



Gifu Crossroads



Gifu Prefecture Tourism and Event Newsletter

Summer 2011 Vol. 12

Dear Travel Partners,

We thank you for your support in the wake of the unfortunate events in Eastern Japan. Three months have passed since then and the people of Japan are working together to overcome all obstacles on the road to recovery. For those of us involved in the tourism industry, recovery is synonymous with a thriving tourism industry and we are working everyday to realize this goal.

Fortunately, Gifu Prefecture was not affected by the disaster. The tourist sites in Gifu Prefecture like the historic streets of Takayama, the World Heritage Site Shirakawa-go, and the famed hot springs of Gero remain just as before. There has been no change in our daily lives. The railroads, highways, airports, electricity, and communication networks are fully available to us as before. In regard to radiation, which is of special concern to many people, radiation levels in Gifu Prefecture have been monitored daily since the disaster and there have been no readings for radiation levels that would affect human health. (1, 2)

During the week-long spring holiday (Golden Week) period, Gifu Prefecture launched a campaign to help infuse new life into the tourism industry and revitalize the affected areas in Eastern Japan. The results were fantastic showing a 1.1% increase in travelers over previous years. With this type of positive feedback, we plan to run similar campaigns in the future.

As summer approaches, we step into the tourism high-season. Don't miss the 1,300 year-old tradition of Nagaragawa Cormorant Fishing, popular dance festivals of Gujo, thrilling Kiso River Cruising adventure, or fantastic scenery at 2,200 meters at Shinhotaka Ropeway.

Gifu Prefecture, its municipalities, and tourism related businesses are fully invested in providing an enjoyable experience for all of our overseas guests and we are working with the country and the Central Japan region to realize the goal of revitalization. We thank you for your support and welcome you to Gifu Prefecture!

Sincerely,

Tourism and Local Products Promotion Division
Tourism Exchange Promotion Office
Department of Prefectural Policy Planning
Gifu Prefectural Government



"Message of support from the French Ambassador!"

French Ambassador to Japan Philippe Faure visited Gifu Prefecture (June 4 - June 6) and saw Gifu's main tourist attractions (Takayama, Shirakawa-go, Mino Japanese paper, and Nagaragawa Cormorant Fishing).

Ambassador Faure remarked, "Gifu prefecture's tourist spots are wonderful. Through the media, I would like to work with the Governor of Gifu so that tourists might come back to Japan."

With the Governor at UNESCO World Heritage Site, Shirakawa-go



Events

Dance Festivals

Gujo

Dance the night away in the historic castle town of Gujo Hachiman!

Gujo Odori (Jul 9 - Sept 3)

Days: <http://www.basso-continuo.com/Gujo/Schedule-e-2011.htm>

Details: http://www.gujohachiman.com/kanko/index_e.htm

Shirotori Odori (Jul 15 - Sept 25)

Days: <http://on.fb.me/mzG5IN>

Details: <http://eng.gujokankou.com/spot/index-33.html>

Nagaragawa Cormorant Fishing (May 11 - Oct 15) Gifu

Witness a tradition with 1,300 years of history! Only the fishing masters of the Nagara River in Gifu Prefecture are officially recognised by the Imperial Family.

Schedule & Details:

http://www.gifucvb.or.jp/en/01_sightseeing/01_01.html

Ogaki Water Festival (Aug 4 - Aug 7)

Ogaki

Four thrilling events all wrapped up into one! (Tanabata Star Festival, Ogaki Dance Festival, Ekimae Summer Festival and Lantern Release).

Details: <http://www.ogakikanko.jp/english/calendar/index.html>

Gero Hot Springs Festival (Aug 1 - Aug 3)

Gero

Gero Spa's biggest summer event! Don't miss the exciting dragon dances, parade of portable shrines, and fireworks!

<http://www.city.gero.lg.jp/kankou/data/language/e/event.html>



Communing with Nature

Aqua Toto Gifu World Freshwater Aquarium

Kakamigahara

Beginning with the Nagara River, Aqua Toto introduces the freshwater fish, reptiles, amphibians, and birds of the world's most famous waterways.

Place: 1453 Kawashima Kasadamachi
Kakamigahara City, Gifu 501-6021

<http://plaza.rakuten.co.jp/machi21/english/diary/201103300000/>

Nihon Rhine Kudari (Kiso River Rafting)

Minokamo

Experience the fantastic riverfront scenery along one of Japan's top waterways! The 13 km. (8 mi.) course affords up-close views of amazing rock formations, thrilling rapids, and deep pools.

Place: 2-6-5 Mikadocho
Minokamo City, Gifu 505-0024

<http://www.japanican.com/japaninfo/Detail.aspx?BookID=A3302330&category=S>

Otaki Caverns

Gujo

Escape the summer heat at Otaki Caverns and marvel at the largest underground waterfall in Japan and rare reddish rock formations.

Place: 2298 Hachimancho Akuda
Gujo City, Gifu 501-4205

<http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e5936.html>



Gujo Hachiman Kanko Yana

Gujo

Gujo is well known for its delicious river fish. Now you can catch your own at this popular fishing weir. Visitors can even grill up their catch on the spot! (species: Sweetfish (*Plecoglossus altivelis*))

Place: 398 Hachimancho Inari (Inari Mukainakano)
Gujo Gifu 501-4223

<http://eng.gujokankou.com/spot/index-645.html>

Osaka Falls

Gero

Located near Gero Spa and with convenient access to major tourist spots like the Takayama Historic District, Osaka Falls makes the perfect nature rendezvous for the outdoorsman on the go!

Place: (Gandate Kouen) Osakacho Ochiai
Gero Gifu 509-3111

<http://plaza.rakuten.co.jp/machi21english/diary/201009150000/>

Shinhotaka Ropeway

Takayama

Journey into the Northern Japan Alps in the comfort of Japan's first double-decker gondola! Be refreshed by the cool mountain breeze and magnificent vista at an altitude of 2,200 m. (7,220 ft.)

Place: 710-7 Okuhida Onsengo Kansaka
Takayama Gifu 506-1421

<http://www.okuhi.jp/Rop/english.pdf>

Hida Satoyama Cycling

Hida

Discover the picturesque countryside around the historic town of Hida Furukawa. A variety of courses and rental options make this a perfect activity for anyone who has a hankering to experience the great outdoors!

Place: 8-11 Furukawacho Ninomachi
Hida Gifu 509-4235

<http://www.satoyama-cycling.com/en/>



Thank you for reading and subscribing!

For questions, comments, or to unsubscribe, please contact c11334@pref.gifu.lg.jp.

To learn more about tourism in Gifu Prefecture, please see the following pages.

Gifu Crossroads Facebook Page

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Gifu-Crossroads/165137586854382>

Gifu Tour Guide

<http://www.kankou-gifu.jp/en/index.html>

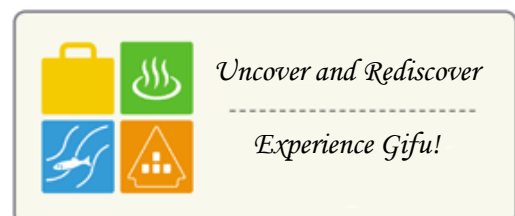
Chubu Wide-area Tourism Portal Site

<http://www.kandou10.jp/en/area/area05.html>

JNTO

<http://www.into.go.jp/>

Tourism and Local Products Promotion Division
Tourism Exchange Promotion Office
Department of Prefectural Policy Planning
2-1-1 Yabuta-minami, Gifu City, GIFU 500-8570



[TEL] 058-272-1111 (Ext. 3058)
[FAX] 058-278-2674
q00391@govt.pref.gifu.jp