



Plenty to see!

Hiroshima's historical roots

How about taking a stroll along the "Futabanosato Historical Walking Trail"?!



1 Fudojin Temple

不動院 3-4-9 Ushita-shin-machi
Just off Astramline's Fudojinmae station

The reason why this temple is called Ankoku-ji Fudojin now is because it was one of the Ankoku-ji Temples built in various provinces by Takauji Ashikaga according to the decree of the retired Emperor Kogon. It was later rebuilt by Ekei Ankokuji. Masanori Fukushima enshrined Acala in the main temple, and changed affiliation from the Rinzaï Sect to the Shingon Sect.



2 Nittsu-ji Temple

日通寺 1-3-13 Ushita-shin-machi
3-minute walk from Ushita-shin-machi 1-chome bus stop

Hokke Buddhist temple associated with the lord, built in 1695 at the late-life request of the wife (Toshiie Maeda's grandchild, Jishoin) of Mitsuakira, the second lord of the Asano clan.



Highlight Hand washbasin containing the crest of an *ume* blossom shows the relationship with the Kaga Maeda clan.

3 Waterworks Museum

水道資料館 1-8-1 Ushita-shin-machi
North side of Big Wave
(7-minute walk from Sports Center-mae bus stop)

Completed in 1898 as fifth such facility nationally. This museum is the site of a former water-supply pump house. (Museum admission is free.)



Highlight Contains stone tablet of Hirofumi Ito's handwriting.

Hours open: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Days open: Sunday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, holidays, Waterworks Week (Jun 1-7), and summer vacation (Jul 21 - Aug 31) (Closed Dec 28 - Jan 4, Aug 6)

4 Ikari Shrine

碓神社 12 Hakushima-kuken-cho, Naka-ku
Immediately south of Hakushima-kuken-cho bus stop

Erected to a sea god worshipped in the area since before Hiroshima Castle was built in 1589, this is the oldest shrine in the castle town. Said to have taken its name from a time when this area was next to the seas, where ships coming and going used to drop their anchors (*ikari*).



5 Yatsurugi Shrine

八剣神社 South end of Ushita-ohashi Bridge
3-minute walk from Ushita-hon-machi bus stop

According to legend, when Masanori Fukushima was lord of the Hiroshima Castle, flood damage to the embankment was prevented by burying eight celebrated swords as substitutes for human sacrifice (immolation). Built in 1617, the shrine is the only historical relic in this area that remains of Masanori's reign.



6 Anraku-ji Temple

安楽寺 1-5-29 Ushita-hon-machi
3-minute walk from Kandabashi bus stop

Jodo-shin Buddhist temple, converted in 1533 from a Tendai Buddhist temple. It was burned down by fire in 1758, but rebuilt in 1788. The main hall tilts as a result of the atomic bomb's blast wave, but is still in good condition.



Highlight 350-year-old giant ginkgo tree pierces the roof of the temple gate (center of photo).

7 Nigitsu Shrine

饒津神社 2-6-34 Futabanosato
East side of Nigitsu bus stop

Constructed in 1835 by Naritaka, the ninth lord of the Asano clan, to enshrine founder Nagamasa. Main building was completely burned down by the atomic bomb on August 6, 1945, but was reconstructed in 1984.



Highlight Mukaikaromon Gate, restored in 2000, is one of the largest in the country.

8 Myojoin Temple

明星院 2-6-25 Futabanosato
3-minute walk from Tsuruhane Jinja-mae bus stop

Formerly the family temple of Terumoto Mori's mother Myojuin, but after relocating their domain to Choshu, Masanori Fukushima changed it to Myojoin. It has long been protected by successive castle lords, and was used as a temple for praying for pacification and preservation of the territory. The building was completely burned to ashes by the atomic bomb, but was later rebuilt.



Highlight Inside the main hall, wooden figures of the loyal retainers of Ako are a must-see.

9 Tsuruhane Shrine

鶴羽根神社 2-5-11 Futabanosato
2-minute walk from Tsuruhane Jinja-mae bus stop

It has been said that the Shiinoki Hachimangu Shrine, which was founded in the Kamakura period, was this shrine's predecessor. With deep reverence for the supreme guardian god of eastern Hiroshima, its name was changed to Tsuruhane Shrine in 1872. The main building and others were all destroyed by the atomic bomb but were later rebuilt.



Highlight An image of Japan's first private aviator, Toyotaro Yamagata, was reconstructed in the summer of 2001.

10 Hiroshima Toshogu Shrine

広島東照宮 2-1-18 Futabanosato
10-minute walk from Hiroshima Station's Shinkansen entrance

Shrine dedicated to the spirit of Ieyasu Tokugawa. Built in 1648 by Mitsuakira, the second lord of the Asano clan. A large festival was held every fifty years. The front and main shrines were burned to ashes by the atomic bomb, but the *karamon* (Chinese-style gate) and transept remained.



11 Kinko Inari Shrine

金光稲荷神社 2-1-18 Futabanosato
Above Hiroshima Toshogu Shrine

Deeply revered as a god for business prosperity, family safety, and answers to prayers.

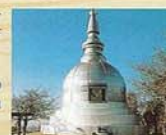


Highlight Leading to the inner shrine, there are over 100 torii and 500 stone steps. Clusters of surrounding Pasania glabra are the largest seen in Japan.

12 Mt. Futaba Peace Pagoda

二葉山平和塔 At mountaintop of Mt. Futaba
40-minute walk from Hiroshima Station's Shinkansen entrance

Constructed in 1966 as a stupa for praying for everlasting world peace and for the souls of the atomic bomb victims.



Highlight You can climb up from the Kinko Inari Shrine and Onaga Temmangu Shrine.

13 Onaga Temmangu Shrine

尾長天満宮 33-16 Yamane-cho
10-minute walk from Hiroshima Station's Shinkansen entrance

Shrine dedicated to Michizane Sugawara as the god of learning and calligraphy. While on his way down to Dazaifu in Kyushu, Michizane maneuvered his boat to the foot of Mt. Onaga, which was by the sea at the time, and climbed the mountain. The area is associated with him.



Highlight The head of the Tenjin River can be found around the back of the mountain. It is said that Taira no Kiyomori erected the shrine at the summit.

14 Kokuzen-ji Temple

國前寺 32-1 Yamane-cho
10-minute walk from Hiroshima Station's Shinkansen entrance

Nichiren Buddhist temple built as the family temple of the Asano clan. In 1671, it was built on funds donated at the request of the wife (Jishoin) of Mitsuakira, the second lord of the clan.



Highlight Contains the nation's only wooden image of Kumaraju, the distinguished translator of Buddhist scriptures.

15 Shoko-ji Temple

聖光寺 29-1 Yamane-cho
15-minute walk from Hiroshima Station's Shinkansen entrance

Soto Buddhist temple that was formerly known as the Zuisen-ji Temple. It is one of the oldest in Hiroshima. When Terumoto Mori surveyed the castle grounds, he stayed at this temple and renamed the temple Mt. Hiroshima.



Highlight Contains graves of Oishi father and son, who were loyal retainers of Ako.

16 Saizo-ji Temple

才藏寺 1-11 Higashiyama-cho
20-minute walk from Hiroshima Station's Shinkansen entrance

Temple dedicated to Saizo Kani, retainer of Masanori Fukushima. Students hoping to pass examinations, as well as their parents, continue to visit and offer *miso* (soybean paste) to the head of the image of the Miso Jizo (guardian deity) associated with Saizo.



Highlight The image of the Miso Jizo to which school examination-related prayers are offered is famous. The stone image of Saizo Kani was built in November 2004.



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