Racing Breaks

Japan Cup
Japan Cup

About the Japan Cup

The Japan Cup is one of the most prestigious horse races in Japan. It is contested on the last Sunday of November in Fuchu, Tokyo over a distance of 2400 meters (about 1 mile 4 furlongs) with a purse of ¥476 million (about £3.2 million).

During a relatively short history, the race has established itself as an international contest with winners from Japan, North America, Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, France, Germany and Italy. The race has produced some of the most memorable finishes seen in Japanese racing. Along with the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Melbourne Cup and the Breeders’ Cup, the race ranks as one of the great end-of-year events.

The trip runs between Saturday 21st - Monday 30th November 2020.

For more information please call 0800 193 6646 or email info@racingbreaks.com
4* Sapporo Hotel

About the Hotel
The Sapporo Hotel boasts a shopping arcade & a spa centre, and is only a 5-minute walk from JR Sapporo Station. It features 7 dining options, a concierge and free Wifi across the entire property.

Rooms at the Sapporo Grand Hotel are air-conditioned and equipped with a TV and a refrigerator. A work desk, slippers and toiletries are provided.

Guests can enjoy a massage or a beauty treatment. The hotel has a Memorial Library, which also serves as a museum.

Fresh seafood, fine wines and international specialities are available at Sapporo Grand’s restaurants. Northern Terrace offers a dessert buffet, while Lobby Lounge Mizar features a fireplace.

Sapporo Grand Hotel is a 2-minute walk from Sapporo Clock Tower and the Oodori Park.

About your Stay
You will begin your Japan Cup experience spending three days in Sapporo, the country’s fifth largest city and capital of its mountainous northern island, Hokkaido.

During this period you will have a chance to explore Sapporo, whilst on a half-day tour, visiting the Jingu Shrine, Odori Park and the Niju Fish Market.

The highlight of your time in Sapporo will no doubt be the chance to explore some of the farms that make Japanese racing so strong. You will visit Dr. Harry Sweeney’s famous Paca Paca Farm where the 2012 Japanese Derby winner Deep Brillante was bred.

You will also visit the pre-training facilities at Darley’s Castle Park as well as Darley’s Stallion Complex where you will get a chance to see four of their top stallions parade.

Your package includes internal flights between Tokyo and Sapporo which take approximately 90 minutes.

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About the Hotel

The Keio Plaza Hotel offers sweeping views of the Shinjuku skyline. There are flat-screen TV's with satellite channels, minibar and electric kettle. An en-suite bathroom comes with a bath, free toiletries and hairdryer. Japanese-style yukata robes and slippers are provided for all guests.

The hotel has a wide range of cuisines including Japanese, French, Italian, Chinese and Korean. Sky Lounge Aurora boasts stunning city views from the 45th floor, while Amanogawa Sake Bar pours premium sake.

About your Stay

During your time in Tokyo you will enjoy a half day tour of the city taking in some of the post popular spots including the Meiji Jingu Shrine, Imperial Palace East Garden and Sensoji Temple & Nakamise Shopping Street.

You will also visit Japan’s tallest mountain, Mt Fuji with a guide including stops at Mt Fuji 5th Station, Oshino Hakkai and Shiraito Falls.

The trip is brought to its conclusion with two days racing at Fuchu Racecourse culminating in the main event, the Japan Cup, on Sunday.

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Your Package

Package Includes

- Return Flights from London Heathrow to Tokyo
- Return internal flights from Tokyo to Sapporo
- 3 Nights Accommodation at 4* Mercure Hotel Sapporo
- 5 Nights Accommodation at 4* Keio Plaza Shinjuku
- Full breakfasts included daily
- Welcome dinner and drinks
- Half-day Sapporo tour including Nijo Fish Market, Sapporo Beer Museum and lunch in Sapporo Beer Garden.
- Visit the famous Paca Paca Farm
- Visit Darley pre-training facility Castle Park
- Stallion Parade at Darley’s Stallion Farm
- Visit Darley Shiomi Farm
- Mt Fuji Full Day Tour
- Local Guided Tokyo City Tour
- Grandstand seats Fuchu Racecourse for Saturday races
- VIP Hospitality for Japan Cup including food & drinks
- All travel & race day transfers throughout
- Services of an experienced tour leader
- ATOL protected

Price per person: £3,995.00
(Based on 2 sharing)

Extend your stay
If you wish to prolong your stay in Japan, additional nights can be added to the itinerary from £200 per person on a bed & breakfast basis.

Single Occupancy
This package is available based on single occupancy for £4,695 per person

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Package Itinerary

Saturday 21st November 2020
➔ Depart London Heathrow on Saturday morning on a direct flight to Tokyo, scheduled to land first thing on Sunday morning.

Sunday 22nd November 2020
➔ Connecting in Tokyo Airport you will then board your onward flight to Saporro which takes approximately 90 minutes.
➔ Upon arrival make your way to the hotel and after checking in and freshening up, you'll meet at the hotel bar for some welcome drinks and then head out for a fabulous local dinner so you can get to know the rest of the group and plan the week ahead.

Monday 23rd November 2020
➔ Today is a chance to explore Sapporo - you will head up the chairlift of the 1972 Ski Jump for beautiful views over Sapporo, stop in at Nijo Fish Market to try some local Hokkaido giant oysters and visit the local chocolate factory.
➔ You will then head to the popular Sapporo Beer Garden for lunch. Try a freshly brewed Sapporo beer and a "Genghis Khan", a local Hokkaido speciality dish of lamb and mutton.
➔ After a busy first morning, the afternoon is yours for further exploration of Sapporo or to have a rest.

Tuesday 24th November 2020
➔ An early start on Tuesday awaits as you are off to explore some of the farms that make Japanese racing so strong. You'll start with a tour of Dr. Harry Sweeney's famous Paca Paca Farm where 2012 Japanese Derby winner Deep Brillante was bred.
➔ You will then visit the pre-training facilities at Darley's Castle Park where you'll check out their amazing facilities including an undercover uphill 1400m gallop.
➔ Following this you will stop for lunch at a great local restaurant where you'll enjoy some beautiful Wagyu steaks. -After lunch, you will visit Darley's Stallion Complex where they will parade four of their top stallions for you to inspect. Maybe you'll find something for your mare!
➔ The evening is yours at leisure to enjoy the Sapporo nightlife and beautiful local food.

Wednesday 25th November 2020
➔ In the morning you will check out of the Sapporo hotel and head to Chitose Airport for your flight to Tokyo.
➔ Your next accommodation is at the Keio Plaza Hotel in Shinjuku, which is the ideal location to explore the delights of the city of Tokyo. Only minutes away from the most popular shopping and entertainment spots, the luxury hotel provides stunning views over central Tokyo.
➔ The rest of the day is at leisure to rest or explore Tokyo with an optional wander through Shinjuku and then you'll then have a nice local dinner.
Package Itinerary continued

Thursday 26th November 2020
- After breakfast, you will head off for a half-day tour of Tokyo.
- The tour begins with fantastic views over Tokyo from the observation deck, see Mt Fuji if weather is clear, then visit Meiji Jingu Shrine & Harajuku shopping precinct, the world-famous Shibuya crossing before a visit to the old Yanaka Ginza district for some old-world charm and a local feed of Ramen.
- The afternoon is yours to continue exploring Tokyo and do some shopping.

Friday 27th November 2020
- Today you have a choice of two tours; either a full day tour visiting Mt Fuji or a morning tour exploring the amazing Tsukiji Fish Markets, your choice! Details of both tours can be found below.
- The evening is yours to explore the amazing Tokyo nightlife and discover their tiny little bars.

Saturday 28th November 2020
- After breakfast, you are finally off to the races at Fuchu Racecourse. Despite a capacity of 223,000, it will be a quiet day at the track with everyone gearing up for the Cup tomorrow.
- You'll have a chance to explore the course, visit the museum, grab a few souvenirs and learn the Japanese betting system.

Sunday 29th November 2020
- This is it, the end of the week and the highlight of the trip, it's Japan Cup day!! Today's race meeting at Fuchu is highlighted by the running of Japan's most prestigious race - the Japan Cup. A crowd of 100,000 plus is expected.
- You will enjoy hospitality with all-inclusive food and drinks throughout the day!

Monday 30th November 2020
- The tour concludes after breakfast today, you will return to Tokyo Airport to catch your direct flight back to London Heathrow.

For more information please call 0800 193 6646 or email info@racingbreaks.com
Tour options

On Friday 27th November you have a choice of two tours:

Mt. Fuji Tour

The day begins with a 2.5-hour coach journey to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Mt. Fuji, recognisable by its iconic snow-capped peak. On arrival, you’ll ascend to Mt. Fuji’s 5th Station -located halfway up the mountain at 7,545 feet (2,300 meters) - and absorb unobstructed views of Mt. Fuji’s Five Lakes.

Following Fuji’s 5th Station, you’ll enjoy a traditional Japanese lunch. Then, head into Hakone National Park by coach and take a short sightseeing cruise on Lake Ashi.

Your final stop is the summit of Mt. Komagatake, reachable by Komagatake Ropeway, one of Japan’s highest aerial tramways. During the ride, enjoy more spectacular views and take a stroll along a mountain trail at the top.

Return to Tokyo by bullet train. Total tour time 11 hours.

Tsukiji Fish Market Tour

Take a deep dive into the world of Japanese seafood during this tour of the outer Tsukiji Fish Market. Rub shoulders with Michelin-starred chefs as they shop for ingredients at this sprawling, 80-year-old market for all things aquatic.

Investigate the various stalls selling fish, shellfish, and everything in between, and sample Japanese favourites such as sushi, dried bonito, fresh Tuna, and sake. A local guide and all food on the tour are included.