



MODEL Efficiency

FACT FILE

A classic two week introduction to Japan using a Japan Rail Pass, visiting the key sights of Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima and more off-the-beaten track destinations starts from £2,195 per person, based on mid-range accommodation and including international flights from the UK.



Alongside Geisha and Mt Fuji, Japan's sleek, futuristic Shinkansen bullet trains have become one of the country's most recognisable symbols, and represent the pride of the nation. Japan is truly a train-lover's paradise, with a level of white-gloved service and punctual efficiency to make even the Swiss jealous. Few other places in the world would consider a 30 minute delay on the trains a TV news-worthy event. Though they represent the pinnacle of technological advancement, the bullet trains comprise only a small fraction of the total Japan Rail network, perhaps the most comprehensive and efficient on the planet. In a country where private cars and drivers are prohibitively expensive, the coverage and reliability of the network allows foreign visitors to criss-cross the country in comfort and at the minimum of expense.

Zoe Woods
Japan Specialist

Japan Rail in Bullets

- The first generation of bullet trains was completed way-back in 1964.
- A bullet train from Tokyo to Osaka departs every 5 minutes.
- The fastest train is the Nozomi Shinkansen, which travels at up to 300 km/h.
- The Nozomi covers the 556 kilometres (approx 350 miles) between Tokyo and Osaka in only 2 hours and 50 minutes.
- More than 99 percent of Shinkansen trains run within one minute of expected arrival time.
- Tokyo's Shinjuku Station is used by an average of 3.22 million people per day, making it the busiest train station in the world.
- The excellent value Japan Rail Pass provides free access on more than 20,000 kilometres of rail track, from the southern-most part of Kyushu to northern Hokkaido.