



槇尾山

西明寺

まきのおさんさいみょうじ

Makinoosan Saimyoji

by TRAIN

Kyoto Station (JR / Kintetsu Lines), Change to JR Sagano Line
Get off at JR Sagano Line Hanazono Station
About 10 minutes by taxi from the Hanazono Station

by BUS

Kyoto Station bus terminal, "Bus Stop:JR3", Take JR-Bus "Takao Keihoku line" bound for Toganoo/Shuzan
From "Kyoto Station"→To "Makinoo bus stop"
About 5 minutes on foot from the bus stop

※There is no parking at this temple. Please use the public transportation.

槇尾山 西明寺
Makinoosan Saimyoji



〒616-8291
1 Umegahata Makiocho, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto-shi, Kyoto
TEL.075-861-1770 <https://www.saimyoji.or.jp/>
Reception hours / 9:00 to 17:00

文化庁 令和元年度
Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan 文化財多言語解説整備事業

Makinoosan · Saimyoji Temple

Saimyoji Temple was initially founded as a branch of Jingoji Temple in the Tencho era (824—834) by Chisen Daitoku, one of Kukai's ten master disciples. Unfortunately, the temple eventually fell into disrepair and was abandoned. However, Gaho Jisho Shonin of Makio-dera in Izumi Province (present-day southern Osaka Prefecture) restored the temple in the Kenji era (1275—1278). Then, the cloistered Emperor GoUda bestowed it with the name Byodoshinnoin Temple in 1290 and it became independent from Jingoji Temple. The temple was burnt in a war in the Eiroku era (1558—1570), but it was restored again by Myonin Risshi in 1602.

How to use E3D map

- 1 Scan the QR code from the camera or QR code reader app.
- 2 Tap on the spot you want to watch from the E3D map called from the QR code.
- 3 You can view the videoclip and building internal 3D. Tap the button on the map to see it.

E3D Map





Spring

Mountain azalea of Makinoosan



Summer

Omote-mon (Front Gate)



Autumn

Hondo (Main Hall)



Winter

Bell tower

Sanbi

Three ridges (Sanbi) called Takao, Makino-o and Togano-o, are the birth place of Japanese Esoteric Buddhism and form mountain areas located in the northwest of Kyoto city. There are three temples such as Jingo-ji, Saimyo-ji, and Kosan-ji temples in Sanbi area, which have the longer histories than 1,000 years.

Buildings at the Temple

Hondo (Main Hall)

The Hondo was rebuilt in 1700 due in part to contributions made by Keishoin, the mother of Tokugawa Tsunayoshi, the fifth Tokugawa shogun. The structure is 12.7m wide and 7.3m long, and the interior is divided into three chambers. The central chamber is the inner sanctum, and four pillars within this chamber surround a miniature shrine that rests on a Chinese-style shumidan dais. The chambers to the east and west serve as outer sanctums and this type of overall planar structure is rarely seen in a Shingon sect temple main hall. The Goshiki (five-colored) moss garden stretches to the east of the Hondo, which, along with the beautiful autumn colors beside the hōkyōintō pagodas, comforts the minds of visitors.

Kyakuden Reception Hall

The Kyakuden reception hall is located to the west of the Hondo and connects to the left rear of the Hondo via a short, roofed passageway. The building is older than the Hondo and was relocated to its current location at the beginning of the Edo period (around 1650). At the time it was called the Jikido and was used as living quarters and an ascetic training center by priests. The building consists of a front row of two rooms and a rear row of three rooms, and a wooden plate with the nine article "Byodoshinnoin Priest's Laws," a mandate enacted over the course of three times during the Keicho and Genna eras (1596—1624), can be found hanging up in the south room of the front row. Small hanshō bells and cloud-shaped unpan wooden boards, both of which are used in Buddhist services, hang down from the ceiling of the wide corridor.

Shotendo Hall

The Shotendo Hall was built in the Genroku era (1688—1704) and the image of Kangiten, also known as the noble Shoten, is enshrined and concealed from the public inside. A white curtain hangs in front of the hall of worship and features dyed emblems of radishes and a bean cake. The radish design on the right represents Kangiten's vow to provide a happy marriage and good familial relations while the bean cake on the left represents making a fortune and being successful in business. The corridor that connects the Shotendo Hall and the Hondo has an old-fashioned design and features an exceptionally beautiful view of the moss garden.

Buddhist Statues

Shaka Nyorai Statue

This statue of Shaka Nyorai (Gautama Buddha) is the principal image enshrined at the center of the inner sanctum of the Hondo. It is a standing statue carved in the Kamakura period (1185—1333) by the renowned Buddhist sculptor Unkei (c. 1150—1223). It shows the face of a living Shakyamuni (Gautama) in a Seiryōji Temple-style statue of Shaka Nyorai. The image shows the Buddha giving a sermon to people and making a mudra gesture with the right hand that means "there is nothing to fear" and the left hand that signifies "wish is satisfied."

1000-armed, Eleven-faced Kannon Statue

This statue of Kannon (Avalokitasvara) is enshrined in the east sanctum of the Hondo. It is a Heian period standing statue made of assembled Japanese cypress wood blocks and has been

designated an Important Cultural Property. Ten faces, as well as a jeweled crown, sit on top of the main head, and it is a 1000-armed, eleven-faced statue of Kannon with forty-two hands including the two hands brought together in prayer. The statue has delicate features, as seen in its slender face and straight nose, and it is believed to possess the merciful strength to save the masses from suffering.

Aizen Myo-o

This statue of Aizen Myo-o (Ragaraja) is enshrined in the east sanctum of the Hondo. It is a late-Kamakura period seated statue carved by an artist from the Kei school of Buddhist sculpture. It is sitting on a lotus pedestal and has a lion crown with a five-pronged gokosho pestle resting on its head, and its three eyes gaze directly at the viewer with fangs and the tongue protruding from its open mouth. Meanwhile, it is gripping Buddhist pestles, a bow and arrow, and other implements in each of its six arms.



Saimyouji Temple Grounds

