



EHLION Fact Sheet Japan

Your cheat sheet for business travel in Japan

BASICS

Size: 377,972 km² (145,972 square miles)
Population: 127.095 million, 2% foreign residents; world's 10th most populous country
Capital city: Tokyo (9.26 million)
Largest cities: Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, Nagoya, Sapporo
Language: Japanese
Religion: Shinto (Japan's ethnic religion) 3-4%, Buddhist 35%, non-religious over 60%



GEOGRAPHY

Location: Pacific Ring of Fire; between the North Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan
Main Islands: Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu
Climate: Temperate; has four distinct seasons and relatively high precipitation

ORGANIZATION

Political system: Constitutional monarchy
Executive function: Prime minister/president
Legislation: The National Diet—two chambers:
House of Representatives, House of Councillors



ECONOMY

Key facts: 3rd largest economy in the world
Low unemployment rate (4%)
Currency: Japanese yen (JPY, ¥)
GDP: 4th largest GDP (after the United States, China, and India)
Services (71%), Industry (18%), Agriculture (1%)



Leading industries:

Agriculture (rice)
Fishing (offshore fishing, fish farms & hatcheries)
Manufacturing (automobiles, semiconductors, consumer electronics, optical fibers)
Food industry (biochemistry & fermentation)





TRANSPORT

- Rail:** Bullet train (*shinkansen*) — quickest & most convenient way to travel; use JR Pass for cheaper rail travel
- Air transport:** **175 local airports**
Key airports: Tokyo International Narita — largest international airport
Tokyo Haneda— largest domestic airport
- Cars:** Cars drive on the left side of the road. You can drive if you're 18 years of age or older and have an international driving permit (IDP).

VISAS

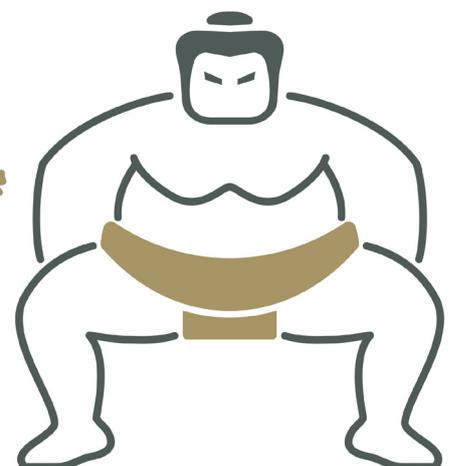
Most nationalities, including Americans and most European Union passport holders **don't need to apply for a visa before traveling to Japan**. Note: Upon arrival to Japan your passport needs to be valid for 6 months beyond your stay in the country.

- **Tourist** visa: You will be issued a **90-day visa on arrival**.
- **Business** visa: A business visa is not required for business meetings, commerce or conferences for a stay of up to 90 days. You will also be issued a **90-day visa on arrival**.
- **Working** visa: If you want to work in Japan there are several types of working visas depending on the type of work you intend to do. For example, the **manager visa** allows you to start or invest into a business in Japan, or manage a business on behalf of other investors. Check for specific requirements on Japan's Embassy website.

To obtain a **visa on arrival** you need to be able to show:

- proof of onward travel (ticket out of Japan)
- proof of sufficient funds for your stay in Japan (e.g. credit card)

Tip: In practice immigration officers will not ask for these documents, but it is a legal requirement for you to have them prepared.



FUN FACTS

- **Sumo** is the national sport of Japan, but the most popular spectator sport is...baseball.
- **Anime**, animated Japanese films and TV shows, make up 60% of the world's animation-based entertainment.
- A KFC meal is the most popular Christmas dinner in Japan. The **KFC Christmas dinner** special has to be ordered weeks in advance!
- Japan has the highest density of **vending machines** worldwide. Approximately 5 million machines makes it 1 machine for every 23 people.
- The average delay of Japanese trains is just **18 seconds**. It makes the Japanese railway system one of the most punctual in the world.

