

## TAKINO PATH KANMAN PATH

# NIKKO HISTORICAL WALKING MAP

## Be aware of LEECHES!

Japanese mountain leeches are generally active between April to November, especially between June to October. When hiking or climbing, we recommend that you take the following measures to protect yourself from mountain leeches.



- ① **For prevention of bloodsucking**
- Spray commercially available insect repellent or salt water on clothing and shoes.
  - (Wash them after climbing, as salt can rust the metal.)
  - Hang a towel soaked in salt water around your neck.
  - Wear thick socks or stockings.
  - Wear long sleeves and long pants. (Put them in the sock.)
  - Check your feet frequently.
  - When you sit down for a break, step on the surrounding ground to make sure there are no leeches.

- ② **If a leech sucks your blood...**
- If a leech sucks blood, remove the leech by applying salt, ethanol, or insect repellent spray without forcibly pulling it out.
  - (※Wash the wound well with running water while pushing out the blood, then stop the bleeding.)



英語

## ● KANMAN PATH

### 1 Emperor Taisho Tanka Monument

Emperor Taisho loved Nikko and spent about 680 days here between 1896 and 1925. He composed this tanka while walking along the Daiya River, expressing his impression of the Daiya River, the Buddha revered as the universal savior of humankind.



### 2 Reihikaku Pavillon

Reihikaku is a small pavilion standing on a rock. The original structure was built in 1654 by the Buddhist monk Kokai as an oratory, where monks lit a sacred fire and prayed for world peace. The pavilion was washed away by a flood in 1902, and the current structure was rebuilt in 1971.



### 3 Narabijizo (Bakejizo)

This site features a line of stone statues of Jizo, the Buddhist guardian deity. Before the flood of 1902, there were 100 statues here, including two large ones known as Oya Jizo (Parent Jizo). Today, 74 statues remain in place. They were carved by the disciples of Archbishop Tenkai (1536–1643).



### 4 Kanmangafuchi Abyss

This scenic area along the Daiya River was formed by lava from an eruption of Mt. Nantai. According to tradition, the Buddhist monk Kokai named the abyss *Kanman* because the murmuring of the stream sounded like the chanting of the final word of a Buddhist sutra, *Kanman*.



### 5 Matsuo Basho Haiku Monument (1)

あらたふと 青葉若葉の 日の光  
This monument stands in Daichin-do Pocket Park, next to former Arasawa Elementary School. It is one of four haiku monuments of Matsuo Basho in Nikko City. The haiku appears in his famous travel diary *Oku no Hosomichi*. Basho, one of the most celebrated poets of the early Edo period, composed it after a rainfall, expressing his contentment at the fresh morning sunlight shining on young green leaves.



### 6 Matsuo Basho Haiku Monument (2)

しばらくは 滝にこもるや 夏の初  
This haiku was composed by Basho during his visit to Urami Falls in April 1689. The monument now stands on the grounds of the former Arasawa Elementary School. The haiku reflects that the ascetic practices of Buddhist monks had just begun at Urami Falls in early summer.



### 7 Shakado Hall

The original Shakado was first built in Nikko Sannai. In 1621, it was relocated to Hotokeiwa, and in 1641 it was moved again and reconstructed in the Tamozawa area. The hall enshrines Amida Nyorai, the Buddha revered as the universal savior of humankind.



### 8 The Gravestones of the Loyal Retainers

There are 24 large gravestones here, each nearly 3 meters high. Five commemorate the retainers who followed the death of the third shogun, Tokugawa Iemitsu, on April 20, 1651. The remaining 19 honor vassals who devoted themselves to the Tokugawa shogunate.



### 9 Nikko Tamozawa Imperial Villa Memorial Park

The Nikko Tamozawa Imperial Villa was constructed in 1899 as a retreat for Emperor Taisho, who was then Crown Prince Yoshihito. The building covers 4,500 square meters and contains 106 rooms. It is highly regarded as a valuable example of architecture that harmonizes the styles of three periods: Edo, Meiji, and Taisho.



### 10 Jakko Falls

Jakko Falls is 50 meters high and 6 meters wide, with water cascading over seven steps. For this reason, it is also called Nana-taki ( "Seven Falls" ). Jakko Falls has been famous since ancient times and is ranked among the "Eight views of Nikko."



### 11 Urami Falls

Urami Falls is known as one of the three most famous waterfalls in Nikko, along with Kegon Falls and Kirifuri Falls. In the past, visitors could view it not only from the front but also from behind—hence the name Urami ( "viewing from the back" ). The waterfall is 19 meters high and has a beauty all its own.



### 12 Yashio-no-Yu Hot Spring

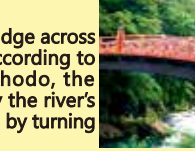
Located near the central area of Nikko, Yashio-no-Yu offers both indoor and outdoor baths. The hot spring's benefits are said to include restoring energy, promoting good health, and relieving ailments such as rheumatism and muscular pain.



## ● TAKINO PATH

### 1 Shinkyo Bridge

*Undameshi* literally means "try your luck." Visitors test their luck by tossing pebbles three times at the small opening in the upper part of the torii. It is said that your wish will come true if a pebble passes through.



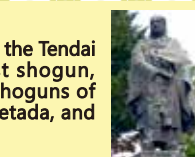
### 2 Statue of Itagaki Taisuke

Itagaki Taisuke (1837–1919) was a politician of the Meiji period. When pro-shogunate troops led by Otori Keisuke occupied Nikko Sannai and attempted to destroy its shrines and temples, Itagaki persuaded them to stop and saved the sites from destruction.



### 3 Statue of Tenkai

Archbishop Tenkai, a Buddhist monk of the Tendai sect, was deeply trusted by the first shogun, Tokugawa Ieyasu, and served three shoguns of the Tokugawa shogunate: Ieyasu, Hidetada, and Iemitsu.



### 4 Jinjaodo Hall

Jinjaodo is a small red shrine dedicated to Jinjao, the deity who helped the Buddhist monk Shodo cross the river. The present hall was rebuilt in 1978. This deity is believed to have the power of "bridging" and match-making.



### 5 Taro Sugi

*Sugi* means Japanese cedar (cryptomeria). This great cedar stands along Route 120 near the Shinkyo Bridge. The name *Taro* is traditionally given to something regarded as the greatest. The tree is about 550 years old, with a circumference of 5.75 meters and a height of 43 meters, making it one of the largest trees in Nikko.



### 6 Hongu Shrine

Hongu Shrine is associated with Futarasan-Jinja Shrine. It was originally built in 790 by the Buddhist monk Shodo at the birthplace of Futarasan Shrine. The original building was destroyed by fire in 1684 but was rebuilt the following year.



### 7 Three-story Pagoda

The original pagoda was built in 1241 within the Toshogu Shrine precincts by the Buddhist monk Benkaku for the repose of Minamoto no Sanetomo, the third shogun of the Kamakura shogunate. The present structure was rebuilt in 1685 after the original was destroyed by fire in 1684. Carvings of the twelve zodiac animals can be seen just below the roof of the first story.



### 8 Shihonryu-ji Temple Kannondo Hall

In 807, Tachibana Toshido, an officer of the local government, enshrined Senju Kannon, the Thousand-Armed Goddess of Mercy. This hall, along with sites 7 and 8, is located within the precincts of Shihonryu-ji Temple, which is regarded as the cradle of Nikko.



### 9 Kodamado Hall

Kodamado is a red-lacquered hall named after the word *kodama*, meaning "small ball." According to legend, when the Buddhist monk Kukai (774–835) was training at Takino, he saw two white balls rise from a pond. Believing them to be incarnations of holy spirits, he built Kodamado to enshrine them.



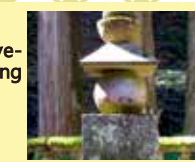
### 10 Kaizando Hall

After the death of the Buddhist monk Shodo at the age of 83 in 817, Kaizando was built in front of Hotokeiwa, where his body was cremated.



### 11 The Gravestone of Shodo

Behind Kaizando Hall stands the gravestone of the Buddhist monk Shodo, along with the tombs of three of his disciples.



### 12 Kannondo Hall (San-no-miya)

This small building is also known as San-no-miya, the "Shrine of Safe and Easy Delivery." It is also called *Kyosha-do*. *Kyosha* (養子) is one of the pieces used in Japanese chess (Shogi) that moves straight forward. Because of this, the *Kyosha* came to be associated with prayers for safe and easy childbirth.



### 13 Yin and Yang Stones (Onyo-seki)

The Yin and Yang Stones stand to the left of Kannondo Hall (San-no-miya). One stone (Yang) symbolizes male, and the other (Yin) female. People come here to pray for the fertility of the land.



### 14 Hotokeiwa

Behind Kaizando Hall stands a cliff called Hotokeiwa (literally, "Buddha's Rock"). Before it collapsed in an earthquake, people said they could see figures of the Buddha on its surface. Today, six stone statues of the Buddha, called Rokubu-ten, stand just below the cliff.



### 15 Kitano Shrine

This shrine was built in 1661. It enshrines Sugawara no Michizane, a scholar of the Heian period (794–1191), who is revered as the god of learning.



### 16 Tegakeishi

This large stone is called Tegakeishi. It is believed to have the power to improve handwriting and learning. In the past, visitors would scrape off a small piece to place on their family altar. Today, however, this practice is prohibited, and people now simply touch the stone for its blessing.



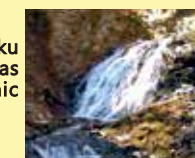
### 17 Monument of Dai-Shoben Kinzei

This stone monument was erected to remind visitors to refrain from relieving themselves in this sacred area, as it is considered a holy place.



### 18 Shiraito Falls

This waterfall is mentioned in Kaikoku Zakki, a book written in 1486, and has long been known as a famous scenic spot. It is 10 meters high.



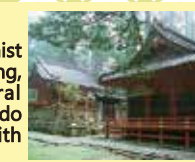
### 19 Undameshi no Torii

*Undameshi* literally means "try your luck." Visitors test their luck by tossing pebbles three times at the small opening in the upper part of the torii. It is said that your wish will come true if a pebble passes through.



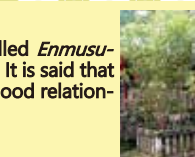
### 20 Takino Shrine

This shrine was founded by the Buddhist monk Kukai in 820. The present building, designated as an Important Cultural Property, was constructed in the early Edo period. Takino Shrine is associated with Futarasan-Jinja Shrine.



### 21 Enmusubi no Sasa

This bamboo, set in a stone fence, is called *Enmusubi no Sasa* ( "matchmaking bamboo" ). It is said that this bamboo will fulfill your wish for a good relationship if you pray to it.



### 22 Goshinboku

Behind Takino Shrine stand the three sacred trees known as Goshinboku. According to legend, a goddess once descended upon them. The present sacred trees were planted about 250–300 years ago after the old ones fell, but one of the original trees can still be seen lying nearby.



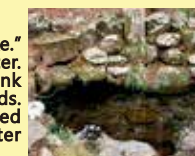
### 23 Takino Inari Shrine

Inari shrines are traditionally dedicated to the deity of harvest. The original shrine was founded by the Buddhist monk Kukai in 820. The present structure was rebuilt two years after the original was destroyed by a typhoon.



### 24 Sake no Izumi

The name literally means "Spring of Sake." This small spring gushes with pure water. According to legend, the Buddhist monk Kukai once offered this water to the gods. For centuries, sake brewers have revered this spring, believing that its pure water makes their sake especially excellent.



### 25 Kodaneishi

This sacred stone can be found in the stone fence near the stone torii. Since ancient times, it has been believed to have the power to bless childbirth.



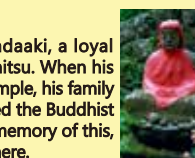
### 26 Gyojado Hall

Enno Ozunu, the founder of mountain ascetic practices in the Nara period, is enshrined here. *Gyoja* means "an ascetic." Inside this hall stand wooden statues of Enno Ozunu and his followers. This building once served as a starting point for mountain ascetics.



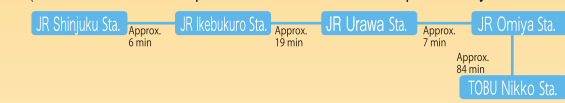
### 27 Kuen Jizo

Kuen is the posthumous name of Abe Tadaaki, a loyal retainer of the third shogun, Tokugawa Iemitsu. When his tomb was built in the precincts of Taiyuin Temple, his family learned of the Jizo who had once encouraged the Buddhist monk Shodo while climbing Mt. Nantai. In memory of this, they built the Kuen Jizo (Guardian Buddha) here.

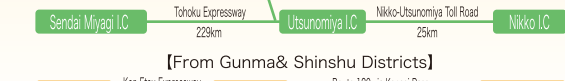
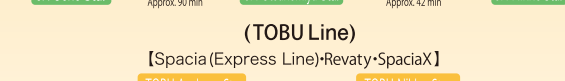
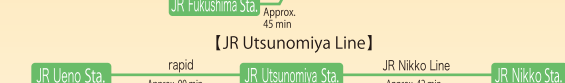


## 【ACCESS】

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



(East Japan Railways)



## 【INFORMATION SERVICE】

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2025.11



# NIKKO HISTORICAL WALKING MAP

## TAKINO PATH

This path begins at the Shinkyo Bridge and goes around Nikko Toshogu Shrine, Nikko Futarasan-jinja Shrine, and Rinno-ji Temple. It follows the route once walked by the Buddhist monk Shodo, the founder of Nikko-zan, and ends at Takino Shrine, said to have been built by the Buddhist monk Kobo. Known as the Takino Kodo ("old path"), it is a stone-paved trail lined with ancient cedars. Walking under their branches feels like entering a sacred place. It is one of the holy sites of Nikko-zan. Until the early Meiji period, many Buddhist monks gathered here to practice ascetic training.

Approx.  
5Km  
(3.1mile)

## KANMAN PATH

This walking route starts from the Yasukawa-cho Bus Stop, follows the river upstream, and then returns to the city along Route 120. A gentle breeze from the mountain stream will accompany you as you walk. Each step takes you along this historic path, filled with the joy of new discoveries. Take your time and enjoy all the highlights along the way.

Approx.  
5Km  
(3.1mile)

## TAKINO PATH

Mt. Toyama  
▲ 880m

### LEGEND

- Accessible Toilet
- Toilet
- Historical Spot
- Facility
- Parking Lot
- Bus Stop
- Information
- Route 119
- Route 120
- Kanman Path
- Takino Path

### TOBU BUS REGULAR ROUTE CHART

- 1 JR Nikko Sta.
  - 2 TOBU Nikko Sta.
  - 3 Ishiyamachi
  - 4 Nikko Gyosei Center Mae
  - 5 Nikko Kyodo Center Mae
  - 6 Hatsuishi-machi
  - 7 Shinkyo
  - 8 Yasukawa-cho
  - 9 Nishisando Iriguchi
  - 10 Kanaya Hotel Rekishikan
  - 11 Nikko Tamozawa Goyotei Kinenkoen
  - 12 Rengeishi
  - 13 Nikko Shokubutsuen
  - 14 Arasawa
  - 15 Urami no Taki Iriguchi
- To Lake Chuzenji / Yumoto Onsen

0 100 250

Please check the condition of the walking trail before your visit.

Urami Falls:  
Approx. 40 min. on foot from 'Urami no Taki Iriguchi' bus stop.

## KANMAN PATH

### TAKINO HISTORICAL WALKING ROUTE

### KANMAN HISTORICAL WALKING ROUTE

- 8 Yasukawa-cho → Stone Cups (Ishi-masu street) → Jokoji Temple → Narabijizo (Bakejizo) → Dainichi Bridge → Dainichi-do Pocket Park → Nikko Botanical Garden → 7 Shakado Hall → 9 Nikko Tamozawa Imperial Villa Memorial Park → Nikko Shinkyo Church → 8 Yasukawa-cho
- approx. 500m approx. 50m approx. 400m approx. 600m approx. 250m approx. 700m approx. 800m approx. 100m approx. 500m approx. 400m

- 1 Shinkyo Bridge → 4 Jinjaodo Hall / Taro Sugi → 5 Hongu Shrine → 6 Three-story Pagoda → 8 Shihonryu-ji Temple Kannonodo Hall → 10 Kaizando Hall → 15 Kitano Shrine → 17 Monument of Dai-Shoben Kinzei → 18 Shiraito Falls → 20 Takino Shrine / Sake no Izumi → 24 Gyojado Hall → 26 Nikko Futarasan-jinja Shrine → 1 Shinkyo Bridge
- approx. 10m approx. 100m approx. 50m approx. 1Km approx. 200m approx. 450m approx. 250m approx. 200m approx. 600m approx. 700m approx. 1km

- Yashio-no-Yu hot spring Information—
- Approx. 15 min on foot from Dainichi Bridge to Yashio-no-yu
  - Approx. 30 min on foot from Yashio-no-yu to Kanman-ga-fuchi Abyss
  - Direct buses for Yashio-no-yu are available
  - Approx. 15 min on foot from Kiyotaki Ichhome bus stop