



2020 DEPARTURES TBA

PRICE TBA

 Takamatsu | **TYPE** Road | **DURATION** 8 nights, 9 days | **SKILL LEVEL** Level 4 | **FITNESS LEVEL** Level 4

Group participants up to 14 people

A road cycling adventure, across the mountains of Shikoku and then the islands of the Seto Inland Sea

WHY BIKE TOURS JAPAN?

Local Knowledge We are based in Japan and have been in operation for 10 years. Having an intimate knowledge of the roads and locales enables us to craft amazing cycling journeys.

Flexibility Each day's ride allows for two or three distance choices for you to choose from.

Authentic Experiences Our routes take the back roads and are off the beaten path. You can be assured of seeing the real Japan.

Preparation We have excellent pre-trip support and each destination includes an information package specific to the area.

Travel Agency We are a registered travel agency and book all of your accommodation and transfer requirements.



OUR GUIDES bring together a collective experience gained from years of cycling in Japan and abroad. They are bilingual and reside full time in Japan.



BIKE TOURS JAPAN

Join our Community



ITINERARY Trans Islands Shikoku

Bike Tours Japan reserves the right to make alterations and substitutions to the itinerary as weather or terrain conditions dictate or as necessary to improve the trip quality or to accommodate the comfort, convenience, and well-being of our guests.



DAY 1 Takamatsu Arrival

Arrive Takamatsu Airport and transfer to hotel. Takamatsu is the capital of Shikoku and known as the 'Gateway to the island.' After the bike fitting, walk around Ritsurin Garden, one of the most famous gardens in Japan.

DAY 2 The Hidden Valley

We start with a 20 km vehicle transfer out of Takamatsu. You will ride an ancient mountain road to the preserved merchant town of Wakimachi. The streets are lined with traditional Edo period townhouses. Our destination for the day is one of Japan's three Hidden Valleys. Iya is home to dramatic mountain scenery, traditional thatched roof homes, and historic vine bridges.

→ 53 or 99 km / 980 m

DAY 3 Kochi

We continue along the remote Iya Valley. It is said that it was a hiding place for the samurai of the Heike clan fleeing the civil wars of the 12th Century. We will be cycling to Kochi. The city is home to one of Japan's original castles of Kochi Jo, which used to be the seat of the Yamauchi Lords and the residences of the samurai that served them. Tonight we stay in a city hotel.

→ 53 or 93 km / 1,255 m

DAY 4 The Town Above the Clouds

Cycle the 'Yokonami Line,' where there are spectacular ocean views. We then start ascending through tea plantations in to the mountains. Our destination is Yusuvara, known as the 'Town above the Clouds.' Stay in a hotel designed by a renowned Japanese architect. Walk to the hot spring over the wooden bridge seemingly suspended in the air.

→ 63 or 109 km / 1,200 m

DAY 5 The Castle Town

We will be riding to the castle town of Uwajima on the western coast of Shikoku. There is also the 'Taga Ginga' which is an ancient Shinto fertility shrine.

→ 73 or 102 km / 1,250 m

DAY 6 The Fishing Village

Our route hugs the western coastline where you will be riding through groves of mandarin orchards. Our destination is Yawatahama, a local town by the ocean. Spend the rest of the day exploring on arrival. Visit the Miyagawa sweet shop and try the traditional cakes.

→ 82 or 94 km / 1,298 m

Day 7 The Ancient Spring

You will cycle through the historic town of Uchiko which prospered for 200 years in wax production. The town is made up of traditional merchant houses still being used today. Today's destination is Matsuyama and Dogo Onsen, the oldest hot spring in Japan. It has a history dating back over a thousand years. Immerse yourself in these ancient spring waters.

→ 65 or 98 km / 1,400 m

DAY 8 Japan's Inland Sea

Today you will ride the Shimanami Kaido, via bridges that connect the six islands from the mainland of Honshu to Shikoku. Japan's inland sea has been likened to the Greek Islands with its olive terraces, craggy coastlines and lemon groves. The destination is Onomichi and a bicycle hotel that was converted from an old ship's warehouse. Celebrate our last night over a delicious dinner.

→ 66 or 123 km / 1,756 m

DAY 9 Return Transfer

Farewell and airport transfer after breakfast.



TRIP LEVEL

The full days routes are approximately 100 km in distance with over 1,000 meters of vertical ascent. To fully enjoy this trip we recommend fitness levels where you are comfortable to ride these distances over multiple days. E-bikes are recommended for those wanting more leisurely days.



DETAILS



BICYCLES

Goya rental road bikes are available for this trip. These have an endurance geometry for full days in the saddle. E-bikes are also available to rent. We recommend bringing your own road bike on this trip so that you are most comfortable. Gearing should be set up for hilly terrain.

ROADS AND TERRAIN

There are a myriad of roads that criss cross the island of Shikoku. Our daily routes are mainly on the back roads which are traffic free. In the mountainous interior of the island, you will be ascending on ancient roads that wind up to passes. The average inclines are typically 5 or 6 percent. The coastal roads have shorter hills that we would describe as rolling terrain.

LODGING AND FOOD

You will be staying in a combination of western hotels and traditional hot spring ryokan accommodations. These have indoor and outdoor hot springs. You will be accommodated in tatami rooms with futon bedding. The food is traditional cuisine. On some of the nights we will be eating out.

TRAVEL INSURANCE



**World
Nomads**

Medical Insurance is mandatory on all trips and Travel Insurance is strongly

recommended. Please visit our recommended insurance provider World Nomads to learn more.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- 8 guided days
- 8 nights accommodation
- All meals
- Airport transfers & all transportation on guided days
- Detailed pre-departure information & trip extension assistance

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?

- Airfares
- Personal travel and medical insurance
- Optional tipping to guides
- Bicycle rental
- Drinks



WHY BIKE TOURS JAPAN

We are a Japan based guiding company in operation for ten years. Having an intimate knowledge of the roads and locales enables us to craft amazing cycling journeys. Japan is not just about the cycling but also the cultural and culinary experience, and it is this combination that truly makes for an unforgettable cycle journey.



DETAILS *continued*



BOOKING PROCESS

Call us at +81-167-225655 or email at [to confirm there's space on this trip](mailto:info@biketoursjapan.com). If Skype is preferred, please send us an email to arrange a time.

Make sure you have read and understand our 'Terms and Conditions' and also our 'Waiver' which we will send to you.

To confirm your spot please complete our secure 'Individual Form' on our website.

PAYMENT

Once you've completed our on-line registration form and we've confirmed that we have the number of participants for the trip, we will send you the booking policy. Please review our 'Terms & Conditions' for the full details on payment, cancellation and refund policies. The amount payable will need to be made in Japanese yen.

If you are paying with credit card there is a 5% processing fee. Another option is to pay via a bank remittance. Please contact us anytime to discuss your options.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

The single supplement is an additional fee for solo travelers who wish to have their own rooms during the trip.

QUESTIONS?

Feel free to call us at + 81-167-225655 or email info@biketoursjapan.com if you have any questions or need any additional information.

CONTACT US

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