

Catching Sakura: My 12 Days Self-Drive Itinerary through Sendai, Fukushima, Nikko, and Tokyo in Spring – Day 6

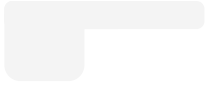
Description

Good morning.

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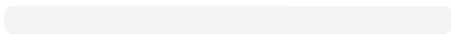


Time for breakfast before we check out. It's buffet and it's okay. The noteworthy part of the breakfast has to be the special seared egg white foam rice. Taste wise it is normal but it makes for a good Instagram story.



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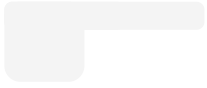
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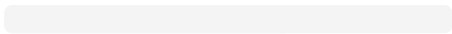
Remember we wanted to visit the weeping trees along the ruins of the Nichu-sen railway tracks yesterday. Yes, the sky is perfect today and we are making a trip there again.

We were glad we did. It was beautiful.



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Even spotted a Japanese couple taking wedding photos in their traditional outfits.



That concludes our little detour and we continued our southwards travel.

We drove for about 40 minutes down to Tsuruga Castle.

We did not want repeated views of similar scenes so we shortlisted a few castle sites and settled for Tsuruga Castle.

The sakura were in full bloom and it was so picturesque!

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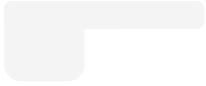


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Usually, we will not pay to enter the castle as that contents do not quite interest us. (it happens after too many a similar visit).

However, for this time, you need to go up for this view.



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Everybody is having a good time enjoying the beautiful weather as well as taking in the beautiful colors.



Seriously, any how snap also get you quite pretty photos. The only gripe perhaps is that it's super crowded so you have to figure a way to capture pictures without the people.



That is all for today's adventure. From Tsuruga Castle, we need to drive about 2 hours to our hotel for the night at Asaya Hotel in the Kinugawa Onsen area.

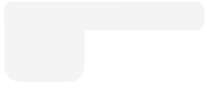
Kinugawa Onsen (?????) is a popular hot spring resort town located along the Kinugawa River in Tochigi Prefecture, Japan. It's known for its relaxing hot spring baths and scenic beauty, making it a great destination for a peaceful getaway.

That also means we are officially putting a full stop to our adventure in Fukushima and beginning the next leg in Nikko.

Since the hotel we are staying is a beautiful onsen hotel/resort, we want to check in as early as possible to fully enjoy the facilities on offer.

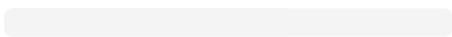


The view from our balcony.



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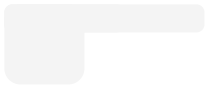


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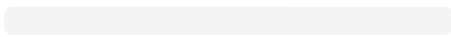
The abandoned buildings in Kinugawa Onsen have become quite a unique attraction. These structures, mostly old hotels and ryokan, were left vacant after the economic bubble burst in the early 1990s. They now stand as eerie yet fascinating remnants of a bygone era.



Dinner was served buffet style. The spread was wonderful! If you are reading my japan travel blogs, you can trust the choice of hotels.



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All these hotels are specially chosen by my wife and she is very particular about staying in nice hotels. (after many watching many youtube videos and reading lots of reviews by other travellers!)

Yes, the onsen was great but we did not take any photos nor videos.

Good night and see you tomorrow!

If you want a copy of my itinerary, comment below with your email, and we will send it to your inbox!

Read about the rest of my trip here!

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