

Nature and History

On the eroded coastline of Jodogaura, visitors can observe geological layers dating to 26 million years ago, when the Sea of Japan was still a land-locked lake. Legend has it that when the Zen monk Ikkyu (1394–1481) visited, he was so impressed by its extraordinary scenery and crystal-clear water that he named the area “Jodo,” after the western paradise in Pure Land Buddhism, hence the name Jodogaura. Various bird species such as peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*), ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*), and the Pacific swift (*Apus Pacificus*) can be seen on the rocky beach, cliffs, pine-covered islets, and rock formations.

Activities

Jodogaura has several walking trails offering picturesque views of the sea and islets along the coast. As a well-protected marine park, the area is also perfect for snorkeling and sea kayaking. There is a campsite with showers and toilets near the coast.