

The Filming Location of “The Last Samurai” ! Hiking and Sutra Copying at
Engyo-ji, Mt. Shosha



Engyo-ji is located in Mt. Shosha, Himeji city of Hyogo Prefecture, which was also the filming location of the Hollywood movie: “The Last Samurai” . Mt. Shosha is the best place for hiking during the summer. It is quiet and comfortable.

You may visit Mt. Shosha easily by taking the ropeway. To reach the ropeway station, you first need to take #8 bus bound for Mt. Shosha Ropeway from the bus station in the opposite of Himeji castle. It only takes about 30 minutes and you will arrive the mountain!



The cable car will arrive every 15 minutes. You may enjoy the beautiful view of Seto Inland Sea and the town of Himeji. Only 4 minutes of Sky Hiking, you will arrive the entrance of the

mountain. The entrance fee will be 500 yen and you will get a ticket with Kanji. If you are very lucky, you may get a ticket with “Dai-kichi (great blessing)” . Walk for about 10 minutes, there is the Main hall of Engyo-ji.

The next stop is Maniden. There is a teahouse “Hazuki Chaya” next to it. Many visitors will have a short break there with Japanese Traditional Sweets (Wagashi) and Green tea. Of course, you may also purchase amulets and collect Goshuin (temple seals).

In Jiki-do, you can try to Shakyo (Sutra Copying) there, forget all affiliation for a minute. There are two types of Shakyo: 1 hour (1,000 yen) and 20 minutes (300 yen). We chose the 300 yen one, which is called Hanabira (flower petal) Shakyo. There are petals in several colors with different content.



Last but not least, you may get back to the bus station for top selling souvenirs! Tom Cruise, famous Hollywood actor, bought 50 baumkuchen “Shosha Sennen Sugi” from Kineya, a Wagashi shop here.

There is also another famous Kamaboko (Japanese fish cake) shop “YAMASA KAMABOKO” . They have a beautiful moss phlox garden in front of their factory. Visitors may take photos with the superb view!



■ Shosha Mountain Engyo-ji : <http://www.shosha.or.jp/en/>

■ Mt. Shosha Ropeway : <https://www.mt-shosha.info/en.html>

■ YAMASA KAMABOKO : <https://www.e-yamasa.com/special/shibazakura.html>

■ Kineya : <http://www.kineya.net/>