

UJA

KING DAVID SOCIETY



JAPAN

QUICK GUIDE
GENERAL INFORMATION

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JAPAN: FAST FACTS

OFFICIAL NAME: Japan (Nihon, Nippon)

CAPITAL CITY: Tokyo

LARGEST CITY: Tokyo

COUNTRY SIZE (TOTAL AREA): 377,969 sq km

POPULATION: 123,953,000 (2024 estimate)

POPULATION DENSITY: 327.9 persons per sq km (2024)

TIME ZONE: Japan Standard Time (JST/GMT-9)

HEAD OF GOVERNMENT: Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba

GOVERNMENT: Constitutional monarchy with parliamentary government that consists of two legislative houses (House of Councillors and House of Representatives)

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: Japanese

OFFICIAL RELIGION: None

MONETARY UNIT: Japanese Yen (¥)

VOLTAGE: 100 volts, A.C.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS: 110 for urgent call to police; 119 for fire and/or medical and ambulance services

HEALTHCARE & MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

Before travelling to Japan, it is important to consult their Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare's English-language website for up-to-date information on what medical prescriptions and over the counter (OTC) drugs are permitted into the country, as Japan has strict rules regarding medication.

In general, visitors are allowed to travel with prescription medication without any special procedures so long as they adhere to the following criteria: it is only for personal use, it is not a prohibited drug in Japan, it is not a controlled drug in Japan, and the quantity does not exceed more than one month's supply.

It is important to note that certain commonplace prescription medications are prohibited, regardless of whether or not you have a doctor's note. Drugs containing stimulants—particularly amphetamines and methamphetamines, such as Adderall and Dexedrine—are illegal to bring into Japan. Visitors entering Japan with prohibited drugs can face prosecution if found in possession of them.

If your prescription medication includes narcotics (morphine, codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone, etc.) you are required to get advance permission from one of Japan's Regional Bureaus of Health and Welfare. You will need to submit an import application form—this is called a *Yunyu Kakunin-sho*—as well as supporting documentation,

at least 14 days prior to visiting Japan. Upon landing in Japan, you will need to provide your *Yunyu Kakunin-sho* to customs.

If your prescription includes psychotropics, please pay attention to your dosage. Some psychotropic medications are allowed, so long as the dosage is equal or lesser than the allotted amount permitted by Japan's Narcotics Control Department. If your prescription exceeds the permitted amount, you will be required to obtain a *Yunyu Kakunin-sho*.

A full list of controlled substances in Japan (listed by active ingredients and denoting how its classified), can be found [online](#).

Visitors to Japan are allowed to bring up to two-month's supply of any permissible OTC medication, including vitamins and contact lenses. However, please note that the following cold medications are not allowed in Japan as they contain narcotic and/or stimulant ingredients in excess of the permitted amount: Tylenol Cold, NyQuil, NyQuil Liquid caps, Sudafed, Advil Cold & Sinus, Vicks Inhaler, Dristan Cold, Dristan Sinus, and Drixoral Sinus. Additionally, Lomotil is prohibited.

In the case of a medical emergency, dial 119. While travel to Japan poses no serious health risks, travel and medical insurance are required.

LANGUAGE

Japanese is the official language of Japan. Its alphabet and writing use three types of characters: hiragana, katakana, and kanji. On some of Japan's islands, you may hear a few lesser-spoken languages, such as Amami, Kyukyu, and Miyako. In Hokkaido, you will find Ainu, one of the world's most endangered languages, with less than 15 identified speakers left.

In large cities, you are more likely to find locals who can speak some level of English, though you are unlikely to find fluent speakers. In Japan, the emphasis is often on reading and writing when teaching English, rather than speaking and listening, which can often lead to a language barrier. Additionally, Japanese culture places a strong emphasis on politeness and avoiding mistakes, which can lead some to avoid speaking English as they don't want to make a mistake and cause offence.



WEATHER

While Japan experiences all four seasons, it is important to note the weather can still vary depending where in the country you are, with some vast differences—mountainous regions are cooler, while coastal areas see more rain.

SPRING (MARCH–MAY)

Spring in Japan is famous for the abundant cherry blossoms (*sakura*), with mild temperatures making it perfect for flower viewing (*hanami*). March can be on the chillier side, especially up north. Rain is common in April and May. In Tokyo and Kyoto, expect mid-teen temperatures in April, climbing to around 20°C by May.

SUMMER (JUNE–AUGUST)

Summertime in Japan can get quite hot and humid, with temperatures in the mid-30s—the further south in the country you are, the hotter it gets. June and July are peak rainy season, with constant showers and the occasional typhoon, while August tends to be the hottest month. In Tokyo, summer days typically range between 26-30° C, while Kyoto trends a few degrees warmer.

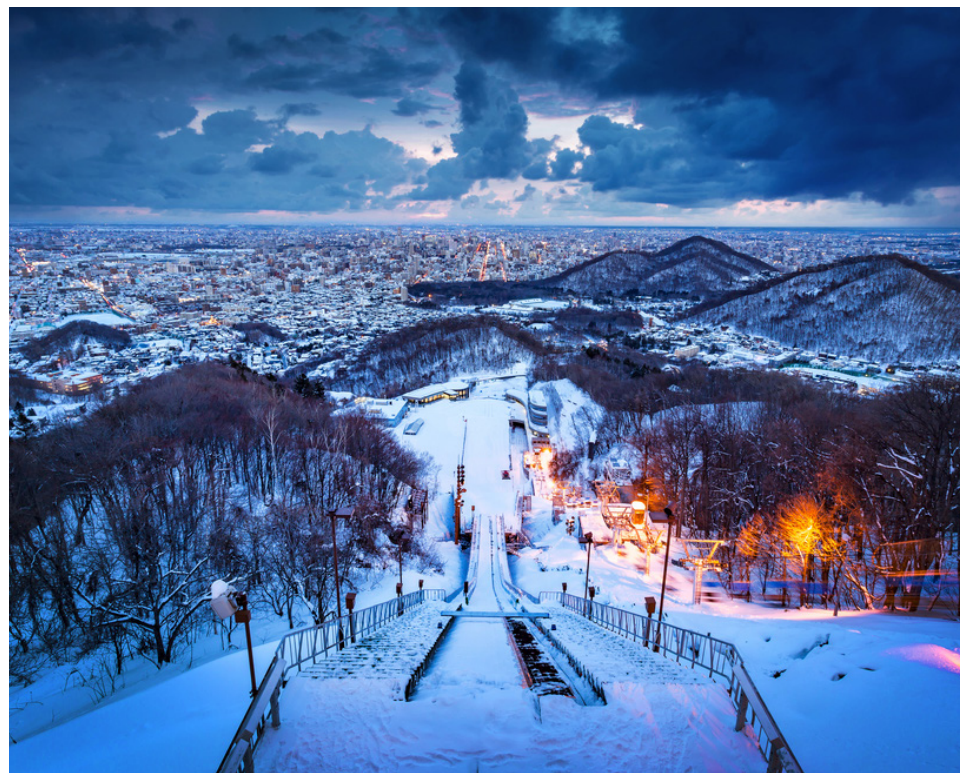


AUTUMN (SEPTEMBER–NOVEMBER)

Autumn rivals spring with its stunning fall foliage (*koyo* or *Momiji*). One of the dryer seasons in Japan, it's a great time to visit, with warm Septembers and mild Octobers. Tokyo and Kyoto both see average temperatures in the mid-20s in September, while October drops to an average of 19 for both cities.

WINTER (DECEMBER–FEBRUARY)

Winter begins in November, with northern Japan seeing freezing temperatures and heavy snow—perfect for skiing. In central Japan, winters are milder, with average temperatures around 5°C in January for cities like Tokyo and Kyoto.



RELIGION

In modern day Japan, though many don't identify as religious, a majority of Japanese people practice a syncretic religion—a blend of practices and traditions from both Shintoism and Buddhism.

Shinto, which translates to “the way of gods,” is Japan's indigenous religion, dating back over 2,000 years. Rooted in ancient traditions, it is a polytheistic faith centered around the worship of *kami*—spirits or deities found in nature, ancestors, and sacred objects—who preside over the living, dead, and inanimate, and live in sacred shrines called *Jinja*. The core philosophy of Shintoism emphasizes living in harmony with everyone and everything around you, particularly nature. While there is no central scripture or founder of Shintoism, its history dates back to the fourth century, with documentation of its existence in Japan captured in eighth century texts like the *Kojiki* (Records of Ancient Matters) and *Nihon Shoki* (Chronicles of Japan).

Jinja (Shinto shrines) are easily found in Japan, with over 80,000 shrines spread throughout the country. They are often recognizable by their large *Torii* gates—tall wooden arches marking the entrance to the shrine. After passing through the gate, visitors walk beside the path that leads the way forward, pausing to purify themselves at the water fountain—a required practice—before entering.

Buddhism, which originated in India and dates back to approximately the fifth century BCE, was first introduced to Japan in the sixth century by Korean emissaries. Though initially met with resistance, especially by Japanese commoners due to the complexity of its teachings, Buddhism eventually became commonplace, coexisting

with Shinto practices—this was largely in part to Japan's imperial rulers quickly embracing Buddhism and promoting it as a state religion. In the Nara Period (710-794), Buddhism began to flourish beyond the ruling elite, starting to influence Japanese culture, art, architecture, and philosophy. During the Heian Period (794-1185) and the subsequent Kamakura Period (1185-1333), new distinct schools of Japanese Buddhism were created, offering new interpretations and simpler practices—this includes Zen Buddhism.

Though Buddhism became a regulated religion during the Tokugawa shogunate (1603-1868)—also known as the Edo shogunate or the Edo period—when Japan adopted an isolationist policy and rejected foreign influences, it quickly regained traction during the Meiji Restoration (1868-1912). Now, Buddhism and Shintoism are seamlessly blended together, with customs and beliefs from both religions practiced in daily life.

Other religions practiced in Japan—albeit by small minorities—include Christianity, Hinduism, and Islam. Christianity first gained traction in Japan with Portuguese missionaries and traders in the 16th century, though many were persecuted under the Tokugawa shogunate. Today, Christians make up approximately 1.1 percent of the population.



CURRENCY & PAYMENT

The official currency of Japan is the Japanese Yen (JPY), which uses the ¥ symbol to denote its currency. Banknotes are issued in denominations of 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, and 10,000 yen, while coins come in denominations of 1, 5, 10, 50, and 500 yen. Helpful tip: as the 2,000 yen note is not as commonly circulated and looks similar to the 1,000 yen note, it is worth double-checking for correct change if using this note.

On average, 1 Canadian Dollar = 113 Japanese Yen.

PAYMENT

Cash is commonly used in Japan. While major retailers and department stores, chain restaurants, hotels, major convenience stores, and some restaurants accept foreign credit cards, it is recommended to carry cash with you.

If looking to get cash while in Japan, you can use a currency exchange booth, which can be found at international airports, large hotels, and select banks. It is worth contacting your banking institution ahead of time to find out if they have any recommendations or suggested partner banks. If looking to withdraw money from an ATM, you will need to use a machine situated in a post office or at a 7-Eleven convenience store, as most ATMs do not accept foreign bank cards.

TIPPING

Tipping is uncommon in Japan and in many cases, you will find people trying to return your money to you. However, if you feel that you've received excellent service and still wish to tip, consider the following suggestions and guidelines:

- ⌘ Place clean, unmarked bills in an envelope. Envelopes can be provided from your hotel or bought at a local convenience store.
- ⌘ Do not tip in amounts beginning with the number 4, as this is considered an unlucky number in Japan.
- ⌘ Restaurants usually will not accept tips at all and will try to return the money to you. It is better to refrain from tipping here.
- ⌘ Gratuity is customary if you stay at a traditional inn or hire a Geisha for entertainment.



VISA & PASSPORT INFO

Canadians do not require a tourist visa to enter Japan. The maximum duration of any tourist trip is 90 days. The Government of Canada, as well as Japan, advises that you ensure your passport is valid for at least six months beyond your travel dates, with at least two blank or unstamped visa pages.

Visitors to Japan are encouraged to use the Visit Japan Web app—this is recommended by the Government of Japan, though it is not mandatory. If you do not use the Visit Japan Web app, you will have to fill out a disembarkation paper and customs declaration upon arrival in Japan.

VOLTAGE

Japan uses 100V and 50/60Hz standard frequency. As Canadian visitors with 120V, a converter is not necessary. While using type A and B power outlets, which use two-prong plugs, it is recommended to bring an adapter with you, as type B outlets are not always available.

TIME ZONE

Japan operates on Japan Standard Time (JST), which is 14 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST). Japan observes JST year-round, no longer using daylight savings time.

STANDARD BUSINESS HOURS

In Japan, the standard workweek runs Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM. Banks operate weekdays from 9:00 AM–3:00 PM, while post offices are open Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM, with some weekend hours.

Shops typically open daily from 10:00 AM–8:00 PM, though some open earlier or close later. Department stores operate 9:00 AM–8:00 PM on weekdays and 10:00 AM–8:30 PM on weekends. Grocery stores often have extended or 24-hour service. Convenience stores like 7-Eleven, Lawson, and FamilyMart are open 24/7.

Museums typically open daily from 9:00 AM–5:00 PM, but hours may vary by location.

Restaurants typically serve lunch from 11:00 AM–2:00 PM and dinner from 6:00 PM–11:00 PM, with last orders by 10:00 PM. On weekends, they may open earlier and close later. Some family-owned eateries, manga cafés, and fast-food spots operate 24/7, as do many karaoke bars in big cities. In smaller towns, karaoke often stays open until at least 3:00 AM. Bars open around 9:00 PM and close by 4:00 AM, while clubs typically operate from 10:00 PM–4:00 AM.

Operating hours vary by region, season, and holidays. Always check ahead for specific details.

TRANSPORTATION

TRAINS

- ⌘ Getting around Japan is quite easy, with an unparalleled rail system and the world's fastest trains.
- ⌘ Tokyo's Shinjuku Station is the world's busiest station with over 3.5 million passengers daily.
- ⌘ Japan's high speed trains (bullet trains) are called *shinkansen*. They are operated by Japan Railways (JR) and connect Tokyo with most major cities.

TAXIS

- ⌘ You can find taxi stands located near train stations, major tourists attractions, and popular shopping areas.
- ⌘ You can also hail a taxi on the street if it's vacant. If the light on the roof of the car is red, it's vacant; if it's green, it's occupied.
- ⌘ Most taxi drivers do not speak English, so it is a good idea to have your destination on your phone or written down in Japanese.
- ⌘ Always enter the taxi from the left side and wait for the driver to open the door for you. Taxis have automatic doors controlled by drivers. If you accidentally open or close the door, it can damage their technology.

UBER & RIDE SHARING APPS

- ⌘ Uber is available in some major cities—including Tokyo, Kyoto, Yokohama, Sendai, Nagoya, and Osaka—but only professional vehicles are available. You can also use the Uber app to call a basic taxi in certain regions.
- ⌘ Other international ride sharing and taxi apps available in Japan include DiDi and Go.

PUBLIC TRANSIT

- ⌘ In Tokyo, you'll find various options when it comes to public transit, including trains, subways, and buses. The subway has 13 lines, making it easy to get around quickly.
- ⌘ You'll find multilingual machines at subway stations in Tokyo, making it easy to purchase tickets and passes.
- ⌘ The subway typically runs from 5:00 AM to midnight in Tokyo.
- ⌘ While Kyoto has trains and a developed subway system, most tourist sites are better accessed by bus.
- ⌘ When taking the bus in Kyoto, you will find that most buses are entered through the back door and exited through the front door—the fare has to be paid when leaving the bus. In the city centre, there is a flat rate of 230 yen per ride, while outside the central zone, the fare increases with the distance.



CULTURAL NORMS & BEST PRACTICES

CULTURE

- ⊗ Natural hot springs (*onsen*) are a beloved tradition, often linked to purification rituals. Each *onsen* offers a unique experience based on its mineral content and location.
- ⊗ Eating or drinking on the subway is generally frowned upon, as is talking on your cell phone.

FOOD & DINING

- ⊗ *Washoku*, which translates to “food of Japan” and is traditional Japanese cuisine, was recognized in 2013 by UNESCO and added to their Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list.
- ⊗ Japan has over five million vending machines across the country, selling everything from drinks and snacks (including coffee and ramen), to souvenirs and technology.
- ⊗ Vegetarianism is not widespread in Japan; veganism even less so. However, *shojin ryori*—a Buddhist vegetarian cuisine—offers flavourful, animal-free dishes.
- ⊗ Japan's strict food regulations make its food some of the safest in the world—don't be surprised to see raw eggs and chicken commonly consumed.
- ⊗ The poisonous blowfish delicacy—*Fugu*—is regulated by rigorous chef training and exams. However, even when prepared by chefs with extensive training, it is illegal for Japanese royalty to consume this dish.
- ⊗ Eating KFC for Christmas has become a nationwide phenomenon, dating back to 1970.
- ⊗ Japanese cuisine heavily emphasizes seasonality. For example, cherry blossoms inspire spring dishes, while chestnuts and sweet potatoes feature in autumn dishes.
- ⊗ Japan is internationally renowned for their street food. Popular dishes include *takoyaki* (octopus balls), *okonomiyaki* (savory pancakes), and *yakitori* (grilled chicken skewers).



- ⊗ While a popular drink, green tea matcha is also commonly found in Japanese sweets, including cookies, ice cream, and mochi.
- ⊗ Japan is notorious for offering unique dining experiences, from themed cafés (like cat cafés and maid cafés) to conveyor-belt sushi (*kaitenzushi*) and robot restaurants.
- ⊗ Just as there is proper table etiquette established for Western cutlery, chopsticks also have a long list of rules and formalities to be followed, all designed to show respect to hosts, chefs, and fellow diners.
- ⊗ When it comes to using soy sauce with sushi, use it sparingly. Dip only the fish, not the rice, to avoid offending the chef.
- ⊗ It's okay to slurp noodles in Japan—it enhances the flavour, cools the broth, and signals appreciation to the chef.



ETIQUETTE & BEHAVIOUR

- ☞ In Japan, people greet one another with a customary bow, which can range from a modest nod of the head to a deep waist bend. A deeper, longer bow shows respect, while a short nod of the head is more casual and informal. However, bowing with your palms together at chest level is not customary in Japan.
- ☞ Table manners are imperative in Japanese culture. From chopstick etiquette to polite customary phrases before and after a meal, all of these behaviours are important to be cognizant of. It is common to say “*itadaki-masu*” (meaning “I humbly receive” or “let’s eat”) before a meal and “*gochisou-sama*” after a meal. If you are eating with Japanese people, try to add these little phrases to avoid offence or being considered impolite.
- ☞ When going out for drinks, it’s considered rude to drink before saying cheers (“*kampai!*”).
- ☞ Avoid loud public conversations on your cell phones and refrain from talking on the phone when on the train or in a shop.
- ☞ It is considered bad form to eat while walking and in public. Exceptions include eating on the *shinkansen* (bullet train), at festivals, or while enjoying ice cream. Sips from resealable beverage containers, like water bottles, are acceptable.
- ☞ Public trash cans are rare due to a 1995 terrorist attack. People carry their trash home or until they find the nearest bin available to them.
- ☞ It is considered rude to count change in front of a cashier, implying that you do not trust that the cashier gave the correct amount.

- ☞ Gift-giving is a significant part of Japanese culture. If visiting someone’s home, bring a small gift—as beautifully wrapped as possible—ideally from your home country or a local specialty.
- ☞ *Omotenashi* is the Japanese art of sincere and selfless hospitality, where every detail is thoughtfully crafted to anticipate and fulfil guests’ needs. It reflects a deep commitment to creating a warm and welcoming experience with care and attentiveness.
- ☞ Exchanging business cards (*meishi*) is a formal ritual. Accept cards with both hands, study them briefly, and never write on or bend them.
- ☞ It is standard practice in Japan to wear a face mask when someone has a cold—it is considered rude to risk other’s health and not wear a mask.
- ☞ Always remove your shoes when entering a home, temple, or traditional inn—look for slippers provided at the entrance. Separate slippers are used for bathrooms.
- ☞ In Japanese homes, the *genkan* serves as an entryway that separates the inside from the outside, where people remove their shoes to prevent bringing in dirt—a gesture essential to maintaining cleanliness and respect. Typically located just inside the main door, the *genkan* varies in size based on the home and is slightly lower than the elevated indoor space it leads into.
- ☞ Being invited into someone’s home in Japan is considered a great honour, as hosting social events or large groups is uncommon due to the traditionally small size of Japanese homes. If you’re fortunate enough to receive an invitation, be sure to bring a gift and show respect for their space.
- ☞ In Japan, forming neat lines is a common practice, whether on train platforms or at checkout counters. When using escalators, the side you stand on depends on the region: in the Kanto region and eastward (e.g., Tokyo), stand on the left and pass on the right. In the Kansai region and westward (e.g., Osaka), it’s the opposite—stand on the right and pass on the left.
- ☞ Smoking is only allowed in designated areas, and smoking while walking or littering can result in a fine. Outdoor smoking spots are limited, but you can find them using an app. Some restaurants and cafés also allow smoking.

SUPERSTITIONS & SYMBOLISM

- ☞ The beckoning cat figurine is a common symbol of good luck in businesses, often displayed with one paw raised to attract customers.
- ☞ Animals are extremely symbolic in Japan, and sometimes at odds with Western superstitions. While black cats symbolize bad luck in North America, in Japan they are believed to bring prosperity and positive outcomes. The koi fish is seen as a sign of perseverance and courage.
- ☞ Like animals, colours are also very symbolic in Japanese culture, with different meanings attached to each one. White is considered a sacred colour of the gods in Japan—a symbol of both physical and spiritual purity. However, in Buddhism, the colour white also means death, making it common in funeral rituals. Red symbolizes peace and prosperity in the home, and is believed to ward against evil spirits—red is a common colour found at shrines and temples throughout the country because of this belief.
- ☞ *Omamori* (amulets) are sold at shrines and temples to bring good luck, health, or academic success. They are often replaced annually to maintain their effectiveness.
- ☞ The number four (*shi*) is considered unlucky because it sounds like the word for death. Many buildings skip the fourth floor or avoid the number entirely. The number nine (*ku*) is also considered unlucky, as it sounds like the word for suffering. Hospitals and hotels often avoid the use of this number as well.
- ☞ The number eight is considered lucky in Japan, due to its shape. Seven is also believed to be lucky, as it is an important number in Buddhism.
- ☞ It is believed that stepping on the end of a *tatami* (the traditional Japanese grass-made floor mattress) can bring bad luck to the family.
- ☞ Writing someone's name in red is extremely disrespectful and considered very unlucky in Japan—it implies that the person, or someone close to them, is dead. This is because it is common in Japanese burial traditions to write the names of the surviving family members in red on a grave marker.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- ☞ Finding your way around in Japan can be tricky. The address system is notoriously difficult to navigate—even for locals. Smartphones with navigation apps are invaluable for travelers. Buy a data-heavy SIM card at the airport to ensure you have enough data for navigation.
- ☞ If travelling with prescription medication throughout the day, make sure to have the original bottle with you and/or a photo of the prescription. Japan has strict rules on drugs—both recreational and prescription—so it's best to always carry documentation with you if your medication is permitted. If you had to obtain a *Yunyu Kakunin-sho* (special import license for medications), you should make photo copies of it, leaving one in your luggage while always carrying one with you.
- ☞ While the crime rate is very low in Japan, it's best to always stay aware of your surroundings and watch out for petty crime (such as pickpocketing), especially in bustling Tokyo neighbourhoods, as well as in entertainment and nightlife districts throughout the country.
- ☞ As you would at home or when travelling elsewhere, be cautious when using debit or credit cards to avoid scams, such as overcharging or fraud. Pay careful attention when your cards are being handled by others, use ATMs inside banks or post offices, and cover the keypad with one hand when entering your PIN.
- ☞ Earthquakes are not uncommon in Japan due to its location on shifting tectonic plates—though many go unnoticed. However, it's always good to be prepared and know a few basic safety principles. These include always keeping your phone charged and/or carrying a fully powered portable charger, as well as familiarizing yourself with all evacuation and fire exits when checking into a hotel. In public spaces, always try and cover your head in the event of an earthquake and follow the advice of local staff once tremors subside. If you are by the coast in the off chance that a large earthquake strikes, head to higher ground.

JAPANESE WORDS & PHRASES

BASIC WORDS AND PHRASES TO KEEP IN YOUR BACK POCKET:

hello ⇒ *konnichiwa* (こんにちは)
Pronunciation: kohn-nee-chee-wah

please ⇒ *kudasai* (ください)
Pronunciation: koo-dah-sigh

please (when asking for something) ⇒ *onegaishimas* (おねがいします)
Pronunciation: oh-neh-gai-shee-mahs

thank you ⇒ *arigatou gozaimasu* (ありがとうございます)
Pronunciation: ah-ree-gah-toh goh-zah-ee-mahs

you're welcome ⇒ *dôitashimashte* (どういたしまして)
Pronunciation: doh-ee-tah-shee-mah-she-teh

yes ⇒ *hai* (はい)
Pronunciation: hi

no ⇒ *ie* (いいえ)
Pronunciation: ee-eh

excuse me/I'm sorry* ⇒ *sumimasen* (すみません)
Pronunciation: soo-mee-mah-sen

** Fun fact: this is the Canadian version's of "Sorry", which is used as a catch all, whether you bump into someone, want to show acknowledge, starting into a conversation, etc. It has many uses, and is a common phrase heard.*

I don't understand ⇒ *wakarimasen* (わかりません)
Pronunciation: wah-kah-ree-mah-sehn

I don't speak Japanese ⇒ *Nihongo ga hanasemasen*
(にほんごがはなせません)
Pronunciation: nee-hon-go gah hah-nah-seh-mah-sen

good morning ⇒ *ohayou gozaimasu* (おはようございます)
Pronunciation: oh-hai-yohh goh-zai-mahs

good evening ⇒ *konbanwa* (こんばんは)
Pronunciation: kohn-bahn-wah

good night ⇒ *oyasumi nasai* (おやすみなさい)
Pronunciation: oh-yah-soo-mee nah-sai

nice to meet you ⇒ *hajimemashite* (はじめまして)
Pronunciation: hah-jee-meh-mah-shee-teh

goodbye ⇒ *sayōnara* (さようなら)
Pronunciation: sah-yoh-nah-rah

beautiful ⇒ *utsukushii* (美しい)
Pronunciation: oo-tsoo-koo-shee

PHRASES AND WORDS FOR DINING OUT

I would like (dish name), please ⇒ *(dish name) o kudasai* (___をください)
Pronunciation: ___ oh koo-dah-sigh

do you have an English menu? ⇒ *Eigo no menyuu wa arimas ka?*
(えいごのメニューはありますか?)
Pronunciation: ayy-goh no men-yuu gah ah-ree-mahs kah

I have a (food name) allergy. ⇒ ___ *no arerugii ga arimasu.*
(のアレルギーがあります)
Pronunciation: ___ noh ah-REH-roo-gi gah ah-ree-mahs

I can't eat (food name). ⇒ ___ *ga taberaremasen.* (___が食べられません)
Pronunciation: ___ gah tah-bay-rah-ray-mah-sehn

does this have ___ in it? ⇒ *kore ni wa ___ ga haitteimasu ka?*
(これには___が入っていますか?)
Pronunciation: koh-ray nee wah ___ gah hai-tay-ee-mahs kah

delicious ⇒ *oishii* (美味しい)
Pronunciation: oh-ee-shee

wine ⇒ *wain* (ワイン)
Pronunciation: wah-een

beer ⇒ *bīru* (ビール)
Pronunciation: bee-roo

PHRASES AND WORDS FOR DINING OUT

Japanese sake ⇒ *Nihonshu* (日本酒)

Pronunciation: nee-hohn-shoo

water please ⇒ *o-mizu o onegai shimasu* (お水をお願いします)

Pronunciation: oh-mee-zoo oh oh-neh-guy shee-mahs

cheque, please ⇒ *okaikai onegaishimasu* (お会計 お願いします)

Pronunciation: oh-kai-kay oh-neh-guy shee-mahs

cheers! ⇒ *kanpai!* (かんぱい!)

Pronunciation: kahn-pie!

where is the toilet? ⇒ *toire wa doko des ka?* (トイレはどこですか?)

Pronunciation: Toy-ray-wah doko des-kah

do you accept credit card? ⇒ *kurejittokādo wa tsukaemaska?*

(クレジットカードはつかえますか?)

Pronunciation: koo-reh-jit-toh-kah-doh wah tsoo-kah-eh-mahs-kah?

(I'll pay) by credit card ⇒ *kurejitto kaado de* (クレジットカードで)

Pronunciation: koo-reh-jee-toh kahh-doh day

can we split the check? ⇒ *betsu betsu dekimasu ka?* (別々できますか?)

Pronunciation: beh-tsoo beh-tsoo deh-kee-mahs kah

PHRASES AND WORDS FOR SHOPPING

how much is this? ⇒ *ikura desu ka?* (いくらですか?)

Pronunciation: ee-koo-rah deh-soo kah?

I'll take it ⇒ *sore o moraimasu* (それをお願いします)

Pronunciation: soh-reh oh moh-rah-ee-mahs

may I try it on? ⇒ *shichaku shite mo īdesu ka?* (試着してもいいですか?)

Pronunciation: shee-chah-koo shee-teh moh ee-deh-soo kah?

do you have another size? ⇒ *hoka no saizu wa arimasu ka?*

(ほかのサイズはありますか?)

Pronunciation: ho-kah noh sai-zoo wah ah-ree-mahs kah?

do you have a larger size? ⇒ *motto ōkī no wa arimasu ka?*

(もっと大きいのはありますか?)

Pronunciation: moh-toh oh-kee noh wah ah-ree-mahs kah?

do you have a smaller size? ⇒ *motto chīsai no wa arimasu ka?*

(もっと小さいのはありますか?)

Pronunciation: moh-toh chee-sai noh wah ah-ree-mahs kah?



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JAPAN



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