

See Kichijoji Temple and Shiroyama Shrine famous for Matsuo Kagura

Tour Kichijoji Temple where many historical artefacts lay waiting, and Shiroyama Shrine famous for Matsuo Kagura, and enjoy the view from the summit of Mt Shiroyama.

Matsuo Castle

The castle on a mountain was built in the Tensho era as the residence of Bekki, a chief retainer of Sorin Otomo, but became the headquarters of the Shimazu army after Iehisa Shimazu managed to occupy it without bloodshed in the Battle of Hosatsu in 1586.

③ Shiroyama Shrine

Originally called Sannodaigongen, it enshrines the guardian deity of Matsuosan Kofuku Temple. It also served as the territory of the Satsuma Shimazu army 400 years ago. The festival held every autumn sees the performance of Matsuo Kagura which has been passed down from the Edo period.

② Kichijoji Temple

The temple grounds are dotted with Buddhist artefacts, including the guardian deity Kichijoji Inari Daimyojin, the Cetaka and Bhaisajyaguru in Yakushido Hall, and the wooden statue of Yamantaka, which is the prefecture's designated tangible cultural property.

The wooden statue of Yamantaka

The statue was made by a Buddhist sculptor named Kakusho in the Kamakura period. The wooden statue straddled on a water buffalo is a rare and unique representation with six faces, six arms, and six legs, with the six hands holding a shield, pike, hoop, club and so on, and the six faces expressing fury.

Course	① Matsuo Ground parking area → ② Kichijoji Temple → ③ Shiroyama Shrine → ④ The summit of Mt Shiroyama	Book	Tourism Bungo-Onho TEL: 0974-22-3706 (Japanese only) FAX: 050-3730-6057 (Japanese only)
When?	As and when needed		
Times	As and when needed		
Meet-up	Matsuo Ground parking area Matsuo, Mie-machi, Bungo-Ono City, Oita Prefecture.	Fee	Call for details.

Please note that requests for dates and times may not be met as they are subject to the availability of the volunteer guides.