**THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN**

Japan is becoming a very popular honeymoon destination for couples looking for beautiful scenery, friendly people, different cultures, excellent shopping and high class restaurants. It can be considered a country of extremes, modern, high tech. cities to remote hideaways, unspoiled beaches and ancient landmarks.

Tokyo, the capital is one of the great cities of the world. Busy, vibrant and exciting, yet, although over fifteen million people inhabit the city, it has one of the lowest crime rates in the world. This is one of its main attractions - the streets are relatively free of crime and it is safe to visit the vast array of night-life. You will need to be prepared to use public transport as driving around Tokyo can be very frustrating and time-consuming.

If crowds are not your scene, then the countryside is the place to go. Mount Fuji is Japan's highest mountain and the terrain around it is breathtaking. The village nearby, Kintamani, has a diverse range of shops, including many showing the methods of ancient craftsman. Virtually all the countryside has a natural beauty whether it be the terraced hillsides, the lush vegetation, extinct volcanoes or the crater lakes. They leave the traveler with an 'eerie', peaceful feeling.

Although Japan is a small country there are enough differences in latitude and longitude to produce significant differences in climate throughout the country, so the tourist needs to be prepared. Summers along the Pacific coast are hot and humid and the winters are generally dry and cold with average temperatures around zero degrees centigrade. The south west is slightly warmer in winter than the rest of the country and hotter in the summer. The far north being closer to the Arctic Circle experiences cooler temperatures than the rest of the country - the average summer temperature is around 20 degrees centigrade.

There are numerous tour packages available and we have brochures detailing each. Most tour operators offer trips from 6 to 15 days, with at least a day in Tokyo. Other highlights include tours of farm plantations, Mount Fuji and its surrounds and the numerous coral beaches that Japan has. For the adventurous, there is also tours offering surfing, wind-surfing, scuba diving and snorkeling.

Tour prices vary greatly, so it is very important to read each brochure carefully so that you take the tour you want. For instance, an air conditioned coach can add up to 30% on to the tour cost.