

How to worship >>> Scan the QR code to watch a short video on how to worship !



1 Temizusha

Temizusha where you can play an important role in helping visitors purify their body and mind and show respect to the Kami.



First, purify(wash) your hands by placing them together.



Pour water into both hands purify(rinse) your mouth.



Once again, purify(wash) your hands.

2 Osaisen, offerings to the kami

When visiting a shrine, money is offered as a token of gratitude to the kami or as a thank-you for the fulfillment of prayers. In the past, rice and cloth were offered here, but over time, this changed to money. The amount is up to you. It is important to offer money with a feeling of gratitude.



3 Hairei, praying at a Shinto shrine



Osaisen: put your money in.



Nirei, two bows: stand up straight and bow deeply twice, bending at a 90-degree angle.



Nihakushu, two claps: put your hands together. clap your hands twice at chest level, slowly and loudly so the kami can hear.



Oinori, pray: put your hands together at chest level with fingertips aligned. Silently thank the gods and make your wish in your heart.



Ichirei, final bow: bow deeply one more time to finish.

We made this brochure !

Project-Based Learning Course, Haboromo University of International Studies:
"Bringing Ootori Taisha to the World"

As students of Haboromo University of International Studies, we created this brochure to share the spirit of Shinto and the beauty of Ootori Taisha with the world. We hope it helps you feel more connected to this sacred place. Please feel free to take home an *omamori* (amulet) or *omikuji* (fortune slip) as a blessing, and share your experience with others on social media. We sincerely hope you'll visit again—with your family and friends. Thank you for taking the time to learn with us.

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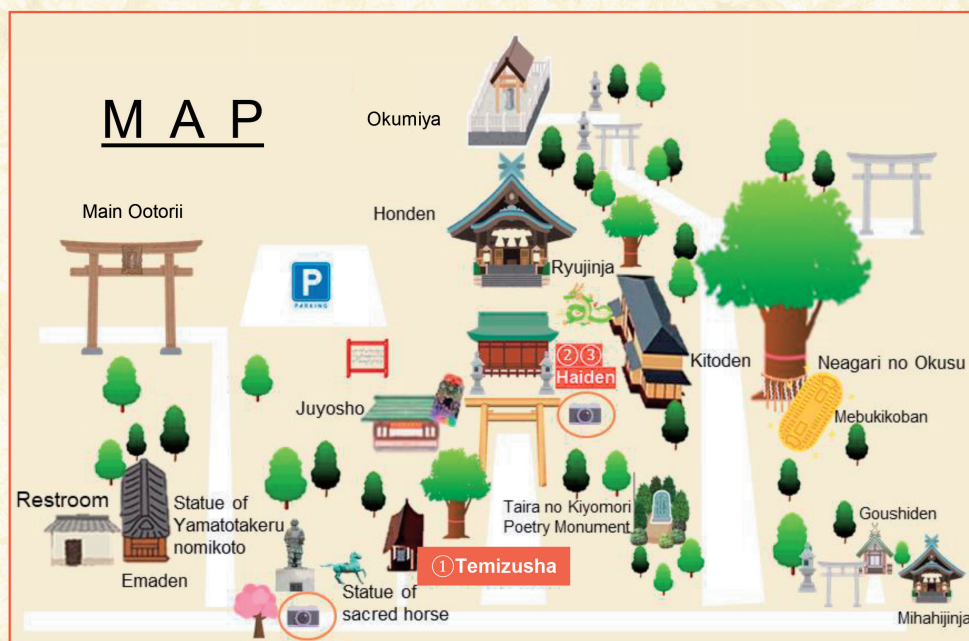
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Work experience at Ootori Taisha



Ootori Taisha

Sakai, Osaka



羽衣国際大学
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Shinto and Jinja



Shinto

Shinto is the indigenous faith of the Japanese. Since ancient times, Japanese people have seen the divine energy or life-force of the natural world as expressed in many kami, or gods, whom they have venerated. Shinto can be said to be a faith born out of the lifestyle of the Japanese people. Shinto is a form of polytheism based on the belief that a god exists for everything.

Jinja

Jinja is a religious facility based on Shinto. There are jinja, known as shinto shrines in Japan today where various kami are enshrined, particularly those who appear in the story of the Divine Age or important historical figures. They are, so to speak, the residences of the kami. Japanese people visit jinja to express their gratitude to gods or to wish for happiness.

Ootori Taisha

Shusaijin, main enshrined deities

Yamato Takeru no Mikoto, hero who darts around to pacify all of Japan.

The legend

It is said that the soul of the late Yamato Takeru no Mikoto, at the time of the construction of his tomb, turned into a large white bird and flew away. This very place is where this white bird finally arrived. This event is believed to have occurred approximately 1,900 years ago. Shrines dedicated to Yamato Takeru no Mikoto, which exist throughout Japan, are believed to have originated from this place — Ootori Taisha.

Chigusa-no-mori

The forest within the shrine grounds is called *Chigusa-no-mori* (forest of Chigusa). It is said that this forest became overgrown in one night to prevent the white bird (the spirit of Yamato Takeru no Mikoto) from flying away again. The name *Chigusa-no-mori* comes from the thousand species of plants that grew here in those times. Ootori taisha, covered in deep greenery, spans an area of 49,500 square kilometers, about the size of seven soccer courts.



Portrait of Yamato Takeru no Mikoto

Main shrine

The shrine buildings of Ootori Taisha are built in a unique architectural style called *Ootori-zukuri*. This style is the second oldest form of architecture that has been handed down to this day. It has been burned down three times in the past, but on each occasion it was rebuilt and it remains a beloved spiritual center for the Japanese people. It is also worth noting that, the roof of the reconstructed shrine building, which was severely damaged by a typhoon in 2018, was made of golden copper sheets. Over the next 20 years or so, it has transformed over time, taking on an atmospheric greenish-blue appearance.

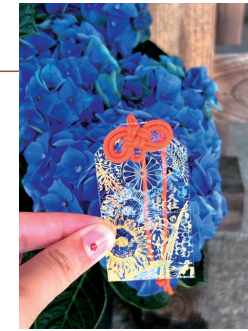


Main shrine

Awarded items

Omamori, predicting the future

Look into this shining *omamori* (amulet) and you will see a bright future as it sparkles beautifully in the sunshine. This is a world-famous amulet. The strings of the amulet are available in 10 colors, and light blue and pink are particularly popular.



Sakigamitoseru Omamori



Transparent is best fortune!

Kachi-mikuji, victory fortune slip

At Ootori Taisha you can, discover our unique *Kachi-mikuji*, a special fortune slip where the ultimate prize is the transparent *Kyoun* (great fortune)! Inspired by blessings of victory from our enshrined deity, Yamato Takeru no Mikoto, drawing this rare slip fills the shrine with radiating joy and brings delight to all – even the kami! Come and seek your year's fortune with a *Kachi-mikuji*.

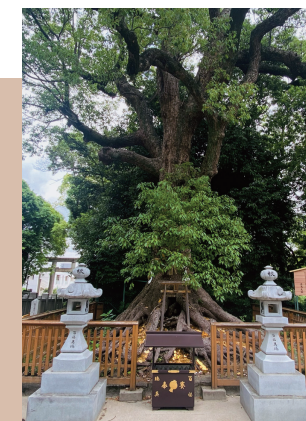


Goshuin

A *goshuin* is a stamp awarded as proof of your visit to a shrine, handwritten on the day with the shrine's name and the date of your visit. At Ootori Taisha you can receive unique *goshuin* linked to the shrine's history that change on a monthly basis, depicting seasonal flowers. A dedicated *goshuin-cho* album is also available. Why not start collecting *goshuin* stamps today?



Handwritten with love



Neagari no Okusu



Mebuki Koban

Neagari no Okusu, sacred camphor tree

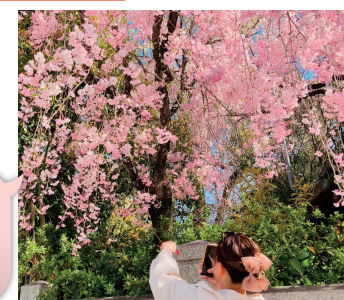
The giant camphor tree at Ootori Taisha features the prominent roots of a sacred tree, hence the *Neagari* part its name, which means "rising roots" and signifies rising value, worth and fortune. Gently place your *Mebuki Koban* (sprouting fortune coin) offering for the best effect.



Photo spot



Take a photo with the awarded items!



Seasonal flowers can be seen through it!

Highly recommended is the *Kachi-mikuji* that allows you to see into the future.

