


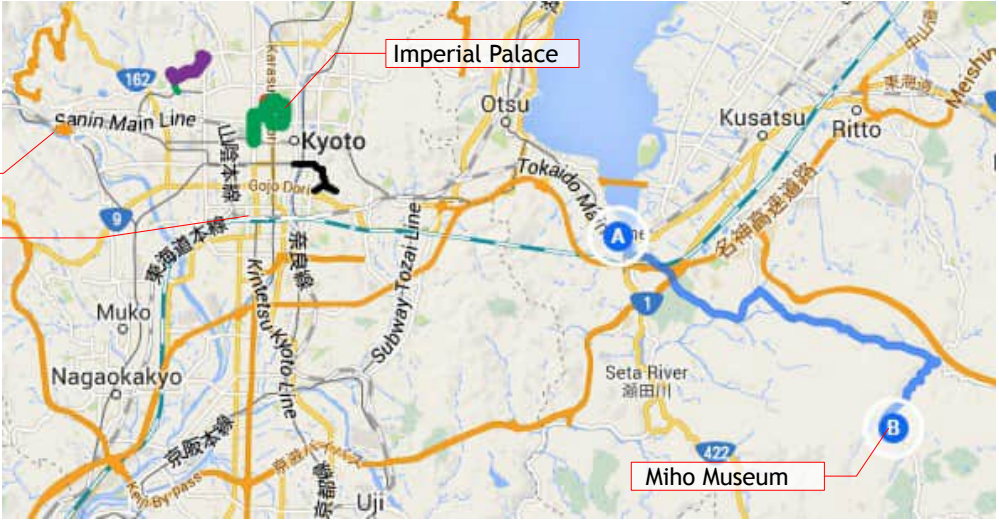



Day No. / Place	Photo Nos.	Photo / Description
<p>1 Umeda 16/03/2014</p>	<p>0023 ~ 0032</p>	<p>Flight from Coolangatta to Osaka, arriving early evening. Transfer by train and subway to Umeda (one of several urban centres in Osaka) and walk to Hearton Hotel. Explore vicinity of hotel, including the shopping mall and lobby area of the Osaka Ritz Carlton Hotel.</p>
<p>2 Kyoto 17/03/2014</p>	<p>8803 ~ 8882</p>	<p>Check out of Umeda hotel, toasted sandwich breakfast at a diner, then board train for Kyoto. Arrive Kyoto, take bags to hotel (Kyoto tower Annex Hotel). Return to Kyoto Station Building and explore the building. Morning tea. Take bus to Higashiyama (east mountain) area and climb up narrow winding shopping street (GoJoZaka) to the Kiyomizu Temple (with possibly the oldest extant timber verandah in Japan). Return to hotel from Shijo Kawaramachi via subways.</p>
		 <p style="text-align: center;">hotel</p> <p><i>Illustration 1: Walking path 17/03/14 - Higashiyama > Shijo</i></p>

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3 Kyoto 18/03/2014	8883 ~ 8975 0039, 40	<p>Kyoto: Imperial Palace and vicinity.</p> <p>Subway to the Imperial Palace precinct, explore grounds. Obtain permit to tour the former Imperial Residence and Gardens. Explore adjacent district and have lunch at a small noodle restaurant. 2M wide bicycle shop, coffee shop with local ladies, temple dedicated to foot and leg maladies. Return to Imperial Palace for the tour. After tour, long walk to subway station past Nijo Castle and return to hotel. Try British Pub near hotel.</p>
		 <p>The map shows the Kyoto area with several red callout boxes pointing to specific locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch Noodle Bar: Points to a location near Marutamachi and Goshominami ES. Narrow bike shop: Points to a location near Marutamachi and Goshominami ES. Temple for foot & leg maladies (Boars) Photos 8893 & 4: Points to a location near Marutamachi and Goshominami ES. Nijo Castle: Points to the Nijo Castle area. Hotel: Points to the Kyoto Century Hotel area. Former Imperial Residence photos 8897-8968: Points to the area around the Imperial Palace.

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<p>4</p> <p>Kyoto</p> <p>19/03/2014</p>	<p>8976 ~ 9060</p>	<p>Visit to Golden Pavilion, Zen Rock Garden and Arashiyama. Try second storey bar near hotel – sake and snacks.</p>
<p>Walk around Arashiyama, River, Bamboo Forest</p>		
<p>5</p> <p>Kyoto (Miho)</p> <p>20/03/2014</p>	<p>9061 ~ 9124</p>	<p>It rained today, so a good day for a visit to the Miho Museum of Antiquities in Shigaraki, east of Kyoto. Located in the mountains a long way from any major town, it took approx 1.5 hrs by train, bus, taxi to get there. A very special destination. Wander back streets of Gion after dark and visit Okonomi-yaki restaurant for Japanese style omelette.</p>
<p>Arashiyama,</p> <p>Hotel,</p>		

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5 Kyoto > Himeji > Uno 21/03/2014	9126 ~ 9194	<p>Time to leave Kyoto. Take the Shinkansen to Himeji, leave luggage at station and walk up to the Himeji Castle. Although the main donjon is being renovated, the grounds and outer buildings make for a good tour.</p> <p>Hop back onto Shinkansen for Okayama, change to Shikoku bound train but get off at Chayamachi to catch local train to Uno (Young lady train driver).</p> <p>Max meets us at the station and manages to fit 5 passengers and their luggage into his Honda Odyssey to ferry us back to his homestay.</p>
6 Uno > Naoshima 22/03/2014	9195 ~ 9263	 <p>We boarded a ferry at Uno Port bound for Naoshima. On arrival, hired bikes and crossed to Honmura Village and toured the Art Projects in the village.</p> <p>Then crossed the island to two museums designed by famed architect Tadao Ando.</p> <p>We explore the outdoor area of Lee Ufan Museum (a Korean Artist) and then entered the Chichu Museum.</p> <p>A late return to base, with a view of sunset over the major bridge between Honshu and Shikoku.</p>
7 Uno 23/03/2014	No photos by Jim	A "free" day in Uno.
8 Uno > Osaka 24/03/2014	9264 ~ 9271	<p>Catch local trains and then the Shinkansen back to Osaka, arriving around lunch time.</p> <p>Explore the Naniwabashi district near the Hotel.</p>

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9 Osaka 25/03/2014	9272 ~ 9299	Walk to and explore Umeda Sky Building, and then walk to National Museum of Art. Walk back to hotel.
		<p>The map shows the Umeda area in Osaka, Japan. Red callout boxes highlight specific locations: 'Umeda Sky Building' (top left), 'Art Museum' (bottom left), 'Hotel Il Grande' (middle right), and 'Town Hall (Girls in costume)' (far right). Other labeled locations include Umeda, Nishiumeda, Kitashinchi, and various train lines like the Tozai Line and Dojo Line.</p>
10 Osaka > Tokyo 26/03/2014	9300 ~ 9320	Catch Shinkansen to Tokyo (all stops "Kodama" super express). Mt Fuji not visible due to clouds. Explore area around Tokyo Station (Outer section of Imperial Palace Gardens). Catch surface line then subway, walk across Sumida River to access hotel. Out for dinner with Norihiko at Hamamatsucho (district where Aust trade minister Andrew Robb stayed 2 weeks later to conclude the Aust Japan free trade agreement).
11 Tokyo > Kamakura 27/03/2014	9321 ~ 9363	Rainy Day. Go to Shinjuku and take express and then local street car to Enoshima, (2 nd Mt Fuji view option missed due to clouds) Kamakura for giant outdoor Buddha. Lunch in a "hawaiian" style cafe. Return late via Shinjuku to Hotel.

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12 Tokyo (Asakusa, Harajuku, Omiya) 28/03/2014	9364 ~ 9415	<p>Walk from hotel to Sky Tree Tower and go up to view platform. Haze / clouds prevent a view of Mt Fuji. Descend and walk to Asakusa – temple and shops, including paper crafts shop. Catch subway to Omotesando. High fashion, international brand shops line this street on the way to the 1964 Olympic Stadium buildings by Kenzo Tange. Meet Linda Warren and have lunch. Tour stadium buildings. Head back to Shinjuku and on to Omiya to meet Tom Arakawa and friends for toastmasters party.</p>
13 Tokyo > Gold Coast 29/03/2014		<p>Go to Tokyo Station, leave luggage. Explore station shops, then take Narita express train for airport, commence the journey home to Brisbane.</p> <p>Sadly bye bye to Japan!</p>