

Koyasan Spiritual Sanctuary

Koyasan is a sacred Shingon Buddhist temple complex located in an alpine basin founded by the famous high priest Kukai, posthumously known as Kobo Daishi (774-835). The basin is surrounded by eight peaks which represent the pedals of a lotus, the symbol of enlightenment in Buddhism.

Main sites of the village are three areas (Danjo Garan, Kongobu-ji 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 exerted tremendous influence as the architectural model for nearly 4000 Shingon temples throughout Japan. Next to the Danjo Garan is Kongobu-ji Temple, the ecclesiastical headquarters of the Koyasan Shingon school.



Daimon

The impressive 25.8 m high Daimon gate is located on the western edge of Koyasan. This large wooden structure houses sculptures of the Nio 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. This is a unique chance to see inside the buildings, eat Buddhist vegetarian cuisine, and take part in morning prayer services. Koyasan Central Information Center (Koyasan Shukubo Temple Lodging Association)
Hours: 8:30~17:00
Closed December 27th~30th

Koyasan Area

