

**Japan National Tourist Organization London Office**  
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**Kelly Osbourne • Turning Japanese**

Coming soon on ITV2 Kelly Osbourne embarks on the ultimate working holiday in Japan. To understand one of the most fascinating cultures on earth Kelly Osbourne visits Japan to immerse herself in Japanese culture - both ancient and modern. Turning Japanese in mind, body and soul, she tries her hand at a variety of traditional practices such as geisha and samurai and explores modern Japanese phenomena like love hotels, maid cafes and Buddhist monasteries as she uncovers the unknown stories of Japan.

In the following interview Kelly Osbourne talks about her experiences in Japan.

**What made you want to take part in Turning Japanese?**

I had been to Japan three times prior to this trip with my father when he was on tour. I always had so much fun, but felt that I never got to explore the culture. I loved what I saw and I wanted to learn more and not in such a sheltered environment. It was more of an adventure for me to go there by myself; to such a foreign country with such different cultures. I found it really alien at first and the thing that struck me most was that I was treated so differently out there because I am a Western woman. However, I was made to feel very welcome and I found the Japanese very accommodating during my stay.

**Did you pick up any fashion must haves in Tokyo?**

I had so much fun shopping in Tokyo and that was one of my favourite things to do while I was there. Nothing is bigger than a size ten and you are not allowed to show your boobs in Japan, cleavage is forbidden. If I was wearing a low cut dress I'd have to go and buy a vest to wear underneath it. But, girls walk around in skirts so

short that their bums are hanging out. Some of the skirts I saw were literally four or five inches long – they looked like belts!

**Are there any facets of Japanese culture you would like to see introduced in the UK?**

The toilet thing! The hygiene level there is something I thought was really important and would like to see over here. When you go to a public toilet there you don't have to touch anything – the door opens automatically, it closes automatically, a machine gives you four pieces of toilet paper, the seat is warmed and it makes birdie noises so no-one can hear you pee! I think the funniest thing is when you go to the toilet and hear the person next door fart! So there's none of that there, as you can't hear a thing.

**Looking back would you go through your journey again?**

I would, it changed me.

**Finally, why should ITV2 viewers tune in to watch Turning Japanese?**

I tried to be really open minded about the culture. People don't really know a lot about Japan because it is really foreign. I watched the second episode and I was shocked at how much I'd forgotten. I have great respect for their culture, even though I don't think I could live there for a long period of time. Viewers will have a pre-conceived notion of the Japanese culture, but this documentary shows you a whole different side of Japan.

**Kelly Osbourne Turning Japanese is on ITV2 at the following times:**

9pm Thursday 1st February 2007

9pm Thursday 8th February 2007

9pm Thursday 15th February 2007

If Kelly Osbourne's adventures in Japan inspire you to visit the Land of the Rising Sun Japan Travel Centre is offering some great value packages. They currently offer return flights from London to Tokyo on All Nippon Airways and four nights accommodation at Crowne Plaza Metropolitan in Tokyo from just £749 including UK

and Tokyo departure taxes. Contact Japan Travel Centre on 0870 890 0360 or visit their website [www.japantravel.co.uk](http://www.japantravel.co.uk).

**ENDS**

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