



A warm
welcome to Zentsûji

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ZENTSÛJI
TOUR
GUIDE

Taking the Pilgrims' Route

Taking the Mountain Route

Taking the urban area

Along the fields

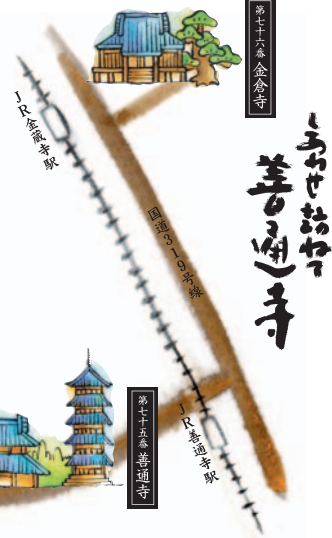


Scattered against the background of green mountains,
there are ancient burial mounds and other historical sites.



Taking the Pilgrims' Route

Fudasho is the Pilgrims' Route going around Shikoku's temples.
Let us take the course from Mandalaji (No. 72) to Konzôji (No. 76).



F. No. 72 Mandalaji

Founded in 596, rebuilt later for the High Priest Kôbô Daishi's (i.e. Kûkai's) mother. On the temple grounds, Saigyô Hôshi, the famous poet, took a rest, and fell asleep on what is now called „Saigyô's Nap Stone” leaving his umbrella hooked on a cherry tree: „Saigyô's Cherry Tree”.

TEL 0877-63 0072



F. No. 75 Sôhonzan-Zentsûji

Kûkai is said to have been born in Zentsûji. Sôhonzan is the temple of the Shingon school. The temple was founded in 807. Kûkai, just back from Tang dynasty China, modeled it on the Qinglong Temple of Changan (Xi'an). The temple, named after his father, was built in 6 years. It consists of an Eastern and a Western wing.

TEL 0877-62 0111

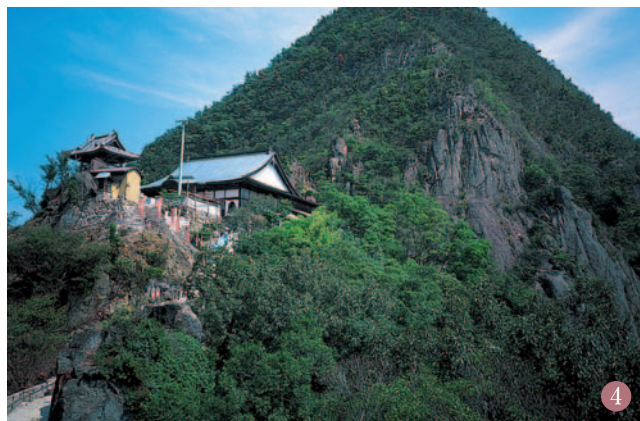
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F. No. 73 Shusshakaji

Kūkai founded Shusshakaji dedicated to Śākya (i.e. the historical Buddha). Kūkai erected and named this memorial temple himself. The mountain was also said to have been renamed „Gahaishisan”.

TEL 0877-63 0073



Zenjō

Climbing up the mountain path from Shusshakaji, after about 40 minutes we get to the inner sanctuary called Zenjō. 100 m further up, clinging to the heavy chain, we reach the place from where, at about the age 7, Kūkai renounced life, i.e. the Shashin-ga-Dake.



Yanagi no Shimizu

A famous spring on the mountain path to Zenjō



The amulet of Zenjō
A special prayer amulet

F. No. 74 Kōyamaji

Kōyamaji is dedicated to Yakushi Nyorai. For his accomplishments in renovating the Mannō Pond, Kūkai received an imperial reward which he used to build a temple.

TEL 0877-63 0074



Bishamonten's statue

On the southern side of the main hall, there is a rocky cave in which the statue of the deity Bishamonten is enshrined.



F. No. 76

Kōzōji

Kōzōji is dedicated to Yakushi Nyorai. On the sides, two bodhisattvas, Nikkō and Gekkō are enshrined. This temple was rebuilt by the son of Kūkai's niece, Chishō Daishi in 928. The treasure of this temple is the statue of Chishō Daishi and the Mandala of the Two Realms designated as an Important Cultural Treasure. During the Meiji Era (1868-1912), Kōzōji was the lodging place of Nogi, a famous general.

TEL 0877-62 0845



General Nogi's Pine Tree

On its grounds, there is a pine tree which figures in an anecdote about General Nogi.

Touring the urban area

Starting out from the Zentsūji JR station, going around the town, we can see historical buildings scattered all over the area, as well as elegant alleys in a number of places.



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The one-time Zentsūji headquarters

It was inaugurated as the building of the former army headquarters in 1903. A wooden structure with a redbrick foundation and a tiled hip roof, it is of European-style design, providing an elegant atmosphere. At present, it is designated as an Important Cultural Treasure.

TEL 0877-63 6362



The remains of the old arsenal

This building, erected around 1905, used to be the weapon storage building for the army. There is a ginkgo tree on the roadside, as well as a row of willow and cherry trees, which, when the season comes, add a special color scheme to the red brick walls creating a superb townscape.



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At the Red Gate: Shichi-Butsu Yakushi

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Seven wishes could be fulfilled by Shichi-Butsu Yakushi, the Bosom-Healer, guarding women's happiness. Wooden votive plaques of „breasts“ are offered to him.



Gokoku Shrine

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Sanukinomiya Kagawa-ken Gokoku Shrine

Surrounded by a green forest of some 4600 trees, the spacious site of the shrine extends over about 33,750 m², in which those natives of Kagawa Prefecture who sacrificed their precious lives for the country are enshrined. On its grounds, we find the country's major transport, police, firefighting and spirit-inviting shrine. Nogi Jinja where General Nogi is enshrined is in its neighborhood.

TEL 0877-62 0048



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The Nogi Building

This building used to be the headquarters of the army. A famous piece of architecture completed in 1898, it is still a majestic building. On its 2nd floor, the memorial hall of the famous general is open to visitors on weekdays only — based on previous telephone appointment.

Base PR Group

TEL 0877-62 2311 (Ext. 252)



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The katapan, a traditional specialty of Zentsūji, is prepared and sold in the Kumaoka Confectionery established more than a hundred years ago.



katapan



Taking the Mountain Route

In the symbolic Gogakusan (Five Mountains) of Zentsuji there are many historic sites and famous temples, and in the Ôsayama there are ancient tombs, as well as campsites which can be recommended to hikers.

The Gogakusan range beyond the Sôhonzan (Head Temple) of Zentsûji consists of five mountains.

Gogakusan (Five Mountains)

As if appearing on the panels of a folding screen, Gogakusan is a row of mountains emblematic of Zentsûji city. Except for Kôshikizan and Gahaishizan, the point of ascent to the mountain trails are hard to find, and due to the precipitous mountain paths careful preparation is necessary. For the Zenshō of Gahaishizan, the 15th day (by the old lunar calendar) being temple festival day, many worshippers climb the mountain, and on this day, exceptionally, cars are also allowed to access the temple.

Gogakusan

The Kôshikizan Mini 88 Sites

Along the Shikoku Holy Site Route of Kôshikizan, there are stone statues all around the foot of the mountain. The 1.6 km round trip can be covered in about 45 minutes.



As one can obtain a booklet for recording the number of days from the Board of Education, there are citizens who take a walk everyday.



Ôsayama

It is the highest independent peak in the prefecture, and the whole area is designated as a part of the Seto Inland Sea National Park.. The whole section of the foot of the mountain is dotted with burial mounds, a great deal of pottery and bronze bells has been unearthed. It is popular as a panoramic hiking route.



Ôsayama

Notanoin Burial Mound

The Notanoin Burial Mound is located at a site on Ôsayama 400 m above sea level. It is a keyhole-shaped mound (with a square and a round section) whose full length is 44.5 m. Its round section was made by piling up stones only, i.e. it is a cairn (tsumi-ishi zuka).

Along the fields

On the lakeside, too, there are some interesting burial mounds scattered around. Fountains and canals, reservoirs, rivers, pastoral landscape of fields and gardens are also abundant.



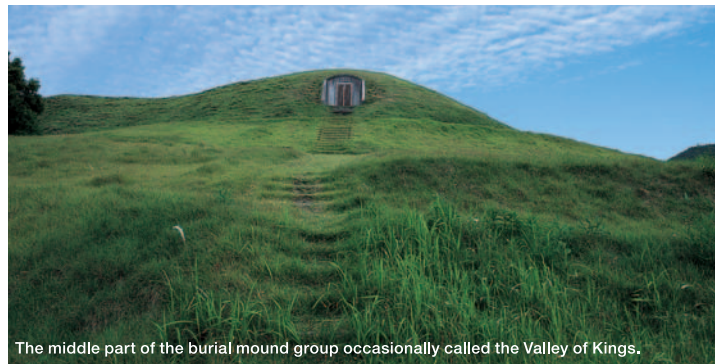
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A wall painting depicting people on a boat.

The Miyagao Burial Mound

Built in the latter half of he 6th century, it has a double lateral passage to its stone chamber, and its walls are decorated by line drawings. In the adjacent burial mound park, the full size replicas of the panels and wall paintings are displayed.



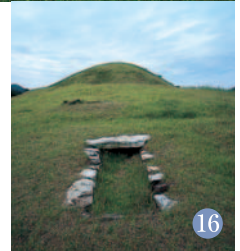
The middle part of the burial mound group occasionally called the Valley of Kings.

Ôhakayama Burial Mound

It is a 46 m long keyhole-shaped mound erected in the mid-6th century. Located in the middle of the group of burial mounds, designated as a National Historic Site, it was turned into a Historic Site Park.



An unearthed gold and copper helmet exhibited at the Shiritsu Kyôdokan (City Museum)



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Nature and park

Zentsûji Five Mountain Village People's Park

It was opened in April, 2010 to serve as a model facility for the project of turning Zentsuji into a city of flowers. In the setting of the Five Mountains, as the four seasons unfold one after the other, various events take place here.

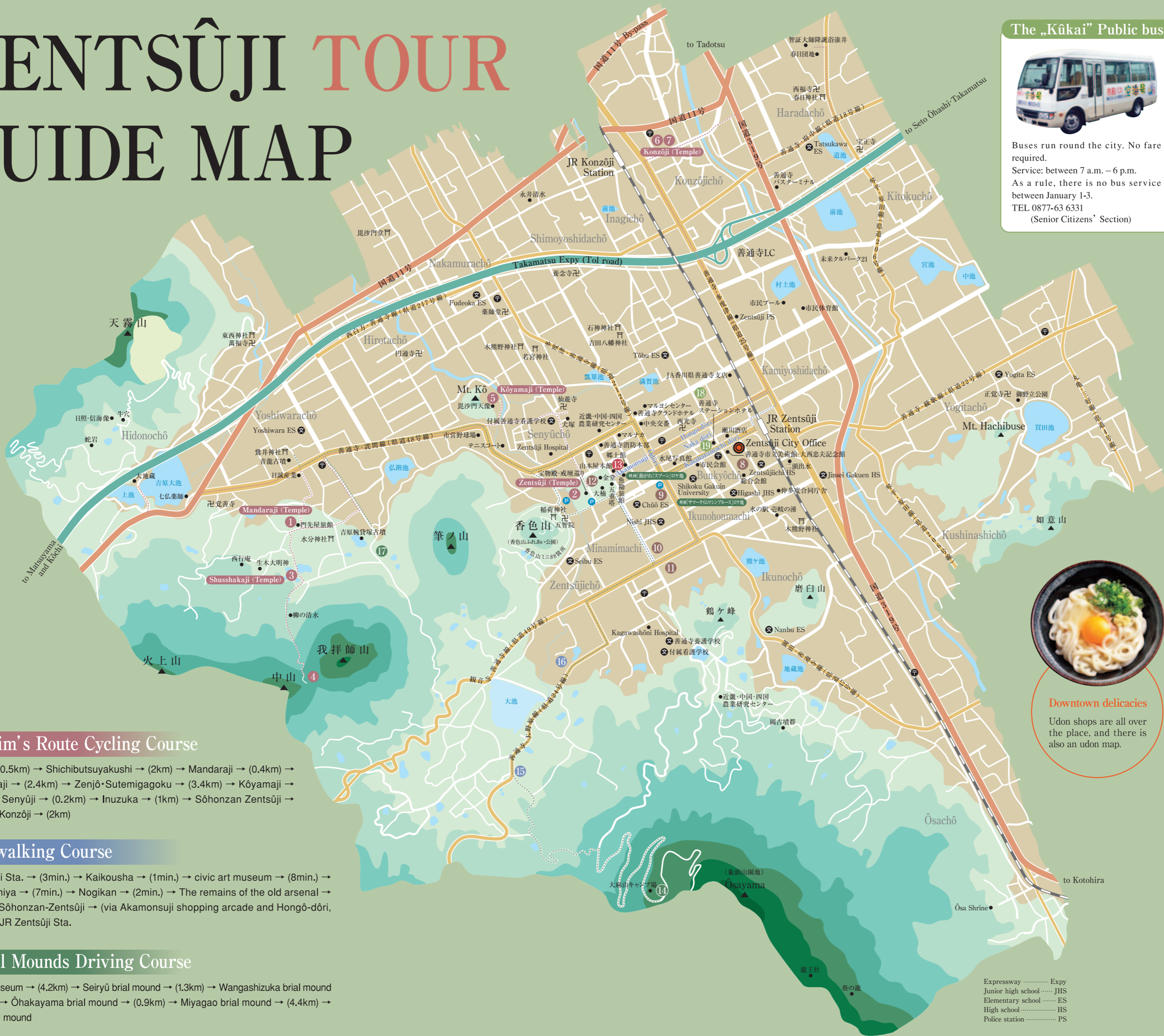
- Admission is free. ● Closed on Tuesdays.
 - Hours : October-June 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. July-September 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- TEL 0877-63 8753



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ZENTSÛJI TOUR GUIDE MAP



Pilgrim's Route Cycling Course

Daijizô → (0.5km) → Shichibutsuyakushi → (2km) → Mandaraji → (0.4km) → Shushakaji → (2.4km) → Zenjô・Sutemigagoku → (3.4km) → Kôyamaji → (0.9km) → Senyûji → (0.2km) → Inuzuka → (1km) → Sôhonzan Zentsûji → (3.3km) → Konzôji → (2km)

City walking Course

JR Zentsûji Sta. → (3min.) → Kaikousha → (1min.) → civic art museum → (8min.) → Sanukinomiya → (7min.) → Nogikan → (2min.) → The remains of the old arsenal → (5min.) → Sôhonzan-Zentsûji → (via Akamonsuji shopping arcade and Hongô-dôri, 15min.) → JR Zentsûji Sta.

Burial Mounds Driving Course

City folk museum → (4.2km) → Seiryû brial mound → (1.3km) → Wangashizuka brial mound → (4.2km) → Ôhakayama brial mound → (0.9km) → Miyagao brial mound → (4.4km) → Nodain brial mound

The „Kûkai” Public bus



Buses run round the city. No fare required.
Service: between 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
As a rule, there is no bus service between January 1-3.
TEL 0877-63 6331
(Senior Citizens' Section)

Sister city

Wakayama-ken, Takano-chô (fraternal city)

Takanoyama with its Kongôbuji is one of Japan's must-see Buddhist mountain cities.

Nagasaki-ken, Hirado City (sister city)

Since ancient times, this town had been the gateway to the continent, also well-known as the place from which Kûkai set out when he was sent as an envoy to Tang China.

El Dorado, Arkansas

El Dorado is the largest city in the southern part of Arkansas. The historical row of houses and streets reappears.

Specialty Direct Sale Guide



Zentsûji Specialty Direct Sale Center

Seasonal vegetables and flowers are lined up.
Closed on Wednesdays.
Open between 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
TEL 0877-62 7109



Downtown delicacies

Udon shops are all over the place, and there is also an udon map.

A place to take a rest



A park on top of the roof

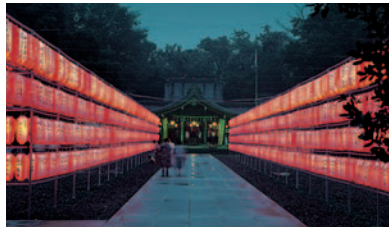


Chatting Square

It is located on Katakara-machi Road, diagonally across the Shimin Kaikan (Citizens' Union). Covered by woodplanks, it is a space where one can enjoy a sense of relief. There are stores as well as a bicycle rental shop. A perfect place for taking a rest.
Closed during the New Year Holidays.
Open April-September 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
October-March 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
TEL 0877-64 0012

Expressway Expy
Junior high school JHS
Elementary school ES
High school HS
Police station PS

Zentsûji City Event



Mantô Mitama Festival
This is a festival with some 3,500 votive paper lanterns hoisted, and Japanese drums being played.



Zentsûji Festival
People dance in a parade, and a big market is held.



Zentsûji Kûkai Festival
This is main temple festival held on the death anniversary of Kûkai's father.

- January 1
Sôhonzan Zentsûji Hatsumôde【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- January 1-7
Shikoku Hachijyûhakkasho Osunafumi【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- Weekend in late February
Zentsûjidaieyou【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- The vernal equinoctial week
Shikoku Hachijyûhakkasho Osunafumi【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- The third weekend in April
Syômiekushugyô (zentsûji spring fair)【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- late April - early May
A Plant fairr【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- April 29
Konpira Kenkyaku Meet【ZentsûjiHall-Ôsayama-Kotohira-Takatôrô】
- April 29
Burial Mound's Day【National Burial Mound,Ôhakayama Burial Mound,Miyagao Burial Mound】
- May 5
Sanukinomiya Syunkireitaisai【Sanukinomiya】
- The second weekend in May
Konzôji Spring Fair【Konzôji】
- June 14,15
Kôboudaishi's Birthday party【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- Weekend in late July
Zentsûji Festival【around Zentsûji】
- August 11-15
Mantoumitama Festival【Sanukinomiya Kagawa-ken Gokoku Shrine】
- early September
Enchin・Nogi Festival【Konzôji】
- On Saturday night with a almost full moon
Otsukimi walking & Hiakari【zentsûji City Hall~Hachibuse Fureai Park】
- The autumnal equinoctial week
Shikoku Hachijyuhakkasho Osunafumi【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- October 9-10
Kitamukihachimangû,Yoshidahachinmangû(autumn festival)【Kitamukihachimangû,Yoshidahachinmangû】
- late October - early November
A display of chrysanthemum【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- late October
Shigaku Festival【Shikoku Gakuin University】
- late October - middle November
Zentsûji Citizen Cultural Festival【Zentsûji-Sougoukaikan・Shiminkaikan etc.】
- November 3
Zentsûji kûkai Festival【Sôhonzan-Zentsûji】
- November 23
Ninamesai・Kenchamatsuri【Sanukinomiya】
- Early December
The Messiah Concert【Shikoku Gakuin University】

Accommodations

Zentsûji Ground Hotel TEL 0877・63・2111 (8,kamiyoshidachô)	Yamamotoya Honkan TEL 0877・62・2588 (6,zentsujichô)
Zentsûji Station Hotel TEL 0877・62・6222 (2,kamiyoshidachô)	Uokan Ryokan TEL 0877・62・0585 (2,zentsujichô)
Chisan Inn Marugame・Zentsûji TEL 0877・21・3711 (haradachô Marugame)	Monsakiya Ryokan TEL 0877・62・2337 (yoshiharachô)

Access



Fly in

- Tokyo → Takamatsu airport about 70 minutes
- Fukuoka → Takamatsu airport about 55 minutes
- ※Zentsûji is 40 minutes drive from Takamatsu airport.

By car

- Okayama → Zentsûji IC about 1 hour
- Tokushima → Zentsûji IC about 2 hour
- ※Zentsûji 10 minutes drive from Kotohira.

By JR Train

- Okayama(Setoôhashi Line) → Zentsûji station about 50 minutes(express)

