

TAKINO'O PATH KANMAN PATH

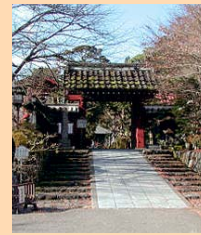
NIKKO

HISTORICAL WALKING MAP

● KANMAN PATH

1 JOKOJI TEMPLE

Jokoji Temple has become a family temple (Bodaiji) after moving to this area in 1640. This temple enshrined Amida Nyorai (General Savior of Mankind)



2 BONSHO(BELL)

This Temple Bell was dedicated by Genkan in 1459.It is the oldest and artistically valuable Bell in Nikko. Designated as an Important Cultural Property. The inscription on the Bell says: 'The Present Shogun is AshikagaShigeuji. (1438-1497) 'or about Priest Shogen who devoted himself to developNikko culturally.



3 KANMAN-OYA-JIZO-ON-KUBI

Oya-Jizo-on-kubi (the head of a Parent Jizo) was washed away in the flood of 1902.After the flood, local people discovered the head in a riverbed and enshrined it in Jokoji Temple.



4 SUGEGASA HIGIRI JIZO

Sugegasa Higiri Jizo is enshrined in the small wooden building. Jizo (Buddhist Guardian Deity) is wearing a Japanese hat (kasa) of sedge(suge).It is very rare for Jizo to have such a hat on a head. It is believed that if you pray to this Jizo for something you want to be realized for just on certain day, your wish will be granted. Many people come to pray for their wishes.



5 MONUMENT OF BOKA-TAI

This monument was built by the leader of Boka-tai (a fire brigade) in 1834 for a memorial service. Boka-tai members came from Hachioji city (Tokyo) to protect Nikko from fire. Boka-tai was called "Nikko Hi-no-Ban".



6 MICHIBIKI JIZO

You can see three Jizo(Buddhist Guradian Deity) in a small wooden building. The one in the center was built in 1550 and is said to be the oldest stone Buddha in Nikko. This Jizo is called Michibiki Jizo. 'Michibiki' means 'to lead' or 'to guide'. People believed that this Jizo will lead a dead person to Buddha's World. The other two Jizo were called 'Mimi-dare Jizo'and believed that the two Jizo can heal and cure the ear disease.



7 EMPEROR TAISHO'S TANKA-POEM MONUMENT

Emperor Taisho loved Nikko and stayed in Nikko about 680days from 1896 to 1925.This tanka-poem was composed by Emperor Taisho when he was taking a walk along the Daiya river. The poem is expressing his impression of the spiritual moon night at Daiya river.



8 REIHI-KAKU DIVINE TOWER

Reihi-kaku tower is a small building on a rock. The original tower was built in 1654 by the priest Kokai as an oratory. Priests lit a holy fire in this tower and pray for the world peace. However, the flood of 1902 washed this tower away, and the current building was rebuilt in 1971.



9 NARABI-JIZO (BAKE-JIZO)

A line of stone statues of Jizo(Buddhist Guardian Deity). There were once 100 stone statues of Jizo including 2 big statues, called 'Oya Jizo' (Parent Jizo), here, before the flood in 1902. Today you can see 74 statues standing in a line. The statues were carved by the disciples of Archbishop Tenkai (1536-1643).



10 KANMAN-GA-FUCHI ABYSS

This scenic area of the Daiya river was formed by the lava from an eruption of Mt.Nantai. It is said that Priest Kokai named this abyss 'Kanman' because the murmuring of a stream sounds like a recite of the last word of a sutra (Buddha bible),'Kanman'.



11 MATSUO BASHO'S HAIKU MONUMENT(1)

あらたふと 青葉わか葉の 日の光
This monument located at Dainici-do pocket park next to Arasawa elementary school. One of four Matsuo Basho's Haiku Monuments. This Haiku is written on the famous book of 'Oku-no-Hosomichi' by Masuo Basho. He is a very famous poet in the early Edo period. He read this Haiku when he felt satisfaction walking after the rain in the early beautiful morning.



12 MATSUO BASHO'S HAIKU MONUMENT(2)

しばらくは 滝にこもるや 夏の初
This Haiku was composed when Basho visit Urami Falls in April, 1689.You can see this Monument on the school grounds of Arasawa elementary school. This Haiku is telling us that the summer ascetic practices of the Buddhist priests have just started at Urami Falls.



13 THE GRAVESTONES OF THE SELF-IMMOLATIONS

Each 24 huge gravestones are almost 3 meters high. The five gravestones are for the five loyal retainers who followed the death of the 3rd Shogun Tokugawa Iemitsu on April 20, 1651. And the other 19 gravestones are for the loyal vassals who devoted themselves to the Tokugawa shogunate.



14 SHAKA -DO SACRED HALL

The original Shaka-do was built in Nikko San'nai. However, it was moved to Hotoke Iwa in 1621, and again, moved from Hotoke Iwa and reconstructed here in Tamoazawa area in 1641.Amida-Nyorai (General Savior of Mankind) was enshrined here.



15 NIKKO TAMOZAWA IMPERIAL VILLA MEMORIAL PARK

Nikko Tamoazawa Imperial Villa was constructed in 1899 for Emperor Taisho (Prince Yoshihito at a time) as a retreat. The size of building is 4500 square meters and has 106 rooms in all. This Villa is highly regarded as a very valuable harmonized architecture of three eras; Edo, Meiji and Taisho.



CLIP INFO. JAKKO FALLS

Jakko Falls is 50meters in height and 6meters wide and her water flows down over 7 steps.That is why it is also called 'Nana-Taki' (seven falls) or 'Nuno-Hiki-no-Taki' (lit. cloth-pulling falls).Jakko Fall is very famous from ancient times and it is ranked one of 'eight places of scenic beauty' in Nikko'.



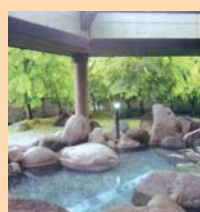
CLIP INFO. URAMI FALLS

Urami Falls is known as one of the finest three falls in Nikko. The other Falls are Kegon Falls and Kirifuri Falls. In old days, we could see (見 : mi) this waterfall not only from the front but also from the back (裏 : ura)side. It is 19meters high and has a beauty all its own.



CLIP INFO. YASHIO-NO-YU HOT SPRING

You can enjoy both in-door and out-door bath in this onsen (hot spring) lying in the heart of Nikko Mountains. Yashio-no-yu hot spring is good for recovering spirits or regaining health or for rheumatism, muscular pain, and so on.



● TAKINO'O PATH

1 SHINKYO SACRED BRIDGE

Shinkyo is a beautiful red-lacquered bridge across the Daiya River. It is 28meters long. According to the legend, when the priest Shodo, the founder of Nikko first came to Nikko with his followers, a god helped them to cross the rapid currents with his two snakes. They entwined themselves into a bridge.



2 STATUE OF ITAGAKI TAISUKE

Itagaki Taisuke(1817-1919) was a politician of the Meiji period. When the pro-shogunate troops led by Otori Keisuke occupied Nikko San'nai and tried to destroy shrines and temples, he persuaded the troops and saved from destruction.



3 STATUE OF TENKAI

Archbishop Tenkai, a Buddhist priest of the Tendai sect, was greatly trusted by the first Shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu and served three Shoguns (Ieyasu, Hidetada, and Iemitsu) of the Tokugawa shogunate.



4 JINJA'O-DO SACRED HALL

Jinja'o-do is a small red temple. Jinja'o is the name of the god who helped priest Shodo cross the river. The current temple was rebuilt in 1978,people believed this god has a power for 'bridging and match-making'.



5 TARO SUGI

Sugi is cedar or cryptomeria in Japanese. This sugi juts out into the Route 120 near Shinkyo Sacred Bridge. Taro is a name usually given to something that is greatest. It is approx.550years old, measures 5.75m in circumference and 43m in height and one of the largest trees in Nikko.



6 HONGU SHRINE

Hongu shrine is associated with Futarasan shrine. It was built in 790 by the priest Shodo at the birthplace of Futarasan shrine. The first shrine was destroyed by fire in 1684, but rebuilt in the next year.



7 THREE-STORIED PAGODA

This pagoda was originally built in 1241 at the Toshogu shrine precinct by Buddhist priest Berkaku for the repose of the third Shogun of the Kamakura shogunate,Minamoto no Sanetomo. The current pagoda was rebuilt in 1685 after the original pagoda was lost to a fire of 1684.12 zodiac animals are carved just under the roof of the first story.



8 KANNON-DO SACRED HALL

An officer of local government, Toshihaya Tachibana enshrined Senju-Kannon (1,000-armed Goddess of Mercy) in 807. ※⑦ & ⑧ are located at in the precinct of Shihon-ryu-ji Temple, the cradle of Nikko.



9 KODAMA-DO SACRED HALL

The red -lacquered temple is called Kodama-do. (lit. a shrine for a small ball).According to the legend, When Kobo Daishi(774-835) was training himself at Takino'o, he saw two white balls come out of a pond. He believed that two balls were incarnations of the holy spirits and built Kodama-do for the small ball.



10 KAIZAN-DO SACRED HALL

After the death of Priest Shodo at his age of 83 in 817, the Kaizan-do was built in Hotoke-iwa-dani, where the body of Priest Shodo was cremated.



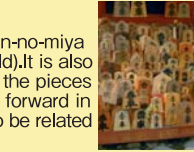
11 GRAVE OF PRIEST SHODO (SHODO SHONIN)

There is a grave of Priest Shodo behind the Kaizan-do with three tombs of his disciples.



12 KANNON-DO (SAN-NO-MIYA)

This small building is popularly called San-no-miya (Shrine of Safe and Easy Delivery of a child).It is also called Kyoshado. Kyoshado(養子) is one of the pieces used in Japanese chess and it can move forward in a straight line. This is why Kyosha came to be related with a safe and easy delivery of a child.



13 ONYO-SEKI

The Yin and Yang Stones. Two natural stones on the left of San-no-miya. One (Yang) symbolizing a male and the other (Yin) a female. People pray for the fertile land here.



14 HOTOKE IWA

Behind the Kaizan-do, you can see a cliff. It is called Hotoke-iwa(lit. Buddha's Stones). Before the collapse by the earthquake, it is said that people could see the figures of Buddha on this cliff. Now you can find 6 stone statues of Buddha, called Rokubu-ten, just under this cliff.



15 KITANO SHRINE

This shrine was built in 1661. Sugawara Michizane who was a scholar of the Heian period(794-1191) was enshrined as a God of Study.



16 TEGAKE STONE

This huge stone is called Tegake Ishi(stone). This stone is believed that it has a power of improvement in schoolwork and handwriting. After your visit to Kitano shrine, scrape a small piece off and place it on your family altar or, just put your hand on this stone.



17 MONUMENT OF DAI-SHO BEN KINZEI

This stone monument told visitors that they should refrain from relieving themselves (no toilet) because the area is a holy place.



18 SHIRAITO FALLS

This waterfall appears in the book of 'Kaikoku Zakki' written in 1486 and is known as a famous falls for a long time. It is 10meters in height.



19 UNDAMESHI-NO-TORII

Kaji Sadayoshi,a retainer of 3rd Shogun Tokugawa Iemitsu built this Torii(sacred gate).Undameshi literally means 'try luck'. You may try your luck by throwing pebbles three times through the hall of the forehead of this Torii. If your pebble goes through the hall, you will know the degree of your luck.



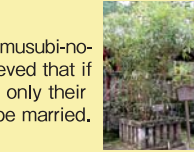
20 TAKINO'O SHRINE

This shrine was built by Priest Kobo in 820.Current building (important cultural property) was built in the early Edo period. It is associated with Futarasan shrine.



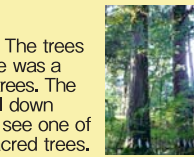
21 ENMUSUBI-NO-SASA

The bamboo in a stone fence is called Enmusubi-no-sasa(match-making bamboo). People believed that if a couple can tie this bamboo grass using only their thumbs and little fingers, the couple will be married.



22 GOSHINBOKU

Behind the Takino'o shrine, there are trees. The trees are called Goshinboku(sacred trees). There was a legend that a Goddess descended to these trees. The sacred trees were planted after old trees fell down about 250-300years ago. But we can still see one of the old sacred trees lying near the new sacred trees.



23 TAKINO'O INARI SHRINE

Inari shrine usually worship the God of the harvest. The original Inari shrine was built by the priest Kobo in 820. The current shrine was rebuilt 2years later after the collapse by the typhoon.



24 SAKE-NO-IZUMI

It literally means; a fountain of sake. This is a small pond gushing out the pure water. There is a legend that Priest Kobo offered this pure water to God. And for a long time, this fountain has been worshipped by sake brewers because when they use this pure water, the sake tastes excellent.



25 KODANE STONE

You can find this sacred stone in the stone fence near the stone Torii. From a long time ago, it is strongly believed that this stone has a power of child-birth.



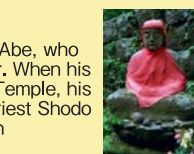
26 GYOJA-DO SACRED HALL

En'no Ozunu,who was a founder of mountain ascetics in Nara period, is enshrined in this temple. The meaning of gyoja is 'ascetic' in English. Inside this dark temple, you can see the wooden statues of En'no Ozunu and his followers. This building was the starting point for mountain ascetics.



27 KU'EN JIZO

Ku'en is a posthumous name of Tadaaki Abe, who was a 3rd Shogun Iemitsu's loyal retainer. When his tomb was built in the precinct of Taiyuin Temple, his family heard about the Jizo encouraged priest Shodo climbing up Mt.Nantai. So they built Ku'en Jizo(Guardian Buddha) here.



[ACCESS]

(Direct Connection Of Express Lines Offered Between Japan Railways And Tobu.)

JR Shjuku Station 8 minutes JR Ikebukuro Station 22 minutes JR Omyia Station 88 minutes Tobu Nikko Station

(East Japan Railways)

[Tohoku Shinkansen(Bullet Train)]

Haneda Airport 90 minutes Tokyo Station Yamabiko 40 minutes Utsunomiya Station JR Nikko Line JR Nikko Station

Narita Airport 70 minutes Sendai Station Yamabiko 38 minutes Utsunomiya Station JR Nikko Line JR Nikko Station

Monika Station Yamabiko 76 minutes Sendai Station Yamabiko 38 minutes Utsunomiya Station JR Nikko Line JR Nikko Station

Ueno Station rapid 90 minutes Utsunomiya Station JR Nikko Line JR Nikko Station

[Utsunomiya Line]

Utsunomiya Station JR Nikko Line JR Nikko Station

(Tobu Line)

[Spacia(Express Line)]

Tobu Asakusa Station 101 minutes Tobu Nikko Station

(Bus or Car)

[from Tokyo Area]

Urawa I.C. 38m Utsunomiya I.C. 29m

Nikko I.C. 6m Kyozaki I.C. 12m To Lake Chuzenji & Yumoto

[From Tohoku District]

Fukushima Airport 18m Yabuki I.C. 64m

Sendai Miyagi I.C. 229m Utsunomiya I.C. 29m

[From Gunma & Shinshu Districts]

Maebashi I.C. 34m Numata I.C. Route 122 via Kosei Pass 63m Yumoto Sp. Route 120

Takasaki Jct. 70m Utsunomiya Expressway 15m Isezaki I.C. 35m Ashio Route 122 24km Nikko

[From Niigata & Aizu Districts]

Aizuwakamatsu Route 121 via Aizuwake 107m Kinugawa Route 121 & 119 17m Nikko



NARABI-JIZO

NIKKO HISTORICAL WALKING MAP

KANMAN PATH

This walking route starts from Nikko Sogo Kaikan (Nikko Public Meeting Hall) ; Walk along the river upstream, and return to the city along Route 120. You feel a gentle breeze blowing from the mountain stream. Your footsteps will follow this historical path with joy of discovering new interests. Please remember to take your time as much as you could to enjoy all the highlights.

Approx. 5Km

TAKINO'O PATH

This Path starts from Shinkyo Sacred Bridge and goes around Toshogu Shrine, Futarasan Shrine, and Rinnoji Temple. You will trace the path trodden by Priest Shodo, the founder of Nikko, and finally reach Takino'o Shrine, said to be built by Saint Kobo. This Takino'o Kodo (old path) is a stone-paved path with old cedars. Walking beneath the canopy of those cedars is like stepping into a holy place. It is also a sacred place of Mt. Nikko. Many Buddhist priests who train themselves by enduring ascetic practices gathered here until the beginning of Meiji era.

Approx. 5Km

