

Byodoin Temple, a World Heritage Site, and Iwashimizu-Hachimangu Shrine with National Treasure Status

Capacity: 40



Located in the southern part of Kyoto, Uji was a popular holiday destination among powerful court nobles in the distant past. The place is also known as the setting for the classic of Japanese literature, The Tale of Genji.

We will visit World Heritage Site, Byodoin Temple, and then ride a cable car to Iwashimizu-Hachimangu Shrine on the mountaintop. After descending, we will visit Shokado Garden at the foot of the mountain.

Phoenix Hall of Byodoin Temple

Itinerary

*The itinerary is subject to change without notice.

8:45	Meet at chartered bus stop at Hachijo exit of JR Kyoto Station	=== Chartered bus ===
9:30 - 11:00	Byodoin Temple (Hoshokan Museum, precincts)	•• Walk ••
11:15 - 11:45	Takumi-no Yakata (Tea house where we will learn how to brew a proper cup of tea)	•• Walk ••
12:00 - 13:00	The Tale of Genji Museum, Uji City	=== Chartered bus ===
13:45 - 15:30	Lunch (Shokado bento box at Kiccho Shokado), Shokado Garden/Art Museum	++++ Cable car +++++
16:00 - 17:00	Iwashimizu-Hachimangu Shrine	+++++ Cable car +++++ === Chartered bus ===
17:30	Tour ends at JR Kyoto Station	

Byodoin Temple: This temple was originally built as a villa of a powerful lord, Fujiwara-no-Michinaga, and converted into a Buddhist temple by his son, Yorimichi, in 1052. The Phoenix Hall is very familiar to Japanese people, as it is depicted on the obverse of the 10-yen coin. The Hoshokan Museum features a computer-generated reproduction of the original interior of the Phoenix Hall at the time of its construction and exhibits Unchu Kuyo Bosatsu statues which you can observe up close.

The Tale of Genji Museum, Uji City: This is the only museum specialized in The Tale of Genji, a novel written in the Heian period about 1,000 years ago. The life-size reproduction of a cow carriage, costumes, and videos will take you deep into the fascinating world of The Tale of Genji.

Shokado Garden: This is a Japanese garden featuring a path around a central pond where about 40 kinds of bamboo plants are grown. There is an old hut in the garden called Shokado, which was built in 1637 by Shokado Shojo, a priest of Iwashimizu-Hachimangu Shrine and a man of culture, who lived the rest of his life in the hut.

Iwashimizu-Hachimangu Shrine: The shrine was built in 860 by the order of Emperor Seiwa. The attractions of the shrine include the main shrine which is designated as a national treasure, and a camphor tree planted by Kusunoki Masashige, a natural monument designated by Kyoto Prefecture.



Hoshokan Museum



Shokado Garden



Iwashimizu-Hachimangu Shrine