Area Surrounding Cormorant Fishing on the Nagara River in Gifu

How to spend time on an Ukai observation boat



18:15 Departure

After departure, you will arrive at the bank of the Nagara River in about 10 minutes. While enjoying bento boxes and drinks, please take in the flow of the river on the yakatabune (Japanese-style pleasure boat)



18:45 Departure

After arriving, enjoy your bento boxes and drinks while taking in the view of the setting sun and the majestic Gifu Castle towering on the mountaintop.

19:15 Departure

Light refreshments may be brought in, but please refrain from bringing bento boxes or other meals.

19:45 Ukai starts

Four fireworks signal the start of cormorant fishing. Six boats descend from upstream to perform cormorant fishing.



Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes to 2 hours 30 minutes

Recommended Spots around the Nagara River



Nagaragawa Ukai Museum

This facility is dedicated to protecting, passing down, and promoting the rich history, techniques, and joy of Cormorant Fishing on the Nagara River, a traditional culture representative of Gifu City.



Nagaragawa Night Market

Held every Saturday at the promenade area on the right bank of the Nagara River, this market event allows you to enjoy the river while watching the cormorant fishing.



Kawaramachi

Japanese houses

Townscape with traditional

of Gifu











Observation Boat Shipyard

Kato Eizo & Toichi

Parking lot (free)



Gifu Castle

Gifu Night View



GIFU-JO **RAKUICHI**

At the foot of Mt. Kinka, this spot offers 11 shops where you can food-hopping, including shops that use local ingredients from Gifu and ones that let you experience the local culture.



Take the Mt. Kinka Ropeway to Gifu Castle at the top of the mountain, where you can enjoy a 360-degree view from the castle keep. (Limited time only)





Ukai-ohashi Bridge

On Noryo Ukai days, cormorant fishing is performed twice a day. Please bring your own bento boxes and drinks.

Today's viewing

Depending on the river conditions and the departure status of the observation boats, you will watch the cormorant fishing in either the Karikudari or Tsukemise styles, followed by the So-garami demonstration.

Karikudari

A fleet of observation boats go downstream side-by-side with a cormorant fishing boat to watch ukai up close.

Tsukemise

The observation boats are anchored for viewing. The cormorant fishing boats descend the river one by one, allowing you to see six in total.

So-garami

Bus stop " Nagarahashi-minami

(Nagara Bridge)/Kawaramachi"

GIFU-JO RAKUICHI

Gifu City Museum

of History

Parking lot (paid)

Gifu Park

Ropeway station

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The cormorant fishing boats line up across the full width of the river and simultaneously drive the ayu into the shallows, marking the climax of ukai.

Precautions on board the boat

- * It is very dangerous to extend your hands outside the boat.
- * Please do not stand or walk around while the boat is in motion. * If you have any questions, please ask a nearby crew member.
- * Making loud noises on board may disturb other passengers.
- * Smoking is prohibited on board.

How to use the lifesaving cushion and lifesaving equipment

Observation boat

The orange cushion placed near your seat is the life preserver cushion.

Follow the crew's instructions and use it by passing your hands through the strings on both sides and holding it tightly with both hands as indicated on the seat.

Luxury observation boat

The lifesaving device is stored under the seat (at your feet) and is a type that wraps around the waist.

Follow the crew's instructions and wrap it around your waist. The gas inside reacts with water and inflates underwater. In the unlikely event that it does not inflate, pull the red string.

Inquiries & Reservations

Gifu City Cormorant Fishing Observation Boat Office

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