

Inokashira Park with Genki

Contributed by Kay Soede
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I was checking out my diary on 1st of July, and realised that I only had Saturday 3rd free before we were flying back to Australia, and thought about the people we haven't caught up yet. I don't think spending 15min. with Genki (my cousin) was enough for Zac, so I contacted Hideaki (my uncle) and mentioned that was the case, so we can catch up with Genki. Unfortunately, last time we were there, I found out and didn't like the fact the Kichijoji station (the closest station to them) didn't have a lift from platform, and station people had to carry the pram down the stairs " so this time, we took the offer of Hideaki coming to pick us up & drop us home. We walked over to Inokashira park from their place again, but this time, we went to the different part of the park. We didn't go to the zoo section, and went to the pond side. We walked pass the area lots of people parked their bicycle. I think it's amazing that they can just leave their bike parked and not have to worry about getting them stolen!! Only thing they have to worry about, is not to park in the area where rangers come and take them away, because they are in the way of pedestrians or cars. When Dave was in Japan, he didn't know he was not supposed to park the bicycle at the station, because everyone else parked theirs there anyway, and Dave couldn't read the sign. So one day, all the bikes were taken away to the council collection station, and as we can't ride on the train with bikes, we took the train there, and Dave and I took turn in riding and jogging to bring it back home! Fidel fell asleep in the car, and stayed asleep when we moved him into the pram, so he missed the boat ride with Genki! Zac had a great time, but he wanted to get off the boat as soon as he saw me eating soft serve . . . But I finished it before he managed to get to me, as he can't have soft serve yet (still reacts), so I promised we will get him ice cream, and we went to have lunch at this caf  in the park. I got him coconut ice cream as desert after lunch. If you happen to go there in summer, don't forget mozzie repellent!! They had coils burning, but I still got bitten in about 5 spots!! We got there about 10 - 15 min. before the caf  opened, and were 2nd in line, but by the time caf  open the line was huge!!! Genki's girlfriend, Hikaru, joined us from there. Zac always gets shy when he sees pretty young lady! While we were having lunch, Fidel woke up and joined us. Typical Fidel " not wanting to miss yummy food!! Then I let Genki and Hikaru take Zac for another ride on the boat. This is a video clip of the boat ride :) Fidel loved looking at the Koi fish! There were plenty of them! We used to be able to feed the fish and they used to sell food for them, but they decided that there has been too many people trying to feed them and food was making the pond dirty, so they've stopped people from feeding them. Genki said it made huge difference! Fidel, the vampire!!! I didn't think it was practical for Fidel to ride on the boat, but he was quite interested in getting on " so when Zac needed to go to toilet in the middle of the ride and came back, Genki got off, and I took Fidel with me to go on the boat again with Zac and Hikaru. When we finished the boat ride, we started walking back to Genki's house, and walked passed this park " ended up staying there for over an hour! Both Genki and Hikaru were brilliant at looking after the boys. was watching, but took a break in getting involved with them " as I was quite tired from going out everyday for quite sometime!! This is a type of seesaw I grew up with, but I haven't seen them in Australia. Fidel riding on a turtle! We went back to Genki's place and waited for Hideaki to come home, as he was coaching kids soccer teams. Remember this suit? It's a Buzz Lightyear suit which Genki bought last time we were in Japan, to celebrate Zac turning 2!! Of course, Zac didn't remember it, but he loved it this time!! But I laughed at Fidel's reaction!! Ayaka had to be home when we got back, which was good because she was flying back to London soon as well. I'm not sure when we will see her next!