

Birdwatching in Nikko

The combination of lakes, rivers, grasslands, wetlands, and forests, and the impact of altitude means that within the confines of Oku-Nikko there is a very wide variety of birdlife to be seen. Research has shown that around 70% of the wild birds in Tochigi Prefecture are to be found in Nikko and Oku-Nikko. There are ducks and other aquatic birds in the lake habitats, Latham's snipes (*Gallinago hardwickii*) which make their home in the wetlands, and brown dippers (*Cinclus pallasii*) which can be spotted around the mountain streams. Woodpeckers and owls are common in the forests.