

MOTHER LAKE BIWA in JAPAN

BIWAKO CRUISE on the “MICHIGAN”

Japan's Largest Lake: “Mother” Lake Biwa

Located approximately 10 km east of the city of Kyoto, Lake Biwa is Japan's largest lake. It has a total area of approximately 670 km² and a circumference of approximately 235 km. Its average depth is approximately 41 meters and deepest point approximately 104 meters. The total volume of water it holds is 27.5 billion m³. The lake supports an abundance of life and industry across a wide area. It is also one of the oldest lakes in the world, calculated at over four million years old. This mother lake is considered a sacred natural environment, and is home to over 50 unique species of flora and fauna. Its name appears many times over in historical accounts as a popular stopping point on overland travel routes, and the area has numerous historical sites, including ancient shrines, temples, and castle remains. The islands on the lake and mountains that surround it provide beautiful scenery that has enchanted visitors throughout the ages. Even the famous haiku poet of the Edo period, Matsuo Basho, wrote a poem about Lake Biwa. Experience the exquisite beauty and great scale of the lake by taking a cruise on the Michigan ship. You are guaranteed to enjoy yourself.



To Otsu Port: Take JR from Kyoto Station to Otsu Station (8 min.)
(From Otsu Station, approx. 5 min. by bus)

Introducing the Otsu Port Area

The area in the vicinity of Otsu Port has many historical shrines and Buddhist temples amidst beautiful natural surroundings. Enjoy the seasonal beauty of the sightseeing spots along with the cruise on Lake Biwa. There are also modern resort hotels near Otsu Port.

Cherry Blossoms at Miidera Temple



Built at the end of the 7th century, this temple had close ties to the Emperor of the time. It contains over 100 national treasures and important cultural properties. In the spring it is a well-known spot for viewing cherry blossoms.
○ 5 min. by taxi from Otsu Port
TEL: 077-522-2238
<http://shiga-miidera.or.jp>

Enryakuji Temple



Located atop Mt. Hiei, this temple is a World Heritage site. It is a typical Japanese Buddhist temple and has a history of 1200 years.
○ 30 min. by taxi from Otsu Port
TEL: 077-578-0001
<http://www.hieizan.or.jp/>

Lake Biwa Water Fountain Show at Otsu Port



Even mentioned in the Kojiki, an ancient chronicle, this shrine is very old and has many national treasures and important cultural properties, such as an inner sanctuary, a roman gate, and a sanno-style torii. It is a famous sightseeing spot for its autumn foliage.
○ 20 min. by taxi from Otsu Port
TEL: 077-578-0009
Web site of the Biwako Visitors Bureau
<http://www.biwako-visitors.jp/>

Foliage at Hiyoshi Taisha Shrine



During winter, visitors can enjoy watching the flocks of black-headed gulls that gather at Lake Biwa. At the north end of the lake, the rich waterfowl environment is home to the whistling swan and many species of ducks.

Black-headed Gulls



Located next to Otsu Port, all rooms at this lakeside hotel have a balcony that faces the lake.
○ 3 min. walk from Otsu Port
TEL: 077-524-7111
<http://www.biwakohotel.co.jp/>

Biwako Hotel



All rooms in this 38-story hotel have a view of Lake Biwa.
○ 10 min. by taxi from Otsu Port
TEL: 077-521-1111
<http://www.princehotels.co.jp/otsu/>

Otsu Prince Hotel



Enjoy a flower garden, restaurant, shop, and other attractions set in and around a classical building (constructed in 1934). Open year-round.
TEL: 077-511-4187
<http://www.biwako-otsukan.jp/>



3 Michigan Cruise Courses to Choose from

Enjoy a leisurely meal and a show on the 80-minute **"Michigan 80"**
 Enjoy a lighter excursion around the lake on the 60-minute **"Michigan 60"**

Enjoy the night view, evening meal and a show on the **"Michigan Night"**

Note: Reservations are required. Please check the schedule shown below and make reservations by telephone.



Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port (Biwako Otsukan)
Otsu Port (Biwako Hotel)
 Niono-hama Sightseeing Port (Otsu Prince Hotel)

On the "Sky Deck" of the Michigan with the fun crew



Michigan 80 & 60



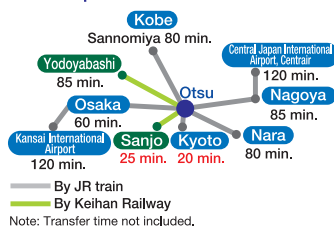
Niono-hama Sightseeing Port (Otsu Prince Hotel)



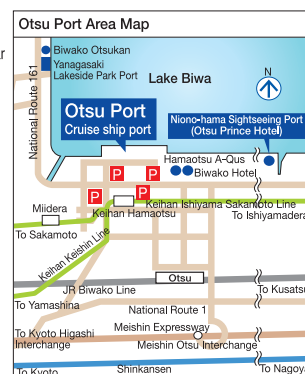
Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port (Biwako Otsukan)

Access to Otsu Port

Time required to Otsu Port



- Access from nearest stations to Otsu Port
 - 3 min. on foot from Keihan Hamatsu Station
 - 5 min. by bus from JR Otsu Station
- Access by car
 - 15 min. from Meishin Otsu Interchange by car



Michigan Cruise

*This information is based on arrivals/departures at Otsu Port.

Cruise Courses	No.	Departs Otsu Port (Biwako Hotel)	Departs Niono-hama Sightseeing Port (Otsu Prince Hotel)	Departs Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port (Biwako Otsukan)	Arrives Otsu Port	Fares (incl. tax)	Cruise Availability
Michigan 80 (80 minute course)	①	10:00	10:25	11:00	11:20	[Round Trip] Otsu Port to Otsu Port Adults: ¥2,780 Students: ¥2,260 ² Children: ¥1,390 [Section Fare (adults)] Otsu Port to Niono-hama Sightseeing Port Niono-hama Sightseeing Port to Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port to Otsu Port ¥930 ¥1,340 ¥720	Daily cruises from Apr. 1, 2015 to Jan. 11, 2016 Sundays / public holidays from Jan. 12, 2016 to Mar. 11, 2016 (winter season ³), and daily cruises from Mar.13 to 31, 2016
	②	11:40	12:05	12:40	13:00		
	③	13:30	13:55	14:30	14:50		
	④	15:10	15:35	16:10	16:30		Daily cruises from Apr. 1, 2015 to Jan. 11, 2016 Daily cruises from Jan. 12, 2016 to Mar. 11, 2016 (winter season ³) and from Mar. 13 to 31, 2016
Michigan 60 (60 minute course)	⑤	16:45	17:10	—	17:45	Adults: ¥2,260 Students: ¥1,850 ² Children: ¥1,130	
Michigan Night (150 minute course)	⑥	18:30	18:55	—	21:00 (Arrives Niono-hama Sightseeing Port 20:40)	Adults: ¥2,980 Students: ¥2,470 ² Children: ¥1,490	May 2 to 6, 2015, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays from July 18, 2015 to Sep. 27, 2015, and Aug. 13 to 14, 2015 ³

*1 Michigan Cruise winter season fares (Jan. 12 to Mar. 11): Adults: ¥2,260 / Students: ¥1,850² / Children: ¥1,130

South Lake Route High-speed Cruise

* This information is based on arrivals/departures at Otsu Port.

Cruise Courses	No.	Departs Otsu Port (Biwako Hotel)	Departs Niono-hama Sightseeing Port (Otsu Prince Hotel)	Departs Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port (Biwako Otsukan)	Arrives Otsu Port
High-speed 60 minute course	①	11:00	11:20	11:50	12:00
	②	13:00	13:20	13:50	14:00
	③	14:30	14:50	15:20	15:30
Fares (incl. tax)					Cruise Availability
[Round Trip] Otsu Port to Otsu Port Adults: ¥1,960 Students: ¥1,570 ² Children: ¥980					[Section Fare (adults)] Otsu Port to Niono-hama Sightseeing Port ¥660 Niono-hama Sightseeing Port to Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port ¥940 Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port to Otsu Port ¥510 Daily cruises from Apr. 1, 2015 to Dec. 6, 2015, and Mar. 13 to 31, 2016

*2 Please show proof of your status as a student (for junior high / high school / university students).
 *3 Trips are available even on non-operating days for group reservations numbering 40 or more people.

Note 1: In some cases the Bianca or another ship may operate for the Michigan Cruise. The InterLaken or another ship may also operate for the south lake route high-speed cruise. Note 2: The ship may be unavailable due to a private reservation or participation in an event. Please check our website or call us in advance to check if the ship is running as normal. Note 3: Please inquire for pricing for school groups. Note 4: The operating schedule and port entry/departure is subject to change due to strong winds, poor weather or other reasons. In addition, in some cases it may not be possible for the ship to arrive.

South Route Michigan & High-speed Cruise Schedule

Cruise Courses	Times	Departs Otsu Port (Biwako Hotel)	Departs Niono-hama Sightseeing Port (Otsu Prince Hotel)	Departs Yanagasaki Lakeside Park Port (Biwako Otsukan)	Arrives Otsu Port
Michigan 80	80 min.	10:00	10:25	11:00	11:20
High-speed Ship	60 min.	11:00	11:20	11:50	12:00
Michigan 80	80 min.	11:40	12:05	12:40	13:00
High-speed Ship	60 min.	13:00	13:20	13:50	14:00
Michigan 80	80 min.	13:30	13:55	14:30	14:50
High-speed Ship	60 min.	14:30	14:50	15:20	15:30
Michigan 80	80 min.	15:10	15:35	16:10	16:30
Michigan 60	60 min.	16:45	17:10	—	17:45
Michigan Night	150 min.	18:30	18:55	—	21:00

Note: Refer to the Michigan Cruise and South Route High-speed Cruise tables (above and at the left) for the availability times for the cruise courses.

Great on-board restaurant cuisine is another enjoyable feature of the cruise. Inquire when making a reservation.

1F MICHIGAN DINING

The main dining area with a 19th-century American interior theme.



Recommended Course	¥4,110	Lunch Course	¥3,090
Special Course	¥5,140	Drinks	¥400~
	¥6,170		

Note: Certain menu items may not be available, depending on the cruise course, season, and time of day of the cruise. Note: Photos of the cuisine are only examples. The actual dishes may vary.

2F MICHIGAN HALL

A spacious dining area with a varied buffet menu.



Lunch Buffet (with soft drink bar)	¥2,500
Dinner Buffet (with soft drink bar)	¥4,110
Drinks	¥400~

Example of Buffet

3F MICHIGAN BAR

From hamburgers to soft ice cream, a rich assortment of snacks is available.



MICHIGAN's Cherry Burger Set	¥1,300
Drinks	¥250~