

法華宗大本山 本能寺

大寶殿宝物館

Qilin shaped incense burner gifted by Nobunaga Oda

Armor of the troops of Nobunaga Oda

Three-legged frog shaped incense burner made of copper

Museum Administration
 Adult ¥500, Junior and high school students ¥300, Elementary school students ¥250,
 The handicapped ¥200 *30% discount for a group over 30 people
Hours / 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed / New Years Holidays

Shimo Honnojima-cho, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto 604-8091 TEL: 075-231-5335



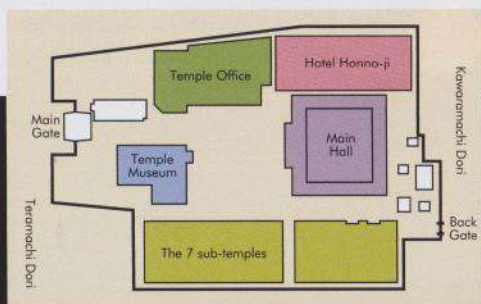
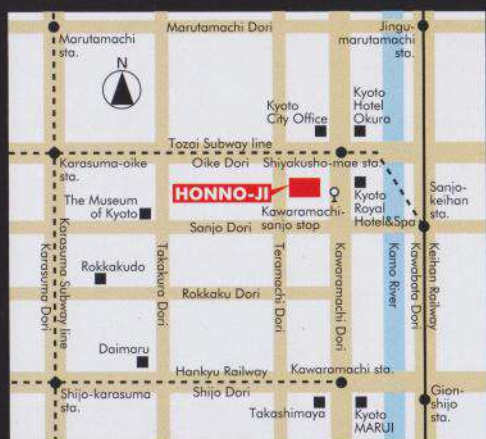
The 7 sub-temples



The main gate

Kyoto provides you beautiful pieces of scenery in every season. Mountains surrounding this city have been changing their colors according to the season. The Katsura River runs through the west of Kyoto city, and the Kamo River in the east. A large number of temples and shrines lie scattered all over in this jewel box. A variety of picturesque places have been preserved as ancient poets admired and composed Japanese poems (waka). Hereby the proverb "Kyoto is the land of the Japanese heart" had arisen.

Honno-ji Temple exists beside a clear stream of the Kamo River. This temple has kept propagating the teachings of Buddhism of the Hokke sect for years, however, not everyone knows this temple is the headquarters of the Hokke sect. Honno-ji Temple is said to be founded by the Buddhist monk Nichuryu in 1415, which is the main holy land where the Lotus Sutra is declared and the teachings of the Buddhist monk Nichiren is preached.



Access

- By Tozai Subway line: 1 min walk from "Shiyakusho-mae" sta.
- By Subway from JR Kyoto sta.: Take Karasuma Subway line, transfer to Tozai line at "Karasuma-Oike" sta. and get off at "Shiyakusho-mae" sta.
- By City or Kyoto Bus: 1 min walk from "Kawaramachi-sanja" sta.
- By Keihan Railway: 5 min walk west from "Sanjo" sta.
- By Hankyu Railway: 10 min walk north from "Kawaramachi" sta.

法華宗大本山 本能寺の魅力

歴史と信仰の大霊場



The main hall designed by Shunichi Amanuna, a doctor of engineering. The best materials and skills that the Muromachi Era (1392-1573) had to offer was put together, and the hall was built with zelkova wood. Total area (587.4m²)



Mausoleum of Nobunaga Oda was built at his son, Nobutaka Oda's request.



Temple museum Daihouden was established to commemorate the 750-year anniversary of the Hokke sect.

spirited Shogun that he used guns for the first time in Japan at the Battle of Nagashino in 1575, supported Christianity, established an innovative economic system, and built schools and churches in Kyoto and Azuchi. However, his power and fortune didn't last for long. In June 1582, Mitsuhide Akechi, one of his vassals, plotted to rise in revolt against Nobunaga and attacked him while he was staying at Honno-ji Temple. Since the retinue of Mitsuhide heavily outnumbered Nobunaga's troops, Nobunaga realized the odds were against him. Therefore Nobunaga set the temple on fire which burned it down and committed ritual suicide at midnight. This was the time he was the age of 49. Nobunaga had been a believer of Nichijo, the monk of Honno-ji Temple, so Honno-ji temple has held memorial services for Nobunaga since then.

Honno-ji Temple has repeatedly been erected and reconstructed. This temple have played an important role for the faith of the populace though it went through tremendous ordeals.

一 First Founded by the Buddhist monk Nichiryu in 1415, but destroyed by another Buddhist sect 3 years later.

二 Second Once Nichiryu fled from Kyoto for safety, he came back and reconstructed the temple in the Nishijin Area in 1429.

三 Third The temple was moved to the vicinity of Rokkaku St. and Omiya St. in 1433, but was burned down due to religious oppression in 1536.

四 Fourth In 1542, the Buddhist monk Nichijo built another fine temple, but it was burned down due to "The Incident at Honno-ji" in 1582.

五 Fifth Honno-ji Temple was reconstructed with an area of 32,234.71㎡ in 1582, but was destroyed due to a large fire that happened in 1788.

六 Sixth The rebuilding was finally permitted in 1840, but the temple was attacked and burned down during the Meiji Revolution in 1864.

七 Seventh The present temple was rebuilt in 1928. The Buddha image was enshrined in the main hall of the temple on April 7th of this year.

Sutra: 南無妙法蓮華經

The sutra of Hokke sect “南無妙法蓮華經 (Nam-myō-hō-ren-ge-kyō)” means “Believe in the teaching of Buddha likening to a white lotus flower that tells you the truth of the universe, and pray to Buddha fervently”. You should keep your mind purified and peaceful, should patiently bear the difficulties, and should accept everything that comes to you without protesting, when you chant this sutra. It's highly encouraged to chant this sutra as many times as possible to be blessed with Buddha's salvation and wisdom.

Honno-ji Temple Museum DAIHOUDEN

In all, Honno-ji Temple has been rebuilt seven times, five times due to attacks from other Buddhist sects and most famously in “The Incident at Honno-ji” in which Nobunaga Oda



A set of six-leaved folding screen painted by Naonobu Kano



Copper mirror designed with plum trees with pheasant and sparrow (Important cultural property)



Written documents for the estate subscribed by Hideyoshi Toyotomi



Tenmoku tea bowl possessed by Nobunaga Oda

Portrait of Nobunaga Oda



Chrysanthemum shaped iron container with 16 petals



Letter of thanks for folding screens written by Yuan Takei and signed by Nobunaga Oda



5 colored vase designed with flowers, dragons and phoenixes (Important cultural property)



Japanese flower art arranged by Buddhist monk Nippo



Kettle used regularly by Nobunaga Oda, which was the gem of his tea utensil collection

大寶殿宝物館の 信長公遺品や文化財

法華宗大本山本能寺

was besieged. However, throughout all of these blazing disasters, the temple's treasures have been kept safe and passed on down to the present day, and can be seen in the treasure room of the temple. Starting with religious relics, such as the Lotus Mandala, the exhibits include gifts donated by wealthy believers, a folding screen painted by Naonobu Kano, and tea utensils (notably a Tenmoku tea bowl) and documents belonging to Nobunaga. The temple also has a famous incense burner in the shape of a three-legged frog, which, legend has it, croaked a warning before the attack on Nobunaga at the temple.

Shogun Nobunaga Oda and Honno-ji Temple

Nobunaga Oda, one of the three great Shoguns, was born in Nagoya, present Aichi Prefecture in 1534. He took the initiative in the unification of the nation. He was such a