

# Zen Temple Conservation Techniques

Capacity: **30**



Sanmon Gate, a National Treasure

Tofuku-ji Temple is celebrated as one of Kyoto’s five most important Zen temples. Here, we will learn about Zen Buddhism and temple architecture. Special permission has been granted to visit the conservation works taking place. After viewing the processes *in situ*, we’ll go to the Kyoto City Heritage Buildings Conservation Technology Training Centre to see the methods by which conservators train in Japan. There will be a special showcase of the tools and materials used for Japan’s traditional roofing – *hiwada-buki* cypress bark roofing, *kokera-buki* shingling and *kaya-buki* thatching.

Itinerary		*The itinerary is subject to change without notice.
9:00	Meet at <b>Miyako Hotel Kyoto Hachijo</b> ===== Chartered bus =====	
9:20 - 11:20	<b>Tofuku-ji Temple restoration site, Guided by Department of Culture and Heritage, Kyoto Prefecture</b> === Chartered bus ===	
11:40 - 12:40	<b>Kyoto City Heritage Buildings Conservation Technology Training Centre</b> ... Walk ...	
12:50 - 14:00	Lunch at Junsei Okabeya ===== Chartered bus =====	
14:15	Tour ends at <b>JR Kyoto Station</b>	

**Note: Please do not wear high heels – wear comfortable walking shoes to visit the restoration site.**

**Tofuku-ji Temple:** Covering an area of about 240,000m<sup>2</sup>, this is the largest Zen temple in Kyoto. The view of the Sengyokukan valley seen from the Tsuten-kyo bridge is spectacular, and in the autumn, visitors gather on the narrow bridge to see the changing leaves. The temple has a number of National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties, including the Sanmon Gate built in the medieval period which is the oldest extant temple gate, and a rather famous lavatory called *tosu*. We will listen to explanations about these cultural assets (we know you’re wondering!) and visit the site where conservation work is conducted.

**Kyoto City Heritage Buildings Conservation Technology Training Centre:** The Centre was established to preserve techniques for restoring cultural properties and train conservation technicians to ensure that architectural monuments will be passed onto future generations, and to increase public awareness by publicising the efforts to conserve cultural properties. On the day of the tour, we will listen to explanations about Japan’s traditional roofing methods and processes, and see a demonstration of roofing using a model. You will be invited to have a go at roofing.



Kyoto City Heritage Buildings Conservation  
Technology Training Centre



Hojo Garden