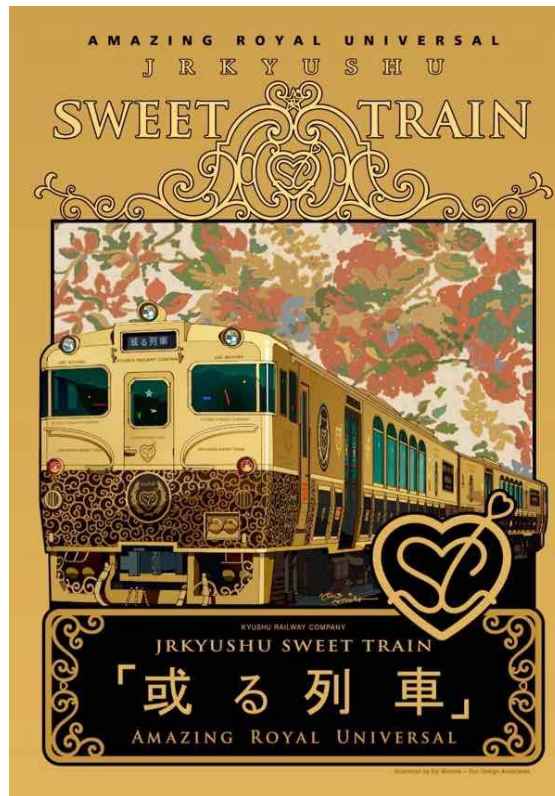




“Sweet Train” Extension
May 26-29, 2018



JR Kyushu’s newest railway confection is the Aru Ressha, or *Sweet Train*. It’s one of a dozen special trains dreamed up by the creative minds of railway officials on Japan’s southernmost island. We’ve reserved a few coveted places for participants to add the *Sweet Train* to our Deluxe Rail Journey of Japan, running May 11-26, 2018 (which includes a four-day trip on the *Seven Stars*).

While on his quest last November to experience JR Kyushu's luxurious and wildly popular *Seven Stars*, Owen Hardy hoped also to ride the *Sweet Train* — also a star in its own right. It turned out to be one of the highlights of his journey with great food, phenomenal service and gorgeous scenery. The self-propelled *Sweet Train* comprises just two cars. Car No. 1 has a more traditional, open seating plan. Car No. 2 consists of private "booths," accessible through sliding wooden doors.



The *Sweet Train* serves a seasonal menu of delicacies from Kyushu. The two-hour journey includes a light lunch followed by three courses of desserts. The menu is the brainchild of Mr. Yoshihiro Narisawa, who has a famous restaurant named Narisawa in Tokyo.

Mr. Hardy's light lunch was a bento box with meat, fish and vegetables (pictured below). Then came three sweets courses, made from a variety of seasonal fruits, followed by a delicacy called mignardises (tea cakes).

The service on the *Sweet Train*, meanwhile, is top-notch: friendly, knowledgeable and indefatigable.



IRT photos by Owen Hardy

May 26: Fukuoka – Nagasaki

Today's itinerary will be completed by public transport and walking.

This morning our group will meet our private guide in the hotel lobby and transfer by taxis to Hakata Station, where we board a local train to Nagasaki.

Upon arrival in Nagasaki, hand luggage will be sent ahead to the hotel while we continue on a sightseeing tour by public transport. We will visit the Peace Park & Museum, Nagasaki Art Museum and the island of Dejima.



Continue to our hotel and enjoy the evening at leisure.

Accommodation: ANA Crowne Plaza Nagasaki

Meals: Breakfast

May 27: Nagasaki – Sweet Train - Sasebo

This morning we will visit Glover Garden and Oura Church in Nagasaki. Then transfer to Nagasaki Station to meet the *Sweet Train*. Enjoy the *Sweet Train* journey from Nagasaki to Sasebo.

Upon arrival at Sasebo Station, transfer to a local train to Huis Ten Bosch (20 minutes, non-reserved seats, tickets are prepaid). We'll take a shuttle from the station to the resort, the top accommodation in the Sasebo area.



In the evening, independently explore Huis Ten Bosch Resort. (Admission tickets included in tour fare.)

Accommodation: Hotel Europe, Sasebo
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch on *Sweet Train*

May 28: Sasebo – Fukuoka

Explore Huis Ten Bosch at your leisure – enjoy the varied museums, gardens, and amusement attractions (admission ticket included).

In the early afternoon, take the JR train from Huis Ten Bosch to Sasebo (about 35 minutes), and transfer trains to Fukuoka Hakata Station (about 2 hours). *Tickets are prepaid, seats are not reserved.*

Upon arrival in the afternoon, we will take taxis to our hotel. Final evening at leisure in Fukuoka.

Accommodation: Grand Hyatt Fukuoka
Meals: Breakfast

May 29: Departure

Private transfers to the airport to meet your departing flight.

Cost:

\$2,315 per person, double occupancy

\$2,835 per person, single occupancy

Pricing based on a minimum of 10 passengers. Deposit is 20% and not refundable. All terms and conditions identical to those of the Deluxe Rail Journey of Japan. We are unable to offer the Sweet Train extension to anyone not joining the Deluxe Rail Journey of Japan.

Also note: US Dollar pricing is based on the value of the Japanese Yen in February 2017. Trip cost to be reevaluated at time of final payment and may be adjusted accordingly. Price may increase if group size is less than 10 passengers.

Included:

- Three nights' accommodation including breakfast daily
- Transportation as mentioned in the itinerary
- English speaking guide except on the *Sweet Train*
- All included activities as mentioned in the itinerary
- All entrance fees on guided days, as mentioned
- Baggage handling as mentioned in the itinerary, up to 1 piece per person
- JR train tickets as mentioned in the itinerary
- Hotels porter fee where applicable
- Tips for the guide
- Driver 's daily tip

Not included:

- Meals unless mentioned
- Beverages with meals unless explicitly stated
- Travel insurance
- Anything not clearly marked as included

