Onsen (Hot spring) is one of the traditional culture in Japan. Many Japanese has utilized to be in a Onsen for making them clean, their physical and emotional health, and healing of various illnesses since ancient times. For Japanese, a trip to Onsen is given status as that of luxurious trip and it is for pleasure.

Gero Onsen is one of three greatest Onsen in Japan. Silky Gero Onsen makes you feel a natural lotion. Gero Onsen is surrounded by mountains that shows us seasonal scenery. Image... deep breath in hot-silky Onsen, a sweeping rich nature, having a relaxing time physically and emotionally. Gero Onsen takes you on a such a beautiful Japanese journey.

Let's get a taste of Japanese traditional culture 「Onsen」!
Gero

Best resort with Onsen and rich nature bred

Gero city on south from Hida Takayama in central Gifu prefecture in Japan has rich nature: Hida river, Maze river and Mt. Ontake. There are many attractive places in Gero city. Gero Onsen which is 3 best and main Onsen area in Japan. Foods from rich and fruitful. Forest adventure in the vast of nature and fall exploring activities. All-season events: Sakura, colorful leaves in autumn, dragon’s dancing in summer, fireworks in clear and dark winter sky etc. Original in Gero and Japanese traditional culture ‘Ji-kabuki’ that is a traditional form of drama and music performed by male actors. Gero city is a town where remains attractive and rich nature and historical culture.

Onsen

Gero Onsen which is 3 best and main Onsen area in Japan is in Gero city. Gero Onsen appreciated by visitors for making skin smooth. You can enjoy it in Hotels, day spa, and Onsen only for feet and hands etc. At night, you can stroll the town by Yukata costume.

Nature activity

Gero city surrounded a mountain has rich green. There are unique activities that you can enjoy and feel forest scented. Playing like as Ninja, seeing dynamic falls, and trekking on a lava plateau you can do. Feel dynamic nature in Gero city.

Food

Hidagyu’ that is one of the best brand beef produced in Gifu prefecture with its rich nature is extremely popular with visitors. Besides tender and fine, it is marked by richness and fullness of flavor. Moreover, It is best to taste Hidagyu with Japanese Sake. We recommend it. High quality sake is made in Gero city thanks to rich nature and best limpid stream in Gifu prefecture called ‘ an area of limpid stream.’ Sweet tomato and nice scent freshwater fishes are delicious as well. We hope you enjoy this time.

Seasonal event

Gero city is all-season resort. Sakura in spring, colored leaves in autumn, night festival in summer are there in Gero. Why don’t you find your favorite one?

Ji-kabuki

Kabuki is a Japanese traditional form of drama and music performed by male actors. It is a attractive traditional entertainment with unique stage costumes, hairstyle, a beautiful stage. The local who strongly attracted by Kabuki have created original and regional kabuki called ‘Ji-kabuki’ Many of Ji-kabuki huts remains around Gero city and to this day people still play a role of Ji-kabuki.
You can enjoy the scenic traditional thatched roof houses, which are registered as World Heritage. It is the majestic and beautiful scenery.

It is a new-wave activity to bike on a former railway, passing through the tunnel, enjoying a magnificent view only from here. About 5 hours bus tours from Takayama station are available. Hida Satoyama Cycling tours take you through the wonderful countryside and tours are fully guided by local experts.

A post town remains in narrow back alley. There are many photographing points in the town like a movie set. You can enjoy walking along and a tour of restaurants in a town still having the scenery reminiscent of the old days. A morning market is held and you can buy fresh vegetables and local specialties.

Matsumoto Castle is the oldest and biggest five structure/six story castle in Japan since 1550. Matsumoto Castle is built on the flat land surrounded by three ditches. You can enjoy the impressive landscape of the castle with the background of the Northern Alps, which is not available in other castle places. Taking pictures of the castle from the top of the castle is one of the best places to take pictures. There is a beautiful courtyard known as one of the best place to take picture.

This museum is representative of Japan traditional culture in Gifu prefecture regarding a Cormorant fishing has been explained clearly in this museum. A café in a museum is available for a rest station.

Honminno paper added to UNESCO Heritage list is in Mino city. You can have a experience of a genuine Japanese traditional paper making using natural ingredients trial hosted by Mino Washi Japanese Traditional Paper Museum.
**Spring**

1. **The Rose Gardens of Flower Festival Commemorative Park**
   - Walk over 30,000 rose of 7,000 different varieties in the springtime, this is one of the most popular rose gardens in the world. Enjoy a time of simple fun and relaxation while surrounded by the gentle aroma of roses. For information regarding entry fees and opening hours, please check the website: http://www.hanafes.jp/hanafes/

2. **Fukuyose Hina Dolls**
   - Said to bring good luck, these Fukuyose Hina dolls line the streets of the castle town of Gujo. Coming from the antique collections of families about town, the scenes that these historical dolls depict are a sight to behold.

3. **Gero City Cherry Blossom Tour**
   - Due to how the average temperature in Gero City varies from place to place, the cherry blossom-viewing tradition of樗(unnamed) lasts for roughly one month in Gero. The best time to see the cherry blossoms in its hot spring district however, is early April to mid-April.

4. **Tateyama Kurobe Alpine Route**
   - The Northern Japan Alps lie on the border between Toyama and Nagano Prefectures. The Alpine Route crosses Tateyama Mountain range and can be accessed from the major cities of each prefecture. The Alpine Route includes many unique vehicles. The dynamic panoramic view can be enjoyed from the back seat of the car as the red leaves of fall, to the snow scene of early winter, by taking these vehicles.

5. **Osaka Falls Tour**
   - With over 200 waterfalls up to 5 meters in height, Osaka Falls has more waterfalls on a single ridge than anywhere in Japan. Nature tours that take visitors through the mountains, traveling from waterfall to waterfall, are quite popular.

6. **Kayaking**
   - There are many great kayaking spots around Gero City. Kayaking through the vibrant nature of Gero, enjoying the trees, mountains, and wind while riding the waves to unusual locales along the river.

7. **Gujo Dancing**
   - Held over 30 nights from mid-July to the beginning of September, the Gujo Dance Festival is open to all who wish to join in and dance up a storm. Gujo Dancing can also be experienced at the Gujo Hachiman Museum in the town’s center.

8. **Forest Adventure**
   - In an agricultural area of Gero called Maize that is particularly blessed with nature in the form of deep forests and limpid streams of water, a great variety of activities can be enjoyed be it swimming, boating, camping, fishing, or hiking.

**Summer**

9. **Maple Festival in the Castle Town of Gujo Hachiman**
   - Enjoy the stunning colors of Gujo Hachiman Castle, thought to be one of the most beautiful castles in Japan, and the distinctive shades of turning leaves in autumn. Many events are held throughout the festival period.

10. **Maple Festival in Yumori Park**
    - Every year, the local people plant more and more Japanese maple trees in Yumori Park, which is home to over 15,000 of them today. As far as simple pleasures go, strolling through this beautiful park is one of the best.

11. **Lava Plateau Hiking**
    - Hiking along the woodland path that grew atop a lava plateau from Mt. Ontake is like walking on a soft carpet. Make the most of your journey by stopping for a cup of tea along the way.

12. **Hearthside Hospitality**
    - The Ohdo’s House in Gero Onsen Gasho-Mura maintains the unmistakable atmosphere of an ancient Japanese home. Sit by the hearth (called zore) in Japanese, and take a moment to relax.

**Autumn**

13. **Gero Onsen Winter Fireworks**
    - Held on Saturday nights from December to March (except for the New Year’s holidays), these fireworks displays are particularly unique wintertime tradition. After watching the fireworks light up the clear winter’s night, stop by the Gero Onsen to warm up in the water.

14. **Snowfield Hiking**
    - Nothing beats a good romp in the snow. Strap on some snowshoes and take to the mountains to rediscover the joys of being a kid.

15. **Sake Brewery Tour**
    - Cold areas make the best sake and winter is the time to do it. There are 12 sake breweries (called shuzou in Japanese) in the northern region of Hida, including Gero City. Each brewery makes several kinds of sake, so you may have to get through a few before you find your favorite one!

16. **Subzero Forest**
    - Built by harnessing the subzero temperatures of the region, this fantastic world of ice is illuminated a dreamlike blue in the daytime, and a combination of blue, yellow, and green in the evening.
10 houses in Gassho (thatched) Mura, transferred from Shirakawa-go and elsewhere to recreate the landscape of Japan as it once was. The village consists of two zones, "Gassho no Sato" and "Saijiki no Mori", each showing aspects of the culture and way of life of the Hida region. You can feel both the four seasons of Japan and old Japan by many kinds of cultivated plants, flowers, Sakura (cherry blossoms).

**Gassho housing 「Ohdo’s house」**

It is almost 200 years since establishment. A fine example of a gabled thatched roof building. The structure is 21 meters wide, 12.3 meters long and 13 meters high. It is registered as important cultural property by the central government on June, 28, 1956 since then it shows its history. From the upstairs window, you can see get a view of the whole of spa resort.

**Saijiki no Mori**

"Saijiki no Mori" is a village hill covered with a forest of cherry blossom and maple trees, in which can be found "Banko-an" (built in the Mashita style), a storehouse, a waterwheel, Kaeru Shrine, terraced paddy fields and more. There is also the popular 175-meter slide "Mori no Suberidai". You can feel the changing seasons with all five senses while strolling around the forest.

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