Night Walk Through the Floating World

Gion is Kyoto’s famous entertainment and geisha quarter. Take an evening stroll through the atmospheric streets, lined with 17th-century restaurants and teahouses lit up with lanterns.

**Start** Yasaka-jinja
**Distance** 3km
**Duration** 2 hours

1. Start on the steps of Yasaka-jinja, the guardian shrine of Gion.

2. Walk up Shijō-dōri and head to Hanami-kōji, a picturesque street of ryōtei (traditional, high-class restaurants).

3. Tatsumi-bashi bridge marks the entrance to Shimabashi, with some of Kyoto’s finest traditional architecture.

4. At the fork in the road is the small Tatsumi shrine; take a left and walk west along the Shira-kawa.

5. Back on Shijō-dōri, you’ll pass Kyoto’s grand old kabuki theatre, Minamiza.

6. Cross Kyoto’s principle river, the Kamo-gawa, which runs through the heart of the city.

7. End with a stroll through Kyoto’s cosiest entertainment strip, Ponto-chō.

**Take a Break…**
Enjoy a civilised drink at Gion Finlandia Bar, in a former geisha house.