



KUMANO KODO

Hiking ancient trails in traditional Japan

RAW
TRAVEL
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RAW Travel Collection



IMMERSE YOURSELF IN AUTHENTIC JAPAN

Japan's Kumano Kodo trail is one of only two pilgrimages in the world with UNESCO World Heritage status – the other being Spain's Camino de Santiago.

There is a Japan that exists far away from the modern era, where you can walk a 1000 year old trail past ancient shrines, through thick forests and traditional villages.

Where at the end of each day you can soak in an onsen hot bath while you relive the day's experiences and await a multi-course feast of delicious Japanese cuisine. Experience traditional hospitality and marvel at grand shrines amidst awe-inspiring nature. This is a Japan that will surprise and delight you at every turn, so be prepared to rethink your beliefs about this intriguing country.





JOIN A SACRED PILGRIMAGE

The trails of Kumano Kodo are a series of ancient pilgrimage routes in Japan's beautiful Kii Peninsula, where the gods are believed to have resided since the beginning of time. An area associated with nature worship for thousands of years, Japan's Imperial family and Emperors made pilgrimages along trails from Kyoto to the Shrines of Kumano, one of Japan's most sacred sites.



EXPERIENCE A BREATHTAKING ADVENTURE

The Kumano Kodo's rugged, forested mountains, quiet rural valleys, rivers and waterfalls provide a spectacular backdrop for hikers. The seasonal contrasts of cherry blossoms in spring and rich autumn foliage inject wonderful colours along the hiking route. Hiking the Kumano Kodo is an exceptional experience and a great immersion into Japanese culture.

The Kumano Kodo pilgrimage is a self-guided trek suitable for anyone who is a regular walker of reasonable health & fitness and able to participate in 6-8 hours of daily walking along trails. In general, the route is gently undulating but also includes a number of steeper climbs up and down forested hillsides. You can travel at any time with dates of your choosing.



DISCOVER KOYASAN'S BUDDHIST MONASTERIES AND JAPAN'S ANCIENT CAPITAL OF KYOTO

You can combine the Kumano Kodo with a visit to Koyasan, home to 115 temples on this venerated Buddhist mountain and a unique chance to stay in an active Buddhist monastery. To complete your experience, choose to add a few nights in Kyoto. Once the capital of Japan, Kyoto is a sophisticated city featuring thousands of Buddhist temples, imperial palaces, gardens and traditional wooden houses.



DISCOVER TRADITIONAL JAPAN

RAW Travel arranges great local accommodation in traditional ryokans and atmospheric minshukus. Arriving at your destination, be welcomed by your friendly guesthouse hosts and enjoy a dip in an onsen and wonderful local food.



EXPERIENCE THE KUMANO KODO WITH RAW TRAVEL

- Traditional local accommodation in ryokans and minshukus with their own onsens
- Most meals are included and feature locally authentic Japanese cuisine
- Luggage transfers, all you carry is your daypack
- Comprehensive track notes to easily find your way
- Local welcome and briefing by our on-ground RAW representatives
- Booking of flights, rail passes and pre- and post travel arrangements
- Exclusive copy of the only English language guidebook of the Kumano Kodo, produced by RAW Travel's specialists
- Insider information and expert tips available on RAW's website kumanokodo.com.au





CONTACT OUR KUMANO KODO SPECIALISTS

Ph: (03) 5976 3763 | info@rawtravel.com
www.kumanokodo.com.au | www.rawtravel.com



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