

Hotels in Japan: From the Luxurious to the Affordable

Visitors to Japan are pleasantly surprised by its wonderful hotels with a wide selection, from luxurious to economy lodgings. Whichever you choose, you can take great delight in the attentive service of highly professional staff and the attention to detail that embodies a uniquely Japanese spirit of hospitality (*omotenashi*).

Of course, you can find most of the globally known brands as well as a number of historic Japanese luxury hotels. However, when you are trying to keep costs down, Japan's numerous mid-level "business hotels," ranging from US\$80 to US\$100 per night, are an ideal solution. These hotels are often to be found near conveniently located stations or in city centers, and the rooms are compact but well appointed, with everything you might need to enjoy a relaxing stay. Hotels provide all basic facilities including Internet access. Some even have aromatherapy air purifiers and massage chairs to help you relax after a busy day of sightseeing!

Even if you are operating on a really tight budget, there is a wide range of affordable accommodation for backpackers and other budget travellers priced from US\$20-40. Hostels often feature simple rooms and shared amenities such as kitchens, bathrooms, and toilets. At lodgings that often play host to medium-term visitors from overseas service may be available in English, and a stay at such a location provides a great opportunity to meet other guests from all over the world.

Alternatively, one can enjoy the unique charms of "capsule hotels" for US\$30-40 per night. Sleeping in one of these narrow fiberglass rooms may make you feel like an astronaut. Various videos are available online that provide more detail about these capsule hotels, so why not take a look for yourself?

Another way to keep costs down is to stray a just a little off the beaten track and away from the main urban centers. The major cities in Japan all have highly developed transport networks including trains and subways, so without any inconvenience you can stay slightly further out and reduce expenses. For the same price as a business hotel room in the city, you will be able to stay in a higher caliber of hotel.

Finding exactly the right hotel to meet your budget and needs will help to guarantee that you enjoy the best possible stay in Japan. We are waiting to welcome you!



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1.You can feel *wa* (spirit of Japan) in this hotel room (©Jiji) 2.A historic luxury hotel's lobby (©Imperial Hotel) 3.Business hotel room 4.Owner talking with foreign guests at hostel (©Jiji) 5. Capsule hotel (©Aflo) 6. Inside capsule (©Aflo)