

Abercrombie & Kent



WONDERS OF JAPAN CRUISE: CHERRY BLOSSOM SEASON (2025)

Explore Japan's coastal cities, mesmerising
gardens and spectacular UNESCO World
Heritage Sites.

Cruises, A&K Luxury Expedition Cruises



Asia, Japan, South Korea



14 days from AU\$38,260 pp



148 Guests

Journey Overview

Experience the wonders of Japan alongside A&K's award-winning Expedition Team as you capture all the magic with help from a professional photographer. Spanning five islands, this all-encompassing cruise explores Japan's culturally rich coastline with a hotel stay in Osaka and shore excursions throughout, including a visit to Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Park, the Adachi Museum of Art and its gardens, and Kanazawa's historic district.

Journey Highlights

- Cruise the best of Japan for 11 nights aboard luxurious 'Le Jacques Cartier,' enjoying a capacity limited to just 148 guests
- Spend two nights in one of Osaka's most luxurious hotels
- Experience the magical atmosphere of Japan's cherry blossom season
- Witness private performances by the world-renowned Kodo taiko drummers, Kabuki warriors and geishas
- Immerse yourself in mesmerising Japanese gardens, perhaps visiting the gardens at the Adachi Museum of Art
- In South Korea, explore the ancient dynastic capital Gyeongju or the bustling seaside enclave of Busan
- Reflect on Japan's turbulent history and witness its miraculous resurgence in Hiroshima
- Enjoy fascinating onboard lectures and presentations led by our enrichment specialists on Japanese history, culture and gardens



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Osaka, Japan

Upon arrival, transfer to The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka, where you gather for a welcome dinner and Noh performance.

The Ritz-Carlton Osaka / Meals: D

Day 2: Osaka | Cultural Wonders

Begin your adventure in Osaka, Japan's third-largest city. The day's excursions may include a visit to Kyoto's Golden Pavilion and an exploration of Zen Buddhism, a journey to Nara revealing Japan's oldest temple, or a scenic drive amid Uji's iconic cherry trees.

The Ritz-Carlton Osaka / Meals: BL

Day 3: Osaka | The Adventure Begins

Enjoy the morning at leisure in your hotel, or perhaps join a panoramic tour of Osaka Castle. This afternoon, transfer to your luxurious expedition cruiser.

Le Jacques Cartier / Meals: BLD

Day 4: Takamatsu | Explore Your Way

Wake up in the charming port of Takamatsu, the gateway to Shikoku Island. Your day might feature a boat ride to Shodoshima, the heart of Japan's olive-growing industry; a visit to the gardens of Shikoku Island's Ritsurin Park and an exploration of traditional bonsai horticulture in Takamatsu's Kinashi area; or a ferry ride to Naoshima Island to tour Benesse House and a museum dedicated to Tadao Ando's architecture.

Le Jacques Cartier / Meals: BLD

Day 5: Hiroshima & Miyajima | Memorials & Shrines

Today, explore Hiroshima, renowned for its Atomic Bomb Dome and Peace Park. You might arise to split your day between Hiroshima and Miyajima, site of the iconic Torii Gate. Alternatively, spend an immersive day in Hiroshima and meet a storyteller of the World War II atomic bomb attack, or head to Miyajima to hike scenic Mount Misen.

Le Jacques Cartier / Meals: BLD

Day 6: Uwajima | Seaside Splendour

Spend the day in Uwajima, home to Japan's pearl industry. The day's excursions may include a visit to a local pearl farm and the samurai-era gardens of Tensha-en, an exploration of Nanraku-en Garden, or a stroll down a cherry tree-lined lane to the old town.

Le Jacques Cartier | Meals: BLD

Day 7: Karatsu | Ancient Trading Post

This afternoon, arrive in the port of Karatsu, once an early trading post between Japan and mainland Asia. Once ashore, visit Karatsu Castle, or perhaps head to the city of Imari to tour its celebrated porcelain works.

Le Jacques Cartier | Meals: BLD

Day 8: Busan & Gyeongju, South Korea | ROK Reveal

Disembark in Busan and transfer to Gyeongju, ancient capital of the Silla Dynasty. Here, you might explore Gyeongju's excavated temples, tombs and pagodas, or visit the Hyundai factory. Alternatively, stay in Busan to take in the seaside Haedong Yonggungsa Temple, the scenic overlook from Nurimaru APEC House and the colourful houses of Gamcheon Culture Village. Return to the ship for a traditional music performance at the pier.

Le Jacques Cartier | Meals: BLD

Day 9: Matsue, Japan | Verdant Gardens

Explore Matsue, a city renowned for its idyllic countryside. The day's excursions may include visits to Yuushien Garden and Matsue Castle, or a tour of the Adachi Museum of Art. Later, you might also savour a traditional lunch at a ryokan (inn) and visit Yakumo-mura village to learn about the art of Japanese papermaking.

Le Jacques Cartier | Meals: BLD

Day 10: Kanazawa | Immersion into the Arts

Visit the thriving art centre of Kanazawa, known for its pottery and gold-leaf workmanship. Here, you might stroll Kenrokuen Garden, wander Omicho Market and tour the Higashi Chaya-gai district's well-preserved historic geisha houses. Alternatively, you might hike Kakusenkei Gorge and soak in a soothing onsen (hot spring), visit Kanazawa's Oumi market and cook with a local chef, or explore the Shogawa River valley. This evening, enjoy an exclusive geisha performance.

Le Jacques Cartier | Meals: BLD

Day 11: Sado-Ga-Shima | Kodo Taiko Drummers

Arrive amid Sado Island's rice paddies, bamboo groves and surf-pounded seacoasts. Today may include an exclusive private performance by the Kodo taiko drummers or tours of Hakusanmaru Exhibition Hall and Ogi Folk Museum.

Le Jacques Cartier | Meals: BLD

Day 12: At Sea | Cruising to Hokkaido Island

Enjoy a relaxing day while cruising toward Hokkaido, Japan's largest and northernmost island.

Le Jacques Cartier | Meals: BLD

Day 13: Otaru | Historic Canals

Arrive in Otaru, a port city known for its canals, sake distilleries, architecture and views of Mount Tengu. Here, you might tour the city and visit a sake distillery. Alternately, you might spend the day discovering nearby Sapporo's parks, landmarks and market.

Le Jacques Cartier | Meals: BLD

Day 14: Depart Sapporo

Disembark your vessel in Otaru and transfer to the airport in Sapporo for your homebound flight.

Meals: B

Journey Details:

Note: March 30–Apr 12 routing runs in reverse.

This journey contains some active elements, including walks over uneven terrain.

Minimum age is 7 years.

Categories 4–8 include room upgrade at the hotel and butler service aboard the ship.

March 17-30 Departure

First group event: excursion on Mar 17.

Last group event: disembarkation by 9:00 a.m. on Mar 30.

While this departure is scheduled to coincide with cherry blossom season, this natural phenomenon cannot be guaranteed.

March 30-April 12 Departure (Operates in reverse)

First group event: embarkation in Otaru on Mar 30.

Last group event: hotel check-out on Apr 12.

Included with this Luxury Expedition Cruise

- An Exclusively Chartered, All-Inclusive Voyage Led by A&K's Expedition Team and Local Guides
- Pre- and/or Post-Cruise Stays at Stylish, Ideally Located Hotels and A&K-Led Excursions
- Airport Meet and Greet and Transfers
- Private Balcony with Every Onboard Accommodation and Butler Service with Every Suite
- Maximum Personnel-to-Guest Ratio of 1 to 1.2 and ship occupancy limited to 80 percent
- Culinary Program Featuring French-Inspired Cuisine, Including House Drinks, Afternoon Tea and Pastries
- 24-Hour Room Service and Breakfast in Bed on board
- Choice of Curated, All-Inclusive Shore Excursions
- Enrichment program, lectures and presentations
- Traveller's Valet® Laundry Service on board
- All Gratuities, Port Charges and Taxes
- Complimentary Wi-Fi on Board and in Hotels
- Onboard Service from an English-Speaking Staff, Including an Accredited Physician
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support

Map



Extensions



Kyoto Extension (2025)
See Details



Tokyo Extension (2025)
See Details

Accommodation

Le Jacques Cartier



Step aboard the elegant *Le Jacques Cartier* and discover a vessel designed for adventure with all the comforts of a luxury five-star hotel. A heated swimming pool, French-inspired restaurants, spa, theatre, and high-tech glimpse of the marine world await.

Designed to be environmentally friendly, *Le Jacques Cartier* is a modern ship with slender, tapered lines, equipped with a mix of cutting-edge technology and the finest French cuisine.

Each of the 92 air-conditioned staterooms and suites are exquisitely decorated and feature a balcony or terrace with large sliding glass doors offering spectacular views.

The chefs on board instil the French 'art of living' through the menu and share their passion for local produce infusing their dishes with ingredients collected during stopovers. Le Nautilus restaurant is large enough to accommodate all 148 passengers during one sitting. The Grill Restaurant is the perfect place for a lazy lunch with a book borrowed from the library.

The Blue Eye is a multi-sensory lounge located below the waterline. Enjoy a nautical journey of discovery along the seabed thanks to its cutting-edge digital screens, hydrophones and 'body listening' sofas which can be followed by a drink in the bar. The theatre has cutting-edge lighting and

sound technology, perfect for on-board lectures.

The seawater pool, which features a counter current, is on the third deck of this seven-deck ship and offers the ultimate infinity experience. Watch the world go by from one of the sofas on the sun deck before an indulging spa treatment.

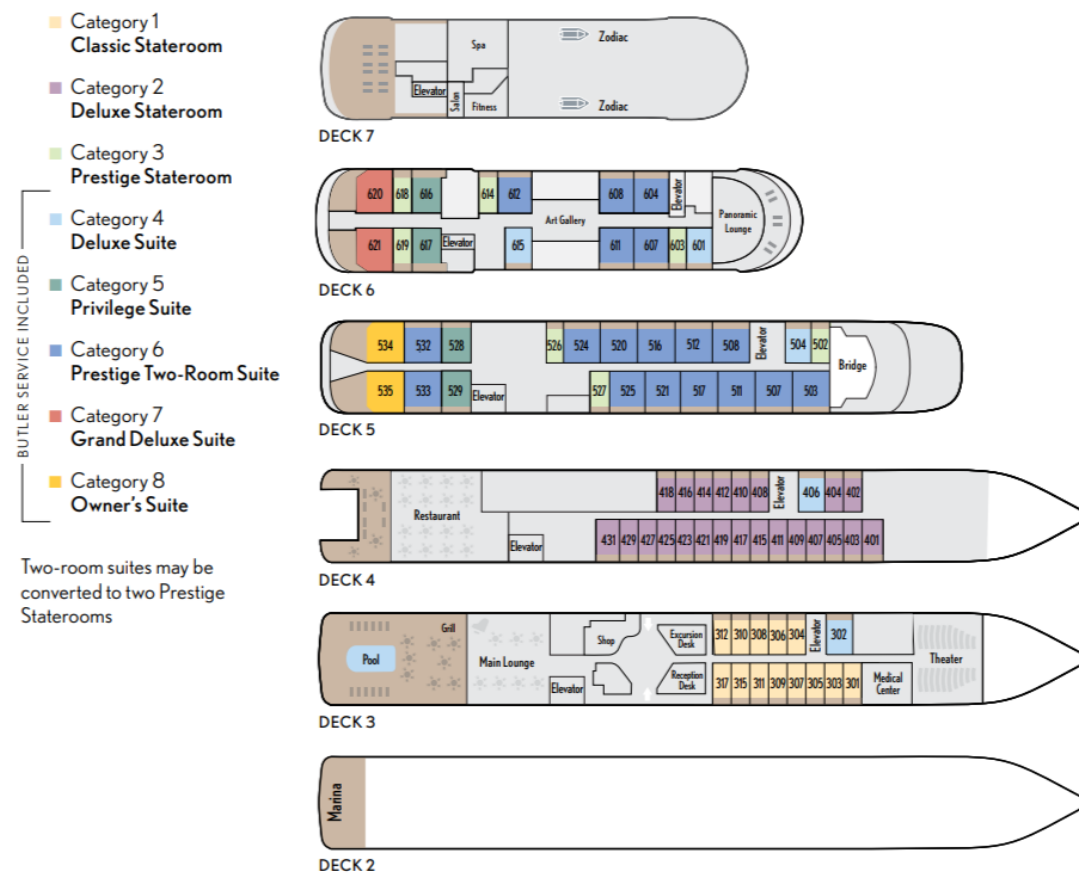
Le Jacques Cartier Details

- Launched in 2020
- Overall length: 430 feet
- Beam: 59 feet
- Average speed: 12 knots
- Passenger decks: 5
- Gross tonnage: 9,976 GRT
- Electric Motors: 2 x 2,000 KW
- Standards: USPHS – U.S. Coast Guard’s Rules Comfort Class 1 Clean-Ship Certification (meets or exceeds all IMO, EPA, IAATO and AECO operating standards)
- Technology: Advanced dynamic positioning system and highly efficient stabilisers
- Flag: French

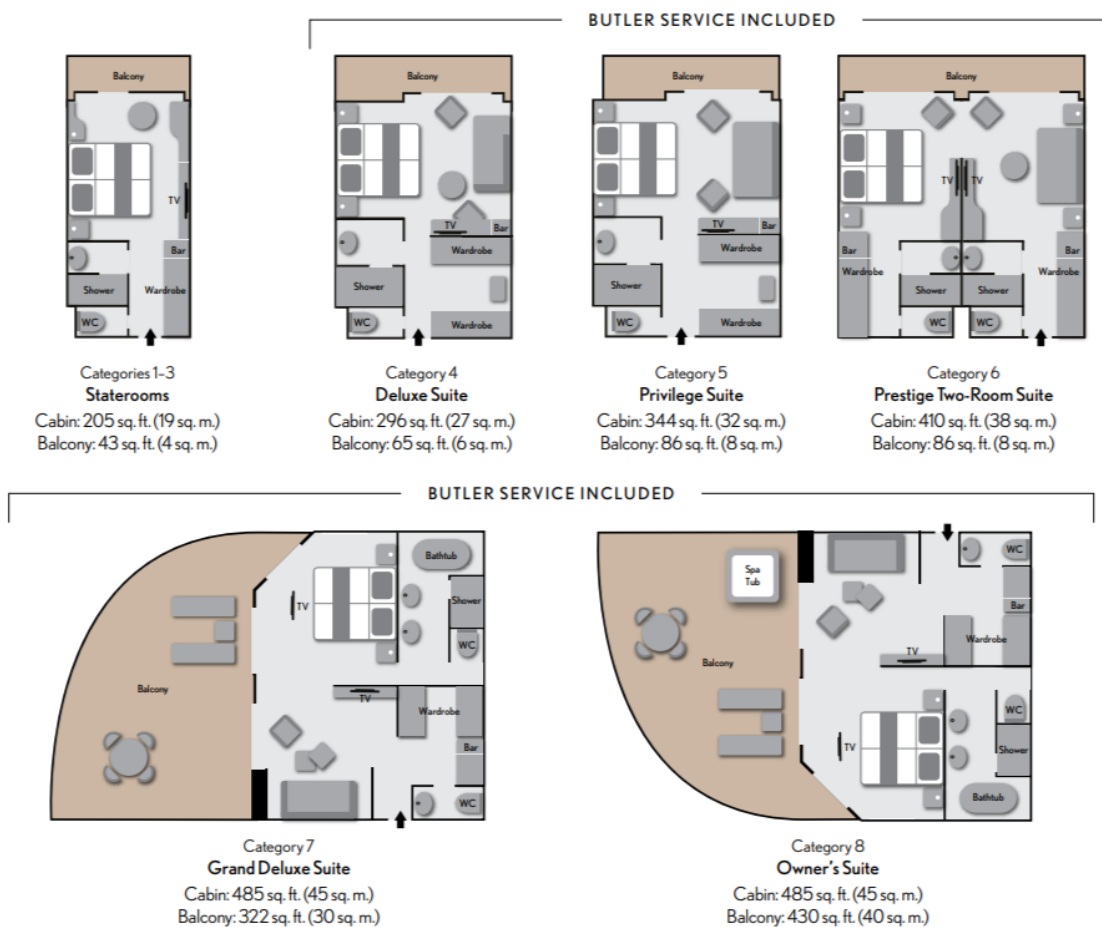
Le Jacques Cartier Amenities

- All outside staterooms and suites offer a private balcony when chartered by A&K
- Butler service (Categories 4-8)
- A choice of two restaurants
- Sun deck and multiple outer deck observation areas
- Outside heated saltwater pool
- Library with extensive selection of books and reading areas
- Panoramic lounge and terrace
- Boutique
- On-board medical facilities with certified doctor
- 24-hour room service and laundry services
- Lounge with daytime and evening entertainment
- The theatre offers unobstructed-view seating for live performances and film screenings
- Wireless internet access throughout the ship
- Dynamic positioning system

'Le Jacques Cartier' Deck Plan



'Le Jacques Cartier' Cabin Layouts



Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

Mar 17, 2025 - Mar 30, 2025

Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Classic Stateroom - Category 1	AU\$38,260 pp	AU\$19,125	AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Deluxe Stateroom - Category 2	AU\$42,085 pp	AU\$21,115	AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Prestige Stateroom - Category 3	AU\$43,615 pp	AU\$21,880	AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Deluxe Suite - Category 4	AU\$54,330 pp	AU\$40,860	AU\$0	Call for Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Privilege Suite - Category 5	AU\$63,515 pp	AU\$47,750	AU\$0	Call for Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Prestige Two-Room Suite - Category 6	AU\$78,060 pp	AU\$58,620	AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Grand Deluxe Suite - Category 7	AU\$84,180 pp	AU\$63,210	AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Owner's Suite - Category 8	AU\$95,660 pp	AU\$90,915	AU\$0	Available

Mar 30, 2025 - Apr 12, 2025

Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Classic Stateroom - Category 1	AU\$38,260 pp	Supplement AU\$19,125	(From) AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Deluxe Stateroom - Category 2	AU\$42,085 pp	Supplement AU\$21,115	(From) AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Prestige Stateroom - Category 3	AU\$43,615 pp	Supplement AU\$21,880	(From) AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Deluxe Suite - Category 4	AU\$54,330 pp	Supplement AU\$40,860	(From) AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Privilege Suite - Category 5	AU\$63,515 pp	Supplement AU\$47,750	(From) AU\$0	Call for Availability
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Prestige Two-Room Suite - Category 6	AU\$78,060 pp	Supplement AU\$58,620	(From) AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Grand Deluxe Suite - Category 7	AU\$84,180 pp	Supplement AU\$63,210	(From) AU\$0	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single	Internal Air	Availability
Le Jacques Cartier: Owner's Suite - Category 8	AU\$95,660 pp	Supplement AU\$90,915	(From) AU\$0	Available

Abercrombie & Kent

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