



A 1,300-year-old end of Japanese life journey

~The Saigoku 33 Kannon Pilgrimage~

The Final Sacred Temple Tanigumi-san, Kegonji Temple



The ultimate pre-departure journey is not just organizing one's life before death. It is rather to consider how our hearts can be spiritually rich throughout our entire lives. The Saigoku pilgrimage route helps us to achieve such spiritual fullness.

Japanese people often hear that they are considered "cool!", internationally. Such reactions represent an idea that most of them are really tender, considerate, and diligent. This is related to the Kannon philosophy which Japanese people are very familiar with. The journey of visiting each Kannon on the pilgrimage route brings us the spiritually rich lives, and that is what the Saigoku pilgrimage route truly is

On ' the Japan Heritage'

'Japan Heritages' are cultural properties and narratives designated by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, where a region's unique history tells a story of the nation's culture and traditions.

It is intended that local communities take leadership to comprehensively organize and utilize various exceptional tangible and intangible cultural properties necessary for telling their stories. It also aims and to revitalize regional economies by strategically promoting the narratives pertaining to cultural properties within Japan and abroad.



A girl on a pilgrimage between the 33 sites. She walks through past, present and future, welcoming everyone who comes to Tanigumi, and praying their wishes come true.

1 Tanigumi-san, Kegonji Temple



Built in 798, early Heian period. The final site of Japan's oldest pilgrima ge route. It's also known and loved not only for the beauty of its cherry blossoms and autumn le aves along the approach, but also as a famous 'wish-granting temple'.

[Noukyou hours (submitting Goshuin written prayers)] 8:00~16:30

2 Ryokai-san, Yokokuraji Temple



Known as the temple where a mummy rests, it also contains 22 Bud dhas, three structures and more that are all designated as national and prefectural importa nt cultural properties. In autumn, it is also much-loved for its bea utiful leaves.

[Visiting hours]

3Bridge of Love



A vine-covered suspen sion bridge linking the east and west of Ibiga wa. Nowadays This fa mous unique place is known as the 'bridge of love', where one can wish for success in love.

*Can be visited throughout the year.

4 Tokuyama Dam



A multipurpose dam hol ding the most water of all dams in Japan. Made through the rockfill syst em, by stacking rocks. In autumn, the colorful bright leaves hang beaut ifully over Tokuyama Lake. Visitors will be able to fully enjoy nature.

[Dam Site Park opening hours] 9:00~17:00

(regardless of weekdays or holidays)

S Roadside Station Fujihashi-no-yu, Ibigawa Onsen



A place to relax and sp end peaceful time in na ture, adjacent to the Ro adside Station, hoshino-furusato. If the bath is too much, the entran ce has a footbath as well, making it a perfe ct roadside stop.

[Days off]
Thursday every week
[Open hours]
10:00~21:00

6Sazare-ishi Stone



Designated as a natural monument of Gifu Pref ecture, and said to be where the national anth em, Kimigayo, originat ed. The anthem sings that this stone was giv en by the heavens, and is a symbol of Japan.

[Park opening hours]
April to December

7Ibigawa Yana Fishing



Ibigawa has a tradition of fishing for ayu, or sw eetfish, using a mecha nism called 'yana'. During summer you can visit the river and enjoy ayu meals.

[Yana fishing period]
July to early September

8Yashaga-ike pond



Located at the 1,100m summit, Yashaga-ike is said to have never dri ed up. At 1.5 hours from the entry point, the pond is quite acce ssible for beginners, and a hidden but popular spot for mountainclimbing fans.

[Mountain climbing hours] Early June until there is snow on the ground