For the Japanese, the Onsen is not just a place for cleansing the body. Most people also consider it as a special place to soothe their tired minds and bodies, unwind, and gain energy for the next day. For everyone to enjoy a bath in the onsen, there are several bathing etiquettes that one must follow. Master these basics to fully enjoy your bathing experience.

Guide to Japanese Bathing Etiquette

- Take off your shoes and slippers before entering the dressing room.
- Remove your clothes, place it in a basket or put inside your locker.
- In most cases, guests should enter the tub naked. Unless you are in a public bath that allows swimwear, you are not allowed to enter the tub with clothes on.
- You are responsible for any valuables you bring in the onsen. Coin lockers are also available.

Follow these bathing etiquettes and enjoy bathing the Japanese way.

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Guide to Japanese Bathing Etiquette

Take a shower first. Be careful not to wet other guests with soap suds or shower water, and rinse well before taking a dip in the hot tub.

Avoid making noise, as there are people who may want a quiet bathing time.

Guests with long hair should tie their hair up. Avoid wearing a towel when in the bathtub.

Most Japanese like to dip on a tub with hot water. If you feel that the water is too hot, ask your fellow guests before adding more water.

Thoroughly wipe your body dry before returning to the dressing room.

Do not wash clothes, and run and loiter around the shower area.

Drinking alcohol before taking a bath in the hot tub is dangerous and discouraged.

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