Osaka

The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka Travel Guide
- 7 great reasons why you should visit Osaka

Considered as the Gateway to Western Japan, Osaka is conveniently located near two of Japan’s ancient capitals, Kyoto and Nara. Originally referred to as Naniwa, Osaka was once the imperial capital of Japan and a merchant city serving as the centre for rice trade during the Edo period, therefore became known as the “the nation’s kitchen”. Modern day Osaka is the country’s second-largest city and a popular food destination with a large variety of dining scenes from street food, local eateries, chic cafes, to Michelin star restaurants.

The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka is the perfect place to stay and to discover the many treasures the city has to offer.
1. Japan’s Culinary Mecca - Dotonbori / Shinsekai
Osaka is known as Japan’s culinary mecca, offering unrivaled dining scenes and food experiences. With restaurants and food stalls occupying every corner of the city, Osaka also boasts over 90 Michelin starred restaurants, ensuring guests an abundance of delightful culinary offerings. Stroll along the Dotonbori River, the best place to enjoy street food in Osaka and the center of a popular sightseeing destination with spectacular social media moments.

2. One of the World’s Must-Go Cities
Osaka has been highlighted as one of the world’s most desirable cities to visit, and is on the list of “52 Places to Go in 2017” by nytimes.com a fascinating and comfortable destination that continues to attract world travelers both for business and leisure.

3. Quintessential Japanese Tea Tradition
Osaka lays claim to a historic past of Japan’s green tea culture and water purity. In Japan, using only the purest water to prepare traditional green tea is essential, and at The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka, guests can enjoy an exquisite vintage tea experience at Hanagatami restaurant.

4. Bunraku, The Sophisticated Puppet Theater
One fascinating attraction you should not miss when visiting Osaka is the Bunraku puppet theater. The Bunraku performance appears to come alive in the eyes of the audience, artistically performed together with music from shamisen (a three-stringed instrument), chanters and stunning costumes.
5. Shopping Spree
The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka is conveniently located in close proximity to Tenjinbashi-suji, the longest shopping street in Japan, with over 600 specialty shops, restaurants, and bars. From high fashion branded shops, department stores brimming with delectable Japanese cosmetics, shopping malls and boutiques, to large electronic department stores with all the latest tech and gadgets, all within walking distance from The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka.

6. Easy Access to Hiroshima, Nara and Kyoto
Osaka is the second largest city in Japan after Tokyo, and is easily accessible from Kansai International airport and Itami International Airport. Take advantage of Osaka’s easy access to visit the UNESCO World Heritage sites in the neighboring cities such as Kyoto, Nara and Hiroshima.

7. Captivating Cultural Sites and Attractions around The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka.
The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka is perfectly situated in the heart of the prestigious Nishi-Umeda district, close to its treasured cultural heart. Discover Osaka’s captivating cultural sites and attractions, curated by our team of local experts.

- The Suntory Yamazaki Distillery
Take a tour at Japan’s oldest whiskey distillery, and discover how the brand has accumulated world-class awards and recognitions throughout the years.

- Osaka Castle
With 400 years of history, the Osaka Castle is located within 15 minutes’ drive from the hotel, and is a popular spot year round but especially during the cherry blossoms season.

- Fish Market Kuromon
A prominent area known as the “Gastronome” and "Osaka’s Kitchen", Kuromon is a large food market packed with vendors offering myriads of fresh and ready-made seafood.
- **Urban Photography Tour**  
Join a local “Photo guide” and weave through the streets of Osaka, while learning about the basics of urban landscape photography.

- **Cupnoodles Museum Osaka Ikeda**  
Learn about the history and the process of how to make delicious Ramen. Take this opportunity to make your own style of ramen to bring home with you.

- **Nakanoshima River Cruise**  
The Nakanoshima area has been the center of Osaka’s administrative, commercial and culture which has lasted since the Edo period. Enjoy the evening view of west Nakanoshima, with lit bridges, as well as a night time skyline of retro and cutting edge buildings.

- **Japanese Traditional Dance**  
Participate in a workshop hosted by a renowned Japanese Traditional Dance expert, Einojo Senju, with 40-years of experience.

- **Asahi Brewery Tour**  
Learn about the production process of the world famous Asahi Brewery and cap it with an enjoyable tasting of Asahi Super Dry beer at the end.

- **Universal Studios Japan®**  
The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka is an Alliance hotel with Universal Studios Japan®. One Day Studio passes are available at our concierge desk for you to directly enter the park. Don’t miss the spectacular rides, including ‘Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey™ in 4K3D’, ‘Attack on the Titans: The Real’ and ‘The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man - The Ride 4K3D’.

- **Osaka Aquarium**  
The Osaka Aquarium or “Kaiyukan” is the third largest aquarium in Japan and one of the largest public aquariums in the world, featuring approximately 30,000 unique specimens and habitats from the Pacific Ocean.