

The breathtaking view of “Kiso River”, flowing between Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture and Kakamigahara City, Gifu Prefecture, and harmonious relationship between the river and people’s lifestyle.

This is the precious property to pass down to our future generations.

This movie aims to make this valuable heritage widely known to everyone.

#### 【Landscape of the Kiso River】

The Kiso River rises in Nagano prefecture, forms valleys down the mountains and flows into the Nobi plane.

Inuyama City and Kakamigahara City located in the pivot point of the alluvial fan of the river, called “*Kaname*”. In olden times, it was the place to rebuild rafts when cypress rafts down the Kiso River. Because suddenly the river become much broader here. The remnants remain in the town’s name “*Zaimoku-cho*”, or lumber dealer’s town.

The scenery of the middle reaches of the Kiso River, in areas ranging from Minokamo City, Sakahogi Town, Kani City to Inuyama City and Kakamigahara City, is said to be like that of Rhine in Europe. That’s because this place has been called “Rhine of Japan”.

It is boasted as the wonderful river landscape created by exotic rocks and the castle. This is the nationally designated place of scenic beauty called “*Meisho-Kiso River*”.

Historically, the downstream of the river from Inuyama castle and ruin of Unuma castle have changed its course many times. We can find significant historical ruins of warfare and historical remains to protect lives of the people from the threat of the river.

We can also enjoy learning about water creature and environment around the Kiso River at “The Kiso River Water Park”, “The Hall of Nature Discovery” and “Aqua Toto Gifu” (World freshwater aquarium) in “Water Eco Park” in Kawashima, Kakamigahara city.

○Contents List in the movie

·The upstream of Kiso River(from the source of the river to Rhine of Japan)·Rhine of Japan· "*Kurisu-no-watashi*"(Kurisu ferry)·The ruin of Unuma castle·Inuyama bridge(Twin bridge)·Inuyama castle·Inuyama headwork  
· Rhine-Ohashi bridge · "*Ayu-no-Sojo*" (Sweet fish swimming upstream) through the fish way of the headwork · Mt. Igi · Hydrangea path at the foot of Mt. Igi·Mt. Maedo-fudosan · Jokyu-warfare memorial tower(pagoda) · "*Maedo-no-watashi*"(Maedo ferry)·*Maedo-Saruo-Tsutsumi* (embankment)·Water Eco Park·*Aqua Toto Gifu*(World freshwater aquarium)

【The Kiso River and people's activities】

From season to season, activities of people living along the Kiso River have filled the scenery of the river with various colors.

In winter, cold seasonal wind from the Sea of Japan, called "*Ibuki-Oroshi* ", brings snow some times. Snowy landscape of the Kiso River makes us feel dignified grandeur. It hasn't changed since a long time ago.

In spring, activities involving contact with the river increase, such as "*Tsukue-Koshikake-Arai*" by Inuyama junior high school students, or student's traditional event "washing desks and chairs in the river", Inuyama festival, a sightseeing boat tour and a release of young *Ayu* sweet fish etc. Along the river, cherry blossom in full bloom adds glamour to these events.

Summer is the season when the river shows its true potential. There are many events we can feel close to natural environment such as "Cormorant fishing on the Kiso River "and "Firefly watching along the Daianji river". River becomes a vibrant event spot, such as fireworks and evening festivals, or a leisure spot, such as playing in the river like rafting.

In autumn, Japanese maple trees and ginkgo trees start to turn red and yellow at many places. Flamed autumn foliage spread

out all over the mountain in the cold air.

○Contents List in the movie

·Snowy Inuyama castle and castle town·”*Tsukue-Koshikake-Arai*” by Inuyama junior high school students (student’s traditional event ”washing desks and chairs in the river”)·Joshoji-temple·Inuyama festival·The release of young *Ayu* sweet fish·*Ayu* sweet fish swimming upstream through the fish way at the headwork·Grower barn of cormorants·Cormorant fishing on the Kiso River·Firefly watching along the Daianji-river·Kawashima-*SanSan*-Summer Festival·*Inuya-MARCHE* in the evening·Kiso River long-run-fireworks ·River Activities·Kakamigahara Ohashi Bridge·*Bansho-en*(old villa)·*Uraku-en* (tea garden)·*Jo-an* (tea ceremony house)

【History and Culture of the Kiso River】

Kiso River has been utilized as a transportation hub since olden times.

Kurusu and Uchida used to be the ferry called “*Watashi*” to carry people and goods by boats. They were important sites to connect Nakasen-do Road and Tosan-do Road, including to connect post towns like Unuma-juku.

The historical figures took up their residences here to aim for the scenic beauty of the Kiso River. For example, “KAWAKAMI Sadayakko”, what we call the first Japanese modern actress, built Teishoji-temple as her family temple. She supported her partner “FUKUZAWA Momosuke“, who worked hard to construct waterpower plants at many places along the Kiso River. People called him “An electricity magnate”. Sadayakko also built ”*Bansho-en*” as her villa near the temple for worship .

In Owari domain, tea ceremony culture has been flourished. There were many tea rooms at merchant’s houses in the castle town.

A noteworthy fact is that “*Jo-an*“, national treasure tea

ceremony house built by great tea master ODA Urakusai, was moved to Inuyama city.

Even today, people can meet tea ceremony culture easily.

Inuyama castle, the most distinctive landscape along the Kiso River, became a battle ground for many times. Because the castle had a grandstand view of Gifu castle and Komaki castle. We can also find remains of "Jokyu-war". War-related stone monuments were gathered and enshrined halfway up the Mt. Maedo-Fudosan.

○Contents List in the movie

• "*Kurisu-no-watashi*" (Kurisu ferry) • Utoh pass on *Nakasen-do* Road • Unumajuku post town on *Nakasen-do* Road • *Bansho-en* (old villa) • Teishoji-temple • "*Uchida-no-watashi*" (Uchida ferry) • *Jo-an* (tea ceremony house) • Inuyama castle • Jokyu war (And its memorial tower halfway up the Mt. Maedo- Fudosan) • *Maedo-Saruo-Tsutsumi* (embankment)