

Because of its desolate scenery where steam and hot water spout from between the rocks, Kowakidani was called "small hell," and a statue of Enma was enshrined in the surrounding mountain. It was featured in *Nanayu no Shiori* (written works on hot springs) and was introduced as a place of "unusual and spectacular sight" as there was only a small amount of hot spring water.

In the sixth year of the Meiji era, when The Emperor and Empress of Japan graced Hakone with their presence, the name of "Great Hell / Small Hell" was altered to "Owakudani / Kowakidani" because it was not fitting for the emperor to visit 'hell.' The onset of Tourism in Kowakidani began from the tenth of the Meiji era, and a number of historic buildings remain e.g. villas and inns: Mikawayu Ryokan, Kowakien Kihinkan, and Mitsui Suishoen.



- 10 Kowakidani Bus Stop
- 9 Hakone Kowakien Guest Houses
- 8 Mitsui Suishoen Main building
- 7 Okada Museum of Art
- 6 Mikawayu Ryokan Inn
- 5 Horaien Park
- 4 Dotoji Stone Statue and Dohyo Signpost
- 3 Chisuiji Falls
- 2 Koshino Tower
- 1 Enma Statue

Distance 2.5km, Time approx. 90 min.

Highlights Enma statue



A statue of *Enma* (God of hell) evokes the time when Kowakidani was still called "small hell." A colored red pigment is to be seen in the large open mouth. Kowakidani was featured in written works *Nanayu no Shiori* as an "unusual and spectacular place." Visited by many people, it may well mark the commencement of a Japanese theme park.

YOSEGI-Chan



Hakone Committee of Revitalizing Cultural Heritage

〒250-0315
74 Tonosawa, Hakone-machi,
Ashigarashimo-gun,
Kanagawa (Fukuzumiro)

Supervised by : Hakone Town Board of Education

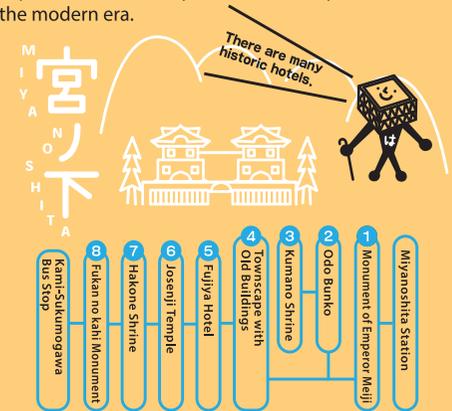
This project is supported by
the 2020 Subsidies Budget of the Japanese government's Agency
for Cultural Affairs Promotion of Culture and the Arts, namely,
Promotion of Overall Usage of Cultural Heritage Project.

HAKONE HERITAGE MAP



Miyanoshita and Sokokura are hot spring resorts that have been frequented from before the Edo period. The hot springs were visited by both the common people and the Daimyos. In more modern times, tourists from overseas would come to visit the area around Miyanoshita.

Let's enjoy walking around the city, where one can experience the atmosphere of the Edo period and the modern era.



Distance 1,200m, Time approx. 45 min.



- 7 Yachiyo Bridge
- 6 Takio Stone Bath
- 5 Jyakotsu Valley
- 4 Tsuteya Ryokan Inn
- 3 Hakone Ekiden monument
- 3 Monument of Yoshisada Nitta
- 2 Dohyo Signpost
- 1 Kikkakaso

Distance 1,000m, Time approx. 30 min.



7 Mikawayu Ryokan Inn

Mikawayu Ryokan is a long-established inn founded in 1883, the founder being Inosaburo Enomoto from Horai-cho, Yokohama. His son, Kyozo, not only managed the inn, but also contributed to the development of Kowakidani Onsen, and served as the vice chairman of the Prefectural Assembly.



8 Okada Museum of Art

A museum that opened in 2013. You can enjoy a collection of paintings and pottery, including important cultural properties e.g. Kenzan Ogata's "Iroe-Tatsutagawa-Monsukashi-Soribachi." Inquiries: 0460-87-3931



9 Mitsui Suishoen Main Building

At the end of the Meiji era, executives of the Mitsui family and Mitsui Zaibatsu Corporation purchased a villa in Kowakidani, which subsequently grew into a major area of villas. Suishoen was the villa belonging to Takatsuru Mitsui, who served as an auditor of Mitsui Mine. At present, it is used as a restaurant Hakone Suishoen.



10 Hakone Kowakien Guest Houses



10 Hakone Kowakien Guest Houses

Two Japanese-style buildings exist behind Yunessun Spas & Baths. A one-story villa built around 1918 for businessman Heitaro Fujita, which was later used as a guest house for distinguished persons. In fact, it was a valuable example of villa architecture before the Great Kanto Earthquake. The State Guest House, which features an extensive roof, is a relocation of the house of a notable family, which was built in 1875 in Aikawa town. The former thatched roof is covered with corrugated iron plates imported from England in 1914.



1 Kowakidani Station

The station opened in 1919 when the Odawara Electric Railway was extended to Gora. At that time, Fujiya Motor was the rival of Odawara Electric Railway having a bus route to the shore of Lake Ashinoko. Odawara Electric Railway operated a bus from Kowakidani Station, competing by connecting trains and buses. This fierce competition continued until both companies merged in 1932.



2 Enma Statue

In the Kowakidani Cemetery of Josenji Temple in Miyanoshta, one can see a stone statue of Enma Daiou (God of Hell). There is a description in the writing of *New Sagami Fudo Kiko* that the statue was already in existence in Edo times when this area was called "small hell."



3 Koshinto (Dohyo Signpost)

It is situated on a stone wall just up the slope from the graveyard, a little higher than eye level. A lotus flower is carved under the word Koshin Memorial. The side of the stupa was engraved with *Kochikoku michi* and *Hakone michi*, both indicating pathways. Therefore it seems to have served as a signpost too.



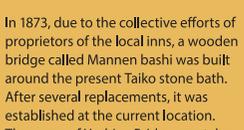
5 Dosojin Stone Statue and Dohyo Signpost

At the Kowakidani meeting hall, there are two Dosojin and one Dohyo signpost. *Dosojin* was built in 1925 by three children's groups. A children's group is much the same as a modern children's association, where older people come together to run festivals. One can see on the signpost the characters engraved Sokokura Village, Miyanoshta, Dogashima, Kowakidani, and Kikamichi. **Dohyo Signpost**



7 Yachiyo Bridge

The present bridge built in 1967, crosses the Jakotsu River on National Highway 138. In the Edo period, it was necessary to go up the Jakotsu River and make a detour at the location of the existing Ushioyaya Bridge.



6 Taiko Stone Bath

One of the many hot springs that naturally occurs due to the erosion of the Jakotsu River. The name derived from the occasion when Toyotomi Hideyoshi attacked Odawara, and his soldiers recovered from their exhaustion by taking the hot spring bath.



4 Chisuji Waterfalls

So named because they appear as a waterfall of a thousand threads. It has a width of 20m and a height of 3m respectively. In the Meiji era, it was maintained as a famous sightseeing place for Kowakidani hot springs.



6 Horaien Park

This is a garden of 6.6 ha extent. Families of Enomoto, who had opened Kowakidani hot springs in the Meiji era, created this place for bathers to relax. By planting azaleas and mountain cherry blossoms in the latter half of the Meiji era, Kowakidani became well-known for its flowers. At present, owned by Fujita Kanko.



4 Tsutaya Ryokan Inn

Nanayu no Shiori, known as an Important Cultural Property of Hakone town, was left to Tsutaya, and currently donated to the local museum.

Nanayu no Shiori is a ten-volume guidebook of *Hakone Onsen* hot springs, compiled by two figures *Sagai* and *Rouka* in 1811. It tells of the benefits of hot springs, manner of bathing, surrounding sites, and even souvenirs are mentioned.



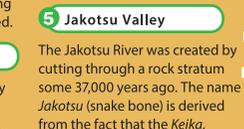
5 Jakotsu Valley

The Jakotsu River was created by cutting through a rock stratum some 37,000 years ago. The name *Jakotsu* (snake bone) is derived from the fact that the *Keika*, formed by the precipitation of an accumulation of silicon contained in the hot springs, resembles white snake bones. For a long time, this *Keika* found abundantly in Sokokura, has been known for its efficacy, and was introduced in *Nanayu no Shiori* for the effective treatment of hemostasis and skin diseases.



3 Hakone Ekiden monument

In December 1956, during the practice for the Hakone Ekiden marathon for the following New Year, a runner of Senshu University became unconscious, and collided with a bus, and was killed. Two years later, the Miyanoshta Tourism Association built this monument to commemorate the incident.



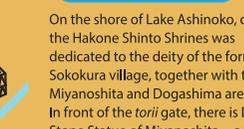
5 Fujiya Hotel

In 1878, Sennosuke Yamaguchi acquired Fujiya which had been established since the Edo period. The name was changed to Fujiya Hotel, and in order to earn foreign currency, it opened specializing in visitors from abroad. However powerful a person may be in the political or business world, he was unable to stay unless from abroad. The original building was destroyed by the Great Fire of Miyanoshta in 1883, but the main building was completed in 1891, and other buildings built from the Meiji to Showa era still remain. To stay in buildings of such historical nature is surely valuable.



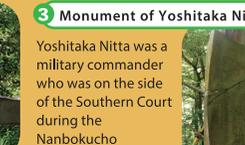
7 Hakone Shrine

On the shore of Lake Ashinoko, one of the Hakone Shinto Shrines was dedicated to the deity of the former Sokokura village, together with the Miyanoshta and Dogashima areas. In front of the *torii* gate, there is Dosojin Stone Statue of Miyanoshta—a twin image though missing in part.



8 Fukan no kahi Monument

One can find a Fukan no kahi monument standing beside the guard-rail of a mountain railway. It is unknown who the poet was, or as to how the monument was erected, but it had become a popular spot because Mr. Taido Matsubara, a priest of the Rinzaic sect Myoshinji school referred to it in his writing. "Look at that, flowers in the deep mountains flourish, do your best, even if no one notices." (by the unknown poet)



3 Monument of Yoshitaka Nitta

Yoshitaka Nitta was a military commander who was on the side of the Southern Court during the Nanbokucho period (1366-1392), and was said to have been killed here. This monument was moved from the Sengokuya Ryokan inn, in Sokokura, to its present location.



2 Dohyo Signpost

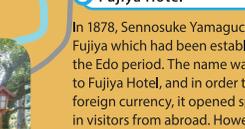
A route-sign in front of the gate of Kikkaso. Originally built in 1897, nearer to Hakone on National Highway 1. It says "Right to Sokokura" and "Left towards Kowakidani-Ashinoyu."



4 Townscape with Old Buildings



3 Kumano Shrine



6 Yoshokuzan Josenji Temple

This temple of the Soto Zen was built in 1583. There is a statue of a cow made of stone called Banzai cow to be found in the precincts. Emperor Showa came to the Fujiya Hotel in 1904 when he was young. He heard the cries of *banzai*, *hurray*, from a resident who, on hearing the news of the victory of the Russo-Japanese War, had jumped on the back of the cow statue and shouted *banzai*. Therefore the name Banzai cow was given from this anecdote.



1 Kikkaso

Built as Miyanoshta Imperial Villa in 1895. Since then it has been used as an Imperial villa. After the war, it was sold to the Fujiya Hotel, and now a nationally registered tangible cultural property, considered to be a period villa of architectural merit, where one may also dine.

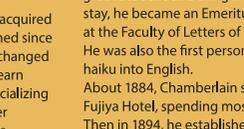


1 Monument of Emperor Meiji

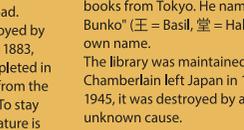


2 Odo Bunko

In the Meiji era, Basil Hall Chamberlain of the United Kingdom, was invited to Japan as *oya-toi-gaikokujin*—hired foreign professor to a Japanese graduate school. During his 38-year stay, he became an Emeritus Professor at the Faculty of Letters of Tokyo. He was also the first person to translate haiku into English. About 1884, Chamberlain stayed at the Fujiya Hotel, spending most of the year. Then in 1894, he established a library, bringing a substantial collection of books from Tokyo. He named it "Odo Bunko" (王 = Basil, 堂 = Hall) after his own name. The library was maintained even after Chamberlain left Japan in 1911, but in 1945, it was destroyed by a fire of unknown cause.



4 Township with Old Buildings



4 Township with Old Buildings



4 Township with Old Buildings

National Highway No. 1 passed through the center of Miyanoshta and connected Hakone's seven hot springs. The road was called *Nanayu-michi*, seven hot spring road, and was frequented by visitors. In the Meiji era, it was quickly developed as a roadway for rickshaws and horse-drawn carriages. It became a national highway in 1906 instead of the Old Tokaido, and then National Highway No. 1 in 1920 and continues to this day. Nowadays, souvenir shops from Meiji times to the Taisho era line the street, giving an atmosphere of the past.



1 Kikkaso

Built as Miyanoshta Imperial Villa in 1895. Since then it has been used as an Imperial villa. After the war, it was sold to the Fujiya Hotel, and now a nationally registered tangible cultural property, considered to be a period villa of architectural merit, where one may also dine.



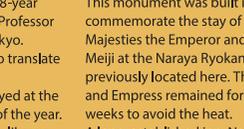
1 Monument of Emperor Meiji



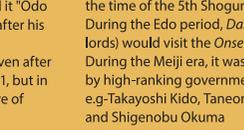
4 Township with Old Buildings



4 Township with Old Buildings



4 Township with Old Buildings



4 Township with Old Buildings



4 Township with Old Buildings

Miyanoshta's Kumano Shrine is the guardian deity of Miyanoshta hot springs, and the name Miyanoshta, meaning under the shrine, flourished at this very spot. Kumano Shrine is associated with the old hot spring resorts of Hakone. It is said that Kumano in Wakayama Prefecture was known for its hot springs, and as Kumano can be pronounced as Yuano, also meaning hot spa, people believed it to be the guardian deity of hot springs because of the name.

