

A Historical Walk Around Kyoto

“Fushimizu”



Sake made of good water

Kyoto has other tourist spots besides temples and shrines. Fushimi in Kyoto is one of the most famous production places of sake in Japan.

Why has sake brewing been developed in this area? Kyoto stores abundant groundwater because of its geographical feature, whose three sides are surrounded by mountains, and its nature of soil. Especially the water in Fushimi is the spring water in good quality containing moderate minerals. This is the reason. The groundwater around this area is called “Fushimizu” and it is the origin of the name of Fushimi.



Jikkoku-bune sailing Hori-kawa River with willow trees

Fushimi has close ties with water. It flourished in Edo period as a trading hub between Kyoto and Osaka by connecting Uji River and Higashi-Takase River using Hori-kawa River, which is an outer moat of Fushimi-castle. Therefore there seemed many wholesale stores and inns lined along the river at that time. Fushimi was a stage of history, where Ryoma Sakamoto waded through at the end of that period. The attractive taste reminding us of such history still remains in its townscape.

“Jikkoku-bune” and “Sanjikkoku-bune” which are the name of boats going down Hori-kawa River are going to start operation from April, and the both banks of the river colored by full-bloomed cherry blossoms in this season. “Shinsyu”, newly brewed Japanese sake, are going around in the market during winter to spring. It is a boating trip to enjoy the scenery of sake breweries and the river sides, while tasting *Shinsyu* and coming to the history. The season from now on is especially recommended to explore in Fushimi.



Sake breweries and rape-blossoms



Townscape of Fushimi lined burned wooden wall sake breweries