURS COME IN SMALL GROUPS**

Small group travel gives you flexibility and the ability to follow your interests. That's why we keep our group sizes small so you can savour your travel experience.

## **FIRST TIME ON TOUR WITH US?**

We'll happily answer your questions, offer advice or connect you with the experiences that will satisfy your wanderlust. Contact Julia at: [julia@worldadventures.com.au](mailto:julia@worldadventures.com.au)

## **SAFETY AND SECURITY**

Your safety and security are essential to us. Apart from the experience of your WPA guides, our local operators are outstanding and very experienced in local cultures and customs. Our itineraries, accommodation and tour information all add up to helping you enjoy a great adventure.

Julia is happy to help with any further questions - [julia@worldadventures.com.au](mailto:julia@worldadventures.com.au)



