Houston ISD
Educational Travel Program to Japan
Summer 2024
Inspire a new perspective on the world

PARTNERING WITH EF EDUCATIONAL TOURS

For over 55 years, EF has worked tirelessly to fulfill our global mission: Opening the World Through Education. We’re passionate about helping educators prepare students for the future by teaching them more about themselves, the world, and their place in the world. That dedication has helped grow our family-owned business into the world leader in international education, with more than one million students experiencing our programs every year. Learn more at eftours.com.

A MORE ENGAGING LEARNING EXPERIENCE

At EF Educational Tours, we’re working to define the modern educational tour experience. Our itineraries are more than just places to go and things to see. We build programs that challenge assumptions, spark connections, and inspire curiosity in young students. Students will expand their knowledge of the world around them, discover more about themselves, grow more confident and independent, and understand new people, places, and cultures.

PERSONALIZED LEARNING & HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

Our personalized learning guide helps students put a more personal lens on their tour by tapping into their own interests and passions. It’s free on every tour, and students can even earn high school credit for post-tour projects.

UNPARALLELED SAFETY PROTOCOLS & SUPPORTS

EF has a global footprint, with staff on the ground in over 50 countries, including an office in Japan. Our worldwide network ensures we have the most up to date information on local context and concerns, and a 24/7 response team ready to support any emergency, from a lost passport to a sprained ankle. Our tour staffing strategy includes a 6:1 Student : Chaperone ratio and a local Tour Director who serves alongside group leaders every step of the way, helping navigate and coordinate with local partners to maximize student and teacher learning experiences.
Proposed Itinerary & Experiences – NES 8th Grade Travel to Japan, 2024

Days 1-2
- Day 1: Fly Overnight to Tokyo
- Day 2: Meet your local Tour Director at the airport, check into hotel and enjoy a welcome dinner.

Day 3
- Dive deep into Tokyo’s history and culture with a tour form an expert local guide
- Interact 1:1 with local vendors in the Harajuku shopping district
- Immerse yourself in cross-cultural traditions at the Meiji Shinto Shrine
- Explore the Shibuya Ward and pay a visit to the Pokémon Center
- See Akihabara Electric Town come alive!

Day 4
- Get out of your comfort zone! Venture near the top of the Tokyo Tower, the second tallest structure in the country
- Gain confidence and independence navigating new neighborhoods and Tokyo highlights.

Day 5
- Depart for Home

Additional Experiences may include:
Other activities are available and may be added to the itinerary as we get closer to departure.
Ex. Joypolis, Tea Ceremony, Karaoke

Your Experience Includes
- Airfare & transportation: Round-trip flights on major carriers
- Hotels: 3 overnight stays in hotels
- Entrance Fees for Learning Activities
- Regional-style meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily
- Full-time Tour Director: Your dedicated Tour Director is with your group 24/7, providing deep local insight while handling all on-tour logistics.
- Expert Local Guides: Your expert local guides add cultural insight and global perspective on your sightseeing tours.
- Continuous support: Your dedicated EF team helps you every step of the way—from recruiting and enrolling travelers to planning and managing your tour.
- 24-hour emergency service: Travelers and their families can count on EF’s dedicated emergency service team.
- Personalized Learning Support: Our personalized learning experience engages students before, during and after tour, with the option to create a final, reflective project for academic credit.
- Worldwide presence: EF has over 500 schools and offices in more than 50 countries worldwide so wherever you go, we’re there too.
- Peace of Mind Program: Feel secure knowing your group can change their destination or travel dates due to unforeseen circumstances.
What to expect on tour

Students will celebrate local cultures, gain global perspective, explore some of the world’s most fascinating sites, and build life skills through:

**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**
Hands-on activities and guided exploration deepen students’ knowledge of the world and themselves.

**CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**
Students gain a greater understanding and appreciation for various cultures as they experience the language, cuisine, and people.

**LOCAL INSIGHT**
Expert local guides and Tour Directors share cultural and historical knowledge and provide global perspective.

**CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES**
Every tour comes with the chance to connect to the classroom before, during, and after tour—like our personalized learning guide, and high school and college credit options.