



SNOW MONKEYS EXTENSION

Extension | 4 Days | Physical Level 1
Tokyo - Yudanaka - Tokyo

This extension seeks to immerse you in the scenic beauty of the Japanese Alps. Meet the famous Japanese Macaques, stay in a traditional Japanese Ryokan and relax in a beautiful hot spring bath.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Daily tours and entrance fees
- Transportation and transfers as stated
- English speaking guide



ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive Tokyo

Meals: None

Travel to the dazzling metropolis of Tokyo, Japan's capital city. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.



Destination Information

Tokyo - One of the world's most cutting-edge capital cities, Tokyo is a city of contrasts, famous for its neon lit landscape, towering skyscrapers, peaceful shrines and lovingly tended gardens. Although long the political and cultural centre of Japan, Tokyo became the official capital when the Meiji Emperor moved it to Tokyo in 1867.

Day 2: Yudanaka Onsen

Meals: B, D

Your guide will meet you at your hotel in Tokyo and together transfer to Tokyo Station by taxi to board your bullet train to Nagano.

Visit the 7th-century Zenkoji Temple, then drive to Yudanaka and visit Shibu Onsen, a historic and attractive hot spring town.

Later, transfer to your ryokan (traditional Japanese accommodation) where you will stay two nights. At your ryokan accommodation you can expect Tatami (straw mat) flooring and comfortable Futon bedding to sleep on. There will be an Onsen hot spring bath at the hotel for you to relax in and experience this traditional Japanese pastime. Please note that onsen baths are segregated and the majority of them do not allow bathing suits, and hence people will be nude.



Destination Information

Zenkoji Temple – One of the most important temples in Japan. It was founded in the 7th century and is home to the first Buddhist statue ever to be brought into Japan, when Buddhism was first introduced in the 6th century. The original statue is hidden and a copy of it is shown to the public every six years for a few weeks. The next opportunity to see the statue is expected to be in 2028.

Shibu Onsen – This is a historic and attractive hot spring town, which has retained a traditional atmosphere. The area has long been visited for its hot spring water and some of the ryokan (Japanese style accommodation) that line Shibu's narrow streets, are more than 400 years old, adding to it's charm.

Day 3: Jigokudani Monkey Park

Meals: B, D

This morning, head to Jigokudani Yaen Koen Monkey Park. Take a relaxed 40-60 minute walk up through the forested valley to reach the thermal pools. Good shoes are recommended. Spend time watching the Japanese macaques bathe and play.

Later, explore the old town of Obuse and pay a visit to the Hokusai Museum, before returning to your ryokan.

**Destination Information**

Jigokudani Yaen-Koen – Home to Japanese Macaques, also known as Snow Monkeys, Jigokudani literally means 'hell's valley'. It is named this because of the steam and boiling water that bubbles out of small crevices in the ground. It is in the baths of this hot water that the resident Japanese Macaques like to soak. The monkeys live in large social groups and it can be quite entertaining to watch their interactions.

Obuse – Obuse is a small town in Nagano Prefecture, 20km north-east of Nagano City.

Hokusai Museum - A tribute museum to the renowned Japanese artist Hokusai, best known for 'The Great Wave'. Here you will see a collection of his works including woodblock prints.

Day 4: Travel to Tokyo

Meals: B

Transfer to Nagano Station and board the bullet train to Tokyo. Continue to your Tokyo hotel or airport as per your onward arrangements.



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