



Shinkansen Express

Japan from south to north

While in Germany, since the year 1931, steam-powered high-speed trains with a maximum speed of 160 km/h (99.4 miles per hour) were already in operation, many countries were still far from operating such fast rail links. Japan carried out intensive research and development for high-speed trains starting in 1959, and the first Shinkansen line between Tokyo and Shin-Osaka was opened to traffic as early as 1964, just in time for the Summer Olympics. At that time, the twelve-car Class 0 multiple units reached maximum speeds of 210 km/h (130.5 mph). Today's modern variants reach top speeds of over 400 km/h (250 mph), with the maximum speed of the rail network limited to 360 km/h (224 mph). This makes the Shinkansen trains the fastest trains in use in the world.

On this trip you will be able to explore Japan in a very special way, namely on the high-speed lines of the Shinkansen network, from the south of the island of Kyushu, via Honshu, to the northernmost main island of Hokkaido. Of course, you'll be flying over densely populated areas all the time. However, this also has the advantage that there is something special to see everywhere, although only a few special features can be discussed on this trip.

The difficult part of this trip is to really follow the route. There are apparently no obstacles for the Shinkansen; mountains or ranges - it disappears underneath and only reappears a few miles later. Suddenly, a small town or village is in the way - the track disappears under it. Over long distances, the rail line cannot be seen. So a map is urgently needed to determine at which point the rail line reaches the earth's surface again. Should you still get lost, the GPS course will bring you safely to the next station or airport.

Got it? Then have a good flight and enjoy exploring. Koschi.

Flying Tips:

Although there is a GPS course, you should only use it if you have problems finding the next waypoint. Weather is user selectable. Live weather is preset.

The refuel button is only displayed on airfields with a refueling station. So always make sure you have enough fuel in your tank.

Soft landings are rewarded with applause, too hard landings will fail the mission.

Use ATC if you like.

The HUD in the interior view can be switched on in the settings.

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LEGS

LEG 1: RJFK - RJFT

Departure: Kagoshima (RJFK)

Destination: Kumamoto (RJFT)

Distance: 105,6 nm



KAGO-Kagoshima



Distance:	16,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	16,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	89,6 nm
True Course:	215°
Magnetic Course:	222°

You take off from Kagoshima Airport in the early morning. Turn southwest, sight Kagoshima Bay and fly along the western shore until you can see the city of Kagoshima. There, on your left wing, rises the volcano Sakurajima. On your right wing, on the shore, you can see a railroad line that will take you to the city's train station. The station is the starting point for the Kyushu Shinkansen.

Kagoshima - also known for strong spirits and succulent meat. It is the place of the first meeting of Portuguese explorers with the Japanese. It was also the place where modern black powder weapons were first imported, which would go on to revolutionize Japanese warfare and ultimately seal the demise of the samurai.

It is therefore not surprising that Kagoshima was the city where Francisco de Xavier disembarked on August 15, 1549. He was the pioneer of the Christian mission in the country and co-founder of the Jesuit order.

In 1863, the Namamugi Incident occurred, in which samurai attacked the English occupiers. In the end, the English Admiral Kuper, in retaliation for the murder of the merchant Richardson, bombarded the city by ships. In Japanese historiography, this bombardment is considered a war between the then Satsuma province and Great Britain. This event is also known in Japan as the British-Satsuman War. A monument commemorates this event to this day.

SATS-Satsumasendai



Distance:	18,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	34,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	71,3 nm
True Course:	320°
Magnetic Course:	327°

For your information, only airports at the stations of the Super Express connections are selected as landing points. There are a number of other connections that include more stations, up to the mini-Shinkansen that stops at all stations.

Once you've reached Kagoshima Station, turn west and follow the course of the Shinkansen track to Satsumasendai. Soon the track will disappear under the mountains. If you lose sight of the track, let the high mountains pass by your right wing and keep a distance from the coast, on your left wing, of about 3 - 4 nautical miles. About 5 nautical miles from the city of Sendai, the route becomes visible again.

This is where the traditional Sendai Otsunahiki celebrations take place in September, with 3,000 men competing in a giant tug-of-war.

IZUM-Izumi



Distance:	16,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	50,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	54,7 nm
True Course:	8°
Magnetic Course:	15°

The Shinkansen only appears in the city for a short time and soon disappears again in the next mountain range. Follow it to the city of Izumi.

While the train's passengers travel through dark tunnels, you can now admire the landscape from above.

The northern fortress of the Satsuma Empire, Izumi was home to warrior samurai who guarded the border with neighboring Higo. It is also home to one of the oldest Zen temples in the country, Kannoji.

In addition, in Izumi you can experience a unique natural spectacle: Every year, over 10,000 cranes from Siberia winter here.

YATS-Yatsushiro

Distance:	29,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	80,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	25,4 nm
True Course:	29°
Magnetic Course:	36°

The route continues in a northerly direction. The Shinkansen line now follows the coast for a while, but soon disappears under the mountains again. Alternatively, you can follow the coastline to Yatsushiro.

Yatsushiro is an old castle town. Yatsushiro Castle served as the secondary residence of the Hosokawa (an important noble family) during the Edo period (1603 - 1868). It is the most complete historical castle in Japan. The Edo period is named after the name of the capital at that time, Edo, now Tokyo. It includes the longest period of peace in Japanese history (also known as the Pax Tokugawa), lasting more than 250 years.

KUMA-Kumamoto

Distance:	16,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	96,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	8,9 nm
True Course:	9°
Magnetic Course:	17°

Next stop: Kumamoto.

Fly over Yatsushiro Station, turn slightly left and follow the Shinkansen line, whose route is now clearly visible all the way to Kumamoto, the next stop of the Super Express.

Kumamoto is the administrative seat of the Kyūshū prefecture of the same name.

Along with Matsumoto Castle and Himeji Castle (which we will visit later), Kumamoto Castle is one of the three most important castles in Japan. It consisted of three main buildings, 49 towers, 29 castle gates and 18 two-story gates. Today, only the castle wall and a few of the gates and watchtowers remain. In addition, the Samurai House and Suizenji Park are among the sights of the city.

RJFT-Kumamoto

Distance:	8,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	105,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	71°
Magnetic Course:	79°
Elevation:	621 feet
Fuel:	yes

Since the Shinkansen stops in Kumamoto, there is also a little break from flying here, especially for your passengers who are not so used to flying.

Turn east and soon you will be able to discover the large airport of Kumamoto. Have a safe and soft landing here. The airport restaurant is said to serve especially good coffee.

LEG 2: RJFT - RJFF

Departure: Kumamoto (RJFT)
 Destination: Fukuoka (RJFF)
 Distance: 59,7 nm



KKUM-Kami Kumamoto



Distance: 7,9 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 7,9 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 51,8 nm
 True Course: 262°
 Magnetic Course: 269°

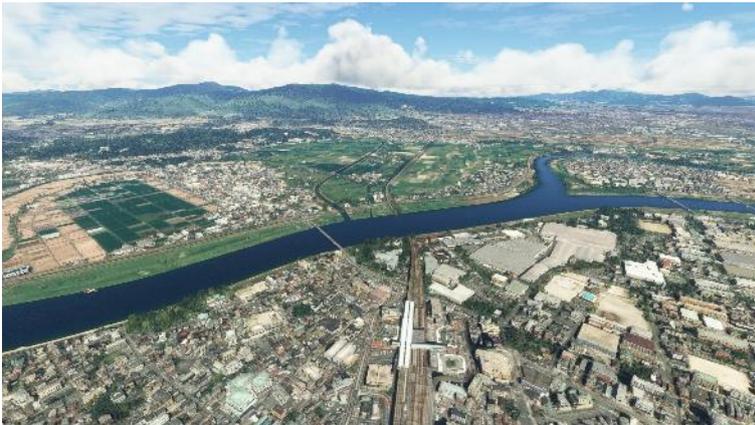
After you and your passengers have had a little health break and a second breakfast, it's back to the start. After takeoff, orient yourself to the west. Fly towards the top of Kinbo mountain. At the foot of the mountain you will be able to see the rail line of the Shinkansen.

OMUT-Omuta

Distance:	18,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	26,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	33,3 nm
True Course:	325°
Magnetic Course:	333°

Turn northwest and follow the rail line to the port town of Omuta.

Omuta, on the east coast of the Ariake Sea, was once a coal mining center, but after the 1960s, with the switch from coal to petroleum as fuel, production at Omuta declined. As a result, underground shafts were neglected, leading to land subsidence, submergence of farmland in the sea, and destruction of homes. Omuta has been an important industrial city since 1917, especially for the production of chemicals. Other industries produce coke, zinc, ferroalloys, steel, bricks for furnaces, cotton, algae products for food, and synthetic oils.

KURU-Kurume

Distance:	15,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	41,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	17,9 nm
True Course:	2°
Magnetic Course:	9°

Behind the mountain, the route should be clearly visible again. Follow it north to the town of Kurume.

Kurume is an industrial and commercial center for the Chikugo Plain, which is dominated by agriculture. Important products are cotton, rubber products but also varnishes and chemicals. In addition, this city is known for its azaleas.

During World War I, until 1920, up to 1,300 German soldiers were held prisoner of war here. During the Second World War Kurume was a garrison town.

HAKA-Hakata

Distance:	16,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	58,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	1,6 nm
True Course:	346°
Magnetic Course:	354°

Next stop: Hakata.

Once you've found the track again behind the next mountain, fly towards the station of the Hakata district, which is part of the metropolitan area of Fukuoka.

This is the terminus for the Kyūshū-Shinkansen, named after the main island of Kyūshū, and also the starting point for the San'yō-Shinkansen. The name San'yō comes from the sub-region of the same name in Chūgoku, through which much of the line passes.

Hakata Station is one of Fukuoka's main transportation hubs, serving the important function of connecting Kyūshū and the rest of Japan. It has a landscaped rooftop terrace overlooking the city.

Today's Hakata district was once a significant trading city in its own right, as a bridge to Korea and China. Today it is known as Fukuoka's most important business center.

Shofuku-ji of Hakata is the first Zen temple ever built in Japan. It was founded in 1195 by the priest Eisai, who introduced the Rinzai school of Zen Buddhism from China. A 10.8 meter high wooden Buddha statue, one of the largest of its kind in Japan, adorns the Tōchō temple.

RJFF-Fukuoka

Distance:	1,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	59,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	102°
Magnetic Course:	109°
Elevation:	23 feet
Fuel:	yes

Already on approach to the station, you should have discovered the Fukuoka airport. Fly a loop over the city and land at Fukuoka Airport.

LEG 3: RJFF - RJFR

Departure: Fukuoka (RJFF)
Destination: Kitakyushu (RJFR)
Distance: 38,1 nm

**UMIR-Umi River**

Distance: 2,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.: 2,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.: 36,1 nm
True Course: 325°
Magnetic Course: 332°

After you and your passengers have enjoyed the world's most famous noodle soups in Hakata, the journey continues. Fly as an extension of runway 34, and immediately behind the airport you'll come across the Umi River. There, two railroad lines cross the river. The first is the Shinkansen, which you will now follow.

ONGA-Onga River

Distance:	17,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	19,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	18,4 nm
True Course:	54°
Magnetic Course:	62°

Pay attention to the direction in which the track enters the mountain. Turn about three to four degrees to the right and you will be able to recognize the track at the Onga River.

While road bridges are visible everywhere over the rivers, unfortunately no attention has been paid to the railroad lines. They cross the rivers without any visible bridges.

KOKU-Kokura

Distance:	10,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	30,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	8,1 nm
True Course:	53°
Magnetic Course:	61°

Next stop: Kokura.

Just a few miles past the river, the Shinkansen enters the next tunnel. Again, a correction of three to four degrees to the right is necessary to discover the exit of the tunnel. While you are still crossing the mountains, you will be able to spot the city of Kitakyushu. Keep your direction to the northeast and you will find the station of the Kokura district, on the right edge of the port area.

Kokura Castle is an exceptionally well restored castle and has become the city's landmark. The castle served to control the road between Honshū and Kyūshū. It has the only preserved castle tower in Fukuoka Prefecture. This is where the famous sword master Miyamoto Musashi had settled and where the dojo that taught his style of swordsmanship was located.

Kokura was the actual target of the atomic bomb "Fat Man" in 1945, but due to weather conditions it was dropped over Nagasaki. That is why Kokura in Japan today stands for the good fortune of being spared from an unexpected disaster.

RJFR-Kitakyushu

Distance:	8,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	38,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	108°
Magnetic Course:	116°
Elevation:	23 feet
Fuel:	yes

After crossing the station, turn east, cross the small mountain range in front of you and discover a harbor behind it. Southeast of the harbor you can see an island where Kitakyushu Airport is located. Have a happy landing there.

Since pedestrians are not allowed on the bridge to the mainland, there will be a short lunch break here.

LEG 4: RJFR - RJOA

Departure: Kitakyushu (RJFR)
 Destination: Hiroshima (RJOA)
 Distance: 112,8 nm



HAYA-Hayatomonoseto Strait



Distance: 7,9 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 7,9 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 104,8 nm
 True Course: 334°
 Magnetic Course: 342°

After you are airborne again, fly toward runway 36, keeping a course for the northern tip of the island. On the left ahead you will see a strait separating the Japanese East Sea from the Japanese Seto Inland Sea, the Hayatomonoseto Strait. There you can admire an important bridge structure, the Kanmon Bridge, which bridges this strait. You can't see the Shinkansen route there because it goes through the undersea Kanmon tunnel.

The Kanmon rail tunnel was the first underwater tunnel in Japan. It connects the main islands of Honshu and Kyushu, has 2 tubes and is 3,604 meters (11,824 feet) long.

KUDA-Kudamatsu

Distance:	45,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	53,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	59,7 nm
True Course:	84°
Magnetic Course:	92°

Follow the highway that crosses the famous bridge onto the main island of Honshū and turns north shortly after. Behind the mountain Hinoyama you will be able to see and follow the Shinkansen line for a short time. As the route continues, it disappears under mountains again, but keeps surfacing briefly between valleys. Follow the Shinkansen line, which runs inland parallel to the coast, to the next town, Kudamatsu.

Here is a larger station where the Shinkansen Express stops, but not our Super Express.

On the Oshima Peninsula, on Mount Taika, south of town, there is an observatory and a Yosano Tekkan Monument (a famous Japanese writer), with a driveway and hiking trails. The peninsula is a popular destination for excursions.

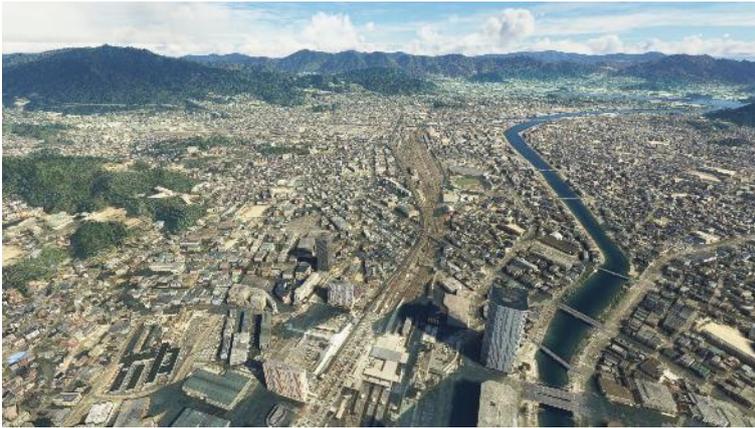
ITSU-Itsukushima Shrine

Distance:	27,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	80,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	32,3 nm
True Course:	55°
Magnetic Course:	63°

The Shinkansen line changes its direction to the northeast here. When it reaches the coast of Hiroshima Bay, you can see Miyajima Island. Leave the line here for a short time. In a bay, on the northwest side of the island, you can see the famous Itsukushima Shrine, which is shown as a point of interest in the simulator.

The shrine was built in the 6th century and has existed in its current form since 1168, when its construction was financed by the warlord Taira no Kiyomori. The architecture of the shrine, which consists of pier-like structures built across the bay, stemmed from the sacred status of the island, which ordinary citizens were not allowed to enter. Five particularly sacred sea gods are worshipped here.

Since 1996, the shrine has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

HIRO-Hiroshima

Distance:	9,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	90,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	22,5 nm
True Course:	52°
Magnetic Course:	60°

Next stop: Hiroshima.

After admiring the shrine, head north again towards the mainland. You are now already in the suburbs of Hiroshima. Now follow the Shinkansen line to its next stop, Hiroshima, which is right next to the Enko River.

Hiroshima gained worldwide, sad fame as the target of the first warlike use of nuclear weapons, on August 6, 1945, by the USA. In this first use of a nuclear weapon, called "Little Boy," in a war, about 70,000 people were killed instantly. In all, an estimated 140,000 people died by the end of 1945. The surviving victims of the attack are known in Japan as "hibakusha" (composed of the syllables "hi" for suffering, "baku" for bomb, and "sha" for human) and continue to suffer the effects of radiation to this day. As a reminder and commemoration, the 12-hectare Peace Park is located in the center of the city. After reconstruction, starting in 1949, Hiroshima developed into an important industrial center and today ranks 11th among Japan's largest cities with a population of over 1.1 million. The city is a center of the automobile industry and its supplier industry.

HIGA-Higashi Hiroshima

Distance:	14,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	104,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	8,4 nm
True Course:	92°
Magnetic Course:	100°

Since there is no airport nearby, follow the Shinkansen route for a few more miles to a suburb in eastern Hiroshima, Higashi Hiroshima. The station is south of a dammed lake, the Sannaga River. This is also a stopping point for the Shinkansen Express.

RJOA-Hiroshima

Distance:	8,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	112,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	70°
Magnetic Course:	78°
Elevation:	1069 feet
Fuel:	yes

Follow the Shinkansen for another mile or two and you will see Hiroshima Airport on your left. Get permission to land for a short stopover.

LEG 5: RJOA - RJOB

Departure: Hiroshima (RJOA)

Destination: Okayama (RJOB)

Distance: 58,9 nm

**MIHA-Mihara**

Distance:	8,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	8,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	50,5 nm
True Course:	105°
Magnetic Course:	113°

After you take off again, you hardly have a chance to find the Shinkansen route again, because it runs underground near the airport. So after takeoff, turn east and look for the nearby Numata River. Follow the river southeast until you reach the station of the port city of Mihara. The railroad line running next to the river will show you the way there.

Mihara is also a castle town, whose castle can be seen just north of the station. It is easily recognizable by the water surrounding it.

A major employer in Mihara is the local Hiroshima Shipyard (formerly Koyo Dockyard), part of the Imabari-Zōsen Group. Among other things, the shipyard builds large bulk carriers of up to 241,000 tons deadweight, liquefied gas tankers for up to 155,000 cubic meters of liquefied gas, and container ships for up to 14,000 20-foot standard containers.

FUKU-Fukuyama

Distance:	14,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	23,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	35,7 nm
True Course:	69°
Magnetic Course:	77°

Once you have flown over the station, the rail line immediately disappears again into the next mountain. Since it now runs parallel to the coast again and is only visible in a few places, the coast is a good landmark for getting to the next town, Fukuyama.

The Holocaust Education Center of Fukuyama was founded in 1995 by Makoto Ōtsuka, a clergyman who had personally met Anne Frank's father in 1971. It is the only educational institution in Japan that specializes in the subject of the Holocaust in Germany and Europe. In addition to a collection of items from around the world, on the history of the Jews of Europe, in the first half of the 20th century, it contains a section dedicated to Anne Frank. On International Holocaust Remembrance Day 2011, a cutting of the chestnut tree that grew outside Anne Frank's hiding place in Amsterdam was planted in the center's garden.

OKAY-Okayama

Distance:	29,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	52,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	6,3 nm
True Course:	69°
Magnetic Course:	77°

Next stop: Okayama.

Continue along the coast, to Okayama Station.

Okayama is home to the Kōraku-en, one of Japan's three famous gardens, which is easy to spot when approaching the station, as it lies immediately to the east, on a river bend.

Prince Ikeda Tsunamasa (1638-1714) decided to create a garden opposite his castle on the other side of the Asahigawa River in 1686, and it was completed after 14 years, in 1700. The garden is called Kōraku-en, after the second half of an ancient Chinese four-character saying: "zen'yū kōraku", ("First trouble, then pleasure"). The garden is designed as a changing garden in the style of the Enshū school. Water from the river is used for the ponds and streams in the garden. There is a small tea plantation and a field for growing rice. Unusual for a Japanese garden are the extensive lawns.

RJOB-Okayama

Distance:	6,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	58,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	330°
Magnetic Course:	339°
Elevation:	805 feet
Fuel:	yes

Turn northwest from the station or even the garden. After about two or three miles you will see the airport. Give yourself and the passengers a little break and have a pleasant short stay here. It is not far to your destination for the day.

LEG 6: RJOB - RJBE

Departure: Okayama (RJOB)
 Destination: Kobe (RJBE)
 Distance: 74,9 nm



ASAHI-Asahi River



Distance: 6,0 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 6,0 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 68,9 nm
 True Course: 139°
 Magnetic Course: 148°

After the start, orient yourself to the east. There you will meet the river, which you follow in a southerly direction. Behind a fork of the Asahi River, you will again meet the Shinkansen line, which crosses the river there.

HIME-Himeji

Distance:	38,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	44,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	30,5 nm
True Course:	77°
Magnetic Course:	85°

The Shinkansen train now continues in an easterly direction, parallel to the coast, to the city of Himeji.

Himeji Castle is one of Japan's national cultural treasures, was recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 1993, and is shown as a point of interest in the simulator. You can see it not far north of the station. It is one of the oldest preserved structures from 17th century Japan. The castle complex, which consists of 83 separate buildings, is considered the finest example of Japanese castle construction and has the nickname Shirasagijō ("White Heron Castle"), a reference to its white outer walls and roofs. Despite its architectural beauty, such as its spiral layout, its defenses are highly developed, so the castle was considered virtually impregnable. The park around the castle is known as one of the particularly beautiful places for the cherry blossom festival Hanami, attracting numerous visitors every year.

After the Great Kantō Earthquake of 1923, the Japanese government reportedly considered moving the country's capital from Tokyo to Himeji. On April 1, 1996, Himeji was granted core city status with increased local autonomy. The region is heavily industrialized, with steel mills, chemical plants, semiconductor and automotive electronics predominating. In addition, Kansai Electric Power's Himeji No. 1 and Himeji No. 2 gas-fired power plants are located in the eastern area of the port.

KOBE-Kobe

Distance:	25,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	70,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	4,6 nm
True Course:	106°
Magnetic Course:	114°

Next stop: Kobe.

Continue flying along the coast in a southeasterly direction. After some time, the large island of Awajishima comes into view, to which the famous Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge leads. If you like, take a detour in that direction to admire the bridge.

The impressive suspension bridge measures 3,911 meters in total length. At night, it is also covered in colorful lights. This bridge, dating from 1998, was long considered the longest suspension bridge in the world. It was not until 2022 that it had to relinquish this title to the Çanakkale Bridge, located in Turkey, which now occupies first place with a length of 5,169 meters.

Then return to the mainland to follow the Shinkansen route again. It will take you directly to the major city of Kobe, a stop on the Shinkansen Super Express. Although a rail line runs through the middle of Kobe, the Shinkansen line is not visible in the city. The Shinkansen station is nestled close to the mountain, where a high-rise building can also be seen.

Kobe is not only home to the world-famous Kōbe beef, but it is also home to impressive buildings, museums and parks. The Harbor Tower, in the western harbor area (also shown as a landmark in the simulator), is also the city's landmark. It was built in 1963. With a height of 108 meters, it towers above the nearby buildings. On the observation deck there is a beautiful view of the city, the harbor and the sea.

RJBE-Kobe



Distance:	4,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	74,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	162°
Magnetic Course:	170°
Elevation:	23 feet
Fuel:	yes

Once you have flown over the Shinkansen station, turn southeast, fly over the harbor island and look for the artificial island where Kobe Airport was built. Get permission to land, have a pleasant stay in Kobe and enjoy the nightlife, which has a lot to offer.

LEG 7: RJBE - RJNA

Departure: Kobe (RJBE)
Destination: Nagoya (RJNA)
Distance: 103,3 nm

**MUKO-Muko River**

Distance: 10,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.: 10,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.: 92,4 nm
True Course: 43°
Magnetic Course: 51°

Early the next morning, you're back at the airport; all passengers are on board.

So rise again into the Japanese sky and set a course in the direction of the northwest. You fly over an extensive port area. The next largest river you should look out for is the Muko River. Once you've spotted it, follow it in a northerly direction. Among the intense development, a small green area, Nishimuku Park, stands out on the east side of the river. Directly behind the park, the Shinkansen line crosses the river.

OSAKA-Osaka

Distance:	6,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	17,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	85,9 nm
True Course:	108°
Magnetic Course:	116°

Next stop: Osaka.

Since the next stop of the Shinkansen Super Express is just 13 nautical miles as the crow flies from our departure airport, a stopover in Osaka is dispensed with in this case.

Now follow the rail line to the Osaka train station, which can be found exactly in the middle of the Yodo and Kanzaki rivers and also in the extension of Osaka Airport's runway 14R.

For the San'yō-Shinkansen, this is the final stop. From here begins the route for the Tōkaidō-Shinkansen, which runs all the way to Tokyo. The latter is named after the historic Tōkaidō trunk road that connects Kyoto with Tokyo and still exists today.

Osaka is a prominent economic center on the Japanese island of Honshu. It is known for its modern architecture, nightlife and diverse food stalls. The most important historical landmark is Osaka Castle from the times of the Shogunate, in the 16th century, which has been restored several times. The castle is surrounded by a moat and a park with plum, peach and cherry trees.

The Sumiyoshi Taisha, in Osaka, is among the oldest Shinto shrines in Japan. It is considered the main shrine, of over 2,000 sumiyoshi shrines, throughout Japan, where kami (spirits or gods) are worshipped to protect travelers, sailors, fishermen and merchants. It is believed to have been built in the 3rd century and is mentioned as early as the Kokin-wakashū, an early Japanese poetic form.

KYOTO-Kyoto

Distance:	19,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	37,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	66,1 nm
True Course:	40°
Magnetic Course:	48°

The Shinkansen line now runs from Osaka Station to the left of the Yodo River. Follow it to the old imperial city of Kyoto.

Kyōto, whose name means nothing more than "capital city," was the seat of the Imperial Court of Japan from 794 to 1868 and is today the administrative seat of Kyōto Prefecture. It is one of the most important cities in Japan, both historically and culturally.

Kyoto is described in relevant travel guides as a city where time has stood still. Picturesque temples and shrines, historic alleys and Japanese cherry blossoms as far as the eye can see. It's as if you've traveled far back in time to the era of emperors and shoguns. It is not for nothing that Kyoto, along with Osaka and Tokyo, is one of the most visited cities in Japan.

A total of 17 buildings in Kyoto Prefecture have already been declared UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Thus, the city has one of the largest collections of globally significant sights.

MAIB-Maibara



Distance:	32,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	69,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	33,4 nm
True Course:	53°
Magnetic Course:	61°

Although Kyoto Station is clearly visible, the rail line soon disappears underground again and passes through the Ushiosan Mountains. It crosses the Seta River and then runs a few miles inland, parallel to the southeastern shore of Lake Biwa, to Maibara.

Mount Ibuki, northeast of the city, with an elevation of 1,377 meters, is the highest peak; a popular ski resort in winter and a destination for many campers and hikers in summer. A cable car and ski lifts lead to the summit, which offers a good view of Lake Biwa and the surrounding area. The area around Maibara is famous for its beef Maibara Beef.

NAGO-Nagoya



Distance:	28,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	98,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	4,6 nm
True Course:	104°
Magnetic Course:	112°

Next stop: Nagoya.

The Shinkansen line soon passes through a gorge between the mountains Ibuki in the north and Ryozen in the south. After crossing several rivers, clearly visible, it leads to the city of Nagoya.

This city is considered the largest railroad junction in the world, with nearly 200,000 passengers passing through every day. The station, with its skyscrapers, is a small metropolis in itself. The city is also the headquarters of Toyota Motors.

The great warlords Toyotomi Hideyoshi, Oda Nobunaga and Tokugawa Ieyasu - the most famous samurai in Japanese history - had their roots in Nagoya. They played a major role in the reunification of Japan after a century of civil wars.

Although Kiyosu Castle is the oldest in the area, the city's landmark is the towering Nagoya Castle. This 17th-century castle, destroyed by air raids during World War II and subsequently rebuilt, serves as an impressive reminder of Nagoya's important role throughout Japanese history. It is the main tourist attraction in the city. The golden dolphins, at the top of the castle, are a famous symbol of the city.

RJNA-Nagoya

Distance:	4,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	103,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	44°
Magnetic Course:	52°
Elevation:	51 feet
Fuel:	yes

Nagoya Airport is less than five miles away, northeast of the station. Give yourself and your passengers a rest here and have a safe and soft landing.

Nagoya is famous for its full-bodied, spicy cuisine. You'll find fantastic restaurants everywhere serving peppery chicken wings, juicy pork chops with red miso, and spicy Taiwanese ramen. Bon appetit.

LEG 8: RJNA - RJTT

Departure: Nagoya (RJNA)
 Destination: Tokyo (Haneda) International (RJTT)
 Distance: 176,5 nm



SONA-Shonai River



Distance:	4,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	4,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	171,8 nm
True Course:	217°
Magnetic Course:	225°

After takeoff, fly back to the airport once again. The Oyama River flows under Runway 16, but it's more like a canal. It takes you directly back to the station, which is located to the left of the river. A short distance southeast of the station flows the Shonai River, which is crossed by the Shinkansen line.

GAMA-Gamagori

Distance:	27,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	32,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	143,9 nm
True Course:	140°
Magnetic Course:	148°

Now follow the Shinkansen route again to the port town of Gamagori, which lies on Mikawa Bay.

Gamagori was long known for its cotton products, "Mikawa momen," and hemp ropes, which are now only produced here in small quantities.

The town is located in the Mikawa Wan Quasi National Park. In the park, there are many white sand beaches, green pine beaches and quiet bays. Due to the proximity to the urban area and the large population in the surrounding area, there are many beaches that attract local visitors. Gamagori has thus become a seaside resort. On the other hand, the park also functions to protect the natural landscape. Some hot springs invite to relax. Mikawa Bay is home to several islands and is a treasure trove of seafood.

HAMA-Hamamatsu

Distance:	26,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	58,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	117,8 nm
True Course:	108°
Magnetic Course:	115°

Continue along the coast for a while. Then you pass Toyohashi city, fly over the southern end of Lake Hamana, along the Pacific coast and arrive over the city of Hamamatsu.

Hamamatsu - the name means "beach pine" - is a major industrial city. Well-known companies in the automotive industry, such as Yamaha or Suzuki, as well as manufacturers of musical instruments, such as Kawai and Roland, have their headquarters here, which is why it bears the title "City of Music" as an epithet. The Hamamatsu area has also developed into a research and industrial center for optoelectronics in recent decades.

FUJI-Fuji

Distance:	54,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	112,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	63,8 nm
True Course:	60°
Magnetic Course:	68°

Continuing east, you can see how the Shinkansen line passes under Shizuoka Airport. Continuing along the coast, you will eventually reach the city of Fuji, at the foot of Ashitaka volcano.

If you haven't managed to fly over Fuji volcano, the most famous and highest mountain in Japan, you should do it now or you never will ;-)

The city got its name from the nearby volcano, which means "mountain of warriors". Fuji is one of the most important industrial centers in Shizuoka Prefecture. The city has been home to numerous paper mills since the Meiji period (1868 - 1912), including Nippon Paper Industries and Oji Paper Company. And who doesn't know the famous Fujifilm Holdings Corporation brand. However, this has its headquarters in the middle of Tokyo. Other industries include food processing, metals and transportation equipment. The auto parts manufacturer Jatco has its headquarters in Fuji. Agriculture in the region focuses on the production of green tea and vegetable cultivation.

ATAMI-Atami

Distance:	19,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	132,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	44,3 nm
True Course:	97°
Magnetic Course:	105°

Now fly further along the coast of Suruga Bay, in the direction of the rising sun. Once again, the Shinkansen crosses a mountain range. On the other side, you'll arrive at Sagami Bay and thus Atami Station, at Atami Sun Bay.

Atami means "hot sea." The city is famous for its onsen (hot springs). It has been a resort since the 8th century and is now part of the Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park.

Many pieces from the extensive art collection of the eccentric multimillionaire religious leader Mokichi Okada are housed in the MOA Art Museum. He founded the religious community "Sekai Kyūsei-kyō", called "Religious Community for the Salvation of the World" and proclaimed himself the Messiah to create a paradise on earth, which he undoubtedly failed to do.

YOKO-Yokohama



Distance:	35,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	168,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	8,5 nm
True Course:	47°
Magnetic Course:	55°

Next stop: Yokohama.

No sooner have you discovered the station than the rail line has disappeared under the next mountain. Now simply follow the coast in a northerly direction. You'll find it again at the Sakawa River. Shortly before the mouth of the river, two rail lines cross the river. The left one is the Shinkansen line. Follow it to Yokohama station.

Yokohama is part of the Tokyo metropolitan area. It is, after Tokyo, the second largest city in Japan and, as a prefecture, the largest municipality in the country by population. In the past, however, before Japan began maritime trade with other countries in the late 1850s, Yokohama was a small fishing village with origins dating back to the 12th century. With the establishment of the port of Yokohama and due to its convenient location on the bay, the city grew into an important place of commercial trade, especially for the import and export of silk and tea, where a great many foreign merchants and diplomats settled. The influence of these people is still reflected today in various neighborhoods of the city: thus, Yokohama was then one of the few gateways of Japan to the world, and still is today, among many other port cities that were later created following this model.

RJTT-Tokyo (Haneda) International



Distance:	8,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	176,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	71°
Magnetic Course:	79°
Elevation:	29 feet
Fuel:	no

Now prepare to land at the mega airport of the mega metropolis Tokyo. With the air traffic here, you should urgently contact the tower after you have already explored the airport from the air.

To do this, turn east and fly along the port facilities for a while. The airport is so huge that you can't miss it. It is considered the fifth largest airport in the world (after Atlanta, Beijing, Dubai and Los Angeles). The airport serves as a hub for Japan Airlines, All Nippon Airways, Skymark, Air Do and Solaseed Air.

Have a good landing here and good luck finding parking for your plane. Time for an extensive lunch break.

LEG 9: RJTT - RJOJ

Departure: Tokyo (Haneda) International (RJTT)

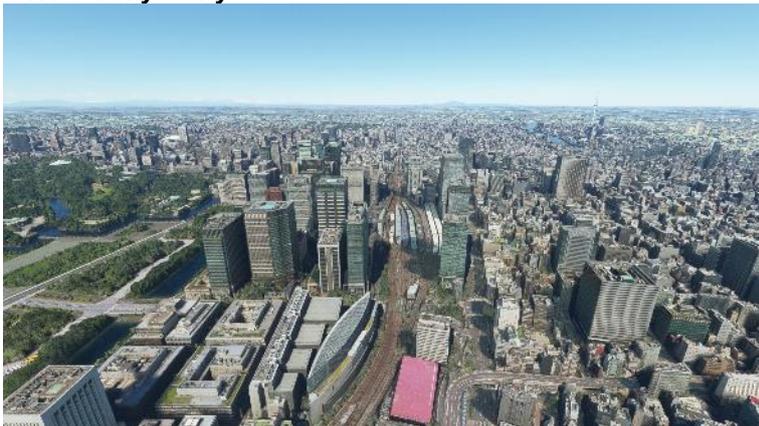
Destination: Okegawa airfield (RJOJ)

Distance: 30,0 nm

**SHIN-Shinagawa**

Distance: 4,9 nm
Dist. from Dept.: 4,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.: 25,1 nm
True Course: 336°
Magnetic Course: 344°

After you've been cleared for takeoff and it's finally your turn to take off, use the direction of runway 34R as a reference to get to Shinagawa Station. Keep to the east of the artificial islands of the port facilities and soon you'll be able to see a very large station with many rail lines.

TOKYO-Tokyo City

Distance:	3,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	8,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	21,6 nm
True Course:	23°
Magnetic Course:	31°

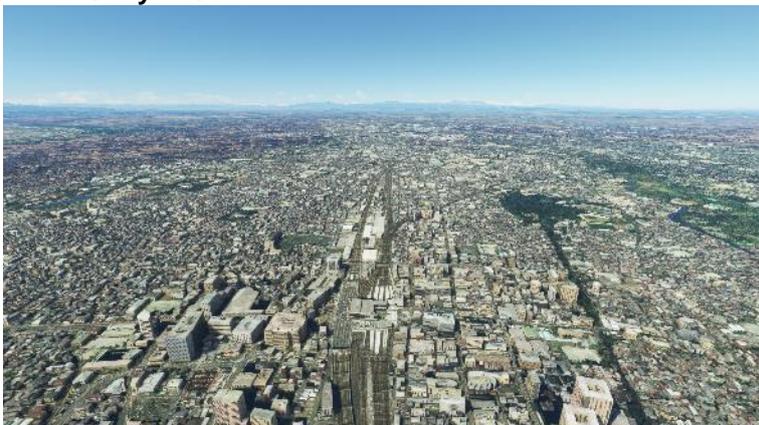
Next stop: Tokyo City. (No, not really, because there is no other airport nearby).

In any case, this is the terminus for the Tokaido Shinkansen. From here begins the route for the Tohoku Shinkansen, named after the Tohoku region, which goes all the way to Aomori.

Fly a short distance along the tracks and you will find yourself above Tokyo's main station, right in the center of the metropolis, between skyscrapers. East of the station, behind the skyscrapers, surrounded by a moat, is the old Imperial Palace, on the site of Edo Castle. This green spot should be a good reference point to explore a bit of the city from.

Tokyo - which means "eastern capital" - is the most populous metropolitan area in the world, with about 39 million people. The city's history begins in 1446, when Ōta Dōkan, in a marshy area, on the northern shore of what is now Tokyo Bay, began building Edo Castle, surrounded by a few fishing villages. After Tokyo became the capital, rapid population growth began. By 1910, the city was already one of the largest in the world, with a population of around two million. In addition to modern sights, such as the Tokyo Tower or Tokyo Skytree, it also offers historical sites, such as the Imperial Gardens in Chiyoda, Ueno Park or the Asakusa-Kannon Temple. In recent years, Tokyo has become a popular tourist destination and is among the top 20 most visited cities in the world, with up to eight million visitors from abroad each year.

After you've done plenty of looking around, return to the main train station.

OMIYA-Omiya - Saitama

Distance:	15,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	23,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	6,4 nm
True Course:	333°
Magnetic Course:	340°

Next stop: Omiya.

The Tohoku Shinkansen line initially heads north from the main station and changes direction to the northwest before reaching the Arakawa River. It soon crosses the river and then runs east of it, to Omiya station, in Saitama.

Saitama borders Tokyo, but offers its own unique variety of outdoor adventures and vivid glimpses of Edo's history. Because of its location, Saitama is a popular destination among Tokyoites for outdoor excursions. Mountainous areas such as Chichibu offer leisurely hikes to admire seasonal flowers, while the more rural Sayama, west of the river, is dotted with emerald tea fields.

RJOJ-Okegawa airfield

Distance:	6,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	30,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	311°
Magnetic Course:	319°
Elevation:	38 feet
Fuel:	yes

Turn northwest here until you see the Arakawa River. Follow it in a northerly direction until you spot the Okegawa airfield on its western bank. Have a happy landing there.

Honda has a test and race track for cars nearby, which your passengers will want to check out to stretch their legs a bit. After an hour layover, move on.

Honda Airport is a private airfield. Another name for it is Okegawa Airfield. It is operated by Honda Airways, a subsidiary of Honda Motor Co. Ltd.

LEG 10: RJOJ - RJSU

Departure: Okegawa airfield (RJOJ)
 Destination: Kasuminome (RJSU)
 Distance: 158,7 nm



INA-Ina



Distance: 4,9 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 4,9 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 153,8 nm
 True Course: 89°
 Magnetic Course: 97°

Take off, return to the airfield and set a course of exactly 90° M over the airfield. After about 3 miles, a first railroad line comes into view; fly over it and just beyond it you will see a second railroad line; just beyond that, a third. Look at the second railroad line, which splits at the town of Ina, once to the northwest and once to the northeast.

UTSO-Utsunomiya

Distance:	37,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	42,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	116,5 nm
True Course:	21°
Magnetic Course:	29°

The railroad line that runs to the northwest is the Juetso Shinkansen line that serves the west coast of Honshu Island. Follow the northeastern Shinkansen line that will take you to the city of Utsunomiya, which is photorealistically represented in the simulator.

Utsunomiya is located north of Tokyo in Tochigi Prefecture. There, quite unusually for Japan, you can listen to jazz sounds, try Utsunomiya's typical tasty dumplings called gyoza at several hundred locations around town, and visit a spectacular underground meeting place for art and music. These underground meeting places are caverns of a disused underground quarry. Many caverns are ideal for art exhibitions. The good acoustics of the mine are ideal for concerts.

The Oya-ji temple is the landmark of Utsunomiya. Over 1200 years old, the temple is built into a huge exposed section of a cliff at the quarry.

NASU-Nasushiobara

Distance:	25,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	68,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	90,6 nm
True Course:	17°
Magnetic Course:	25°

Continue flying through the narrowing valley, heading northeast, until you reach the town of Nasushiobara.

Nasushiobara is an amalgamation of various municipalities and towns and has only existed as such since 2005. It is an agricultural area, where the main focus is on milk production.

KORI-Koriyama

Distance:	30,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	98,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	60,4 nm
True Course:	31°
Magnetic Course:	39°

The Shinkansen line takes you further northeast to the city of Koriyama.

Kōriyama was a postal station in the Edo period (1603 - 1868). After the construction of the Asaka Canal in the Meiji period (1868 - 1912), the city quickly developed into the economic center of Fukushima Prefecture. Major industries include silk spinning, textiles, engineering, and the manufacture of chemical products.

Koriyama has a summer festival in July modeled after the Oktoberfest of Munich, Germany, with German music, beer, pork knuckles and Bavarian pretzels.

FUKU-Fukushima

Distance:	21,6 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	119,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	38,8 nm
True Course:	9°
Magnetic Course:	17°

The rest of the Shinkansen route will take you to the capital of Fukushima Prefecture.

Fukushima means "lucky island". The name Fukushima has been known worldwide since March 11, 2011, due to the Fukushima nuclear disaster, which occurred about 60 kilometers southeast of the city, at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, on the Pacific east coast, although the city of Fukushima was hardly affected.

Significant are about 130 hot healing springs. For this reason, many hotels, have been established in this location, representing an important economic factor. The area is also known for the cultivation of rice, fruit and the production of rice wine sake. In addition, Fukushima is considered an industrial and commercial center.

SEND-Sendai

Distance:	36,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	156,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	2,4 nm
True Course:	33°
Magnetic Course:	42°

Next stop: Sendai.

At Fukushima, the Yamagata Shinkansen line branches off to the west, eventually ending at Shinjo. Follow the route that continues to the northeast and arrive at the city of Sendai. This city is also photorealistically represented in the simulator.

Sendai was founded as a castle town by the powerful feudal lord Date Masamune. For reasons of a defense case, Masamune had Sendai Castle, which means "Castle of Green Leaves", built in 1601, one hundred meters above the city, on Mount Aoba. Next to the mountain flows the Hirose River. Look ahead to the left as you cross the river, and you can see the castle.

The economy in Sendai is dominated by commercial and service businesses. Sendai is home to the headquarters of the Tōhoku Denryoku power company.

RJSU-Kasuminome

Distance:	2,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	158,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	128°
Magnetic Course:	136°
Elevation:	23 feet
Fuel:	yes

Already on the approach to the city, you should have discovered the small Kasuminome airport on the right side. Fly over the city's train station, turn 90° to the right and have a soft and safe landing at the airport.

While you take a rest, your passengers will be introduced to the history of the airport.

The airfield was built in 1937 as Sendai Air Field by the Imperial Japanese Army and served as a training facility for aircrew. During the occupation of Japan, it was designated as "Lanier Airfield" by the Allies.

LEG 11: RJSU - RJSI

Departure: Kasuminome (RJSU)

Destination: Hanamaki (RJSI)

Distance: 72,9 nm

**NANA-Nanakita River**

Distance:	4,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	4,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	68,9 nm
True Course:	21°
Magnetic Course:	30°

After you've checked the machine and had some rest, it's time to take off again. After takeoff, set a northeasterly course and sight the Nanakita River. Although some roads cross the river, the two railroad lines that cross the river are easily distinguished from the road bridges. The more southerly rail line is the Shinkansen line.

ICHI-Ichinoseki

Distance:	38,7 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	42,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	30,2 nm
True Course:	13°
Magnetic Course:	21°

Now follow the Tohoku Shinkansen again to the city of Ichinoseki.

Ichinoseki is predominantly rural, with no attractions worth mentioning. Northeast of the town is Geibikei Gorge, an approximately 2-kilometer-long gorge formed by the Satetsu River, with cliffs rising to heights of 50 to 100 meters. The name "geibi", meaning "lion's nose", comes from a limestone formation at the end of the gorge.

RJSI-Hanamaki

Distance:	30,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	72,9 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	360°
Magnetic Course:	8°
Elevation:	290 feet
Fuel:	yes

Next stop: Morioka.

Since there is no airport near Morioka, we will move the "stop" up a bit, to Hanamaki Airport.

So follow the Thohoku Shinkansen through the valley of the Kitakami River, passing through the towns of Hiraizumi, Ōshū, Kanegasaki, Kitakami and Hanamaki. North of Hanamaki, just west of the Kitakami River is the airport. Have a happy landing here and a pleasant stay in this rural region. The airport hotel is said to be quite comfortable despite its 3 stars.

The district of Ōhasama is home to the mask dance Hayachine Kagura, which in 2009, by UNESCO, was included in the representative list of intangible cultural heritage of humanity.

LEG 12: RJSI - RJSA

Departure: Hanamaki (RJSI)

Destination: Aomori (RJSA)

Distance: 113,1 nm

**MORI-Morioka**

Distance:	16,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	16,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	96,8 nm
True Course:	0°
Magnetic Course:	9°

After a pleasant night's sleep, it's off to the next stop on the Tohoku Shinkansen Super Express, Morioka. The route initially runs east of the river, soon crossing it, and after just a few miles you find yourself above the town of Morioka.

Among the sights of the town of Morioka is the "Stone-Splitting Cherry Tree," a tree that grows out of the split in a granite boulder and cracked it as it grew. This cherry tree is about three hundred to four hundred years old and stands in front of the courthouse. In 1923 the tree was declared a national treasure.

The birthplace of Hara Takashi, the first bourgeois prime minister of Japan (1918-1921), can also be found here.

Morioka, however, is best known for its ironware, nambu tetsubin. Also for its turned wooden dolls (kokeshi) and for the ceramics made of kuji-yaki, a particularly light-colored clay found here.

ICHI-Ichinohe

Distance:	32,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	49,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	64,0 nm
True Course:	11°
Magnetic Course:	20°

The route continues through an interesting landscape characterized by small lakes, rivers, folded mountains and volcanic chains. Somehow I had the impression beforehand that the planners of the Shinkansen route had problems with acquiring land to let it run in the valley instead of constantly piercing mountains. This impression is just solidifying.

So follow the line further north, pass the town of Iwate and reach the town of Ichinohe.

The area of present-day Ichinohe was part of the ancient Mutsu Province and has been settled since at least the Jōmon period (14,000 - 300 BC). Many remains from the Jōmon and Kofun periods have been found and are on display in a museum here. This region also lives mainly from agriculture.

HACH-Hachinohe

Distance:	20,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	69,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	43,9 nm
True Course:	23°
Magnetic Course:	32°

The Shinkansen route now runs a bit more northeast. Try to follow it as well as possible, because there are only short sections on the surface. Get to the harbor town of Hachinohe.

Hachinohe is mainly characterized by fishing, but also textile, steel industry and wood processing play an economic role. The people here are considered extremely friendly, welcoming and open to strangers. Like Ichinohe, the museums have a lot to offer from the early history of Japan.

The Hachinohe area has been known for its breed of war horses since the Kamakura period (1192 - 1333). Working horses have also supported the lives of the citizens and were often used as the subject of dances and folk tales. The art of yawata-uma figures is a regional art form and a popular souvenir.

AOMO-Aomori

Distance:	38,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	107,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	5,7 nm
True Course:	297°
Magnetic Course:	306°

Next stop: Aomori.

The Shinkansen line soon changes direction to the northwest. The last half of the route requires some nautical skill again, as it changes direction to the west under the next mountain range. It then runs near Aomori Airport, where you can rediscover it.

This station is the terminus for the Tohoku Shinkansen and the start for the Hokkaido Shinkansen, named after Japan's northernmost main island.

Aomori means "city of the blue-green forest." Timber industry and fishing are the determining economic factors of Aomori. Ancient ruins and magnificent temples, shrines and castles, as well as the remote village of Aoni Onsen, lit only by gas lanterns, await visitors. In addition, the Aomori area grows the most apples in Japan.

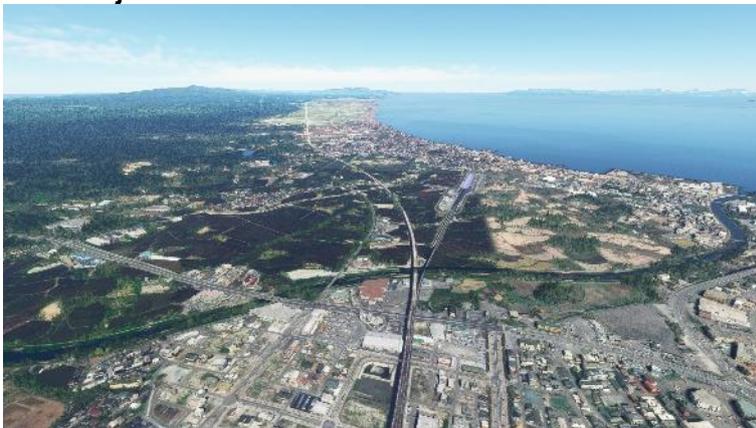
RJSA-Aomori

Distance:	5,7 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	113,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	182°
Magnetic Course:	191°
Elevation:	655 feet
Fuel:	yes

You have already seen Aomori Airport on the approach. When you are over the station, turn south and look for the airport. Have a happy landing here and enjoy your second breakfast.

LEG 13: RJSA - RJCH

Departure: Aomori (RJSA)
Destination: Hakodate (RJCH)
Distance: 92,6 nm

**SINJ-Shinjo River**

Distance: 6,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.: 6,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.: 86,5 nm
True Course: 2°
Magnetic Course: 11°

After you are back in the air, turn north and try to find the Shinkansen station you saw before you landed. North of it flows the Shinjo River, which is crossed by two rail lines. The western one is our Hokkaido Shinkansen line.

CATA-Cape Tappi

Distance:	30,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	36,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	56,5 nm
True Course:	328°
Magnetic Course:	338°

Now follow the Hokkaido Shinkansen to the northernmost tip of the Tsugaru Peninsula, Cape Tappi.

Tappi means "kite flying" in Japanese, as strong winds are constantly blowing at the cape to let kites fly here. In addition, Cape Tappi is a popular destination for excursions. A staircase with 362 steps leads to the small fishing harbor below. This is the only staircase in Japan that is officially marked as a national road.

YOSH-Yoshioka

Distance:	12,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	48,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	44,4 nm
True Course:	336°
Magnetic Course:	346°

The Hokkaido Shinkansen passes under the Tsugaru Strait here, in the Seikan Tunnel. The tunnel is 54 kilometers long in total, of which 23 kilometers are under the sea. The remaining 31 kilometers pass through the mountains to the south and north of the Tsugaru Strait. It is the fourth longest railroad tunnel in the world and after the Eurotunnel between France and Great Britain, it has the second longest tunnel section under the sea.

As you fly over Cape Tappi, you can already see Cape Shirakami on the opposite side. Don't head straight for it, though, but keep just to the right of it and fly towards the fishing village of Yoshioka, which will soon come into view.

HAKO-Hakodate Houto

Distance:	33,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	81,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	11,2 nm
True Course:	34°
Magnetic Course:	43°

After you reach the village of Yoshioka, you won't be able to see the route right away. Turn about 10° to the right here. In the valley of the Fukushima River, just before its mouth, the route will be visible for a short time, only to disappear again in the next mountain.

Follow the route in the direction of the port town of Kikonai. If necessary, orient yourself by the coastline, which runs to the north. From there, the track leads, a bit off the coast, to the last stop, Hakodate Houto. This is the end of the line for the Hokkaido Shinkansen. The rest of the line, to Sapporo, is already under construction but not visible in the simulator.

Hakodate is one of the largest cities on Hokkaido. Above the city rises the 334 meter high mountain of the same name, Hakodate. From the summit, to which a cable car leads, there is a spectacular panoramic view, especially at night.

RJCH-Hakodate

Distance:	11,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	92,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	136°
Magnetic Course:	146°
Elevation:	121 feet
Fuel:	yes

Turn south over the Shinkansen station and head for Hakodate Mountain, which you can see on the coast, on a peninsula. Then follow the coast in an easterly direction to land at Hakodate airport shortly after. There you can make preparations for the last leg of this trip.

On the approach to the airport, you can see on the left the Goryōkaku, a park with cherry trees, in a fortress, with the shape of a five-pointed star, from the late Edo period.

LEG 14: RJCH - RJCO

Departure: Hakodate (RJCH)

Destination: Sapporo (RJCO)

Distance: 131,0 nm

**HAKS-Hakodate Station**

Distance: 4,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.: 4,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.: 126,7 nm
True Course: 275°
Magnetic Course: 284°

Take off, orient yourself to the west and fly towards Hakodate Mountain. At the foot of the mountain you can see Hakodate station.

LKKO-Lake Konuma

Distance:	11,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	15,6 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	115,4 nm
True Course:	343°
Magnetic Course:	352°

Now follow the railroad line heading north and once again to the station of the Hokkaido Shinkansen, Hakodate Houto. Here the Hakodate line continues north through a gorge from which the Kunebetso River emerges. Fly through the gorge to Lake Konuma.

MORI-Mori

Distance:	9,8 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	25,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	105,6 nm
True Course:	339°
Magnetic Course:	349°

Now follow the western shore of the lake. Keep the mountains on the left at some distance and the volcanic mountain Hokkaido Koma-ga-take on the right. This will take you to the shore of Uchiura Bay and the town of Mori.

OSHA-Oshamambe

Distance:	26,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	51,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	79,6 nm
True Course:	341°
Magnetic Course:	350°

Now follow the coastline in a northerly direction until you reach the town of Oshamambe. In addition to Coastal Road 5, the Hakodate Line also runs along there.

KURO-Kuromatsunai



Distance: 9,8 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 61,1 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 69,9 nm
 True Course: 341°
 Magnetic Course: 351°

The Hakodate line runs northwest from Oshamambe into the mountains. Follow it to the community of Kuromatsunai.

RANK-Rankoshi



Distance: 12,6 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 73,7 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 57,2 nm
 True Course: 50°
 Magnetic Course: 60°

Behind Kuromatsunai, the railroad line first changes direction to the east and then immediately turns northwest. Follow it until you reach the town of Rankoshi.

KUTC-Kutchan



Distance: 11,0 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 84,8 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 46,2 nm
 True Course: 59°
 Magnetic Course: 68°

The Hakodate line now continues along the valley of the Shiribetsu River. As you now follow both, you fly toward the volcanic mountain Yōtei-zan. At the foot of the mountain, the railroad line turns north. Follow it and the river to the town of Kutchan.

Austrian Major General Theodor Edler von Lerch came to Kutchan in 1912. He popularized skiing here and was the first to climb Yōtei-zan on skis. Following his example, ski clubs from several universities

began to hold trips to Kutchan and the surrounding area during the Taishō period (1912 - 1926). The first ski lift was opened in 1961. Kutchan established itself as a major winter sports center by hosting national ski championships.

Kutchan also gained fame as the center of a potato growing area. Among other things, gosetsu-udon, very tasty udon noodles made from potato flour, are produced here.

YOIC-Yoichi



Distance:	17,7 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	102,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	28,5 nm
True Course:	8°
Magnetic Course:	18°

The Hakodate line continues northwest, then north through the mountains and finally to the port city of Yoichi, on the Sea of Japan.

The cave paintings, in Fugoppe Cave in Yoichi, are the first known evidence of prehistoric life on Hokkaido. Their origin remains a mystery.

SAPP-Sapporo



Distance:	25,2 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	127,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	3,3 nm
True Course:	107°
Magnetic Course:	117°

Follow the Hakodate line along the coast to Sapporo. The planned route of the Hokkaido Shinkansen is also expected to end near this station. By March 2031, construction work should be completed and Hokkaido's capital will be connected to the Shinkansen network.

Sapporo, capital of the mountainous northern Japanese island of Hokkaido, is known for its beer, ski resorts and annual snow festival, where giant ice sculptures are built.

The Sapporo Beer Museum highlights the history of brewing in the city. Visitors are offered tastings and a beer garden.

Downhill ski slopes and ski jumps from the 1972 Winter Olympics are located in the city area.

RJCO-Sapporo

Distance:	3,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	131,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	26°
Magnetic Course:	36°
Elevation:	23 feet
Fuel:	yes

Turn to the northeast, sight the airport and set for landing approach. Have a safe landing here.

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