Koyasan Spiritual Sanctuary

Koyasan is a sacred Shingon Buddhist temple complex located in an alpine basin founded by the Saint Kukai, posthumously known as Kobo Daishi (774-835). The basin is surrounded by eight peaks which represent the eight trigrams in Chinese philosophy and are considered sacred in Japanese culture.

Main sites of the village are three areas: Danjo Garan, Kongobuji Honzan & Okunoin plus the Daimon gate.

Danjo Garan

Danjo Garan is the religious center of Koyasan. The unique style of the temple complex is based on the Shingon doctrine and its architectural design influenced by Chinese architecture. The temple is surrounded by beautiful mountains and is a popular destination for Buddhist pilgrims.

Okunoin

Okunoin is 3 km to the east of Danjo Garan and contains the tombs of over 200 Rinzai Zen masters, including Kukai himself. The compound is a tranquil and serene place that offers a peaceful spiritual experience.

Daimon

The impressive 24.7 m high Daimon gate is located on the western edge of Koyasan. This large wooden structure houses statues of the three face-guardian deities to protect the sacred compound.

Temple Stay (Shukubo)

An excellent way to experience Koyasan is to stay in one of the temples or Shukubo. There are 106 Shukubo in total, each with its own unique atmosphere and facilities. The Shukubo provide a unique experience to staying in a majestic temple complex.

Koyasan Area

List of Shukubo temples (Temple Lodgings)

1. Yamadera
2. Myokyo
3. Myozu
4. Fudon
5. Fudon
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