

CORMORANT FISHING ON THE NAGARA RIVER (UKAI)

長良川 鵜飼

Designated as Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property of Japan

Cormorant fishing season

May 11 – October 15

* Closed around the time of the harvest moon. May also be canceled due to river conditions.

◆ Cormorant Fishing Viewing Schedule

- 1 Reception** 17:30 –
Receive your boat ticket at the ticket counter.
- 2 Fishing Orientation** 17:45 (excluding certain days)
- 3 Departure** 18:15–19:15
Please board the specified boat. Then, the boat heads for the viewing point.
- 4 The boat stops at the edge of the river**
(until 10 min. before the start of cormorant fishing)
Enjoy your dinner and drinks while appreciating the beautiful scenery.
- 5 Cormorant fishing begins** About 19:45
Fireworks to signal the beginning of cormorant fishing are set off and the event begins.
- 6 Cormorant fishing viewing**
You will watch cormorant fishing either by traveling downstream alongside one of the cormorant boats ("karikudari") or from the viewing boat anchoring in the river ("tsukemise").
- 7 "Sogarami"**
This is the climax of cormorant fishing, in which the six cormorant boats line up side-by-side all across the river and descend together to drive the fish into the shallows.
- 8 Leaving the boats** About 20:30~21:00

* The time schedule is subject to change due to the weather conditions, number of boats, other events, etc.



Mascot of Gifu Nagara River Cormorant Fishing, "Ooh-tan"



Youtube

Video of the Cormorant Fishing on the Nagara River is available for viewing. (The YouTube URL is shown.)
* Viewers are responsible for their internet charges, etc.

Notes on cormorant fishing viewing

- Please refrain from smoking on the boat.
- You may bring your own food and drinks.



Cormorant fishing viewing (image)

Want to know more about the Nagara River cormorant fishing?

Nagaragawa Ukai Museum



The museum provides information on the Nagara River cormorant fishing using interactive and activity-based exhibits that visitors can enjoy. You can enjoy cormorant fishing even more by visiting the museum before viewing the actual cormorant fishing. Visitors can also experience the fun of cormorant fishing even during the off season.

Open hours 5/ 1-10/ 1 (9:00-19:00) Open every day
10/16- 4/30 (9:00-17:00) * Closed on Tuesdays (Open if public holiday, but closed the next day), year end and start period

TEL 058-210-1555 **Address** 51-2 Nagara, Gifu City

Tourist sites in Gifu City



Gifu Castle

The symbol of Gifu City standing at the summit of Mt. Kinka (329m). The scenery witnessed by Oda Nobunaga, who dreamed of uniting the country, is overlooked from the castle tower.



Nagara River Hot Springs

The hot spring town extending along the Nagara River at the foot of Mt. Kinka. The brown water with high iron content is the pride of the town.



Gifu Great Buddha

Gifu Great Buddha, which is Japan's largest dry-lacquer Buddha, is also one of the three largest Buddha statues in Japan.



Kawaramachi area

The elegant townscape of this area is reminiscent of the time it flourished as a port of the Nagara River.

[Inquiries] Gifu City Cormorant Fishing Viewing Boat Office 1-2, Minato-machi, Gifu City

TEL: 058-262-0104 FAX: 058-264-2061 <http://www.ukai-gifucity.jp/ukai/>

English

Designated as Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property of Japan

“Cormorant Fishing on the Nagara River”

Cormorant fishing is a traditional fishing method of Japan used by *usho* (Cormorant Fishing Master), which is mentioned also in *the Chronicles of Japan (Nihon Shoki)* and *Records of Ancient Matters (Kojiki)*. Cormorant fishing in the Nagara River has a history of more than 1,300 years, and its technique is designated as an Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property of Japan.

The official title of the current six cormorant fishermen is the Cormorant Fishing Master of the Board of the Ceremonies of the Imperial Household Agency. The title and occupation are inherited in their family.

Cormorant fishing has been loved by many people of culture. A master of haiku, Matsuo Basho, once read, “splendid, then ends in sorrow, the boat of cormorants,” and the great actor Charlie Chaplin visited the Nagara River twice and highly praised cormorant fishing.

Cormorant fishing season : May 11 – Oct. 15 (every year)

Closed around the time of the harvest moon. May also be canceled due to river conditions.

Cormorant fishing time : about 19:45 – 20:30

(Subject to changes due to seasons and events)

★From about 17:45: The fishing masters describe cormorant fishing at the Ukai viewing boat boarding area. (excluding certain days)

[For application and inquiries]

Gifu City Cormorant Fishing Viewing Boat Office

TEL 058-262-0104

web <http://www.ukai-gifucity.jp/ukai/>

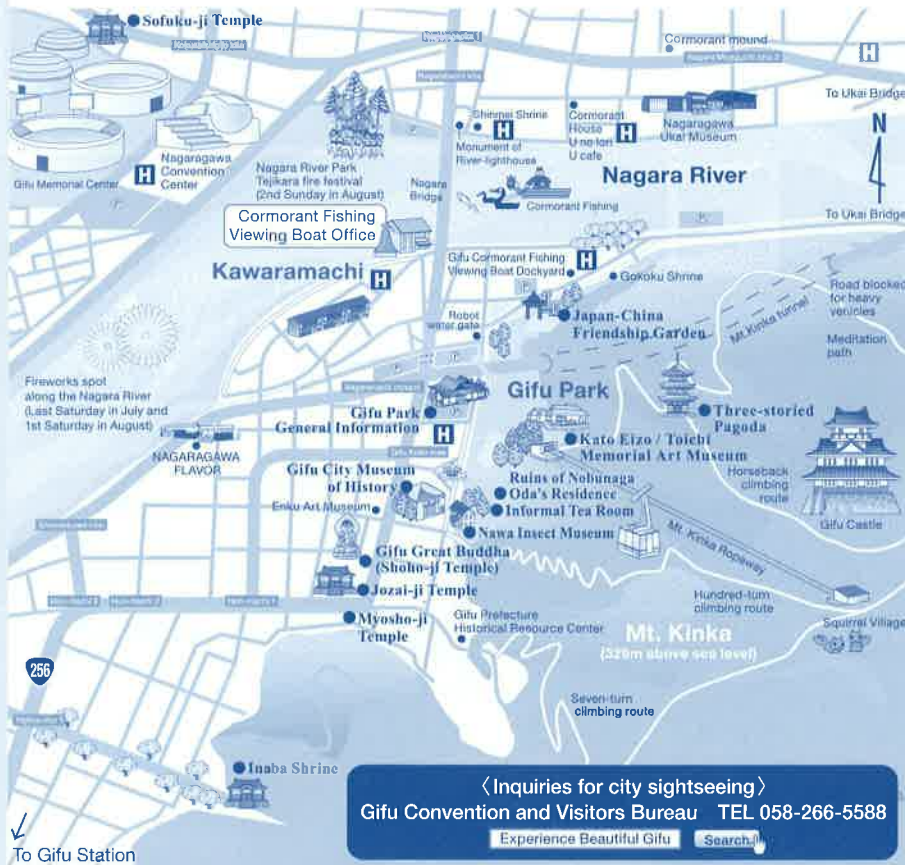
[Charter Boat] Departure any time between 17:30 and 19:15. Please contact us for details.

50-passenger boat	136,000 yen	The charge is 50% higher on the day of fireworks show. • Last Saturday of July • First Saturday of August
40-passenger boat	108,800 yen	
30-passenger boat	81,600 yen	
20-passenger boat	54,400 yen	
15-passenger boat	40,800 yen	

[Scheduled Boat] Individual reservation from one person

		Adult	Child
Course A: departure at 18:15	All days	3,400 yen	1,700 yen
	Weekdays	3,100 yen	1,700 yen
Course B: departure at ①18:45 or ②19:15	Sat., Sun. and public holidays	3,400 yen	1,700 yen

* Child fare applies to preschoolers and elementary school children (excluding 2-year old and younger children)



Course (A): departure at 18:15

- You will have about 2 hours before the cormorant fishing starts, so you can enjoy dinner on board.
- Please prepare your own food and drinks before boarding the boat.

Course (B): departure at (1) 18:45 or (2) 19:15

- We suggested you finish your dinner before boarding since there will not be much time on the boat.



Passenger car	A Teigai parking (No.1)	159 cars	300 yen	1 time (first hour is free)
	B Teigai parking (No.2)	36 cars	300 yen	
	C Kagamiwa green space	200 cars		Free of charge
Bus	D Omiya-cho parking	9 buses	1,020 yen	Charged daily

[Access]

Public transportation

[Railroad]

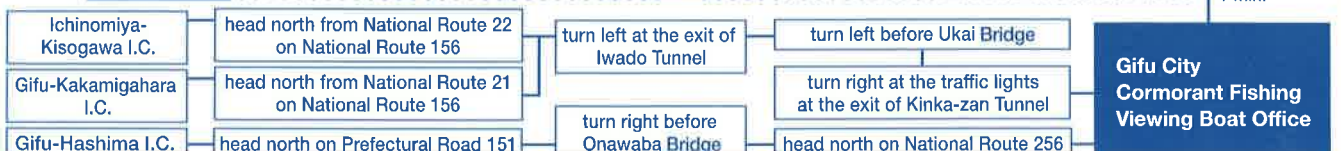


[Gifu Bus]

get off at Nagarabashi bus stop and go down the stairway

About 1 min.

Automobiles



**Gifu City
Cormorant Fishing
Viewing Boat Office**