Welcome to DAZAFU

5 Remains of Chikuzen Kokubun-ji Temple (National Historical Site)

Chikuzen Kokubun-ji Temple (which is located in the northwest part of the city, at the foot of Mt. Shioji) was one of the national temples constructed in each province in accordance with Emperor Shomu’s imperial decree of 741 A.D. It was a large temple with many buildings. All that remains today is foundation stones from the pagoda, when Kokubun-ji Temple was built, and a provincial nursery was also established. Its ruins are said to have been about 300 meters west of the temple.

6 Remains of Mizuki Fortress (National Historical Site)

Mizuki Fortress is about 20 minutes from Naha Municipal Bus Terminal. The ruins of the fortress, built on the foot of the Nakagawa River, are said to have been the site of various battles. The foundation of this fortress was used as the foundation of the Dazaifu Tenmangū Shrine.

7 Remains of Ono-jo Fortress (National Historical Site)

Kanazawa-jo was built on its summit in 665 A.D. It consisted of a number of buildings surrounded by a soil and stone embankment 8 kilometers in circumference. Only the embankment and the foundation of about 70 stonehouses remain today. Mt. Shioji was originally called Mt. Ono, a name which often appears in the Man'yōshū. The name “Shioji” comes from the Shisōno (Four Deva kings) who were enshrined on the mountain.

8 Kaiden-in (Buddhist Ordination Hall) (National Historical Site)

This ordination hall, or Kaiden-in, was built in the Nara period (8th century) as part of Kanazawa-jo. Together with Todai-ji in Nara and Yakushido in Tochigi, it was one of Japan’s three official ordination halls. Those living in Western Japan who wished to enter the Buddhist priesthood had to be confirmed at the ordination hall of Kanazawa-jo. The main image, a sitting statue of Kannon Buddha (Vairocana), is a work of the Heian period (12th century).

9 Dazaifu Site Exhibition Hall

Exhibitions on the history of Dazaifu and the surrounding area are continually being held in the Exhibition Hall, which contains an ancient drainage ditch. The ditch discovered during excavations in Remains of Dazaifu Government Office. It is displayed at the site, together with many other materials and artifacts illustrating the Dazaifu history. It is closed on Mondays.

10 Dazaifu Hall

You can gather information on sightseeing for Dazaifu, and enjoy the experience of baking Umeba, a traditional Japanese plum cake. There is also a hall with seating for 200 people, as well as rest space. It is closed on Wednesdays.

11 Kyushu National Museum

It is the 4th National Museum following Tokyo, Kyoto and Nara. It is based on the concept of “Understanding Japanese culture from the Asian perspective.” It is closed on Mondays.

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**Souvenirs**
Many shops along the approach to Tenmangū Shrine sell souvenirs such as “Umeba-ōshō” (rice cakes) and “Kunisak,” brown rice which are thought to bring good luck.

**Events**
- January 14th: “Ukeko” Bullock Exchange Rite
- December: Dancing Ceremony purifying of demons (Dazaifu Tenmangū Shrine)
- 1st Sunday in March: Toffukui-nou-ei Water Poetry Festival (Dazaifu Tenmangū Shrine)
- Late May: “Geribō” prayer for protection against sickness during the year (Kamado Jojō Shrine)
- July 24th and 25th: Summer Festival (Dazaifu Tenmangū Shrine)
- September 20th to 29th: “Mino-oh” God Procession Festival (Dazaifu Tenmangū Shrine)
- Early October: Dazaifu Autumn Festival (Dazaifu Tenmangū Shrine)

Published by: Dazaifu city tourism promotion section 092(921)2121

Dazaifu city official homepage http://www.city.dazaifu.lg.jp
Tourist Association website at homepage http://www.dazaifu.org