

Voyage through Kengo Kuma's Architecture
Tokyo – Matsuyama – Beppu – Nara – Kyoto – Tokyo
(13 nights 14 days)

Designed for Your Clients

In Japan, Kengo Kuma's Architecture is as ubiquitous as famous and revered. Built with a mission to recover the tradition of Japanese buildings and to reinterpret these traditions for the 21st century, his works helped maintaining the associated building techniques while modernizing them, thus ensuring their survival in present and future.

This fully unique journey starts in Tokyo as a base for daytrips surrounding the lesser known cities of Ibaraki and Saitama. Then, fly to rural Shikoku island and ferry across to nearby Kyushu. Returning to the main island of Honshu via- Osaka, Nara & Kyoto, alternate city highlights with emblematic works from the Architect and return to Tokyo for departure.



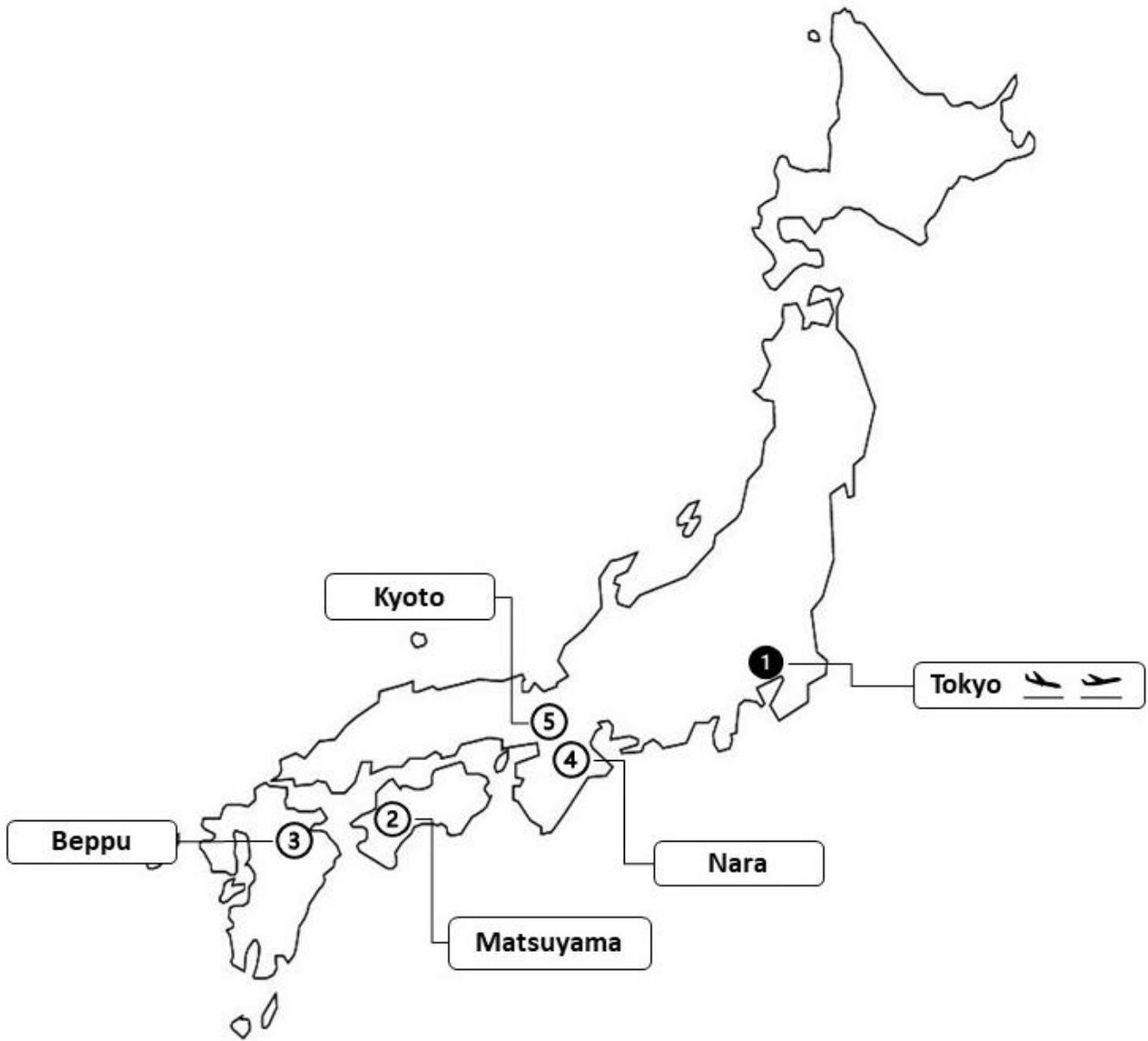
Itinerary at a Glance

Date	Program	Accommodation
Day - 1	Arrival in HND/NRT	The Capitol Hotel Tokyu
Day - 2	Tokyo	The Capitol Hotel Tokyu
Day - 3	Tokyo	The Capitol Hotel Tokyu
Day - 4	Day Trip to Nasu	The Capitol Hotel Tokyu
Day - 5	Day Trip to Tokorozawa	The Capitol Hotel Tokyu
Day - 6	Move to Matsuyama via Yusuvara	Dogo Miyu
Day - 7	Move to Beppu	ANA Intercontinental Beppu Resort & Spa
Day - 8	Beppu	ANA Intercontinental Beppu Resort & Spa
Day - 9	Move to Nara via Osaka	Fufu Nara
Day - 10	Move to Kyoto	The Thousand Kyoto
Day - 11	Kyoto	The Thousand Kyoto
Day - 12	Kyoto	The Thousand Kyoto
Day - 13	Back to Tokyo	Tokyo Edition Toranomom
Day - 14	Departure from NRT/HND	N/A

Kengo Kuma related visits

Date	Destination	Name of the architecture / place
Day - 2	Tokyo	Japan National Stadium
		Aroma Terrace (tentative name)
		Meiji Jingu Museum
		One Omotesando
		Sunny Hills Japan
		Doric Minamiaoyama
		Baisoin Temple
Nezu Museum		
Day - 3		Starbucks Reserve® Roastery Tokyo
		Zuishoji Temple
		Suntory Museum of Art
		Asakusa Culture Tourist Information Center
		Tiffany Ginza
Day - 4		Nasu, Tochigi
	Stone Museum	
	Nasu History Museum	
	Nakagawa-machi Bato Hiroshige Museum of Art	
Day - 5	Tokorozawa, Saitama	Hoshakuji Station
		Kadokawa Culture Museum
Day - 6	Yusuhara, Kochi	Musashinosuwareiwa Yamato no Mishiro
		Kumo no Ueno Hotel Yusuhara
		Yusuhara Wooden Bridge Museum
		Yusuhara Town Hall
		Community Market Yusuhara
Day - 8	Beppu	Yusuhara Community Library & YURURI Yusuhara
		Comico Art Museum Yufuin
		The Hall of Taketa City Historical Culture
Day - 9	Osaka	Taketa Castle Town Plaza
		Asahi Broadcasting Corporation
Day - 11	Kyoto	Hotel Royal Classic Osaka
		Shin Puh Kan & Ace Hotel Kyoto
		Cocon Karasuma
		koé donuts

Your Travel Map



Who is Kengo Kuma?



Kengo Kuma is a Japanese architect and professor in the Department of Architecture (Graduate School of Engineering) at the University of Tokyo. In 1987 he founded the Spatial Design Studio (now Kengo Kuma & Associates) and opened his Paris Studio in 2008.

He is considered one of the most significant contemporary Japanese architects, and **the designer of the New National Stadium, Tokyo** which has been built for 2020 Summer Olympics.

Characteristics of his architectures

His design vision expresses the emotional content of materials, linked to intrinsic characteristics in construction and **the teachings of Japanese traditions**. More recent, small-scale yet highly significant projects include places for **meditation constructed of wood**. In addition to wood, Kuma often favors using “alternative” materials including stone, ceramics, bamboo, plastic and vinyl.

Describing his practice, Kuma said “You could say that my aim is ‘to recover the place’. The place is a result of nature and time; this is the most important aspect. I think **my architecture is some kind of frame of nature**. With it, we can experience nature more deeply and more intimately. Transparency is a characteristic of Japanese architecture; I try to use light and natural materials to get a new kind of transparency.”



Detailed itinerary

Day – 1, Arrival in Narita/Haneda International Airport

After arriving at **Narita/Haneda International Airport** and completing immigration formalities, you will be greeted by your **English Speaking Chauffeur** at the arrival hall and transfer by **Private Chartered Car** to the hotel.



The Capitol Hotel Tokyu



One of the most distinctive features is the 3F main lobby, “Tokyo”, designed by Kengo Kuma, and inspired by the wooden structure roof of a traditional Japanese shrine. The building is designed to welcome guests warmly, without the intimidating feeling of high-rise buildings, sharing a space with the 500-year old Hie Shrine.

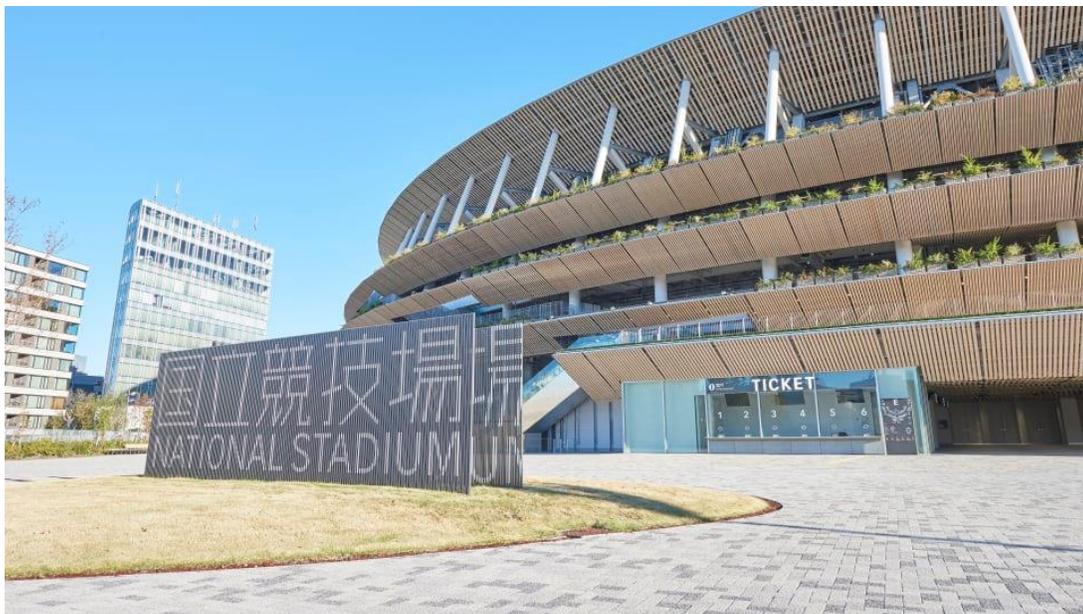
Overnight at The Capitol Hotel Tokyu

Day - 2, Tokyo

At **9:30**, meet with your **English Speaking Guide** in the hotel lobby and leave for Tokyo excursion by Private chartered vehicle.

First, let's go to see **Japan National Stadium** (Kengo Kuma / 2018), built in November 2019, the main venue of Tokyo Olympic Games. This large stadium was designed as a collection of small-diameter pieces of wood.

The facade consists of overlapping, multi-layered eaves. The underside of each eave is covered with small-diameter wood louvers in an effort to express the tradition of beautiful eaves in Japanese architecture in an appropriate contemporary manner.



Next, you will visit **Aroma Terrace** (tentative name / Kengo Kuma / 2021 autumn) where is the new headquarters of the Aroma Environment Association Japan. The site has a view of the swimming pool designed by Kenzo Tange for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, which became a symbol of them. The structure consists of an attempt to create is masonry using wood. Wood pieces are stacked up to form a tunnel-shaped space, where human bodies and aroma can interact with each other.



(Images only)

Followed by the huge **Meijijingu Shrine**, constructed in 1920 by more than 100,000 volunteers to honor Emperor Meiji, the first emperor of modern Japan at the outset of the Meiji period.



You will also visit the **Meiji Jingu Museum** (Kengo Kuma / 2019), newly opened in 2019. The museum displays articles used by or associated with Emperor Meiji and Empress Shoken in 3,200 square meter of display space spread over two floors.



Then, you will continue exploring **Omotesando** and **Aoyama** area, lined with fashionable shops and architectural wonders – it is a great area to stroll around! You can see not only Kengo Kuma's architecture but also other famous architects' works (like Tadao Ando, Kenzo Tange and etc.) in this area.



One Omotesando (Kengo Kuma / 2003.09)
The mullion contributes to energy conservation by shielding the interior from direct sunlight and mitigates the greenhouse effect by fixing carbon dioxide production. Although Japan's Building Standard Law prohibits the use of wood on the exterior walls of buildings in large urban areas we were able to obtain special permission by installing a drencher on the outside wall.



Sunny Hills Japan (Kengo Kuma / 2013.12)
Taiwanese sweets shop and its pineapple cake is so popular.
This architecture was used a traditional joint system in wood structure construction in Japan called "Jigoku Gumi" to create soft warm human space that feels like a forest or cloud.



Doric Minamiaoyama (Kengo Kuma / 1991)
It is one of the most prestigious buildings in Kengo Kuma's "post-modern" era, among his architectural styles. The large pillars that rise in the street have the motif of the Greek Doric order (pillars), and the elevators are built into the pillars, and each floor has a unique structure that spreads like a fan.

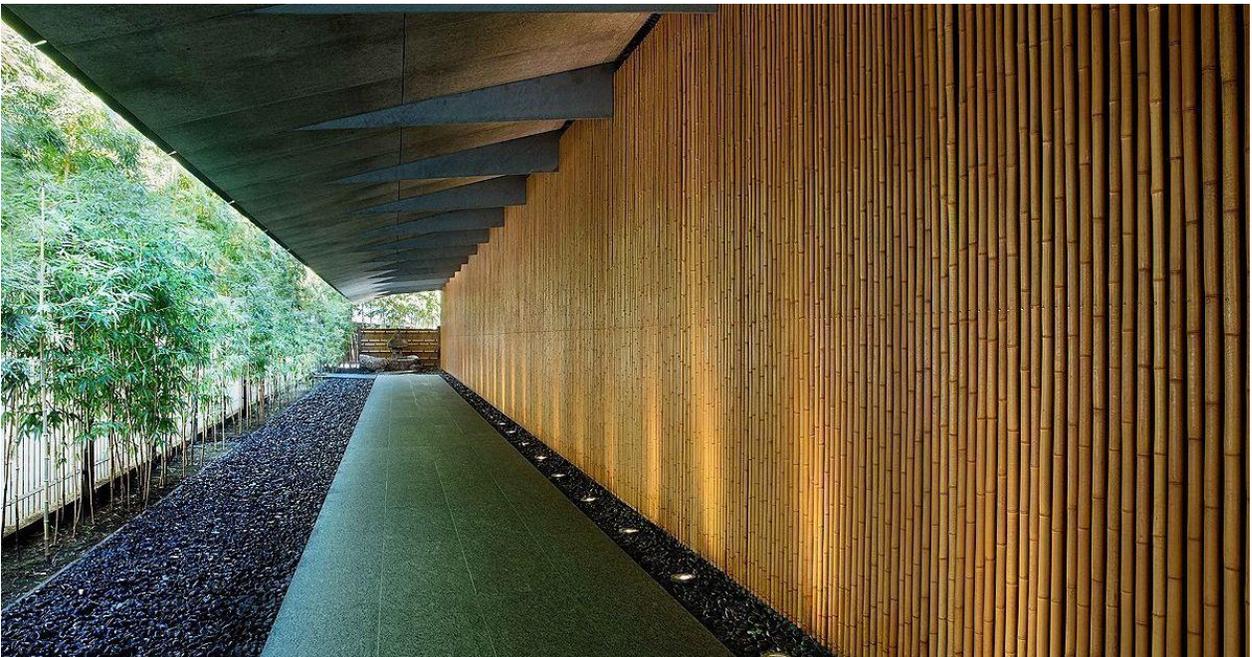


Baisoin Temple (Kengo Kuma / 2003)

Baisoin Buddhist Temple is one of the oldest temples in Tokyo, built 360 years ago.

Baisoin Temple had been seeking a new era of temples, considering the relationship between the city and the temple, and between people and the temple – it's finally embodied in the reconstruction by Kengo Kuma.

Next, transfer to visit **Nezu Museum** (Kengo Kuma / 2009.02) – It offers 7,400 collections of Japanese-style paintings, tea utensils, bronze ware of ancient China and etc. including 7 national treasures.



Come back to the hotel by 17:30.

Overnight at The Capitol Hotel Tokyu

Day - 3, Tokyo

At **9:00**, meet with your **English Speaking Guide** in the hotel lobby and leave for Tokyo excursion by Private chartered vehicle.

First, you will go to **Starbucks Reserve® Roastery Tokyo** (Kengo Kuma / 2019.02) in Nakameguro. As the catalyst of the industry, Starbucks has introduced a new style of café culture to urban communities. The Starbucks Reserve® Roastery in Nakameguro is their new model of business. There is a terrace on each floor, and you can see the slightly elevated direction of Daikanyama along the Meguro River. Beyond the slopes covered with greenery, the skylines of Shibuya, Ebisu, Roppongi, etc. spread out, and you can enjoy the scenery of Tokyo where nature and buildings are united.



Next, you will transfer to **Zuishoji Temple** (Kengo Kuma / 2018.11) in Shirokanedai. It is the first temple of the Obaku sect (a relatively new Zen sect that came from China during the Edo period) in Edo. The Kuri was newly made by Kengo Kuma in 2018. Here, maybe you will forget that you are in urban Tokyo.



Followed by **Suntory Museum of Art** (Kengo Kuma / 2007.01) in Roppongi. Kengo Kuma's focus when designing this art museum was to create quiet space in the middle of a metropolis that is soothing and inviting. Vertical louvers made from white ceramic panels cover the façade, a design feature that controls the light while connecting the art museum to the garden outside.



Then, your guide will show you the small streets of **Asakusa**, one of Tokyo oldest and well preserved districts where you can still feel the presence of Ancient Japan. Walk along the **Nakamise Dori Street**, dating back to the Edo period when the temple's neighbours were given special right to open their shops in the approach to the temple and arrive at the **Sensoji Temple**, with its huge lantern.



In Asakusa, you can also visit **Asakusa Culture Tourist Information Center** (Kengo Kuma / 2012.03).

A building with an impressive structure that looks like seven traditional wooden houses stacked in front of the Kaminarimon Gate, which conveys the culture of Edo to the present day. From the terrace on the top floor, you can see the Nakamise shopping street from Kaminarimon to Sensoji Temple.

Lastly, you will visit Followed by **Ginza district**, architects rival in imagination with fashion designers from all over the world. You can definitely see the different type of “shopping” district from Ginza. Kuma Kengo’s works also wait for you here.



Tiffany Ginza (Kengo Kuma / 2008.10)

Tiffany's Ginza main store is a renovated 21-year-old tenant building.

292 panels are installed on the outer wall at different angles. It is like a jewel box that was a crystal that reflects light brilliantly



Ginza Kabukiza (Kengo Kuma / 2013)

The first Kabuki-za was founded in 1889, and this is the fifth one. The Kabuki-za Tower, where the office is located, is located on the mega truss above the theater. The site is designated as a special urban regeneration district, and it also plays a role as a disaster prevention base for local events such as the development of an underground plaza.

Come back to the hotel by 17:00.

Overnight at The Capitol Hotel Tokyu

Day - 4, Tokyo - Day Trip to Nasu, Tochigi

At **8:00**, meet with your **English Speaking Guide** in the hotel lobby and leave for Nasu, Tochigi prefecture by Private chartered vehicle. **(It takes about 2.5h by car with normal traffic condition.)**

Upon arrival in Nasu, you will visit **Stone Museum** (Kengo Kuma / 2000.07). The Stone Museum reuses 80-year-old stone buildings that were utilized to store rice as display space for arts and crafts made from stone. In addition to stone being the theme for the items displayed in the museum, Kengo Kuma expanded upon the new and emerging potential of stone as a material in the architecture.



Close to Stone Museum, there is another Kuma Kengo's architecture - **Nasu History Museum** (2000.06). In the museum, from the opening of railways and national roads after the Meiji Restoration to the birth of Nasu Town is introduced in three categories: "Road," "History," and "Topics Gallery."



Followed by **Nakagawa-machi Bato Hiroshige Museum of Art** (Kengo Kuma / 2000.07). Nakagawa-machi Bato Hiroshige Museum of Art is Hiroshige Utagawa An art museum that holds a large number of precious masterpieces. It has a diverse collection of Utagawa-style Ukiyo-e, prints from the Meiji period including Kobayashi Kiyochika, oil paintings by Western painter Kiyoo Kawamura, and thinkers Tokutomi Soho's books. It is held.



Before going back to Tokyo, you will stop by at **Hoshakuji Station** (2008.03) to see another Kuma Kengo's work. Looking up at the ceiling, countless pieces of wood weave a beautiful kaleidoscope-like shape that overwhelms the viewer. Furthermore, the sunlight shines through the opening and reflects on the beautiful wood to create a mysterious sight. When I walk, I feel like I'm in a huge museum instead of a train station, and my body and soul are uplifted.



You will come back to the hotel in Tokyo by 19:00. (It takes about 2.5h by car with normal traffic condition.)

Overnight at The Capitol Hotel Tokyu

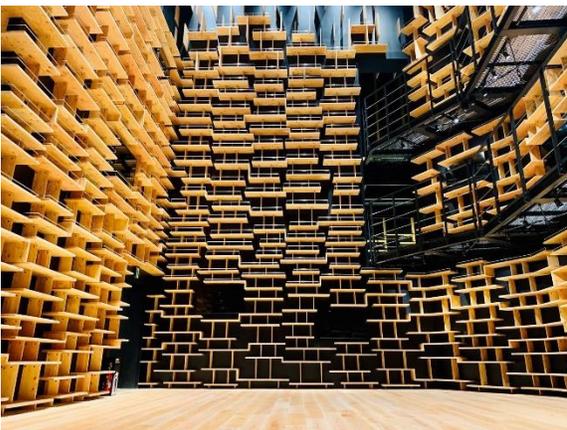
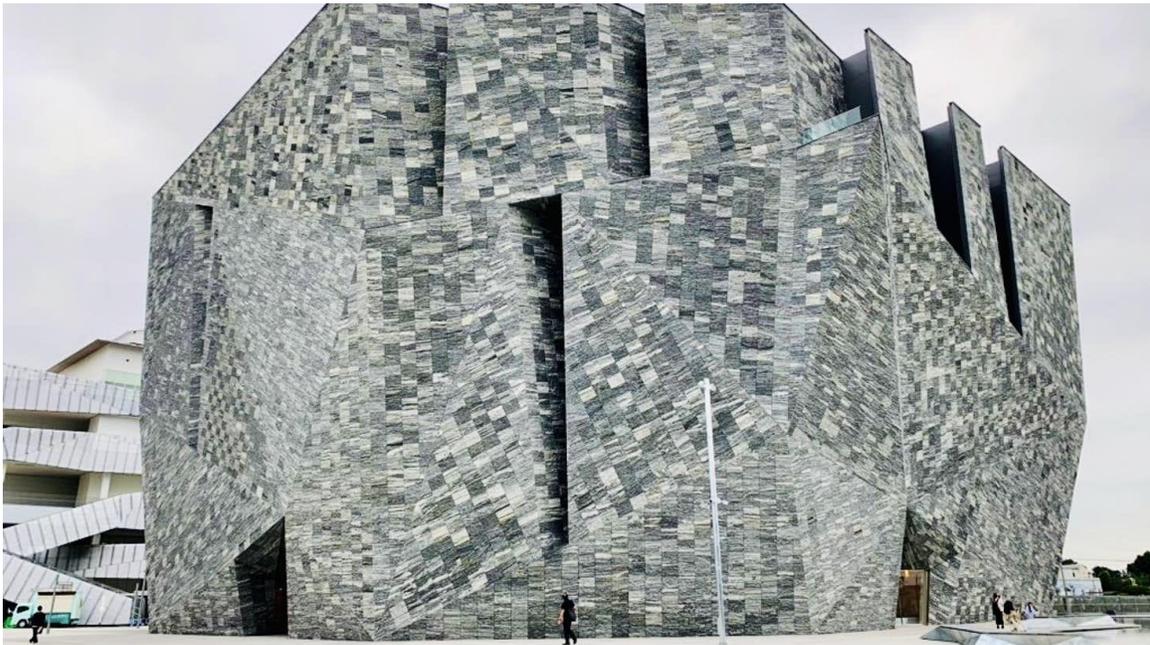
Day - 5. Tokyo - Day Trip to Tokorozawa, Saitama

At 10:00, meet with your **English Speaking Guide** in the hotel lobby and leave for Tokorozawa, Saitama prefecture by Private chartered vehicle. (It takes about 1h by car with normal traffic condition.)

In Tokorozawa, you will visit **Tokorozawa Sakura Town** where was grand-opened in November 2020, part of the Cool Japan Forest Project.

Kadokawa Culture Museum (Kengo Kuma / 2020)

This facility, which has an eye-catching exterior, is a building with a huge rock motif that is 30 meters high. About 20,000 pieces of granite, each weighing about 50 kg to 70 kg, are used for the outer wall, and the complex appearance that combines 66 triangles shows various expressions depending on the viewing angle and the amount of light. This museum has 5 floors and on the first floor, there are a vacant gallery and manga library.



On the premises of Tokorozawa Sakura Town, a shrine " **Musashinosuwareiwa Yamato no Mishiro**" was also born. This was named by Susumu Nakanishi, a Japanese scholar, who supervised architectural design by Kengo Kuma.



You also visit **Musashino Woods Park**, just next to Tokorozawa Sakura Town, and enjoy Team Lab's exhibition - "Resonating Life in the Acorn Forests".



You will come back to the hotel in Tokyo by **16:00**.

Overnight at The Capitol Hotel Tokyu

Day – 6, Move to Matsuyama via Yusuhara

At 8:00, check out the hotel, meet your **English Speaking Chauffeur / Assistant** and transfer to **Haneda Airport** by Private chartered vehicle.

[Suggested Schedule]

JAL #493 / Haneda 9:20 – 10:45 Kochi



Upon arrival in **Kochi Airport**, you will be greeted by **English Speaking Guide** at the arrival gate and leave for **Yusuhara** by Private chartered vehicle. (It takes about 1h45min by car with normal traffic condition.)

Yusuhara is a small town with a population of only 3,600. In this small town, surprisingly, there are 6 works of Kengo Kuma. More surprisingly, Yusuhara is the reason for him for starting to work on wooden architecture.

Upon arrival in the town, you will start exploring from **Kumo no Ueno Hotel Yusuhara** (1994) which is the first Kuma Kengo's architecture in the town. The surfboard-shaped roof has the image of clouds, and a semi-circular pond with the image of terraced rice fields reflecting the blue sky and stars has been installed under the building.



Followed by **Kumo no Ueno Gallery (Yusuhara Wooden Bridge Museum /2010)** which is attached to Kumo no Ueno Hotel.

Yusuhara Town Hall (2006.10) which was made by abundant cedar wood native to Yusuhara. The traditional tea ceremony in Yusuhara Town is set up in the 1st floor hall to welcome travelers. The indoor plaza and exterior plaza, separated by a large sliding door used for hangars, becomes one only space which is used during spring festivals.



Community Market Yusuhara (2010.07) – The town station "Yusuhara", which is a fusion of Yusuhara Town's special product sales and hotels, is the face of Yusuhara Town. Pillars of cedar logs are erected in the facility to reflect the concept of "forest" in the town, creating an internal space that goes around the forest.

Yusuhara Community Library & YURURI Yusuhara (2018.02) – With a sports facility and daycare center across the lawn, the site has become the heart of the town, promoting exchange and communication between generations of locals. Kengo Kuma assembled the structure mixing steel and cedar, expressing a forest with sunlight filtering through the leaves.



After completing to see Kuma Kengo's work in Yusuhara, you will transfer to **Matsuyama**, Ehime prefecture to check-in at today's accommodation. (It takes about 1h45min by car with normal traffic condition.)

Dogo Miyu



Matsuyama and Dogo have been popular for a long time as a town of hot springs full of cultural scents, receiving the blessings of hot springs that have been abundant since ancient times. Dogo Miyu is equipped with guest rooms with open-air baths, a large rooftop bath, and open-air baths, and we propose that you can spend a new relaxing space in the hot spring town.

Overnight at Dogo Miyu

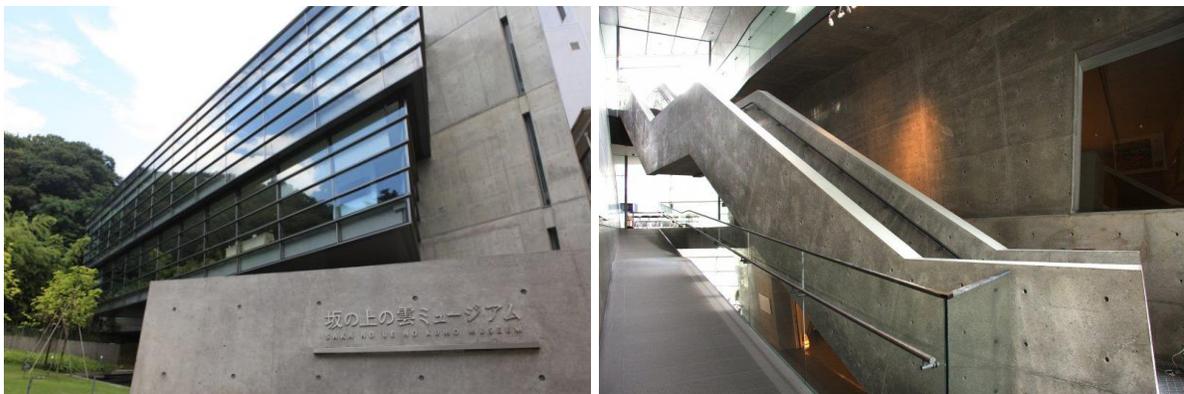
Day - 7, Move to Beppu

At 9:00, check out the hotel, meet your **English Speaking Guide** and leave for Matsuyama sightseeing by Private chartered vehicle.

Today you will visit **Matsuyama Castle** which is one of Japan's twelve "original castles", i.e. castles which have survived the post-feudal era since 1868 intact. It is also one of the most complex and interesting castles in the country. The current three storied castle tower was constructed in 1820 after the original five storied one had been destroyed by lightning.



You will also visit to **Saka no ue no Kumo Museum**. This museum features Ryotaro Shiba's famous historical novel "Saka no ue no Kumo" (A Cloud at the Top of the Slope). The building of the museum is also worth viewing because it's designed by world-famous architect Tadao Ando.



Then, you will transfer to **Yawatahama Port** to take a ferry to Beppu. (It takes about 1h15min by car with normal traffic condition.)

[Suggested Schedule]

Ferry / Yawatahama 13:00 – 15:50 Beppu



Upon arrival at **Beppu Port**, your **English Speaking Assistant** greets you and escorts to Private chartered vehicle. You will transfer to the hotel to check-in.

ANA InterContinental Beppu Resort & Spa



Escaping the busyness of everyday life, ANA InterContinental Beppu Resort & Spa introduces a rare combination of Japan's hot spring heritage and international, world-class experience. Trend-setting restaurants and bars will make you want to try more of Chef's unique blend of seasonal creations, spacious rooms and suites with breathtaking views will leave you in awe and the inviting infinity pool, Beppu hot spring water and rejuvenating spa treatments will sooth your body and soul.

Overnight at ANA Intercontinental Beppu Resort & Spa

Day – 8, Beppu

At 9:00, meet with your **English Speaking Guide** in the hotel lobby and leave for today's excursion by Private chartered vehicle.

You will do **Jigoku Meguri** – Beppu's most famous attraction is the 'hells' or **Jigoku**, a collection of hot springs where the water bubbles forth from underground, often with unusual results. The hells are in two groups – seven at Kannawa, over 4km northwest of Beppu station, and two more several kilometers away. You will be strolling around these Jigoku to see the difference.



After that, you will transfer to Yufuin to visit **Comico Art Museum Yufuin** (Kengo Kuma / 2017.09). (It takes about 45 minutes by car with normal traffic condition.)

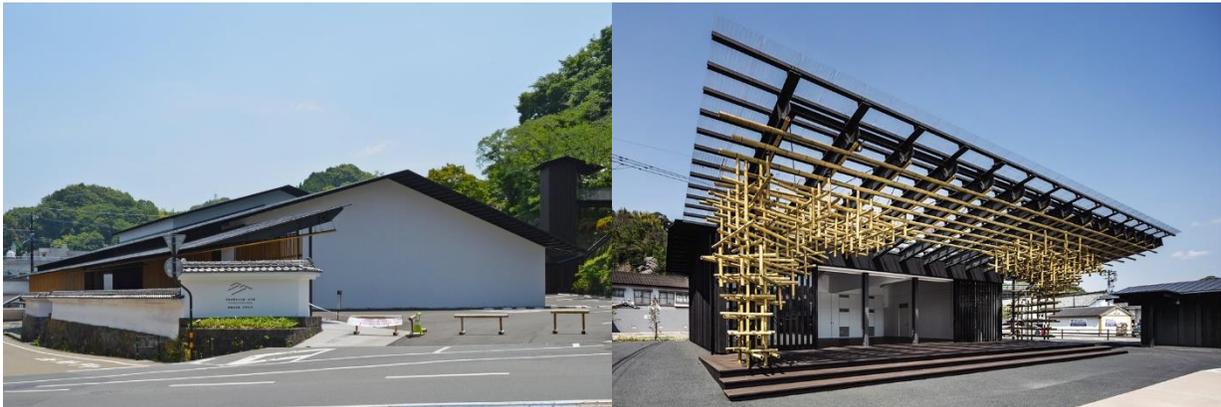
Comico Art Museum Yufuin is a small museum for contemporary art, near a famous hot spring resort. Although this museum is a small building that is incomparable to those museums on a scale, it shows a high degree of perfection with the essence of Kengo Kuma. The first characteristic is the outer wall. Grilled cedar baked black is used. From a distance, you can only see a black building in the surrounding greenery, but when you look closer, you can feel the unique texture of cedar and the warmth of wood. I am also looking forward to aging, which is different from natural and painted wood.



In this town, you can see **Yufu City Tourist Information Center**, designed by Shigeru Ban.

Next, you will have another drive to **Taketa city** to catch Kengo Kuma's another works. (It takes about 1h10min by car with normal traffic condition.)

The Hall of Taketa City Historical Culture (2020) – Taketa city municipal reference library will be born again as “Taketa City History and Culture Hall, as Yugakkan”. A multicultural exchange facility consisting of a new facility center, a citizen gallery, and a history museum. These will introduce how to enjoy the history of the ruins of Oka Castle, and also we will be sending out the attractions of Taketa history, culture, and art from the castle town as a specialty museum for the Oka domain and Tanomurachikuden (a painter of the literary school).



Taketa Castle Town Plaza (2020) – a base facility to create a lively atmosphere in the castle town. It features a roof made of plenty of bamboo, and has a multipurpose building and administration building, as well as a parking lot that can also be used as an outdoor event space, and can hold various events such as meetings, seminars, exhibitions and marches.

Beside Kengo Kuma's work, you can also see **Lamune Onsen**, designed by Terunobu Fujimori.



You will transfer back to the hotel by 17:00. (It takes about 1h10min by car with normal traffic condition.)

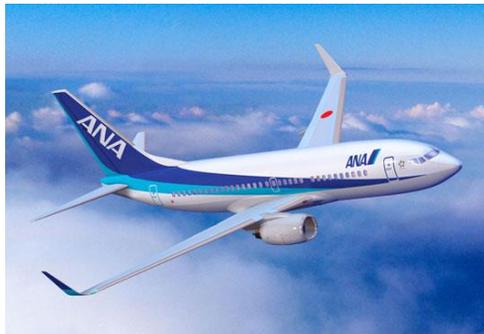
Overnight at ANA Intercontinental Beppu Resort & Spa

Day - 9, Move to Nara via Osaka

At **8:00**, check out the hotel, meet your **English Speaking Assistant** and transfer to **Oita Airport** by Private chartered vehicle. (It takes about 45min by car with normal traffic condition.)

[Suggested Schedule]

ANA #3142 / Oita 9:35 - 10:30 Itami



Upon arrival in **Itami Airport**, you will be greeted by **English Speaking Guide** at the arrival gate and leave for Osaka excursion by Private chartered vehicle.

You will visit **Asahi Broadcasting Corporation** (Kengo Kuma / 2008.01) - The two large 'Gardens', one on the 'River Deck' along the river and the other 'Sky Terrace' on the roof, are the devices for the people to enjoy the nature of the river to the fullest.



Move onto **Osaka Castle** - its construction started in 1583 on the former site of the Ishiyama Honganji Temple, which had been destroyed by Oda Nobunaga thirteen years earlier. Toyotomi Hideyoshi intended the castle to become the center of a new, unified Japan under Toyotomi rule. It was the largest castle at the time.

THE REAL JAPAN

Move onto **Dotombori**: Full of billboards and advertising displays, the Dotombori area is a good way to apprehend the unique atmosphere of Osaka. Stroll along the busy streets and enjoy great snapshots: Glico's neon billboard with a runner spreading his arms widely is one of the symbolic displays in this area.



Also visit **Hotel Royal Classic Osaka** (Kengo Kuma / 2020.02) – this “museum” hotel was born as a beautiful landmark inheriting the tradition by Kengo Kuma, a global architect. Inside the Hotel Royal Classic Osaka, more than 100 contemporary art works that overturn that common sense are on display. The works on display are scheduled to be replaced according to the seasons and hotel events, so each visit opens up a space full of new discoveries and excitement.

Then, you will transfer to today's accommodation in Nara to check-in by **18:00**. (It takes about 45min by car with normal traffic condition.)

Fufu Nara



Located within the historical grounds of Nara Park, with its majestic towering temples, tutelary deer, and air of the divine, our Nara resort uses the power of the land to invigorate and vitalize both body and mind. Experience the charm of Nara at FUFU, a hotel filled with stories and memories. Lantern lights, historical ambiance, exquisitely harmonious Nara resort. (Kengo Kuma / 2020)

Overnight at Fufu Nara

Day - 10, Move to Kyoto

At **10:00**, check out the hotel, meet your **English Speaking Guide** and leave for Nara sightseeing by Private chartered vehicle.

Start from **Nara Park**, a large pleasant park in the center of Nara. Commonly known as “Deer Park,” it is home to hundreds of freely roaming deers, a symbol of the city and regarded as messengers of the gods in the Shinto Religion. The Nara Park houses several famous sights.



Then followed by **Kasugataisha Shrine**, originally established in 768A.D. as the shrine of the powerful Fujiwara Family. See the magnificent interior famous for its numerous bronze hanging lanterns, as well as the many stone lanterns that lead up to the shrine.

Move on to the gigantic **Todaiji** temple, reputedly the largest wooden buildings in the world and one of Japan’s most famous and historically significant temples to be overwhelmed by the giant statue of Buddha Virocana.



Finish your Nara tour in **Naramachi**, the former merchant district of Nara, which was not affected by bombings during the Second World War.

You will transfer to today’s hotel in Kyoto by **17:00**

The Thousand Kyoto



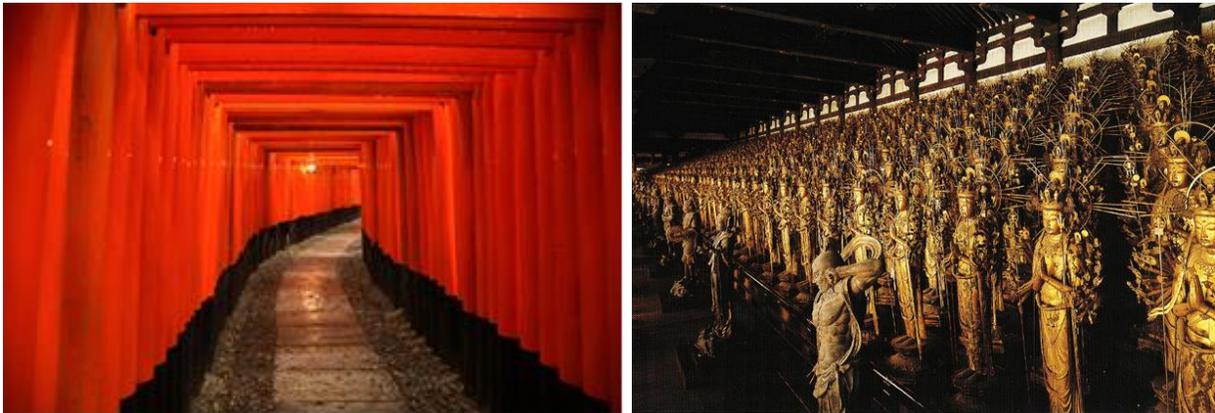
In today's social era, where cementing successful relations with others is crucial, we meet the need for "A more personal and healing hotel in Kyoto". A wide range of quality dining options, rooms as individual as you are, facilities that heal mind and body and Kyoto's legendary hospitality and care. (Kengo Kuma / 2018)

Overnight at The Thousand Kyoto

Day - 11, Kyoto

At **9:00**, meet with your **English Speaking Guide** in the hotel lobby and leave for Kyoto excursion by Private chartered vehicle.

Start from the **Fushimi Inari-Taisha** shrine. The magical, seemingly unending path of over 5000 vibrant orange torii gates that wind through the hills behind Fushimi Inari-taisha Shrine makes it one of the most popular shrines in Japan.



Transfer to **Sanjusangendo Hall** where feel the serene atmosphere of the temple. Famed for its 1001 statues of Kannon, the goddess mercy, Sanjusangendo was founded in 1164 and its present structures date from 1266.

Visit **Kiyomizu-dera Temple** where you can also see the city of Kyoto. With its magnificent views of the city from its main hall attracting visitors throughout Japan, Kiyomizu-dera Temple was originally founded in 798. The common Japanese idiom “jumping from the veranda of Kiyomizu Temple” means that they are about to undertake some particularly bold or daring adventure.



Move onto Karasuma Area and visit **Shin Puh Kan & Ace Hotel Kyoto** (Kengo Kuma / 2020) – Newly established “Shinpuhkan” is a complex facility consisting of a hotel, stores and a theater which was developed by making use of a historical building. Originally, there stood the “former Kyoto Central Telephone Office” designed by Tetsuro Yoshida and completed in 1926 here and designated as the first registered cultural property by Kyoto city in 1983.



In this area, there is another Kengo Kuma’s work – **Cocon Karasuma** (2004.12).

You will go to a doughnut shop, again, designed by Kengo Kuma – **koé donuts** (2019.03).



You will come back to the hotel by 17:00.

Overnight at The Thousand Kyoto

Day - 12, Kyoto

At **9:00**, meet with your **English Speaking Guide** in the hotel lobby and leave for Kyoto excursion by Private chartered vehicle.

First, you will go to Arashiyama area and first you will visit **Tenryu-ji Temple**. This famous Zen Buddhist temple is the head temple of the Tenryu-ji branch of Rinzai Zen sect and part of World Cultural Heritage monuments. It has an excellent garden with a pond stroll that was laid out by a garden designer of genius.



From here, take a relaxing stroll around the **Bamboo Forests**, designated as one of the three most beautiful bamboo forests in Japan. Here, the sound of the leaves rustling in the wind is nice to listen to and gives a peaceful atmosphere.

You will visit **Fukuda Art Museum Saga Arashiyama**, newly opened museum in the area in 2020. Based on the essential qualities of Kyoto's traditional machiya townhouses, the museum building aims for a new kind of Japanese architecture that will serve as a standard for the next 100 years.



Resume the tour to the serene **Ryoanji** temple, prominent for its rock garden comprised of nothing but clay walls, raked sand and fifteen rocks. It is intriguing to interpret the garden's mysterious arrangement based on intuition. Compare the stark differences between magnificence and simplicity.



You will transfer to the Golden Pavilion **Kinkakuji** temple, originally built in 1397 to serve as a retirement villa for Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, whose grandson used the temple as the inspiration for the Silver Pavilion Ginkakuji temple.



You will come back to the hotel by 17:00.

Overnight at The Thousand Kyoto

Day - 13, Back to Tokyo

At 11:30, check out the hotel, meet your **English Speaking Assistant** and walk to **Kyoto Station**.
(It takes only 3 minutes to the station on foot.)

[Suggested Schedule]

Bullet Train Nozomi #350 / Kyoto 12:36 - 14:51 Tokyo



Upon arrival at **Tokyo Station**, you will be greeted by **English Speaking Assistant** and transfer to the hotel by Private chartered vehicle.

Tokyo Edition Toranomom



EDITION is an unexpected and refreshing collection of individualized, one-of-a-kind hotels. Displaying the best of dining and entertainment, services and amenities all under one roof, The Tokyo EDITION, Toranomom will showcase a completely unique concept and an oasis of sophistication in Japan. Just minutes from Tokyo's best art and cultural landmarks, fashion, nightlife and international cuisine, the EDITION experience and lifestyle is an unprecedented intersection and a perfect balance between taste-making design, innovation and luxury service. (Kengo Kuma / 2020)

Overnight at Tokyo Edition Toranomom

Day - 14, Tokyo - Narita/Haneda International Airport

After checking out the hotel, meet with **English Speaking Chauffeur** in the hotel lobby to transfer to **Narita/Haneda International Airport** by chartered car. Check in at the counter by yourself to board your international flight. Have a safe flight!



***** END OF YOUR JAPAN JOURNEY *****