

# Money

Japan is predominantly a cash-based society especially in rural areas.

We recommend you to bring the equivalent of 300,000 JPY~ in cash even you are a scholarship student as scholarship payment usually takes 4 to 6 weeks to start.

## **Currency**

The currency in Japan is the yen (円, en) and is denoted with the symbol ¥. Bills come in 1,000 yen, 2,000 yen (rare), 5,000 yen and 10,000yen denominations. Coins come in 1 yen, 5 yen, 10 yen, 50 yen, 100 yen and 500 yen denominations. Counterfeit money is sometimes found for 500 yen coins.

## **Consumption tax**

The current consumption tax rate is 10% nationwide (8% for take-out food and drink). All the price tags should include the consumption tax.

## **Payment methods**

### **Cash:**

We recommend you to carry cash in your wallet, ~3,000JPY for daily life, ~10,000JPY for your first visiting day.

### **Credit Cards/Debit cards:**

Credit cards/Debit cards have become increasingly accepted.

The most commonly accepted cards are MasterCard, Visa, and JCB. American Express

and Diner's Club are accepted to a lesser extent.

Please note that some places do not take foreign-issued credit cards or cash cards, including 銀聯 card.

Please check if your credit card and cash card are usable in Japan before your visit.

## **Getting your JPY**

### **Currency Exchange:**

Currency exchange is usually handled by banks, post offices, some larger hotels and a handful of licensed money changers found at international airports.

### **ATM withdrawal:**

Most ATMs do not accept foreign-issued cash cards in Japan.

Postal ATMs (Japan Post office) and 7-Bank ATMs (7-Eleven convenience stores) allow you to withdraw cash by credit and debit cards issued outside of Japan, including Visa, Plus, Mastercard, Maestro, Cirrus, American Express and JCB cards, and provide an English user menu.

Please check if your cash cards are usable in Japan before you leave for Japan.

### **Traveler's check:**

Traveler's checks are accepted in very limited currencies in Japan. International airports and leading banks are the easiest place to change your T/C for yen.

## **Price list**

Narita Express from Narita to Ofuna	4,620 JPY
JR and Odakyu line from Ofuna to Shonandai	370 JPY
Bus from Shonandai staton to SFC	220 JPY
Beverages (500ml/pet bottle)	~140JPY
Sandwiches	~300 JPY
McDonald set meal	~600 JPY
A meal at a restaurant	~800 JPY
Monthly rent fee for an apartment	~60,000 JPY
Deposit and key money and extra one month rent fee	~300,000 JPY