



HOUKOUJI TEMPLE

In Bunmei 10 (1478), temple founder monk IsenMonsai osho came to Shiozawa and converted the bodhi Tendai sect Bodhi temple to a Soto school temple called Houkouji Temple.

The many halls of this temple were all lost other than the main gate due to the many fires between the Edo period and Meiji period. The 32nd generation chief priest Zengaku Shodo osho used blueprints from the Edo period to reconstruct the seven-structured temple compound. He prayed for people to be at peace, and wanting to spread Buddhism in Nishitama, pledged to build a daibutsu of Shakyamuni.



Info and directions

Religious corporation HOUKOUJI TEMPLE ROKUYA DAIBUTSU

3392 Hirai, Hinode-machi, Nishitama-gun, 190-0182 Tokyo-to

Contact us Rokuya Daibutsu gift shop 『Kissako』

Tel. 080-9567-1319 **E-mail** info@entakuzan-houkouji.or.jp

Visiting hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.(entrance until 4:00 p.m.)

Directions

When arriving by train

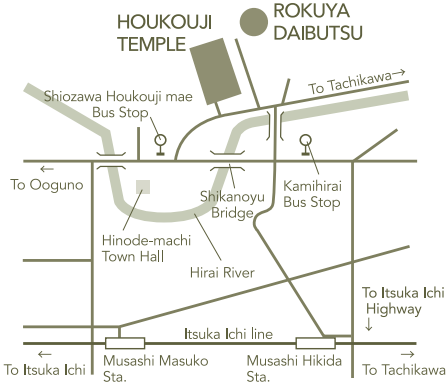
Take the JR Itsuka Ichi line outbound to Musashi Itsuka Ichi
→ Musashi Hikida Station and walk 25 minutes on foot (2.0 km)

When arriving by bus

From JR Fussa Station (west entrance) , JR Akigawa Station, or
JR Musashi Itsuka Ichi Station, get off at “Shiozawa Houkouji mae”
and walk 5 minutes from the bus stop

When arriving by car

Get off at Ken-O Expressway “Hinode IC” → Make a left turn at
the “Hinode Interchange” traffic light → Go straight for 2 km →
Make a right turn at the “Shiozawa” traffic light → Go straight for
200 m → Make a left turn with the nursery school on the left →
Go straight for 300 m → Parking lot



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ROKUYA DAIBUTSU

The founder did not just reconstruct the many halls. There were the remains of a hot springs area (mineral springs) called “Shikanoyu” in the temple grounds. These hot springs were discovered by the founder 500 years ago.

Here we will describe the story of how the founder discovered the mineral springs.

One day, a single deer was wandering in front of the founder's thatched hut. The founder took a close look, and noticed that the deer's leg was wounded. The deer would visit the founder day after day, wandering in front of his hut each time in the same way. The founder found it odd, and decided to follow it. When he did, he found out that the deer had healed its wounded leg in a spring gushing forth in a valley north of the founder's hut. In no time, the deer's injury healed and it left the mountain.

The founder named this spring “Shikanoyu,” which means “The Deer's Spring” in Japanese, and built a thatched hut for people suffering from injuries along with a bathing room. Rumors of this spring spread among the locals, and many people started visiting.

“Shikanoyu” is said to be good for injuries and skin diseases, having been very popular until the Meiji era, and it is famous as one of Tama's seven hot springs.

The dying wishes of the 32nd generation chief priest who had pledged to construct a daibutsu were inherited by the 33rd generation chief priest. In Heisei 25 (2013), he established a construction committee for the daibutsu construction project. The Buddha is revered by chanting “Rokuya Daibutsu” for several fateful reasons. These reasons include the idea of approaching the Buddha at the top of the mountain where the founder discovered the hot spring, and the mountain where it was discovered being named “Rokuyazan”.

The daibutsu is made of bronze and was cast in Yamagata. A famous casting company in Yamagata city used techniques from 1,000 years ago to create the daibutsu, which was completed by the hands of many artisans in Heisei 30 (2018).



Visiting hours

Open hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(entrance until 4:00 p.m.)

Visiting fees

Adults (middle school age and above) ¥300
Children (elementary school age) ¥100
Payment booth reception until 4:00 p.m.

Parking lot details

The parking lot is shared with visitors to Akigawa Cemetery
Rokuya Daibutsu visitors are able to use the parking lot until 4:30 p.m.
Free parking

Rokuya Daibutsu (Buddhist name: Shakyamuni) total height (including pedestal) 18 m, body height 12 m, lotus base 3 m, weight 60 t, eye length 0.8 m, ear length 2 m, mouth length 0.8 m, knee width 10 m