



Rules of the Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range

The World Heritage property "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" symbolizes the spiritual heritage of Japan rooted in the respect and awe of the natural environment. In this unique cultural landscape, diverse belief systems exist in harmony.

To preserve this area for future generations, we ask your cooperation to follow these rules.

1. Preserve the area as "heritage of all humankind".
2. Respect the faith of past and present worshippers.
3. Greet others with a smile and warm heart.
4. Protect the local flora and fauna. Do not remove or introduce animals or vegetation.
5. Be prepared. Plan your trip and equip yourself properly.
6. Stay on the routes.
7. Be careful with fire. Prevent forest fires.
8. Keep the routes clean. Carry out all waste.

Structure of the World Heritage of Wakayama Prefecture

2000	April	Setting up of Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Registration Promotion Office within the Education Board of Wakayama Prefecture
	June	Setting up of a "Wakayama Prefecture Council to Promote World Heritage Registration" in the concerned cities and the prefecture Setting up of a "Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Registration Promotion Head Office" within the prefectural office
	October	Inauguration of a "Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Registration Promotion Koya area Council" and a "Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Registration Promotion Kumano area Council"
	November	Decision by the Ministry of Culture to enter "The Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" in the established list of the country's World Heritage
2001	April	"The Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" are entered in the established list of the UNESCO World Heritage
	May	Inauguration of a "Three Prefectures' Council for World Heritage Registration" by the Wakayama, Mie and Nara prefectures
	September	Establishment of "Koya/Kumano" World Heritage Record Academic Committee composed of 8 individuals of academic standing Opening in Wakayama Prefecture under the joint sponsorship of the Wakayama Prefecture, the Ministry of Culture and the UNESCO World Heritage Center, of "the UNESCO Thematic Expert Meeting on Asia-Pacific Sacred Mountains"
2002	September	Designation of "Tokugawa Reidai" and "Kongosamm-ai-in" within the Kongobu-ji temple complex as historical sites
	October	Inauguration of a "Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Registration Promotion Ohechi area Council" Creating of logo mark, etc., for the "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" in a joint three prefecture project Acknowledgment of the decision of the nation's culture commission to recommend "The Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" as World Heritage
	December	Designation of 4 items and 11 buildings, including "Ohechi," as historical sites
2003	January	Remittance of a recommendation letter from the nation to the UNESCO World Heritage Center (accepted by the UNESCO on the 27th)
	October	Investigation on site by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) (from the 11th to the 19th)
2004	June	28th World Heritage committee meeting (in Suzhou, China; from the 28th to July 7th)
	July	Decision to register "The Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" as World Heritage (on the 1st, 18:12 Japan time) Formal registration (on the 7th, Japan time 18:26)
2005	March	Official proclamation of the regulations of the World Heritage of Wakayama Prefecture (on the 25th)
	April	Setting up in Hongucho in Tanabe (former Hongu-cho) of a Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Center
	July	Enforcement of the regulations of the World Heritage of Wakayama Prefecture (on the 1st)
2006	July	Establishment of the Wakayama World Heritage Expert system
2007	April	Establishment of "Kii Spirit", the space for display and promoting communication and interaction between local people and visitors, within the Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Center
2009	July	Relocation of Wakayama World Heritage Center to "Kumano Hongu Heritage Center" (Tanabe City facility)
2011	September	Major storm, Typhoon Talas, hit Kii Peninsula and damaged the "Kumano Hongu Heritage Center" and "Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Center"
2013	January	Re-opening of "Kumano Hongu Heritage Center" and "Wakayama Prefecture World Heritage Center"
2014	July	10th anniversary as a World Heritage Site
2016	January	Submission of a proposal for minor changes by the Japanese government to the UNESCO World Heritage Center
	June	Announcement of ICOMOS recommendation by the UNESCO
	October	40th UNESCO World Heritage committee extraordinary meeting (in Paris, France; on the 24th) Decision for additional registrations

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Front cover Photo: Sea of clouds on the Kumano River.



2017.3

WORLD HERITAGE Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range

世界遺産 紀伊山地の霊場と参詣道

Where the spiritual culture of
Japan lives on.

Wakayama Prefecture, Japan
和歌山県、日本

Wakayama Prefecture



Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range

The Kii Mountain Range refers by and large to the Kii Peninsula projecting into the Pacific Ocean. The mountain chain ranging from 1,000m to 2,000m running east-west as well as south-north is a mountainous zone where deep woods and forests are nurtured by abundant precipitation of more than 3,000 millimeters a year.

Since old times of lore, the Kii Mountain Ranges have always been thought of as a special region inhabited by the gods. For Buddhism's esoteric school of Shingon, imported from China, the Kii Mountain Ranges were also a place to practice mountain asceticism. Moreover, along with the rising of the influence of Buddhism, the spreading of notions peculiar to Japan such as the "fusion of Shinto and Buddhism" and of the Buddhist concept of the "eventual demise of Buddhism and a time of no enlightenment leading to chaos in the world" lead to the thought of the Kii Mountain Range as a "pure land." It became the area for ascetic practices such as Shugendo's mountain asceticism, through which the practitioner could acquire supernatural strength. As a result, the three sacred mountainous regions in the Kii Mountain Ranges of Yoshino/Omine, Kumano Sanzan, and Koyasan, and the pilgrimage routes leading to them such as Omine Okugakemichi, Kumano Sankeimichi, Koya Sankeimichi came to life. The people from the capital, and also from around the country began visiting, and these sites came to exert a big influence upon the developments and exchanges of Japanese culture and religion.

The "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" spreading over the three prefectures of Wakayama, Mie, and Nara with its "sacred mountain sites" and "pilgrimage routes" would not have been possible but for the nature of the Kii Mountain Ranges. Its surrounding mountains, forests, rivers, waterfalls, Onsens, and rural areas - in short, its "Cultural Landscape," plays an essential role. It is an asset of the kind of which the world has no other example of.

* Kumano Sankeimichi (熊野参詣道) means Kumano Pilgrimage Routes and is locally known as the Kumano Kodo (熊野古道).

route	Registered Heritage	
	Omine Okugakemichi	大峯奥駈道
	Nakahechi	中辺路
	Kohechi	小辺路
	Ohechi	大辺路
	Iseji	伊勢路
	Koya Sankeimichi	高野参詣道

Sacred Sites	Pilgrimage Routes	Cultural Landscapes
Yoshino and Omine Kumano Sanzan Koyasan	Omine Okugakemichi Kumano Sankeimichi Koya Sankeimichi	Mountains, Forests, Rivers, Waterfalls, Onsens, Rural areas, Rows of houses, etc...

Intangible Cultural Heritage



Nachi no Dengaku
A performance art with a history of approx. 600 years, Nachi no Dengaku is offered to the gods at the Nachi Fire Festival.

Cultural Landscape

"Cultural Landscape" is landscape manifesting the interaction between humankind and its natural environment over a long period of time. There are "mountains" which have been worshiped as the object of prayer, as well as "forests", "rice terraces", "vineyards", "gardens", and "parks" on the World Heritage List. Mountains and trees can be considered "Cultural Landscapes" when they assume special value as "sacred mountains" or "sacred trees". The World Heritage site, "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" is not simply a group of shrines, temples, and roads, but is nothing less than "sacred sites of

mountain worship and routes of mountain practices of religious ascetic Buddhism", which would not exist if it were not for the nature of the Kii Mountain Range. In order to safeguard the "Cultural Landscape" of these sacred sites and pilgrimage routes, it is not enough to preserve only the shrines and temples that are designated as Cultural Properties; it is also necessary to maintain the surrounding nature in a good condition of preservation and to conserve the "Cultural Landscape", which has been inherited and nurtured from generation to generation, as part of our proud heritage to be presented to the world.

Seasonal Colors in Kumano

[Spring] Yunobori-shinji Shinto ritual of Kumano Hongu Taisha. A portable shrine, children, etc., parade along the road, which is full of bright spring flowers on both sides.	[Summer] Fire Festival of Nachi This fire festival has torches flaming and glowing ablaze as sparks flutter in the air around the deity seated at the great waterfall.	[Autumn] Monumental Ginkgo trees of Fukusada With the coming of autumn, the large ginkgo trees start to glow in gold. They greet the visitors to Kumano annually.	[Winter] Oto Matsuri (Fire Festival) Men clad in white garments secured with straw ropes carrying brightly burning torches rush past the crowd all at once.

Seasonal Colors in Koya

[Spring] The weeping cherry trees of Shojoshin-in Temple The brilliant hues of the 300-year-old weeping cherry trees announce that spring has arrived in Koya.	[Summer] Candle Festival The path is illuminated by approximately 100 thousand candles inviting us into a fantastic world.	[Autumn] Autumn colors of Jabaramichi The soft autumn breeze rustles the tinted leaves of Koya.	[Winter] Snow on Miedo Hall Pure air and silence hover about as snow floats down softly on the Miedo Hall.

This sacred site consists of three shrines (Kumano Hongu Taisha, Kumano Hayatama Taisha, and Kumano Nachi Taisha), and two temples (Nachisan Seiganto-ji and Fudarakusan-ji). Originally, each of the three Shinto shrines had its own distinctive form of nature worship, but each embraced the main deities of the other two and enshrined all three deities, designating them as Japanese incarnations of Buddha. With the growth of the Shinto-Buddhism fusion, the beliefs of these shrines became prevalent.

Nachisan Seiganto-ji is known as the first temple of 33 temples in the Saigoku Pilgrimage, and Fudarakusan-ji is a temple known as having sent priests off on boats who sought the Buddhist Pure Land, Fudaraku, in the southern seas.

Kumano

熊野



Fudarakusan-ji
補陀洛山寺

Fudarakusan-ji is a temple known for its priests setting sail to the southern sea searching for the Buddhist Pure Land – Fudaraku Jodo.



Kumano Hongu Taisha
熊野本宮大社

Since the time of its foundation, Kumano Hongu Taisha was situated on the Kumanogawa River's sandbank known as Oyunohara. However, after the river flooded in 1889, the surviving shrine buildings including the three main structures were relocated to the present location and reconstructed.



Kumano Hayatama Taisha
熊野速玉大社

Kumano Hayatama Taisha is situated near the mouth of the Kumanogawa River. A natural monument, the deified podocarpus Nagi tree, spreads its majestic trunk and boughs in the shrine precinct.



Kumano Nachi Taisha
熊野那智大社

Kumano Nachi Taisha originates from the ancient nature worship of the large waterfall as its deity called Nachi no Otaki. Besides the twelve deities of Kumano which it enshrines, the shrine is dedicated to the deified Nachi no Otaki, called Hiro Gongen.



Nachisan Seiganto-ji
那智山青岸渡寺

Before the Shintoism and Buddhism Separation Decree, this temple had been known as Nyoirindo and established itself as an integral part of Kumano Nachi Taisha. It is also known as the first destination for the Saigoku Pilgrimage.



Oyunohara
大齋原

Up to 1889, Kumano Hongu Taisha was located on a sandbank at the confluence of the Kumano River and its tributaries of the Otonashi River and the Iwata River. Shrines and pagoda buildings used to stand there.



Kamikura-jinja
神倉神社

Kamikura-jinja is an auxiliary shrine standing on the detached grounds of Kumano Hayatama Taisha. The shrine's sacred monolith is referred to as "Gotobikiwa," which means toad in the local dialect.

Nachi no Otaki
那智大滝

With a width of 13m at its mouth and a vertical drop of 133m along the rugged face of its cliffs, Nachi no Otaki is the highest and most famous waterfall in Japan. Upstream of Otaki, there are a number of waterfalls called Nachi Forty-eight Waterfalls where practitioners of Shugendo (mountain asceticism) gather.

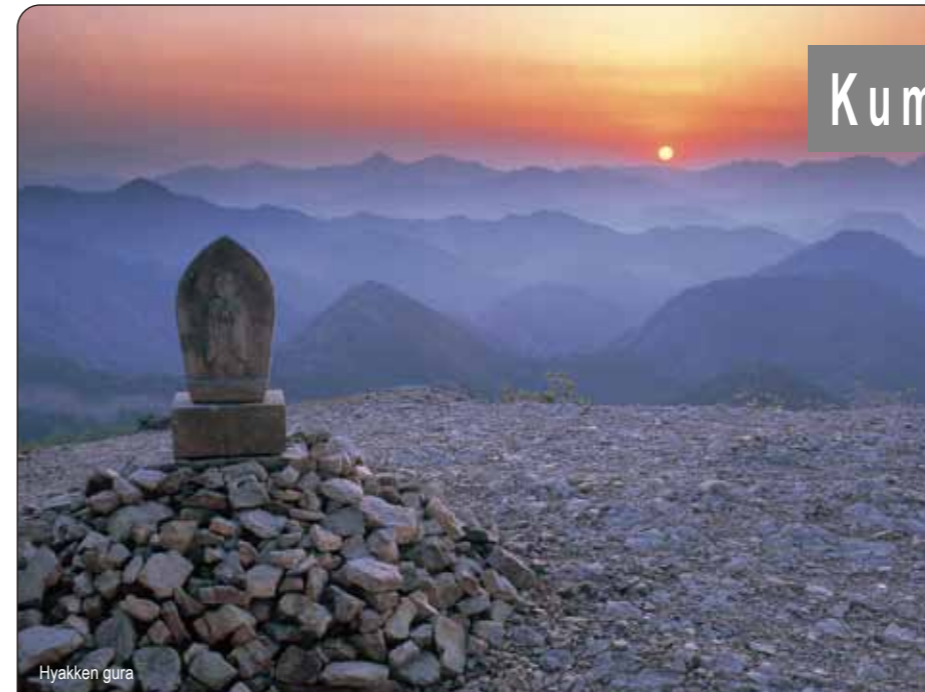
Kumano Sankeimichi

熊野参詣道



Nakahechi
中辺路

Dotted along the Nakahechi route are "oji" shrines or their remains. These were dedicated to child deities, offspring of the deities of Kumano. Between Kumano Hongu Taisha and Kumano Hayatama Taisha, the journey was made by boat on the Kumanogawa River.



Hyakken gura

There are four routes leading to Kumano Sanzan. Following the west coast of the Kii Peninsula was the route most frequented for the visits to Kumano. From Tanabe, one could choose the Nakahechi Route, which was a mountainous route, the Ohechi Route, which goes south along the coast, or the Kohechi Route, which unites Koyasan to Kumano. Another option was the Iseji Route on the east coast of the Kii Peninsula.

The visits to Kumano Sanzan Shrines started during the 10th century and became very popular until the 14th century. Because a multitude of pilgrims walked in long lines, it was described as "a pilgrimage of ants to Kumano." In recent years, it has become the route of the Saigoku Pilgrimage (pilgrimage to the west of the country) which includes the visits to Kumano Sanzan.

There are only two examples of the road for pilgrimage being registered as World Heritage, one being the Kumano Sankeimichi, Koya Sankeimichi, Omine Okugakemichi (with a length of about 347.7 km), and the second being the Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Route (with a length of about 800km).



Iseji
伊勢路

This route was used chiefly by the people from the east of the country. The pilgrims used it increasingly from the 17th century because of the rising popularity of the Ise Jingu and Saigoku Pilgrimages.

Omine Okugakemichi

大峯奥駈道

The route reserved for the ascetic practitioners of Shugendo connects Yoshino to Kumano.

From Yoshino to Kumano, the route weaves through a succession of mountain ridges nearing 2000m with training grounds at every turn of the route.



Kohechi
小辺路

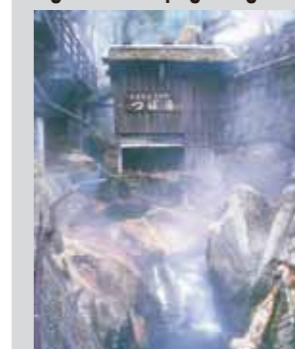
This route is the steepest among the Kumano Sankeimichi, and there are three mountain passes at altitudes of more than 1000m.



Ohechi
大辺路

The road along which you can enjoy scenery of beach and ocean. This route was used for both pilgrimage and sightseeing from the 16th century.

Examples of the few hot springs and rivers which are registered as pilgrimage routes on the World Heritage List



Yunomine Onsen (Hot spring)
湯の峰温泉

The hot spring house already existed here at the beginning of the 12th century. The spring was at the core of the faith that no disease was incurable for the deities of Kumano, and is also known as an important site in the legend of Oguri Hogan.



Kumanogawa River
熊野川

From the 10th century up to the 17th century, the faithful coming from Kumano Hongu Taisha visited Kumano Hayatama Taisha by boat. The Kumanogawa River is registered in the World Heritage list as a waterway pilgrimage route.



Koya Sankeimichi Choishimichi

The route to Koyasan, which is referred to as Koya Nanakuchi (seven gates to Koyasan), extends from various directions—from the north, south, east, and west. Choishimichi was registered as World Heritage in 2004. Mitanzaka, Kyo-osakamichi Fudozaka, Kurokomichi, and Nyoinmichi were additionally registered in 2016.

Choishimichi, established by Kukai, is marked by stone guide posts called choishi, which were set at every cho (ancient measure of about 109m) and at every ri (ancient measure of about 4km). Mitanzaka, records of which date back to the Heian period, connects Niusakadono-jinja and Niutsuhime-jinja. Kyo-osakamichi Fudozaka was traveled by countless pilgrims from the Kyoto and Osaka areas in the early modern era. Kurokomichi runs from the southern bank of Kinokawa River, between Manisan and Yoryusan, to the gate of Senju-in. Nyoinmichi wound through the mountain ridges surrounding Danjo Garan (temple complex) to connect the Nyoin-do (women's temples). The histories and cultures of these routes convey to the present the faithful devotion to Koyasan.

Koya

Sankeimichi

高野参詣道

Koya 高野

The Koya sacred sites are made up of Kongobu-ji which Kobo Daishi (Kukai) founded in 816 to serve as a dojo (exercise hall) to learn the teachings of the Shingon asceticism, Jison-in, built at its foot, Niutsumehime-jinja, halfway between Kongobu-ji and Jison-in which continues to bear a close connection with Kongobu-ji, and Niukanshofu-jinja which enshrines the tutelary god of Kanshofuso. With its history of 1,200 years of mountain worship at the secluded mountain top religious complex, Koyasan constitutes a Cultural Landscape pertaining to the worship of temples and natural environment which have been merged into one single entity.



The great pagoda at the Danjo Garan was built to serve as a dojo (exercise hall) for Shingon esoteric Buddhism. The principal idols consist of Dainichi Nyorai (the Great Buddha) in the Womb realm and of the four Buddhas of the Diamond Realm, with 16 great Bodhisattvas depicted on 16 pillars.



Kongobu-ji (at Danjo garan)

金剛峯寺

The peculiar disposition of the sacred precinct represents the doctrine of the Shingon esoteric school. Together with Okuno-in, they are called "the Two Dais" and constitute a prominent sacred area in Koyasan.



Jison-in

慈尊院

This temple built on the south bank of the Kinokawa River holds the national treasure of a seated figure of Mirokubutsu enshrined in its main hall (Amida Hall).



Niutsumehime-jinja

丹生都比売神社

Though this shrine was known as the tutelary god of Koyasan, its old temple buildings were destroyed according to a decree in 1868 in order to separate Shinto and Buddhism into its present state.



Niukanshofu-jinja

丹生官省符神社

When Kobo Daishi (Kukai) established administrative structures at the foot of Mt. Koya, he enshrined in Niukanshofu Jinja two deities of Niutsumehime and Koyamiko as their tutelary gods.

Okuno-in 奥院

This is the sacred place where Kobo Daishi (Kukai) has entered into a transcendental meditative state. This place comprises an invaluable cultural landscape amidst the ancient 500-year-old cedars and among the estimated 300 thousand tombstones built for the faithful who wish to be near the great Kobo Daishi.



World Heritage

Based on "the treaty concerning the preservation of the world's cultural and natural heritage", or "the World Heritage Treaty" adopted in 1972 at the general meeting of the UNESCO, it sets forth the duty to protect and conserve "on an international basis" assets such as "ruins", "structures" and "nature" which are irreplaceable to Mankind as a whole.

To be registered as World Heritage, several conditions must be fulfilled: the assets must first be protected by national law on unconditional terms; the nature of the assets must appear as unique and characteristic to the UNESCO "World Heritage committee"; its "remarkable and universal value" must be submitted to comparison with criteria selected internationally.

Another necessary condition is that the assets must be subjected to a fully efficient preservation management program in an amount commensurate with their value. At the present date of March 2017, there are 1052 sites listed in the world, 20 of which in Japan. As the number of assets registered continues to grow, and as it is a founding principle that similarly redundant assets cannot be listed, the actual list represents the historical, cultural and natural heritage of each country in the world.

Object

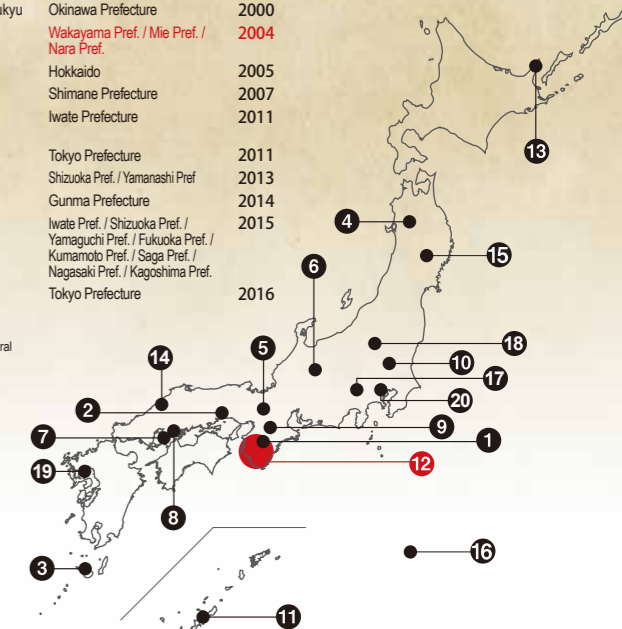
- 1 Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area
- 2 Himeji-jo
- 3 Yakushima
- 4 Shirakami-Sanchi
- 5 Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto
- 6 Historic Gassho-style Villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama
- 7 Itsukushima Shinto Shrine
- 8 Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome)
- 9 Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara
- 10 Shrines and Temples of Nikko
- 11 Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu
- 12 Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range
- 13 Shiretoko
- 14 Iwami-Ginzan Silver Mine Sites and its cultural landscape
- 15 Hiraizumi – Temples, Gardens and Archaeological Sites Representing the Buddhist Pure Land
- 16 Ogasawara Islands
- 17 Fujiisan, sacred place and source of artistic inspiration
- 18 Tomioka Silk Mill and Related Sites
- 19 Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining
- 20 The main building of the National Museum of Western Art "The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement"

*Yakushima, Shirakami-Sanchi, Shiretoko and Ogasawara Islands are natural heritage, the others are cultural heritage.

Prefecture of Residence Year of inscription

- | Prefecture of Residence | Year of inscription |
|---|---------------------|
| Nara Prefecture | 1993 |
| Hyogo Prefecture | 1993 |
| Kagoshima Prefecture | 1993 |
| Aomori Pref. / Akita Pref. | 1993 |
| Kyoto Pref. / Shiga Pref. | 1994 |
| Gifu Pref. / Toyama Pref. | 1995 |
| Hiroshima Prefecture | 1996 |
| Hiroshima Prefecture | 1996 |
| Nara Prefecture | 1998 |
| Tochigi Prefecture | 1999 |
| Okinawa Prefecture | 2000 |
| Wakayama Pref. / Mie Pref. / Nara Pref. | 2004 |
| Hokkaido | 2005 |
| Shimane Prefecture | 2007 |
| Iwate Prefecture | 2011 |
| Tokyo Prefecture | 2011 |
| Shizuoka Pref. / Yamaguchi Pref. | 2013 |
| Gunma Prefecture | 2014 |
| Iwate Pref. / Shizuoka Pref. / Yamaguchi Pref. / Fukuoka Pref. / Kumamoto Pref. / Saga Pref. / Nagasaki Pref. / Kagoshima Pref. | 2015 |
| Tokyo Prefecture | 2016 |

Japan's World Heritage



"Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" List of registered cultural assets

Name of the cultural asset	Type of the cultural asset	Date of designation	Description	Prefecture of Residence
Kumano Hongu Taisha	site	1891	One of the three shrines constituting Kumano Sanzan.	Wakayama Pref.
Kumano Hayatama Taisha	site/cultural landscape	(prehistory)	One of the three shrines constituting Kumano Sanzan, originating from stone worship.	Wakayama Pref.
Kumano Nachi Taisha	site/cultural landscape	(prehistory)	One of the three shrines constituting Kumano Sanzan originating from waterfall worship.	Wakayama Pref.
Nachisan Seiganto-ji	site	early 5th century	Temple dedicated to Kannon, who legend tells made its appearance at the waterfall.	Wakayama Pref.
Nachi no Otaki	cultural landscape	(prehistory)	Largest waterfall in Japan which has been worshipped since ancient times.	Wakayama Pref.
Nachi Primeval Forest	cultural landscape	(prehistory)	Primeval forest which has been protected as sacred area.	Wakayama Pref.
Fudarakusan-ji	site	early 5th century	Site of the temple which served as the base for priests who set sail in search of the Buddhist Pure Land, Fudarakusan.	Wakayama Pref.

Kumano Sanzan 熊野三山

Niutsumehime-jinja	site	(prehistory)	Remains of the shrine dedicated to the guardian deity of Kongobu-ji, Buddhist buildings, and the pilgrimage route.	Wakayama Pref.
Kongobu-ji	site/cultural landscape	816	Temple compound of Kongobu-ji, which was built as the place for ascetic practices on a mountain for the Shingon sect of esoteric Buddhism.	Wakayama Pref.
Jison-in	site	early 9th century	Temple built at the administrative office of Kongobu-ji at the mountain foot.	Wakayama Pref.
Niukanshofu-jinja	site	early 9th century	Shrine dedicated to the guardian deity of the administrative office of Kongobu-ji at the mountain foot.	Wakayama Pref.

Koyasan 高野山

Yoshinoyama	site/cultural landscape	(prehistory)	Sacred site in association with nature worship and the Shugen sect.	Nara Pref.
Yoshino Mikumari-jinja	site	(prehistory)	Site of the shrine dedicated to the land deity of Yoshinoyama.	Nara Pref.
Kimpu-jinja	site	(prehistory)	Site of the shrine dedicated to the land deity of Yoshinoyama	Nara Pref.
Kimpusen-ji	site	12th century	Site of the central temple for the Shugen sect and its support facilities.	Nara Pref.
Yoshimizu-jinja	site	12th century	Site of the temple buildings affiliated to Kimpusen-ji.	Nara Pref.
Ominesan-ji	site	early 8th century	Place for ascetic practices around the mountaintop temple, where legend tells the principle deity of the Shugen sect, made its appearance.	Nara Pref.

Yoshino and Omine 吉野・大峯

Kumano Sankeimichi	site/cultural landscape	early 10th century at latest	Route used by many people who visit Kumano Sanzan for pilgrimages. (overall distance: 212.2km)	Wakayama Pref. / Mie Pref. / Nara Pref.	
	Nakahechi	site/cultural landscape	(prehistory)	Major pilgrimage route connecting Kyoto and Kumano Sanzan and connecting three sacred sites of Kumano Sanzan. (overall distance: 100.2km)	Wakayama Pref. / Mie Pref.
	Ohechi	site/cultural landscape	8th century	Pilgrimage route passing on the west coast of the Kii Peninsula. (overall distance: 14.1km)	Wakayama Pref.
	Kohechi	site/cultural landscape	1573 at latest	Pilgrimage route connecting Koyasan and Kumano Sanzan. (overall distance: 43.7km)	Wakayama Pref. / Nara Pref.
Iseji	site/cultural landscape	late 10th century at latest	Pilgrimage route passing on the east coast of the Kii Peninsula, which connects Ise-Shrine (Ise-jingu) and Kumano Sanzan. (overall distance: 54.2km)	Wakayama Pref. / Mie Pref.	
Koya Sankeimichi	site/cultural landscape	early 9th century	Route used by many people who visit Koyasan for pilgrimages. (overall distance: 48.6km)	Wakayama Pref.	
Omine Okugakemichi	site/cultural landscape	early 8th century	Pilgrimage route as the stage of ascetic practices, which connects Yoshino and Omine to Kumano Sanzan. (overall distance: 86.9km)	Wakayama Pref. / Nara Pref.	

Pilgrimage Routes 参詣道