

The base of Gifu Castle was built with rough-cut stone. This type of masonry is called dry stone construction and is very common in the ancient buildings of Europe and the Americas. The castle's base is the shape of a trapezoid, which improves the structure's stability during earthquakes. Although the lower sections date to before 1600, a new keep and much of the stone base was rebuilt around 1910, when Gifu was reconstructed as a tourist attraction. This new keep was destroyed in the firebombing of WWII but was rebuilt out of concrete in 1956.