

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

As you rent your Wi-Fi unit in the basement of **Narita Airport**, you'll pass the JR Pass "Exchange Office." It's important that you do NOT submit your "Exchange Order" here, or today at all. This is because your pass is only good for two weeks, and rather than having you spend extra money to get a 21-day pass, I think you should wait until you leave Tokyo for Matsumoto on Sunday to activate the pass.

(The good news is that the **Narita Express** is discounted 50% for foreigners, so it's not a huge expenditure.)

**TRAIN: Narita Airport Terminal 1 to Tokyo, Narita Express**, every half-hour

I usually won't recommend anything but public transport in Tokyo, but I think you'll be tired enough after your flight to justify taking a taxi or Uber from **Tokyo Station** to your hotel, which is at the base of the **Tokyo Tower** (of which, with any luck, your room will have views) near **Shibakoen Park**.

I've got a big day planned for you tomorrow, so the most I'd recommend you do tonight after you check in at your hotel (which realistically won't be until 7 or 8 p.m.) is take a stroll around the base of the tower, and maybe have dinner at **Shimizu**, the restaurant inside your hotel.

**DINNER:** Shimizu—<https://goo.gl/CieRQh>

**SLEEP:** Tokyo Prince Hotel—<https://goo.gl/ofN4GW>

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

A pre-dawn visit to **Tsukiji Fish Market** is a popular option in Tokyo, particularly if you want to see the tuna auction (if so, get your hotel's concierge to arrange a taxi for no later than 3:30 a.m.—Uber might not be very reliable at this time of morning). If a 3 a.m. wake-up time (which, to be fair, is a great way to stop your jet lag in its tracks) is too early for you, but you still want to eat sushi for breakfast, you can alternatively depart via **Daimon Station** (take the **Toei Oedo Metro Line** to **Tsukijishijo** station) at 6 or 7 a.m.

Afterwards, head back to your hotel to take a quick rest (but not longer than 90 minutes or so, in order to avoid jet lag!), then head to **Harajuku**. **Takeshita Street** is where most of the fun (i.e. crazy crepes, huge cotton candy and "Harajuku Girls") takes place, while you might see some strange fashion in nearby **Yoyogi Park** and even at the serene **Meiji Shrine**.

**LUNCH:** Yoshinoya—<https://goo.gl/qBubze>

After lunch at one of Japan's most ubiquitous fast food chains (I told you the food on this trip was going to transcend sushi!) make your way via Metro to **Shinbashi**. Here, you can board a driverless **Yuikamome** train to **Odaiba Island**, which is famous not