

Danita's Seaside Adventure in Ise-Shima!

This month's adventure took place in Mie Prefecture! Can you guess where I explored? Of course, I went to pray at the famous Ise Grand Shrine. I was amazed by the big tori gates and the humungous trees along the road. The shrines were gassho style, with grass roofs and gold-painted beams. After praying, I walked along Okage Yokocho where many food stalls lined the streets. Because I was travelling by myself, I couldn't try everything, but I still ate many delicious local foods like Akafuku mochi, Matsusaka beef skewers, mitarashi dango, Ise udon and tekonezushi! By the time I got to the end of the street, I was so full 😊

The next day I woke up early to go to Meoto Iwa, the wedded rocks in the sea. I enjoyed my breakfast as I walked along the water, then went to my next destination in Ostastu, Toba. There, I visited the ama-san (海女さん), who are the female free-divers in Mie. They cooked me a delicious seafood lunch over a fire and told us stories about their diving experiences as we ate. It was difficult for me to understand, but I still enjoyed it because the ama-san were so friendly! In the afternoon, I went to Mikimoto Pearl Island to see how pearls are made. The jewelry seemed very expensive...

On my last day, I went hiking in Ise-Shima National park and I climbed 414.7m to the top of Mt. Kyoro (京路山). I could see the beautiful blue ocean and the small islands along the coast. Nature makes me so happy!! After coming down from the hike, I went to Daiozaki, a cape town in Shima, to see the ocean up close. The ocean was so calm and clear that I could see jellyfish through the blue-green water! I climbed the stairs to the top of the lighthouse where I could see the view of the town, and finished my trip by watching the gorgeous sunset!

