

Inunakisan (Mt. Inunaki)

[Katsuragi Sutra Mound #8 (Inunakisan Shipporyu-ji Reishogatake)]

From Shipporyu-ji Temple, the headquarter of Katsuragi Shugen, to a mountain summit with sutra mounds and ascetic training sites

Inunakisan Shipporyu-ji Temple is one of the centers of Katsuragi Shugen. It was said to be founded by En no Gyoja before he began training at Mt. Omine, part of the Nara's World Heritage Site. While the area's waterfalls, such as the Gyojano-taki waterfalls, are the training sites best known to the public, there are numerous others in the surrounding mountains.

Inunakiyama Onsen is the only hot spring town in Osaka Prefecture, albeit a small one. From the Inunakisan Bus Stop, head through the hot spring town and along the valley towards Shipporyu-ji Temple. The atmosphere greatly changes as soon as you pass the main gate marking the boundary of the temple grounds. Head for the temple's main hall while enjoying the view of the Ryokaino-taki and Tono-taki waterfalls.

Continue onward, looking up and to the left at the Gikenno-haka, the grave of the loyal dog, from which Inunakisan gets its name. You will soon come to a clearing with a large statue of the Migawari ("substitute") Fudo Myo-o on your right. Behind and to the right of statue is the trailhead to Mt. Kyozukagongen, the location of eighth sutra mound. Set off on the trail after visiting the main hall of the temple and the Gyojano-taki waterfalls, where members of the public can practice waterfall meditation during the temple's day-long ascetic experiences.

From this point, the previous walking path transforms into a mountain trail. After climbing the steep hill, turn right to Mt. Tomyogadake, where there is a Goma pit. This is the inner sanctuary of Shipporyu-ji Temple, complete with a torii gate and small stone shrine. The eighth sutra mound can be found further up the ridge.

From here, you can retrace your steps back to the starting point. If you are in the mood for some more mountain climbing, consider crossing Mt. Kyozukagongen and following the trail that branches off to the right all the way to Mt. Tengumao-dake.

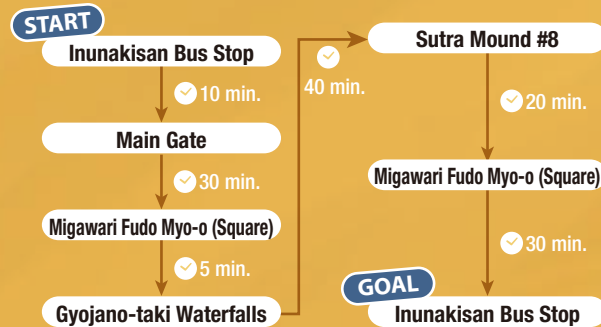
Walking Distance ◆ Approx. 4 km

Fitness Level ★★☆☆

Walking Time ◆ 2 hours 15 minutes

Skill Level ★★☆☆

Course Times



Course Information

Access

Round Trip (34 min. by Nankai Wing Bus)

Izumisano Sta. (Nankai Main Line) ↔ **Inunakisan Bus Stop**

*26 min. from Hineno Sta. (JR Hanwa Line) by Nankai Wing Bus bound for Inunakisan
 *15 min. from Kumatori Sta. (JR Hanwa Line) by Wakayama Bus Naga bound for Kokawa Sta.

Advice

While the first half of the outbound trip is on a walkway, there are steep mountain trails in the latter half. Proper hiking footwear is recommended. There is an admission fee to go beyond the main hall to the Kiyotaki-do hall. Mt. Tengumao-dake is frequently climbed, but caution is required in the fixed rope section before the peak. Mt. Daitenjogatake to the east is a difficult climb.

*Walking distance is the horizontal distance. Course times are reference times for walking at a typical pace, not including rests.

*This course does not exactly follow the training paths used by mountain ascetics.