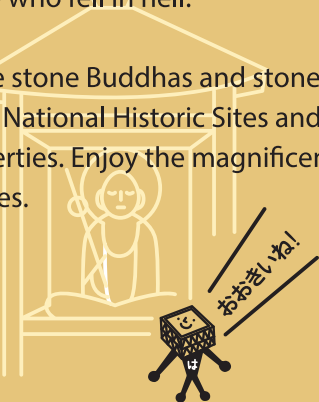


If you walk some 500m along National Highway No.1 from Ashinoyu Onsen, you will see Shojin-ga-ike (Shojin Pond) on your right. There are many stone Buddha figures and stone towers from the Kamakura period.

Asukai Masaari, a poet from Kamakura period, described this area as "these mountains might as well be hell..." people centuries back may have thought this bleak land as hell. This area then became a sacred land to those who believed in the Jizo belief as a place that would save the souls of those who fell in hell.

These stone Buddhas and stone towers are designated as National Historic Sites and Important Cultural Properties. Enjoy the magnificent stone Buddha Figures.



- 1 Stone Buddha Figures and History Museum
- 2 Rokudo Jizo
- 3 Ocho Jizo
- 4 Tomb of Yaohigaaka
- 5 Tomb of Tada Mitsunaka
- 6 Twenty-five bodhisattvas
- 7 Tomb of Soga Brothers and Tora Gozen

Distance: 600m: Duration: approx. 30 min

Highlights Rokudo Jizo

The Jizo Bodhisattva statue carved into a huge stone. It is worth visiting and experiencing the actual size. The Jizo Bodhisattva alone is 3.5 meters, and the surrounding building is 9.2 meters- the same size as a three-story building. It's surprising that such a large structure could have been built in a valley at that period.



YOSEGI-Chan



Hakone Committee of Revitalizing Cultural Heritage

250-0315

Kanagawa, Ashigarashimogun, Hakonemachi, Tonosawa 74 (within Fukuzumiro)

Supervisor Hakonemachi Board of Education

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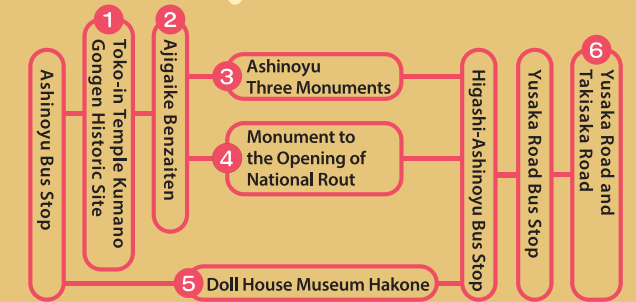
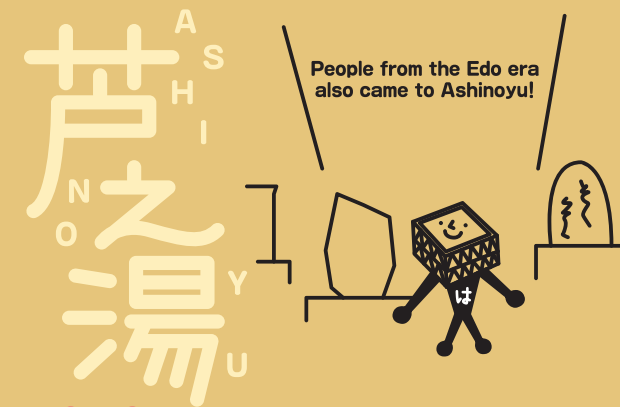


HAKONE HERITAGE MAP



Ashinoyu can be found in historical records from the Kamakura period and was already mentioned as an area of hot springs. It was then called "Ashi no Umi" (sea of reeds) as it was a marshland with reeds. Hot spring resorts were opened in the Edo period and became known as one of Hakone Nanayu (seven hot springs.)

Ashinoyu became a popular resort after a road for cars had opened in 1904. Relax in this calm hot spring area which carries the historical atmosphere from the Edo period.



Distance: 4km, Duration: approx. 1 h

Highlights Tokoon



Restored in 2001, Tokoon, is a salon where intellectuals from the Edo period gathered. Many monuments inscribed with tanka poems remain on the premises, indicating the gathering of poets and writers.

1 Stone Buddha Figures and History Museum

This is a guidance facility for Hakone Stone Buddha Figures at the National Historic Site of Japan. Inside the museum, the information on the history, commentary on each stone Buddha and stone pagoda, and other relevant information can be found. Information is available as to walks around the remaining historical sites. Whilst resting in the hall, there are fine views of the Shojin-ga-ike, Komagatake, and Futagoyama.

User Guidance
 Opening Days : All Year
 Opening Hours : 10:00 to 16:00
 Admission : Free
 Parking Availability : 35 cars / 2 Buses (No parking charge)
 Facilities : Exhibition Room, Lounge, Toilets



3 Stone Buddha Figures and History Museum

Designated as an Important Cultural Property - June 8, 1974
 A rock carved with three Jizo Bodhisattva statues. The inscription was carved on the left side, indicating the first year of Ocho period (1311). Previously in Miyagino a custom existed where 49 days after the death of a member, the family would visit the Ocho Jizo to light a bonfire - "Hama-Ori" also known as Hitaki Jizo (Fire Kindling Jizo)



7 The Tomb of Soga Brothers and Tora Gozen (Stone Pagodas)

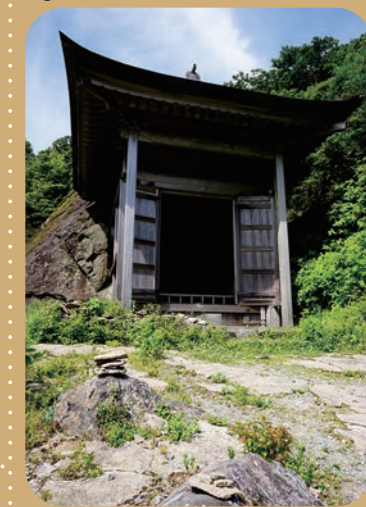
Designated as Important Cultural Property- August 29, 1953
 Three huge Stone Pagodas (Gorinto) are to be seen along National Route 1. The relief of Jizo Bodhisattva is sculpted on two tombs on the left. These are said to be the graves of the Soga Brothers, in evidence of Jizo Worship.

The Soga brothers were samurai of the Kamakura period, and are famous for avenging their father's enemy, Kudo Suketsune. Standing to the right side is the Tora-Gozen tomb. The inscription engraved on the ring of the Pagoda shows it was built in 1295 by a group of people called Jizoko Ketsuen-shu in the hope of Byodo-Riyaku (Universal Equality). And Tora-Gozen was said to be in love with the elder Soga Brother.



2 Rokudo Jizo (Stone Jizo Bodhisattva Statue)

Designated as an Important Cultural Property- 8th June 1974.
 The 3.5m high Jizo Bodhisattva statue is carved in a giant boulder. The inscription on the left side of the statue is engraved with the year 1300. It is a Buddha statue representing the late Kamakura period. The inscription is currently faded. The Fukudo (protective structure), restored in 1997, a reproduction from the Muromachi era, is 4.5m wide, 7.1m deep and 9.2m high.



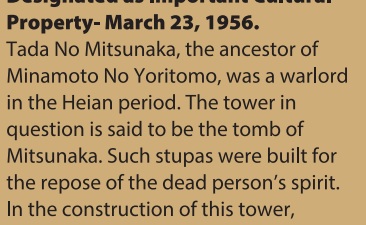
4 Tomb of Happyaku-Bikuni

Tomb of Happyaku-Bikuni who is said to have lived for 800 years. It is mentioned in the book "Shichi-to-no-shiori" in the late Edo period. At present, the tower above is lost, but the base remains, marked as built in the first year of Kannou era (1350) in the early Muromachi period.



5 Tomb of Tada No Mitsunaka

Designated as Important Cultural Property- March 23, 1956.
 Tada No Mitsunaka, the ancestor of Minamoto No Yoritomo, was a warlord in the Heian period. The tower in question is said to be the tomb of Mitsunaka. Such stupas were built for the repose of the dead person's spirit. In the construction of this tower, masonry from Nara, and Ryoukan (Ninsho=monk) from Saidaiji temple in Nara, were involved. Ryoukan later became the chief priest of Kamakura Gokurakuji Temple, thus influencing the style as being a mixture of Kansai (Western Japan) and Kanto (Eastern Japan).



6 Twenty-five bodhisattvas (25 stone Amitabha Nyorai statues)

Designated as an Important Cultural Property - June 8, 1974
 A group of stone Buddhas called "25 Bodhisattva," are carved in huge rocks. A total of 26 Buddha statues were carved, 23 on the westside, and 3 on the eastside of National Route 1. Work possibly started around 1293, the first year of Einin period, as the date is inscribed on Jizo Bodhisattva on the westside.



ASHINOYU
 MOTONO
 SHONJIKE
 TONEBUDDA FIGURES
 TOKONOME
 SHONJIKE
 MOTONO
 SHONJIKE

Sightseeing around the historic sites of Ashinoyu

Ashinoyu Bus Stop ○○○○○○○○ To Kamakura Kodo
 Yusakaji Road (Kamakura Kodo)
 Ashinoko Lake ○○○○○○○○○○ To Yumoto



1 Tokoan / Kumano Gongen Historic Site

The Guardian Deity of Ashinoyu Onsen is Kumano Shrine. In the shrine precinct, there is the restored Tokoan. Tokoan is a name given to Yakushido. Since the hot spring was used exclusively for hot spring treatment, Yakushi Nyorai, the deity, who healed illness, was also enshrined there. Yakushido was built in various locations. In the Edo period, cultured people are said to have visited Ashinoyu, and haiku parties or tea ceremonies were enjoyed. Moreover, Hiroshige Ando visited Ashinoyu and depicted Tokoan in "Hakone Nanayu Zukai"



2 Ajigaike / Ajigaike Benzaiten

Ajigaike was originally dug as a fire reservoir by German soldiers who had evacuated to Ashinoyu during the war. The name Ajigaike is derived from the fact that this area was called "Ashi no Umi" meaning a wetland full of reeds. Behind the wetland is Benzaiten, long enshrined in this area. The stone monument nearby indicates that it was rebuilt in the first half of the Edo period (1744).



4 Monument to the Opening of National Route

This monument commemorates the construction of a national road from Miyanosita through Ashinoyu Onsen to Lake Ashi in 1904. The construction of the current National Route 1 has proved to be unexpectedly difficult.



5 Doll House Museum Hakone

An art museum that opened in 2017. It has a collection of valuable dollhouses from around the world. The museum also has a cafe and a shop.



3 Ashinoyu Sanpi (Ashinoyu three monuments)

There are three stone monuments related to Ashinoyu. The first is a Benefactor Monument, the second is a Monument of Tomorrow Declaration, and lastly a Monument to the Ashahigaoka Paleolithic Site.

Benefactor Monument

In the Edo period, when Soshin Amenomori came to Ashinoyu to take a hot spring, he had incurred a debt to a person whom he had met. Another person Kahei Sakaiya paid the debt on his behalf. Twenty years later, after Soshin had become a doctor, he went back to Ashinoyu to honor the debt. However, Kahei had already died. To show his gratitude, Soshin had a beneficiary monument built.



Monument of Tomorrow Declaration

It was built by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Bunroku Shishi, a novelist, and Shiko Munakata, a print artist, who had supported the magnificent "Tomorrow Theory".



Asahigaoka Paleolithic Site

In 1961, stone objects made of obsidian were excavated together with a Paleolithic stone knife. A commemorative monument was built to mark this event.

