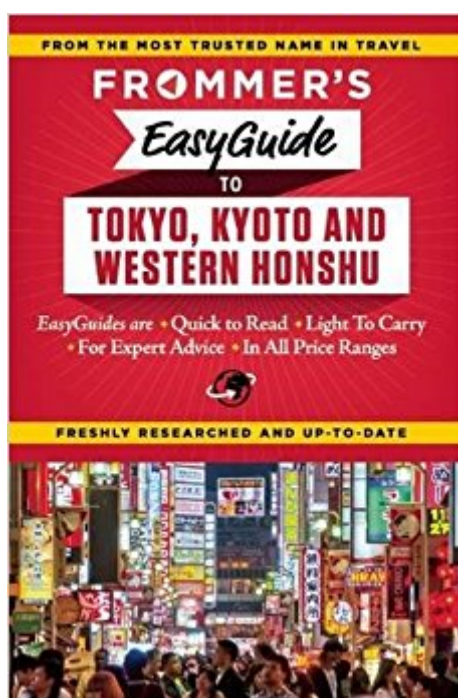


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# Frommer's EasyGuide To Tokyo, Kyoto And Western Honshu (Easy Guides)



## Synopsis

Although it focuses on Tokyo and Kyoto -- the two Japanese cities that most tourists want to visit -- Frommer's EasyGuide to Japan also examines the Japanese locations to which most tourists make day-trips or longer excursions from the two must-sees. Enjoying a far more favorable exchange rate than in recent years, the now-moderately-priced Japan is enjoying a major upswing in its incoming tourism, and our experienced author of many previous guidebooks to Japan has made it even easier to enjoy, easier to understand, easier to tour, in a concise "Easy Guide" designed to fit into pocket or purse.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 50 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

Beth Reiber's career as a full-time freelance travel writer has spanned more than three decades and taken her to 35 countries. She's the author of eight guidebooks and her articles have appeared in more than 55 publications and websites. She first visited Japan in the 1980s for what was to be a short trip but ended up staying and working as editor of a travel magazine published in Tokyo. She has been the author of Frommer's guides to Japan for 30 years. Since 2009 she has been a VISIT JAPAN AMBASSADOR, an honorary title awarded by the Japanese government for her contributions in promoting travel in Japan. She resides in Lawrence, KS.

This book came in incredibly handy over my recent trip to Japan. I had never been to Japan, and

was worried that I would be limiting myself with a book that did not cover ALL of Japan. However, my trip was to Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, and Hiroshima, and this book covered all of them, especially the first 3, with incredible detail and insider knowledge. The larger full Japan coverage books were way too big and provided almost too much general coverage, whereas this book has a great focused concentration. I appreciated that the author gave history and cultural backgrounds in the beginning of the book and before each chapter/city, because this really is a complex culture that is so different than Western culture and even other Asian countries I have visited. Also, as with most cities, there are specific traditions, dishes and mannerisms, that differ between the cities. All the sightseeing itineraries, restaurants recommendations, and sightseeing/attractions grades, were all spot-on with my likings. I am mid 30's and went with my wife and some friends, and I think this book definitely is geared towards the 30+ demographic. I also had a Lonely Planet guide, and 2 other smaller publication guides with me, and this was by far the best of all of them.

Am a frequent visitor to Japan and the information in the book is spot on and very current and useful. Perfect guide both for first time visitors and frequent travellers.

Overall, this is a very useful book. I am giving it only three stars to alert potential buyers that the map of Hakone is missing from the book, replaced by a second map of Asakusa, an area of Tokyo. As we will be spending two days in Hakone during our upcoming trip, and there are apparently several different towns in the Hakone area offering overnight accommodations, I am now looking for another guidebook, one which will give me a decent map of the Hakone area. I haven't found a good online map to make up for the book's missing map. The maps that are included in the book are very good.

This guidebook is nearly useless for our trip to Kyoto. It has scant information on transportation, very few maps that were not very detailed and in some cases, downright inaccurate. It omits several key sites such as the Nishiki Market and the Philosopher's Walk. Another traveler was using a Lonely Planet guidebook which seemed far more informative. This is perhaps OK for someone in a tour group, but not for independent travelers.

We did almost no prior planning for our trip to Japan and became very reliant on this book. It worked out great. Including the directions to exhibits from the subway is invaluable!

A very good guide of Japan. A great way to get acquainted with different areas. Once you have an idea of which area(s) you are interested in, you can then focus your research building on the information provided in the guide.

Perfect book to start my trip to Japan. Easy to use and take notes.

A very useful guide. Pay attention to the number of "stars" for the restaurants, as it does matter. We went to a one-star restaurant and had absolutely terrible service (unusual in Japan). 2 dinner orders came to our table and 1 didn't, and we had to ask again and wait a very long time. (And yes, the order was given in fluent Japanese!)

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