

# TWO WORLD HERITAGES in UJI

Byodoin entrusted with afterlife and Western Paradise that Heian nobilities imagined.

World Heritage

## Byodo-in Temple 12



Hoo-do (National treasure)

In 1052 Fujiwara no Yorimichi, then a Japanese Court noble made his father Michinaga's villa into temple. In the following year, the Phoenix Hall (Hoo-do) was built as the Amida Hall. The Hall consists of a central hall (Chudo) where a single image of Amida made by Jocho, a Japanese sculptor, is installed, twin wing corridors on both sides of the central hall, and tail corridor. Phoenixes are displayed on the large roof while doors inside the hall are decorated with gorgeous hosoge (flower pattern) and with brilliant colors. The double canopy and Unchu Kuyo Bosatsu Statues are must-see. In front

of the Phoenix Hall lies the garden with a pond, expressing the Western Paradise. Initially the Uji river and the mountains on the opposite bank were incorporated as part of its landscape and that method affected other temples and shrines in creating their landscapes.  
 ●Contact/Tel.0774-21-2861 ●Opening hours/ Garden 8:30~17:30, Hoshokan 9:00~17:00, Hoo-do 9:30~16:10 (Every 20 minutes, the number of customers getting inside is limited with 50 and extra fees is 300 yen) ●Fee/Adults 600yen, Elementary school student 300yen ●Around a 10 minutes walk from JR/Keihan Uji station

●17 World Heritages in Kyoto such as Kiyomizu-temple, Nijo-castle, etc. are designated as Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto. These heritages are appreciated as demonstrating 1,200 years of history Kyoto.



Bonsho (National treasure)



Unchu Kuyo Bosatsu Statues (National treasure)



Museum hoshoukan

In 1951 Byodoin was selected as a design of 10 yen coin. Some designs related to Uji are also selected in 10,000yen and 2,000 yen notes.



●Among 17 Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto, two World Heritages are in Uji: Byodoin and Ujikami Shrine. Due to its scenery beauty and convenient location, Uji during Heian period was a nobilities' villa site. Though Byodoin is currently known as a temple, it was originally a villa of Fujiwara no

Michinaga, a nobility in the period, which was made into temple by his son Yorimichi. While Byodoin was built as an afterlife paradise, Ujikami Shrine was built as a guardian of present world. Combined with natural landscape, the contrast of these two opposing prayers form a unique atmosphere in Uji.

Sacred lot of rabbit that there is connection in enshrined deities



Shrine that is revered as a guardian shrine of this world.

World Heritage

## Ujikami Shrine 16



Main shrine (National treasure)

Until Meiji period, together with Uji Shrine next to it, Ujikami Shrine was called Rikyu (Distant Place) Shrine. The enshrined deities are the Emperor Ojin, his sons, the imperial princes Uji no Wakiiratsuko, and Emperor Nintoku. The front shrine was built in early Kamakura period and Shinden-zukuri method was employed. Especially, the beauty of the roof employing the architecture style called "sugaruhafu" is very gorgeous. The honden of the shrine is known as the oldest shrine architecture that has

remained since the Heian period. The three inner structures are built side-by-side and covered with the common roof, which is very unique. And "Kaerumata" installed both in right and left compounds is also important. Also inside the precinct lie Kasuga shrine built in Kamakura period and "Kiriharasui" one of the seven Uji freshwater springs.  
 ●Contact/Tel.0774-21-4634 ●Opening hours/ 9:00~16:30 ●A 10 minutes walk from Uji station of Keihan line.



front shrine (National treasure)



It is believed as a guardian shrine of Byodoin-temple.

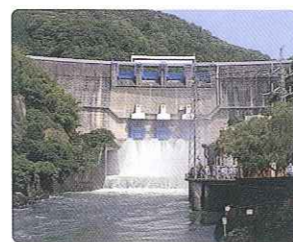
### Agata Shrine 13

Agata is a regional political organization the Yamato government (government in an ancient era) designated in several parts of western region of Japan. Especially, the one in Kinki is politically and religiously very important. It is believed it turned into a guardian shrine when Byodoin temple was built.  
 ●Contact/Tel.0774-21-3014



### Konjiki-in temple and Hakusan Shrine 14

It is said they were built by Fujiwara-no-kanshi, daughter of Fujiwara-no-yorimichi and Hakusan Shrine is a guardian shrine of Konjiki-in temple. But currently the main gate and 9 layered stone stupa as a memorial of Kanshi remain. Hakusan Shrine that is believed to be a guardian of Konjiki-in temple keeps invaluable cultural heritages representing late Heian period.



Dam withholding a reservoir called Hookeo (Lake Hoo)

### Amagase Dam 15

The Amagase Dam is called Hookeo (Phoenix Dam) as the shape of the Dam looks like a bird spreading its wings. You can enjoy both cherry blossoms and autumn maple leaves around the Dam area. You can also enjoy hiking. There is a suspension bridge near the dam.  
 ●Contact/Tel.0774-22-2188 ●Opening hours/8:00~17:00



Amagase suspension bridge



Shrine that is revered as same as Ujikami Shrine

### Uji Shrine 17

The enshrined deity is "Ujinowakiiratsuko". Main shrine was built in Kamakura era and valuable cultural assets such as Komainu (wooden guardian dogs) and Hakushokuimen are there.  
 ●Contact/Tel.0774-21-3041 ●Opening Hours/Open all the time ●Parking lot available/Micro-bus: 1,400yen Car: 700 yen



### Ujinowakiiratsuko -no-haka (Old Tomb) 18

This is the tomb of "Ujinowakiiratsuko", the enshrined deity in Ujikami Shrine and Uji Shrine. There is a story that one time when Iratsuko got lost in this area, a rabbit acted as his guide.



A 15-minutes walk to the belvedere. A popular spot to locals.

### Daikichiyama (Mt. Buttoku) 19

Visitors can see Byodoin, Uji-river, Nakanoshima, etc., below their eyes.

