

USOP

U SERIES OF POKER

OSAKA
TRAVEL GUIDE



FOOD, FUN
& FLOPS

UNLEASH YOUR
INNER CHAMPION

2025 VOLUME 1



USOP
USOP



OSAKA

Osaka, Japan's vibrant metropolis, blends rich tradition with dynamic city life — making it a dream destination for poker players both on and off the felt. Known for its warm hospitality, neon-lit streets, and mouthwatering cuisine, Osaka offers a sensory experience like no other. From the bustling alleyways of Dotonbori to the historic beauty of Osaka Castle, the city pulses with personality. During the USOP tournament, players can immerse themselves in a cultural playground — savoring street food like takoyaki and okonomiyaki, strolling through serene gardens, or catching skyline views from the Umeda Sky Building.

What makes Osaka truly unforgettable for poker players is the seamless balance between intense competition and endless exploration. Between flights and final tables, unwind with a soak in a traditional onsen, shop in the electric chaos of Shinsaibashi, or unwind with a late-night bowl of ramen in Namba. The rhythm of the city matches the spirit of the game — energetic yet grounded, fast-paced but always inviting. Here, a day of sightseeing can lead naturally into a night of high-stakes action, fueled by both adrenaline and matcha lattes.

Beyond the tables, Osaka becomes a shared adventure — a city where poker stories are exchanged over sushi, and friendships are built over unforgettable nights out. Whether you're chasing a championship title or soaking up every moment of the journey, Osaka offers the perfect backdrop to elevate your USOP experience. Because it's not just about the cards — it's about the city, the memories, and the fire that drives you forward. This is your moment to "Unleash Your Inner Champion."



FEELING HOMESICK?

Osaka's Got the Winning Hand



Ondori Vietnamese Cuisine

ベトナム料理

ONDORI is a cozy, a shining recommendation for pho lovers and anyone intrigued by unique Vietnamese twists like seafood-and-fruit spring rolls.

 Japan, 〒556-0011 Osaka, Naniwa Ward, Nanbanaka, 2 Chome-10-25 こめじるし6番

Kogi Soul Umeda Ohatsu

韓国スタイル焼肉



A trendy Korean BBQ restaurant in Osaka's Umeda area, known for its thick-cut, aged samgyeopsal (pork belly) and vibrant atmosphere. It offers all-you-can-eat courses.

📍 Japan, 〒530-0057 Osaka, Kita Ward, Sonezaki, 2 Chome-10-19 Kawai Bld., 3F

Thai Cafe & Restaurant Tabagin

タイ料理



TABANGIN is a hidden gem for Thai cuisine in Namba. Ideal for a relaxed lunch or intimate dinner, especially if you appreciate spice customization.

📍 Japan, 〒542-0071 Osaka, Chuo Ward, Dotonbori, 1 Chome-7-10 日宝バイストリート横丁ビル 3階

La Pizza Napoletana Regalo

ナポリピザ

A cozy, authentic pizzeria delivering outstanding Neapolitan-style pies right in Osaka, driven passionately by a single pizza master. It's a must for pizza lovers who appreciate true craft, simple flavors, and intimate settings.

 Japan, 〒553-0003 Osaka, Fukushima Ward, Fukushima, 1 Chome-5-2 堀野ビル 1階



Shuang Long Ky Restaurant

中華料理

Shuang Long Ky Restaurant offers a wide, authentic Chinese menu, with standout dishes like mapo tofu, jumbo gyoza, and hearty fried rice.

 Japan, 〒530-0022 Osaka, Kita Ward, Naniwacho, 1-24 JL天満駅前ビル 1~5F



POKER SEATS TO
OSAKA
STREETS



THE FLAVORS OF OSAKA: Fuel for the Final Table

03

Takoyaki Dotonbori Kukurū

たこ焼き

A popular Japanese street food made of round, savory batter balls filled with pieces of octopus, cooked in a special molded pan, and typically topped with takoyaki sauce, mayonnaise, bonito flakes, and seaweed powder.

📍 Japan, 〒542-0071 Osaka, Chuo Ward, Dotonbori, 1 Chome-10-5 白垂ビル 1階



Ohsho Gyoza

ぎょうざ

Gyoza are Japanese pan-fried dumplings filled with a mixture of ground meat (usually pork), vegetables (like cabbage and garlic chives), and seasonings. They are typically cooked by first frying one side until crispy, then steaming them to finish cooking.

📍 1 Chome-6-13 Dotonbori, Chuo Ward, Osaka, 542-0071, Japan

STACKING CHIPS & SHOPPING TRIPS

04



Hang Gai Street

Amerikamura is a top-tier destination for unique, alternative shopping in Osaka—perfect if you're into vintage fashion, streetwear, quirky accessories, or underground style. It's not your mainstream mall experience; instead, expect indie boutiques, resale treasures, DIY fashion, and youth-driven trends.



LUCUA & LUCUA 1100

LUCUA & LUCUA 1100 are a must-visit in Osaka for fashion-forward, diverse, and all-in-one shopping. Whether you're popping in for stylish basics, exploring Japanese beauty trends, or enjoying a meal between purchases.

HEP FIVE (Umeda)

HEP FIVE is a go-to spot in Osaka for trendy, affordable fashion and fun activities in one place. Perfect for a half-day of shopping, arcade gaming, and grabbing stylish souvenirs—especially if you're into youth fashion or want a ride on the famous red Ferris wheel.





PLACES TO VISIT IN

OSAKA



FLOP, TURN.. **THEN TOUR.**

05



Osaka Castle

Osaka Castle is one of Japan's most iconic landmarks. It blends rich history, striking architecture, and peaceful natural surroundings with modern museum-style exhibits inside the main tower.

 1-1 Osakajo, Chuo Ward, Osaka, 540-0002, Japan



Aquarium Kaiyukan

Kaiyukan is one of the world's largest and most immersive aquariums with 620+ marine species and over 30,000 creatures.

 1 Chome-1-10 Kaigandori, Minato Ward, Osaka, 552-0022, Japan



Tsutenkaku Tower

Tsutenkaku Tower is a retro landmark in Osaka's Shinsekai district, famous for its nostalgic atmosphere.

 1 Chome-18-6 Ebisu Higashi, Naniwa Ward, Osaka, 556-0002, Japan



Expo 2025

Expo 2025 Osaka is more than just a world fair. If you're curious about next-gen tech, global culture, sustainability, or simply want a one-of-a-kind travel experience, this event is absolutely worth it. Just plan ahead, go on a weekday if possible, and prepare to be inspired.

 *Yumeshima Island.*



Universal Studios Japan

Universal Studios Japan is a must-visit if you're in Osaka. It delivers blockbuster thrills, immersive theming, and an ever-evolving lineup of attractions that captivate all ages. Plan ahead, grab your Express Pass, and dive into an unforgettable adventure.

 *1-1 Osakajo, Chuo Ward, Osaka, 540-0002, Japan*

Beginner's Tips:

PLAY YOUR FIRST HAND RIGHT

06



TYPE OF CURRENCY USED

In Japan, the official currency is the Japanese Yen (JPY, symbol: ¥). It is used nationwide for all transactions, and comes in both coins (¥1, ¥5, ¥10, ¥50, ¥100, and ¥500) and banknotes (¥1,000, ¥2,000, ¥5,000, and ¥10,000). While Japan remains largely cash-friendly—especially in smaller shops, local eateries, and rural areas—credit cards and digital payments like IC cards (e.g., Suica, Pasma) and mobile apps are increasingly accepted in urban centers like Osaka. Currency exchange services are widely available at airports, banks, and convenience stores, making it easy for international travelers to convert their cash.

SCAN HERE FOR



CURRENCY EXCHANGE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BRINGING MONEY INTO JAPAN

Cash Declaration Rule

If you are carrying ¥1,000,000 (1 million yen) or more (or the equivalent in foreign currency, checks, or securities) into or out of Japan, you must declare it to Japanese Customs.

This includes cash, traveler's checks, promissory notes, securities, gold bullion (over 90% purity and weighing more than 1kg), and other forms of monetary instruments.

Failure to Declare

Failing to declare amounts of ¥1,000,000 (6,800 USD) or more may result in penalties, including seizure of funds and legal consequences.

Where to Declare

At your point of entry (e.g., airport), go to the Customs Inspection area and fill out a Currency Declaration Form.

There are no taxes or fees for bringing in large amounts, but the declaration is required under anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing laws.

You Can Still Bring Large Amounts

There's no limit to how much money you can bring into Japan, as long as it's declared properly if it meets or exceeds the threshold.



VISA IN JAPAN

To enter Japan, most travelers will need to apply for a short-term visa, such as a tourist or temporary visitor visa, depending on their purpose. Requirements typically include a valid passport, completed application form, recent photo, travel itinerary, and proof of financial means. Those attending events like poker tournaments may also need an invitation letter or event participation confirmation. Applications must be submitted to the Japanese embassy or consulate in your country, and processing usually takes about 5–10 business days. Some nationalities are visa-exempt for short stays, so it's important to check the official Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs website for the latest guidelines before applying.



Moving Around in Osaka

Osaka offers a variety of transportation options that make getting around the city easy and efficient. The Osaka Metro is the most popular and reliable way to travel, connecting major districts like Namba, Umeda, and Shin-Osaka. For trips beyond the city, the JR (Japan Rail) lines, including the Osaka Loop Line, provide convenient access to nearby destinations such as Kyoto, Kobe, and Nara. Buses and taxis are also available, with taxis offering door-to-door service though at a higher cost.

GRAB operates in Osaka but is limited compared to other countries—many rides booked through the GRAB app are actually dispatched as local taxis with regulated rates. Travelers can also use IC cards like ICOCA to tap into the metro, trains, and buses for a smooth travel experience. For short distances or sightseeing, bicycle rentals and walking are great ways to enjoy the city at your own pace.



Essential Tips While in Osaka



Be Quiet in Public Spaces

Keep your voice low on trains, buses, and in restaurants. Public spaces in Japan are generally quiet, and loud conversations can be considered rude.

Respect Queues

Whether you're waiting for a train, elevator, or food stall, always line up and wait your turn. Cutting in line is a big no-no.

Cash is Still King

While cards and digital payments are growing, many small shops and eateries still prefer cash. Always carry some yen with you.

Dispose of Trash Properly

Public trash bins are rare—carry your trash with you until you find a proper place to dispose of it. Follow the local recycling rules where bins are provided.

Don't Eat While Walking

In many parts of Japan, including Osaka, eating while walking is considered impolite. Try to finish food near the vendor or in designated eating areas.

Shoes Off Indoors

If you visit traditional restaurants, temples, or someone's home, you may need to remove your shoes. Look for signs and use provided slippers when available.

Respect Personal Space

Japan values personal space and order. Be mindful of others around you—especially in crowded areas like trains or shopping streets.

Learn Basic Phrases

A simple “Arigatou gozaimasu” (thank you) or “Sumimasen” (excuse me/sorry) goes a long way in showing respect and friendliness.

Take Note of Smoking Rules

Smoking is only allowed in designated smoking areas. Don't smoke while walking or in public spaces where it's prohibited.

Be Punctual

Whether you're meeting someone or catching public transport, being on time is important and appreciated in Japanese culture.

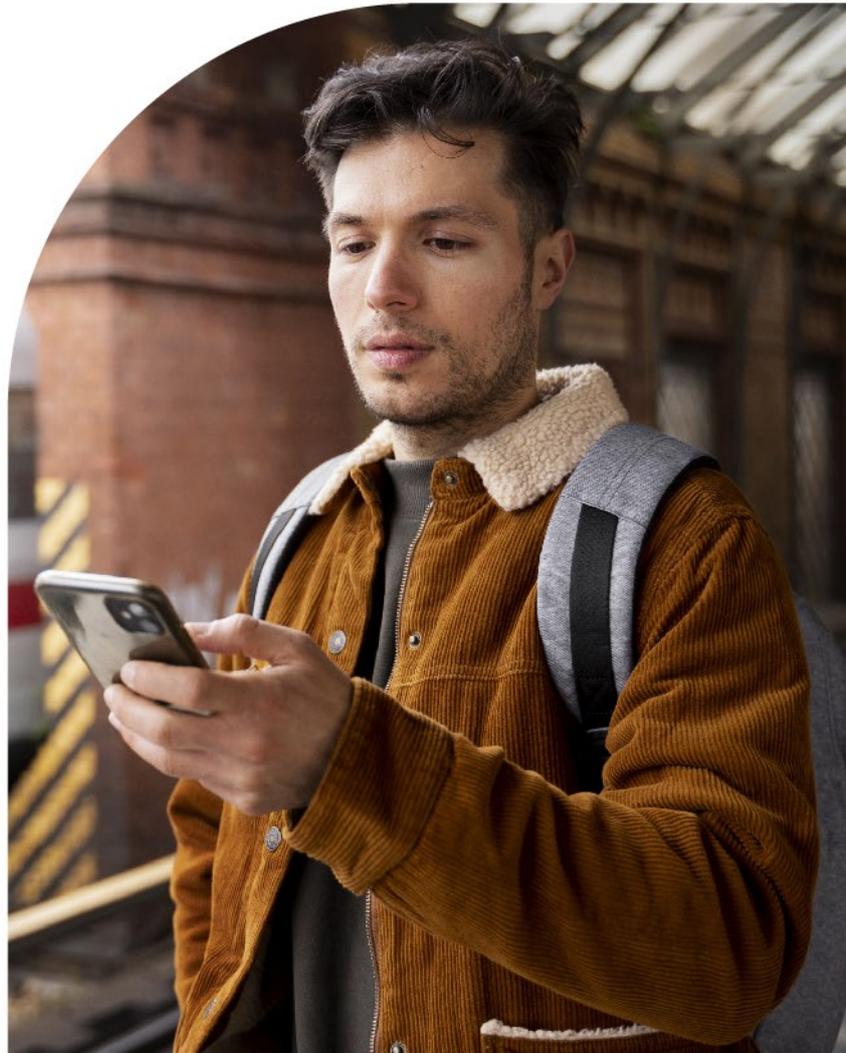
Following these small but meaningful practices will help you show respect to local customs and ensure a warm welcome throughout your stay in Osaka.

Digital Aces: TECH TIPS FOR VISITORS

07

Electric Voltages in Japan

The plug type used is Type A (two flat parallel pins), the same as in North America, but without the grounding pin (Type B). Many modern devices like phone chargers and laptops are dual voltage (100–240V), but travelers from countries with higher voltage (like 220–240V) should check their devices and use a voltage converter if necessary. A plug adapter may also be needed to fit Japan's outlets.



Types of Apps Recommended while in Japan

For Food & Dining Tabelog (食べログ) – Japan's most trusted app for restaurant reviews and ratings.



Gurunavi

Great for restaurant information, especially traditional Japanese dining.



Uber Eats

Widely available in Osaka for food delivery.



Demae-can

A popular local food delivery app (primarily in Japanese).

For Transportation Google Maps

– Excellent for directions via trains, walking, and buses.



Hyperdia

Useful for detailed train schedules and planning long-distance travel.



JapanTaxi

Book a local taxi through your smartphone.



NAVITIME Japan Travel

Designed for tourists; includes train routes, transit times, and offline features. Offers route search, city guides, and offline maps.



GRAB

Great for restaurant information, especially traditional Japanese dining.



Osaka Metro App

Specifically designed to help navigate Osaka's subway system.



Additional Essentials



ICOCA App

For train, subway, and bus payments (via Apple Wallet)



Google Translate

Helps break language barriers with text, speech, and image translation.



PayPay

A widely used mobile payment app in Japan.



Count on us to guide you
THROUGH EVERY MOMENT.



While poker brings the intensity to the tables, Osaka welcomes players with its vibrant soul and deep cultural roots. From neon-lit streets and historic castles to lively markets and warm local hospitality, the city offers a perfect contrast to the high-stakes grind. Step away from the felt and discover a place where modern energy meets timeless tradition—a city that surprises and inspires at every turn.

The Cards Are Waiting — See You in Osaka

UNLEASH YOUR INNER CHAMPION

USOP
UNLEASH