



Experiencing Kamakura Through Literature  
[Kamakura city YouTube official account]



Japan Heritage Kamakura: A Historical and Cultural Mosaic  
[Kamakura city YouTube official account]



The Beauty of Kamakura Revealed Through Zen  
[Kamakura city YouTube official account]



The Samurai of Kamakura  
[Kamakura city YouTube official account]



Bonbonri Festival of Kamakura

The Kamakura Bunshi preserved the region's scenery while also creating new culture. The achievements of the Kamakura Bunshi went beyond literature. They led efforts to protect Kamakura's historic scenery and created events like the Bonbonri Festival, preserving and enhancing the region's beauty.



- Literati -

Under wartime conditions, the "Kamakura Bunshi" stood up to protect literature. In the Meiji to Showa eras, many literary masters lived in Kamakura and were called "Kamakura Bunshi" (Kamakura Literati). During wartime speech repression, they united behind their ideologies and aimed to revive literature through initiatives such as founding literary magazines. Kamakura Museum of Literature is closed for renovations until March 31, 2027.



Kamakura Museum of Literature  
Map: C-3

The Beginning of Literary Revival

The first step in the revival of literature began in Kamakura, where many literary masters gathered.



Kamakurabori

As villa culture developed, "Kamakurabori" became a representative craft of the region. As many wealthy people began to visit Kamakura, Buddhist sculptors who originally created statues started making furniture and household items to meet their needs. This became known as "Kamakurabori," and today it stands as a representative craft of Kamakura.



- Villa -

In the Meiji era, Kamakura gained attention as a retreat, and notable figures flocked to build villas. As Kamakura's characteristics as a coastal retreat were recognized, the opening of the Yokosuka Line prompted elites of the political and financial worlds to build villas. Some of these villas remain today, creating a unique landscape in Kamakura.



Former Residence of Kaichomyia  
Map: D-3

The Beginning of the Idea of Retreat

In a place often said to be the most beautiful in Japan, the villa culture blossomed.



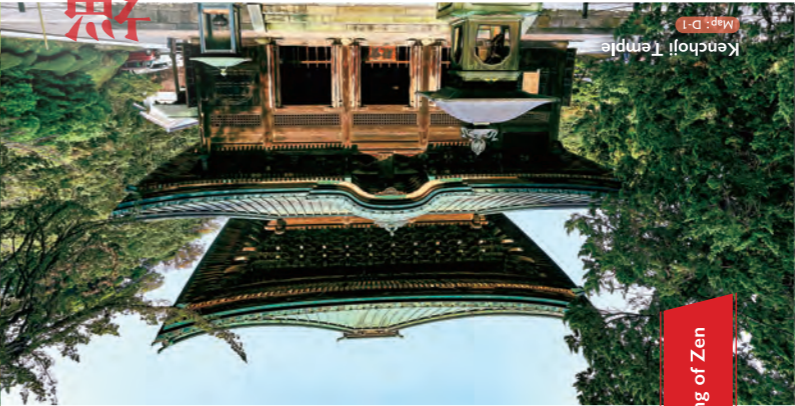
Jochoji Temple  
Map: C-1

The Zen tradition, originating in China, brought with it the culture of tea and fine arts and crafts. The development of Zen Buddhism influenced Japanese culture and arts. Zen monk Myouan Eisai (Yousai) introduced tea to Japan, and the Zen temples in Kamakura feature Song Dynasty-style architecture and sculptures on religious artifacts, preserving their beauty to this day.



- Zen -

With over 1,000 monks training at one point, Kenchoji Temple, Japan's first Zen dojo, was established. Widely practiced Zen Buddhism in Japan began in Kamakura. The teachings of attaining enlightenment through zazen (seated meditation) and koans (Zen arts through discipline, Zen Buddhism developed under the protection of the Kamakura shogunate due to this factor.



Kenchoji Temple  
Map: D-1

The Beginning of Zen

Matching the spirit of the samurai, the first Zen boom in Japan arrived in Kamakura.



Asaina Kiridoshi Pass  
Map: E-2

Utilizing the topography encircled by mountains and the sea, the Kamakura Shogunate's city planning. The basic structure of the city was established through urban development after the shogunate's founding. The main axis was Wakamiya Oji, a shrine approach linking Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine to the sea. Kiridoshi Passes cut through mountain ridges, connecting the inside and outside of the city, while large temples were built at the mountain base.



- Samurai -

In the late 12th century, Minamoto no Yoritomo established the shogunate in Kamakura, transitioning from an aristocratic society to a samurai society. The establishment of the Kamakura Shogunate marked the birth of Japan's first full-fledged samurai government. This began an era of samurai rule that lasted for 700 years, changing people's lives and culture, and starting a new era from Kamakura.

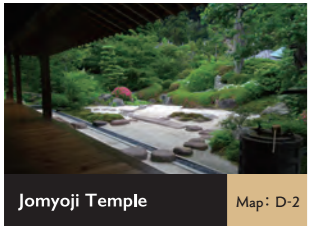


Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine  
Map: D-2

The Beginning of the Samurai Government

A great revolution in Japanese history: The birth of the samurai-led government.

Japan Heritage Sites as Tourist Attractions!



Jomyoji Temple  
Map: D-2

A Zen temple founded by Ashikaga Yoshikane. At the tea house "Kisen-an" within the temple grounds, you can enjoy matcha and sweets while gazing at the dry landscape garden.



Zeniaraibenzaiten Ugafukujinja Shrine  
Map: C-2

Founded by Minamoto no Yoritomo based on a revelation in a dream. It is said that washing money in the water of this shrine will double it, making it a representative power spot of Kamakura.



Zuisenji Temple  
Map: E-2

Founded by Muso Soseki, a Zen monk and garden designer. Known for its rock garden designed by Soseki, the temple grounds feature seasonal flowers like early spring plums and winter daffodils.



Jojuin Temple  
Map: C-4

Founded by Hojo Yasutoki, it is known as a temple for fulfilling good relationships. At the top of the 108 steps, you can enjoy a stunning view of Kamakura surrounded by mountains and the sea.

ここから、それから、かまくら。

Japan Heritage  
KAMAKURA TOUR MAP  
Journey through the "Beginning" of History and Culture



Here in Kamakura, new history, culture, and philosophy were pioneered.

Kamakura is known as an atmospheric city. The street scenery, where numerous historical buildings and the seasonal natural beauty are in harmony, exudes a unique atmosphere that is characteristic of an ancient city. However, Kamakura's appeal goes beyond its aesthetics. In fact, it has deep connections with Zen Buddhism and literature. Embark on a journey through the history, culture, and philosophy that originated from Kamakura. Along the way, you're sure to encounter the fascinating aspects and new discoveries of Kamakura that you never knew.



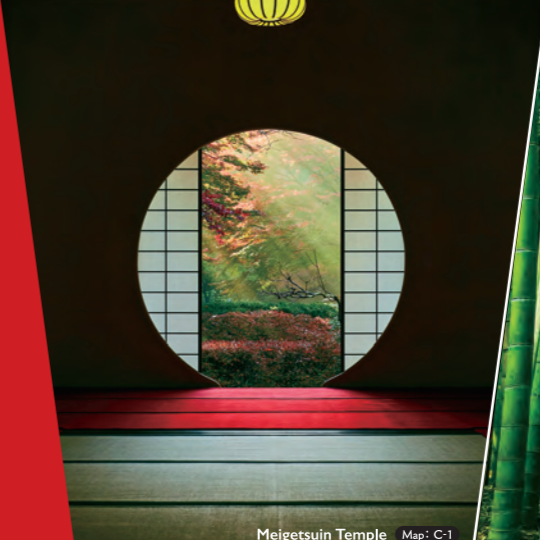
歴史と文化が描くモザイク画のまちへ



Asaina Kiridoshi Pass  
Map: E-2



Koga Residence  
Map: C-2



Meigetsuin Temple  
Map: C-1



Hokokuji Temple  
Map: D-2

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Tourism Section in charge of Tourism, Citizen Disaster Prevention Department, Kamakura City  
TEL: 0467-23-3000 (representative) FAX: 0467-23-7505  
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Japan Heritage Official Site



Visit the historic sites of the Kamakura Shogunate, where the samurai once thrived

Touch the heart of "Zen" rooted in Japan from Kamakura

Tour residences and old shops that convey the villa culture today

Trace the footsteps of "Literary Giants" who were active in Kamakura

[ Start from Kamakura Station ]

Walk: 10 minutes from Kamakura Station East Exit

**1 Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine**  
 2-1-31 Yukinoshita, Kamakura City ☎ 6:30-20:30  
 (From April to September: 5:30-20:30)

Walk: 10 minutes

**2 Egara Tenjinsha Shrine**  
 74 Nikaido, Kamakura City ☎ 8:30-16:30

Bus: Board at "Wakaremichi," get off at "Sensuibashi," and walk for 3 minutes

**3 Godaido Myooin Temple**  
 32 Juniso, Kamakura City ☎ 9:00-16:00

Bus: Board at "Sensuibashi," get off at "Junisojinja," and walk for 10 minutes

**4 Asaina Kiridoshi Pass**  
 Juniso, Kamakura City - Asahina, Kanazawa-ku, Yokohama City

[ Start from Kamakura Station ]

Bus: Board at Kamakura Station East Exit Platform 2, get off at "Kenchoji Temple," and walk for 4 minutes

**5 Kenchoji Temple**  
 8 Yamanouchi, Kamakura City ☎ 8:30-16:30  
 \*Admission fee required.

Walk: 15 minutes

**6 Meigetsuin Temple**  
 189 Yamanouchi, Kamakura City ☎ 9:00-16:00  
 (The schedule may change during the hydrangea season in June.) \*Admission fee required.

Walk: 6 minutes

**7 Jochiji Temple**  
 1402 Yamanouchi, Kamakura City ☎ 9:00-16:30  
 \*Admission fee required.

Walk: 6 minutes

**8 Engakuji Temple**  
 409 Yamanouchi, Kamakura City ☎ 8:30-16:30  
 (From December to February: 8:30-16:00)  
 \*Admission fee required.

[ Start from Kamakura Station ]

Bus: Board at Kamakura Station East Exit Platform 4, get off at "Jomyoji," and walk for 6 minutes

**9 Former Residence of Kachonomiya**  
 2-6-37 Jomyoji, Kamakura City ☎ Garden tours are from 10:00-16:00 (10:00-15:00 from October to March)/Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays (open on holidays and closed the following weekday)

Bus: Board at "Jomyoji," get off at "Hachimangu," and walk for 3 minutes

**10 Mikawayaya Honten**  
 1-9-23 Yukinoshita, Kamakura City ☎ 9:00-19:00 (Closed on Tuesdays)

Walk: 10 minutes

**11 Koga Residence**  
 1-7-23 Ogigayatsu, Kamakura City ☎ Currently operating as a restaurant. Please check the website for details.

Walk: 15 minutes

**12 Sunshodo**  
 5-1 Sasamemachi, Kamakura City ☎ 10:00-17:00 (non-scheduled holiday)

[ Start from Kamakura Station ]

Bus: Board at Kamakura Station East Exit Platform 7, get off at "Komyoji," and walk for 1 minute

**13 Komyoji Temple**  
 6-17-19 Zaimokuza, Kamakura City ☎ 6:00-17:00  
 (From October 15 to March 31: 7:00-16:00)

Bus: Board at "Komyoji," get off at "Shogakkomae," and walk for 10 minutes

**14 Myohonji Temple**  
 1-15-1 Omachi, Kamakura City ☎ 10:00-16:00

Bus: Board at Kamakura Station East Exit Platform 1 or 6, get off at "Hasekannon," and walk for 5 minutes

**15 Hasedera Temple**  
 3-11-2 Hase, Kamakura City ☎ 8:00-17:00  
 (From April to June: 8:00-17:30)/Reception is until 30 minutes before closing. \*Admission fee required.

Walk: 12 minutes

**16 Daibutsu (Great Buddha) of Kamakura in Kotoku-in**  
 4-2-28 Hase, Kamakura City ☎ 8:00-17:30  
 (From October to March: 8:00-17:00)/Admission is until 15 minutes before closing. \*Admission fee required.

**1 Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine**

A shrine revered by Minamoto no Yoritomo and considered the guardian deity of Kamakura samurai. It is said that Yoritomo himself supervised the construction of Wakamiya Oji, the shrine's main approach.

**5 Kenchoji Temple**

The first temple in Japan to call itself a "Zen temple." The main buildings, including the main gate and Buddha Hall, arranged in a straight line in the Chinese style, are magnificent.

**9 Former Residence of Kachonomiya**

A mansion built as the residence of Marquis Kacho Hironobu. The Western-style gate and residence features unique architecture that combines temple and castle styles, making it a landmark of the city.

**12 Sunshodo**

Built in 1936, this shop of Kamakurabori and residence features unique architecture that combines temple and castle styles, making it a landmark of the city.

**2 Egara Tenjinsha Shrine**

A shrine located at the Kimon (direction considered unlucky) of the Kamakura Shogunate. Also famous as the god of learning, its vivid vermilion worship hall is worth seeing.

**6 Meigetsuin Temple**

A sub-temple of Zenkoji, now in ruins. Open only during the seasons of irises and autumn leaves, the rear garden viewed through a round window is like a painting.

**10 Mikawayaya Honten**

Founded in 1900, the current store was built in 1927. The warehouse and trolley are still in use, allowing you to feel the commercial culture of that time.

**3 Godaido Myooin Temple**

The only temple in Kamakura City established by the shogun of the Kamakura Shogunate. It is said to have saved the nation from crisis as the prayer place of the shogunate and the shogun family.

**7 Jochiji Temple**

A Zen temple founded in 1281. The sammon gate, which also serves as a bell tower, and the main hall exhibit the Chinese style known as "Song style."

**11 Koga Residence**

The villa of Sho Seijiro, executive director and manager of Mitsubishi Joint-Stock Company. Now operating as a restaurant, it offers a special experience.

**4 Asaina Kiridoshi Pass**

Connecting Kamakura and Mutsuura, it played an important role in both defense and logistics. Passing through the steep rock walls gives a sense of entering a hidden region.

**8 Engakuji Temple**

Founded by Chinese monk Mugaku Sogen, it is a temple where many samurai, including Hojo Tokimune, practiced Zen. The Shariden (reliquary hall), considered the finest example of Zen architecture, is must-see.

\*The Shariden is open to the public only a few times a year.

Japan Heritage Sites Map in Kamakura



**14 Myohonji Temple**  
 A temple in Hikigayatsu surrounded by lush greenery. Crabapple depicted in Kobayashi Hideo's "Recollections of Nakahara Chuya" is in full bloom in April.

**15 Hasedera Temple**  
 It is said to have been founded in 736, this temple houses one of Japan's largest wooden Buddha statues and includes a monument to the residence of critic and thinker Takayama Chogyu, who spent his last years here.

**16 Daibutsu (Great Buddha) of Kamakura in Kotoku-in**  
 The only national treasure-designated Buddha statue in Kamakura. In the grounds of Kotoku-in is a monument inscribed with a poem by Yosano Akiko praising the beauty of the Great Buddha.