

Explore the ancient temples, countryside and cities of Japan with a Japan rail pass (JR pass).

High speed and safety are features of the Japan railway network where 300 km/h Shinkansens (bullet trains) connect Tokyo with Japan's major cities at intervals of approximately 15 minutes. Long distance trains provide convenient access to all parts of Japan.

Visit popular cities such as Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto and Kobe, or explore the beautiful regional areas where you'll find the attractions of the Gero Hot Springs, Nagoya Castle, Kenroku-en Garden, Mt Fuji and Himeji Castle (also known as "White Heron Castle").

The Japan Pass cannot be purchased in Japan. This pass is true value for money so purchase this pass and discover Japan by rail.

General information

Rail Plus will issue an exchange voucher which must be presented in Japan, at any JR Station that has a [Japan Rail Pass Exchange Office](#). Exchange vouchers must be presented within 3 months of issue date for a Japan Rail Pass to be issued. The pass is then valid for 1 month.

Important: At the time of exchange you will be asked to fill out a short application form and to show your passport with the temporary visitor stamp that you would have received on entry into Japan. You must have your passport with you at the time of the exchange. A photocopy is not acceptable and without your passport the exchange cannot be made.

Children under six years of age may travel free of charge if they do not occupy a seat i.e. are seated on their parent's lap. (One child per adult only) Otherwise, they will need a Child Rail Pass

It is not possible to purchase point to point tickets for trains in Japan from Australia or New Zealand.

The Japan Rail Pass is valid on the following railway, bus and ferry services:

Railways

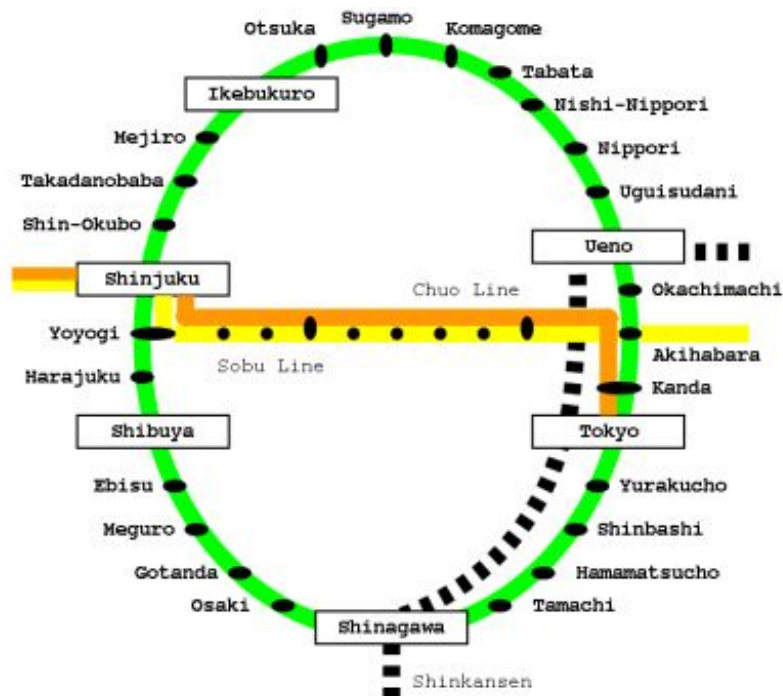
The Yamanote Line in Tokyo

The Yamanote line is a JR train line and is covered with the JR pass.

The Yamanote Line is Tokyo's most important train line. It is a circular line which connects Tokyo's major city centers. A trip around the whole circle takes approximately one hour.

Even though a single train on the Yamanote Line is roughly 200 meters long, there are departures about every two to four minutes in each direction. (

Please note: Green circular line only is Yamanote Line.



All JR Group Railways

All bullet trains(Shinkansen), limited express and rapid or local trains are included with the Japan Rail Pass.

The 'Nozomi' bullet train is the fastest train service running in Japan, and is not included on the Japan Rail Pass, however there are many other JR trains that do these routes.

The Mizuho Shinkansen runs between Osaka and Kagoshima and is not included on the Japan Rail Pass. However the Sakura Shinkansen also runs this route and is valid on the Japan Rail Pass.

Buses

JR Highway Bus Lines

- Morioka - Hirosakai/ Amori / Towadako * Sapporo - Otaru
- Tokyo - Shizuoka/Hamamatsu/Okazaki/Toyota/Nagoya/Kyoto/Osaka/Tsukuba Centre
- Nagoya - Kyoto / Osaka
- Osaka - Tsuyama Car Shed / Kasai Flower Centre

JR Bus Companies

Local lines of JR Bus Tohoku, JR Bus Kanto, JR Tokai Bus, West Japan JR Bus, Chugoku JR Bus, JR Hokkaido Bus and JR Kyushu Bus.

JR Bus Divisions

Local bus lines of JR Shikoku.

Ferries

JR Ferry

Miyajima - Miyajimaguchi, except "BEETLE II" (Hakata - Pusan)

Conditions

To be eligible to purchase a Japan Rail Pass, you must meet one of the following 2 criteria.

1. You are a foreign tourist visiting Japan for sightseeing, under the entry status of "temporary visitor". Only persons who have a passport bearing this stamp can use a Japan Rail Pass.

2. You are a Japanese national living in a foreign country who
- a) is qualified to live permanently in that country, or
 - b) is married to a non Japanese resident in a country other than Japan.

Note: persons meeting conditions a or b will be required to show proof of the same at the time of purchase.

Validity

- An Exchange Order is issued which must be presented in Japan at a JR Station that has a Japan Rail Pass Exchange Office. Exchange Orders must be presented within 3 months of issue date for a Japan Rail Pass to be issued. The pass is then valid for 1 month.
- Passengers travelling on non JR lines must pay respective fares and charges applicable to sections travelled.
- The 'Nozomi Shinkansen' is the only bullet train which is not covered by the Japan Rail Pass.
- All reservations must be made locally in Japan. .

Refunds

REISSUES

- To reissue a pass a fee applies: 10% of the pass plus \$20.00

REFUNDS

- An Exchange Order that has not been presented for issuance of a Japan Rail Pass must be returned within 12 months from issuing date.
- A 25% cancellation fee of the YEN pass price plus GST (only in Australia) applies
- Exchange Orders or Japan Rail Passes will not be reissued or refunded if lost or stolen.