

PEOPLE . PLACES

WORLD'S MOST PUNCTUAL TRAIN - JAPAN'S SHINKANSEN

2 x 45' (ENG, GER)

Japan's Shinkansen is the world's most punctual long-distance express train. And it takes us to the most beautiful places in Japan.

The Hokuriku Shinkansen takes its guests from the hyper-modern, glittering metropolis of Tokyo to Kanazawa, right in the heart of traditional Japanese craftsmanship. The journey takes us past some of the most beautiful and original places in Japan: We visit a wasabi farmer, who initiates us into the secrets of the most demanding cultivated plant in the world. In a 400-year-old drum factory, we are there when one of the last giant taiko drums in the world is built. We also take a look behind the scenes of the record-breaking train: We sit in the cockpit with one of the youngest Shinkansen pilots in the country who lets us take a test drive with an almost perfect Shinkansen of the future. A voyage of discovery with the high-tech super train into the soul of Japanese craftsmanship.



Original Title:	Der pünktlichste Zug der Welt - Unterwegs mit dem Shinkansen
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Produced by:	Autentic, Wondertrunk
Partners:	NDR

1. From Tokyo to the Sea of Japan

In Part 1, we explore Japan's newest Shinkansen line. We meet a wasabi farmer, visit Japan's best woodcarvers and see how one of the world's last giant taiko drums is created. In between, Shinkansen engineers take us on a test ride of an almost perfect futuristic train. At the terminus of the Shinkansen, a young geisha lets us in on the latest secrets of world-class entertainers.

2. From Osaka to the South of Japan

In Part 2, we explore the Sanyo Shinkansen routes that connect the two largest cities in the west of the country: Osaka and Fukuoka. We explore one of the most beautiful bike routes in the world and meet a young woman in Hiroshima who keeps the stories of the atomic bomb victims alive. We look out for the Dr. Yellow, a bright yellow route checker bullet train; legend has it that fate is kind to anyone who spots it.