If you want to experience the true beauty of Korea’s waters, head to Yeongdeok County. Avid fans of Korean films may be familiar with this region, as it is home to Gangguhang Port—a bustling harbor that appeared in many dramas and movies. Standing from the port, you’ll get to witness firsthand the breathtaking view of the East Sea.

Both locals and visitors alike are mesmerized by the view of the ocean, stopping in their tracks to take in the salty fragrance of cuttlefish and herring drying near the shore. A colorful mural of a small seaside village, Daeburi, and scuttling snow crabs festively line the walls of the town. Near the village stands a lighthouse in the middle of Yeongdeok Sunrise Park, usually full of visitors eager to catch the first sunrise on New Year’s Day.

Although visible from anywhere on Gangchuk Coastal Road, the sunrise is twice as spectacular from the park thanks to its unobstructed view of the ocean.

The Changpomal Lighthouse, the park’s major landmark, is perched on top of the hill overlooking the East Sea. The panoramic view from the lighthouse observatory is absolutely stunning.

Aside from its spectacular view, snow crabs are the real highlight of Yeongdeok County. Caught between November and May, these crabs are usually at their peak in December. Yeongdeok crabs are especially savory, as the East Sea’s low water temperatures and clean sand make it the ideal environment for them to live in. Fresh snow crabs sold at the harbor are even marked with special tags in order to distinguish them from those caught in other regions.

There are about 200 snow crab restaurants at Gangguhang Port, and among them is a specialty crab market certified by the Ganggu Shipowners’ Association. You can enjoy snow crab in a variety of ways—raw, steamed, or even grilled. Regardless of how you choose to eat them, Yeongdeok locals always recommend mixing rice in the juicy crab shell for a great ending to a perfect meal.

Source: Korea Tourism Organization
http://english.visitkorea.or.kr

Travel Information

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