

YAMASHINA

One of Kyoto's best-kept secrets

Tourist Information



Honkoku-ji Temple

Shogun-zuka Mound and Seiryuden Hall

Kaju-ji Temple

Kiyomizu-yaki Danchi Complex

Zuishin-in Temple



Must see places in Yamashina!



Kiyomizu-yaki Danchi Complex

清水焼団地

The Kyo-yaki and Kiyomizu-yaki pottery community, which was relocated from the Gojo-zaka area of Higashiyama about 50 years ago, comprises about 60 distinctive studios. There are businesses related to "pottery" such as wholesalers, potters, artists, raw material suppliers, woodcrafters, and ceramic-related manufactures, which makes this place unique in Japan. The Kyoto Kiyomizu Ceramic Pottery Market is held annually in the fall. During this period, a temporary bus service from Kyoto Station is available; we recommend visiting this place when the pottery market is held.

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This is an area where famous Japanese tableware is made.

© 10-2 Kawata Kiyomizuyaki Danchi-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto



Yamashina Canal Lake Biwa Canal

山科疏水

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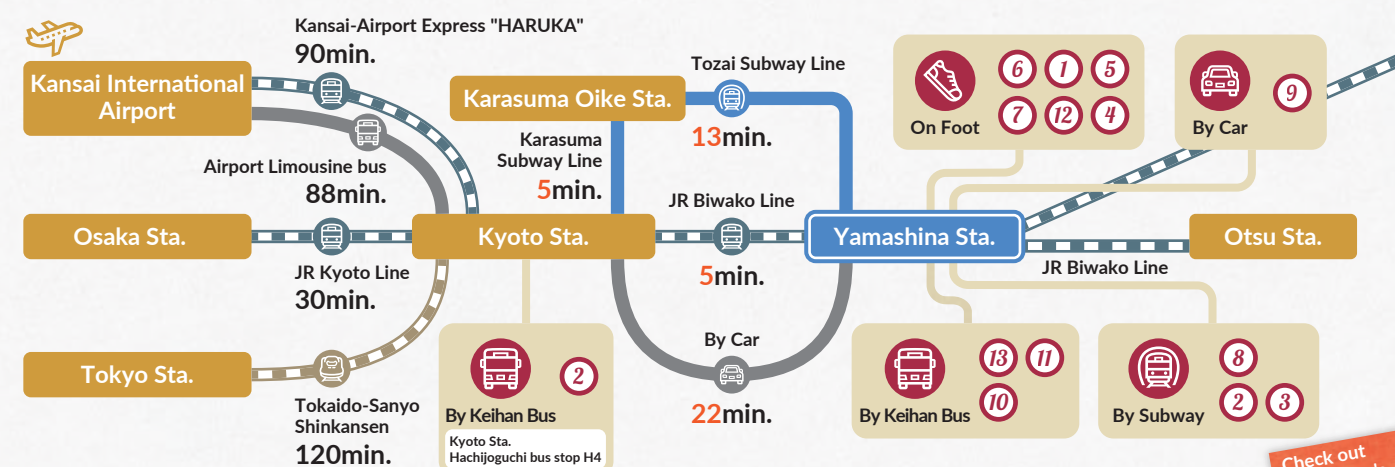
The canal, which connects Lake Biwa and Okazaki area in Kyoto City, was constructed in the Meiji era (1868-1912) for the purposes of water transport, power generation, water supply, sewage, and irrigation. The canal has three tunnels, and there remain plaques of writings by the great figures of the Meiji government. In spring, the walkway along the canal is filled with cherry blossoms and rapeseed flowers in full bloom.



It feels great to walk along the river surrounded by nature.

In spring and autumn, sightseeing boats cruise up/down the canal (available on limited days but reservations necessary through their website).

Access Guide



From Kansai International Airport

90min. using Kansai-Airport Express "HARUKA" or 88min. using Airport Limousine bus, 5min. JR Biwako Line

From Tokyo Sta.

120min. Tokaido-Sanyo Shinkansen, 5min. JR Biwako Line

From Osaka Sta.

30min. JR Kyoto Line, 5min. JR Biwako Line



Check out Yamashina's travel map

Please use the subway and other public transport to visit Yamashina.

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Yamashina
sightseeing video

ON YouTube



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Imperial Mausoleum of Emperor Tenchi

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天智天皇 山科陵

This is the mausoleum of Emperor Tenji, the 38th Emperor of Japan. With Nakatomi no Kamatari, the Emperor carried out the Taika Reforms when he was a prince called Nakano-oe-no-oji, and he also built the Omi Otsu-no-miya palace. Besides the delightful, lush approach to the mausoleum, there is a sundial monument, commemorating the first clock made in Japan by the Emperor.



◎ Misasagi-kamigobyo-no-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto

Honkoku-ji Temple

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本圀寺

The head temple of Nichiren Shu Buddhism located across the vermillion Shochaku-bashi bridge over the Yamashina Canal. The temple was founded in Kamakura by Nichiren Shonin and relocated to Yamashina in 1969 after several reconstructions. There are a kyodo hall, which is an Important Cultural Property, Kuzuryu Zeni-arai Benzaiten, which is a deity of fortune, and the Kaiun-mon gate for good luck, which was donated by Kato Kiyo-masa.



◎ 6 Misasagi-oiwa, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto
⌚ 9:00-16:30
¥ 500 yen

Himukai-daijingu Shrine

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日向大神宮

During the reign of the 23rd Emperor of Japan, Emperor Kenzo, the shrine was originally founded on Mt. Takachihonamine in Tsukushi-no-himukai, which is located in the Miyazaki, Kyushu Region. However, the shrine and god were later transferred to its current location. The shrine is also famous for bringing good luck and warding off misfortune.



Good luck to ward off evil spirits



◎ 29 Hinooka Issai-kyodani-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto

Shogun-zuka Mound and Seiryuden Hall

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将軍塚青龍殿

The Seiryuden is a large wooden structure, about half the width of the Great Buddha Hall in Nara, enshrining the national treasure Ao Fudo Buddha a replica and a historic Shogun-zuka mound built by Emperor Kanmu at the time of the relocation of capital to Heian-kyo. The panoramic view of the entire city of Kyoto from the observation deck on the top of Mt. Higashiyama is breathtaking.



◎ 28 Zushioku Kacho-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto
⌚ 9:00-17:00
¥ Adults 500 yen

There is also an observation deck with a beautiful night view.

Moroha-jinja Shrine

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諸羽神社

The old shrine founded in 862 (Jogan 4) enshrines the Amenokoyane-no-mikoto god and Amenofutodama-no-mikoto god. It is said that the name was later changed from "Ryoha" to "Moroha" having (an) additional four deities.



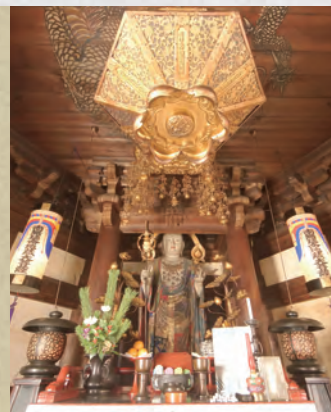
◎ 17 Shinomiya Chuzaiji-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto

Yamashina-jizo Statue at Tokurin-an Temple

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徳林庵 山科地蔵

The Buddha guards the Tokaido Road. The 3-meter-high Buddha sculpted by Ono no Takamura in 852 (Ninju 2) is said to bring various blessings such as ending epidemics, family safety, pregnancy, and safe delivery when prayed to during the Rokujizo-meguri pilgrimage, conducted on August 22 and 23 ever since the Heian period (794-1185). It watches over children and helps them grow into healthy adults.



◎ 16 Shinomiya Sensui-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto

Bishamon-do Temple

1

毘沙門堂

The monzeki temple was rebuilt in 1665 by Priest Tenkai, a political advisor to the Tokugawa Shogunate. There are sliding doors with paintings created by Kano Masunobu, whose images appear to be moving for those who pass in front of them. The temple is also renowned for its over 150-year-old weeping cherry tree, autumn leaves, and garden called "Bansui-en," revealing a different kind of beauty each season.



Mid-November to early December, is the best time to see the famous red carpet of fallen leaves called "shiki-momiji" ascending the stairs to the Chokushi-mon Gate.



◎ 18 Anshu-inariyama-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto

⌚ 9:00-17:00 (until 16:30 in December - February)

¥ Adults: 500 yen, Children(13-18 years old):400 yen, Children(7-12 years old): 300 yen, Children under 6 years old are admitted free of charge.

Let's explore the hidden gems of Yamashina!

Best places to see in Yamashina, Kyoto

(Located on the east side of Kyoto)Yamashina (Yamashina Ward, Kyoto City) is a town with a population of approximately 130,000 people. Since ancient times, it developed into a transportation hub connecting Uji, Nara, and Shiga, and has fostered a unique culture and tradition. Although it is not as well known as the main areas of central Kyoto, Yamashina offers an escape from the congested tourist spots in Kyoto city.

Here you can immerse yourself in the beauty of nature without the crowds and truly feel its unique history and culture.

It is also easily accessible from central Kyoto. Please come and experience Yamashina, One of Kyoto's best-kept secrets!



What is Monzeki Temple?
A temple where members of the imperial family and court nobles served as chief priests

Kaju-ji Temple

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勧修寺

The monzeki temple was founded by Emperor Daigo. The garden is set against the Higashiyama mountain range, having the Himuro-ike pond in the center with a path going around it. It is said that ice forming over the pond was presented to the Imperial Court and used to predict the future harvest by measuring its thickness. The temple is famous for water lilies and irises, and the pond looks brilliant in early summer, blossoming in various colors.



◎ 27-6 Kanshuji-niodo-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto
⌚ 9:00-16:00
¥ 400 yen

Zuishin-in Temple

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隨心院

The monzeki temple is said to be the site of the residence of Ono no Komachi, a female waka poet in the Heian period, and is well-known for plum blossoms. In the precincts, there are historic sites related to her such as a well where she put on her make up and fumizuka letter mound. In early spring, visitors can view plum blossoms in the Ono Plum Garden, a favorite place of Heian aristocrats. The main deity is Nyoirin Kannon.



Visitors can also experience workshops of transcribing sutra texts and tracing the image of Buddha.

◎ 35 Onogoryo-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto
⌚ 9:00-16:30
¥ 500 yen

Oishi-jinja Shrine

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大石神社

The shrine is dedicated to Lord Oishi Kuranosuke Yoshitaka. In the homotsu-den treasure hall, items related to Kuranosuke and posters of past films on him are on display. Yamashina Gishi Festival is grandly held every year on December 14, the day of the raid.



You might even meet a cute mini horse.



◎ 116 Nishino-yama Sakurano-baba-cho, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto
⌚ 9:00-16:00

Ushio-zan Hougou-ji Temple

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牛尾山 法嚴寺

Ushio-zan Hougou-ji Temple (Honzan Shugenshu sect) is a historic temple, which is also called the okuno-in sanctuary of Kiyomizu-dera temple. In the precincts, there are the hon-do main hall, goma-do hall, and Gochi-no-taki falls, where takigyo waterfall meditation is practiced. In addition, there springs out the sacred healing water called Kinsho-sui, which the name of Kiyomizu-dera Temple is said to be derived from.



◎ 1 Otowa Minamidani, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto