

Jetset Journals

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# OSAKA

3 Days

Cityguide



a travel guide

# SUMMARY

## 01.

### INTRO

Everything you need to know before your stay in Osaka.

p.3

## 03.

### DAY-TO-DAY

A potential itinerary for a 3-day stay in the Japanese port city.

p.7



## 02.

### HIGHLIGHTS

My top 10 must-see places in Osaka, plus tips and tricks!

p.4

## 04.

### WHERE TO EAT

The best restaurants and cafes in town, which you definitely shouldn't miss.

p.8



## 05.

### WHERE TO SLEEP

My recommendation for accommodation to make the most of your stay.

p.9





# INTRO

Osaka – the port city in the west of the main island of Honshu, is quite different from cities such as Tokyo or Kyoto. The country's third-largest city is neither as historic as Kyoto nor as clean and structured as Tokyo. Among other things, the city is considered a hotspot for street food and nightlife.

There are also several direct flights from Europe to Osaka, the country's major commercial center. From the airport, there are trains and an airport limousine bus that will take you to the city center in 30-60 minutes.

Osaka also has excellent Shinkansen connections, and you can reach the city from Kyoto in just 15-20 minutes by train.

The best way to get around the city is by metro, as some distances are quite long. It's also very straightforward.

Simply download the digital SUICA Card to your smartphone and use it to check in and out when entering and leaving the station.

You should plan to spend at least three days in this Japanese city.

During these three days, you can experience the historical and modern highlights of the city as well as the local cuisine to the fullest. If you have more time, day trips to Himeji or Nara are also recommended.

# HIGHLIGHTS



**01.**

## Osaka Castle

Osaka Castle is one of the largest and most important castles in the country. Today, you can explore the museum inside the castle and climb up to the upper viewing platform to enjoy the view over the city. The surrounding green park with ponds and beautiful flower beds is also ideal for a stroll. Tickets for the castle can usually be purchased on site.



**02.**

## Namba Yasaka Shrine

The modern Namba Yasaka Shrine is quite different from the shrines we have visited so far. The 10-meter-high stage in the shape of a lion's head is particularly worth seeing. The shrine was not completed in its current form until 1974. The shrine is centrally located in the Namba district, which is worth a visit in any case.



**03.**

## Shinsekai

Another neighborhood worth seeing is Shinsekai. The heart of the neighborhood is Yokocho Street with its distinctive retro signs and many restaurants on both sides. The striking Tsutsumenkaku Tower is also one of the highlights of Shinsekai, and from the top you can enjoy the view over the rooftops of the surrounding streets. It is worth visiting both during the day and at night.



## 04.

### Dotonbori

While we're on the subject of neighborhoods worth seeing, the Dotonbori entertainment district is definitely not to be missed. The neighborhood is also considered a street food hotspot, and the Glico sign can be found here by the canal.

## 05.

### Kuromon Market

Since the city of Osaka is already considered Japan's food hotspot, a local market is naturally a must on any list of highlights.

One such market is the traditional Kuromon Market.

## 06.

### Universal Studios

A visit to nearby Universal Studios is one of the highlights around Osaka, especially for families. The studio is only 15 minutes away from the city center by car and just under 30 minutes by train.

## 07.

### Umeda Sky

The Umeda Sky Building is also a highlight of the city as a viewing tower.

Its modern architecture and the escalator between the two towers make it stand out.



## 08. Shitennoji Temple

In addition to all its modern attractions, Osaka also has classic traditional highlights to offer.

One such highlight is Shitennoji Temple. The main hall and the five-story pagoda in the center are particularly worth seeing. There are also gardens and a museum here.



## 09. Streetfood

Some of the country's best street food spots can be found in and around Dotonbori. The most popular snacks here include takoyaki octopus balls, okonomiyaki pancakes, and kushikatsu fried skewers.



## 10. Nara

Nara, a city in its own right, is on the list of Osaka's highlights because it can be reached in just 45 minutes by train, making it a popular day trip destination. Here you can visit important temple complexes in another ancient imperial city and, of course, see the famous deer that bow down before you.



# DAY TO DAY

**Day 1** – On the day we arrived in *Osaka* and after checking in, the first thing on our agenda was a visit to the city center, the *Namba* district.

Here in *Namba*, you can visit the *Namba Yasaka Shrine* and then stroll along the *Dotonbori Canal*.

It is especially beautiful to walk here when the sky is lit up orange during the golden hour.

For dinner, we went to *Wagyu Idate* before ending the day at our hotel's *onsen*.

**Day 2** – On day 2, we started the morning with a visit to *Osaka Castle*. Here, we also visited the *museum* inside and the *upper viewing platform* before strolling through the surrounding *park*.

Afterwards, we also visited *Shitennoji Temple*.

In the afternoon, we returned to *Dotonbori* and tried the cheesecake from *Rikuro's*.

In the evening, we had a variety of street food for dinner and then ended the day in *Shinsekai*.

**Day 3** – On our last full day, we started in the morning with a visit to the *Kumoron Market* and then enjoyed the view from the *Umeda Sky Building*.

If you are ready by around 10 or 11 a.m., there are many options for the rest of the day. You can take a trip to *Himeji Castle*, visit *Universal Studios*, or take a day trip to *Nara*.

**Day 4** – On the fourth day, depending on the route plan, the journey continues from *Osaka Station* or *Osaka Airport*.

# WHERE TO EAT

## Restaurants:

### ★ **Wagyu Idaten**

Great Wagyu-Beef, seat at counter  
*Osaka, Chuo Ward, Namba, 1 Chome-8-20*

### ● **Ten Ti Jin**

Ramen restaurant, various locations  
*1 Chome-6-14 Sennichimae, Chuo Ward*

### ● **Gyukatsu Tomita**

Top address for Gyukatsu in Osaka  
*Naniwa Ward, Nanbanaka, 2 Chome-3-1 2*



### ● **Shabumai**

Delicious Shabu-Shabu restaurant  
*Chuo Ward, Souemoncho, 5-11*

### ● **Tonkatsu Imanara**

Good Katsudon in Osaka  
*1 Chome-9-20 Sennichimae, Chuo Ward*



## Cafés:

### ● **Rikuro`s**

Famous Fluffy-cheesecake  
*3 Chome-2-28 Namba, Chuo Ward, Osaka*

### ● **GLITCH COFFEE OSAKA**

Nice café with good coffee  
*Kita Ward, Nakanoshima, 3 Chome-2-4*

### ★ **PATHFINDER XNOBU**

Good and stylish café, good coffee  
*Kita Ward, Ukida, 1 Chome-6-9*

### ● **matcha latte, Canelés**

Very good spot for matcha-products  
*Naniwa Ward, Minatomachi, 1 Chome-2-13*

### ● **Kuromon Food Markt**

Great selection of local food

# WHERE TO SLEEP

Osaka also has a variety of excellent hotels and accommodations.

During our stay, we chose the

**Hotel Resol Trinity Osaka**

were very happy.

The hotel was centrally located, had beautiful interior design, and a lovely onsen.

**Thanks for reading! You can find more details on  
my website or Instagram & TikTok!**



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