

MIE GOLF TOURISM ORGANIZATION

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*The Ultimate Japanese Golf Experience -
Beyond Your Expectations!*

A Golfer's Mini Guide to Mie Prefecture

PART 1: By Kieron Cashell, Air Golf Media

Beautiful manicured fairways, rolling greens and challenging sand traps, sit high within the sweeping mountains above the breathtakingly rugged coastal views of the golf courses in the Mie prefecture. Mie is situated in the Kansai region on the Pacific Ocean side of Japan, easily accessible within a few hours of all the major cities, Tokyo, Kyoto, and Nagoya. However, there is much more awaiting you after a round of golf than just the 19th hole.

Lots to do!

Mie prefecture is steeped in history and culture, having one of only a handful shrines that are thought of as power spots within Japan. It is because of this, and its link to the Imperial family that pilgrims have and continue to travel to Mie to receive power and vitality from the gods. The capital city of Mie is Tsu, which is home to the Tsu Castle, first built in 1558. There are so many gems throughout Mie for you to explore that will enhance your golf trip, and hopeful after a visit to the power spot, improve your game.



Stay and play!

There are 68 courses in Mie, all are exceptional in terms of challenge and quality, and are opened all year round. Some recommendations include the Excellent Golf course Ise Otori course with tons of water features is a fun course with a challenging layout that never disappoints (bring a camera).

To the south and the Ise Shima area is Nemu Golf Club, this is a family-friendly course newly renovated and with some breathtaking views of the archipelago. A particular recommendation if you are staying with little ones is the starlight viewing complete with campfire and roasting marshmallows.

Near the capital is the Jumbo Ozaki designed Tsu Country Club, an 18-hole strategic masterpiece, this is one of the more interesting and unique courses, combine this with one of the warmest welcomes, best food and wonderful accommodation with the newly opened Kodata lodge and there is plenty to enjoy.

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**Equipment: Golf 5 Tsu store**

If you are heading by the city of Tsu, it's a must to stop by the newly opened Golf 5 store. This is something else, as it's probably one of the best golf shops I have ever been in Japan -It's huge and has literally every Japanese and foreign maker under one roof. New and used clubs are extensive and hitting bays and fittings are available. Golf fashion is a big thing in Japan and there is a wide selection of clothing options available (thankfully in XL too). The staff at Golf 5 are very discerning, so you can really tell there is an emphasis on quality and also the technology for fitting- the guys really know their stuff. Give some time for a visit here as it really is an experience to savor!

What to Eat

Mie has some wonderful seafood, seasonal fruit and vegetables and other meat delicacies, but it is really the seafood for which it is renowned. The local lobster known as Ise-ebi is extremely popular with the locals and visitors alike, as is Tekonezushi. Tekonezushi is a bowl of rice topped with delicately cut local tuna slices that have been soaked in a sweet soy sauce. Lest we shall forget the wonderful Ama divers and their Ama hut restaurant which really is a must visit, serving freshly caught oysters, abalone and lobster, all cooked on an open fire. However, if seafood isn't your thing, then there is the local, Ise-udon. This udon is a flat udon noodle mixed in a black soup. It's traditionally served with a raw egg but can be left on the side if you choose. There is also beer fed beef, Matsusaka beef. This beef is extremely tender not only from the beer, but also the cows are actually massaged to improve the tenderness!

Mie prefecture is a place of endless discovery. There is so much to do and see in one small prefecture, that your biggest concern, will be if you are staying long enough to see it all. Luckily, it isn't going anywhere in a hurry, and if you didn't get to experience and discover it all the first time, there's always the next time!

For more information please visit <https://miegolftourism.org/> or email Ms. Shizuho Suzuki on suzuks06@pref.mie.lg.jp

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