

## YOU CAN'T MISS THESE ACTIVITIES IF TRAVELLING TO JAPAN IN SEPTEMBER

**National, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019:** September in Japan is the best time to experience two very distinct seasons: summer & autumn! One can still visit the pristine beaches and enjoy the hot weather while feeling the coming of the new season. Japan also hosts ample of fun events during this time, in which the visitors can indulge to amplify their overall vacation experience. Moreover, nature through the autumn leaves beautifies most parts of Japan making it a picturesque haven.

One of the best aspects of traveling in Japan during September is that you would witness fewer crowds. Sports enthusiast would have a wonderful time, as they can attend a live baseball match which is a staple sport for the Japanese people. Annually, 12 teams compete for the league pennants and you can join the thrilled crowd cheering for their favorite team. With colorfully offbeat names like the Carps and Swallows, Japanese clubs also boast some of the most passionate sports fans in the world. Tickets for the baseball games can be bought ahead of time at the convenience stores.

If you are not a sports aficionado, then get ready to be awestruck by the zipping sound and speed of the motorsports at the racing tracks of Suzuka Circuit in Mie or Twin Ring Motegi in Tochigi. The excitement of the firsthand experience of a Formula 1 racing track is beyond words. The annual Formula 1 Japanese Grand Prix is scheduled in October, tickets for which are already on sale. Visiting Twin Ring Motegi would be a complete bliss for the motorsports enthusiasts as the complex has several facilities such as the Honda Collection Hall, the Honda Fan Fun Lab, and go-kart racing arena. Over 300 cars are displayed at the Honda Collection Hall retelling the history of motor vehicles.

From 9th to 23rd September there are numerous sumo matches taking place in RyogokuKokugikan sumo stadium in Tokyo. Enjoyed by the locals and travelers, the stadium is usually full house with people cheering for their favorite player.

September also exhibits a fine matsuri season of its own. The OwaraKaze no Bon Festival, with hundreds dancing through the streets takes place in the Toyama City during the first three days of September. End of September witnesses ByakkoMatsuri in Aizuwakamatsu region of Fukushima during which colorful processions bring different periods of local history to life.

Either an adventure freak or a lazy beach lover, September ticks both buckets of your desire. As the summer fades into autumn, you can indulge in the autumn hiking trails of Hokkaido surrounded by the beauty of the crimson red leaves. Daisetsuzan National Park in Hokkaido is the most recommended trail to capture the beautiful landscape. The scenery here is wild and spectacular, a trekker's delight that includes expansive valleys, natural hot springs, rivers, and wildflowers, not to mention the fauna.

Travelers who choose to relax can head to the subtropical islands in Japan with Okinawa being the priority of an exotic destination. Okinawa itself is a trove of tranquility and offers fun for all. Children and adults can indulge in the water sports activities like snorkeling, Jet Ski, Scuba diving and many more. Travelers can also visit the islands of Kyushu, with beach resorts on the Izu Peninsula and along the coast of Wakayama being the best options. This region not only has nice beaches but also hot spring resorts which are extremely relaxing.

To amplify Japan National Tourism Organization's (JNTO) outreach in India and penetrate further in this diverse market, they conducted its annual 'Visit Japan Travel Seminar 2019' in Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

Aiming at strengthening their relationship with the travel and trade fraternity, the roadshow was attended by 18 stakeholders who interacted with about 230 travel agents in both the cities. As a result of the ongoing round-the-clock efforts, JNTO witnessed 13,300 Indian travelers who visited the destination in August. The tourism board reported month-on-month hike of 26.6% in August. Till now in 2019 itself, 119,400 Indian travelers have visited the destination with a 15.4% year-on-year rise.

**About Japan National Tourism Organization:**

The Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) was founded in 1964 with the mission of enticing foreign travelers to Japan. Affiliated with the Japan Tourism Agency of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, JNTO has effectively functioned as the Japanese government bureau of tourism. It has a total of 21 tourism-promotion-oriented offices across the world, and a large network of suppliers for tourism and event services in Japan. The Japan Convention Bureau (JCB), within JNTO, gathers professionals dedicated to attracting international conferences and incentive tours to Japan, located in 6 strategic offices.

For more information: <https://www.japan.travel/en/guide/autumn-guide/>

JNTO Website: <https://www.japan.travel/en/in/>

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