

0 100 200 300 400 500m



● **Motodani Valley**
Earth and sand from the Kitakabe (Northern wall) accumulate here, forming a vast riverbank. In the hiking course in the heart of the mountain, where the valley is the deepest, the Kitakabe can be seen spread out like a byobu (Japanese folding screen). This is where visitors who will not ascend the mountain make a u-turn.

● **Ogamiyama shrine okunomiya (inner shrine)**
Daichimyo-gongen, the God of Mt. Daisen, was originally enshrined here, but following the separation of Shinto and Buddhism that occurred at the beginning of the Meiji era, the shrine started worshipping the presently enshrined Onamuchinomikoto. The structure is based on the gongen-zukuri style where the haiden or front hiwadabuki style shrine (a style unique to Japan where the structure is roofed with slices of hinoki bark) and the honden or sanctuary are connected by heiden, or offering hall. On both sides of the haiden are choro or long corridors. All of them were reconstructed in 1805, the 2nd year of the Bunka era, and have been designated national treasures.

● **Remains of Honbo-Sairakuin**
Since the Keicho era Daisen-ji temple was an extraterritorial zone of the Tottori Clan, Honbo-Sairakuin was the regional office governing the Daisen-ji temple territory. Its huge stone fence and the stone stairs still remain, recalling the grand building style of the time.

● **Daisen-ji temple**
Its history all began in the 2nd year of the Yoro era (718) when Kinren Shonin, or great monk, built a temple to enshrine Jizo Bosatsu, or a bodhisattva, and provided the ascetics with a fundamental training place. It is said that after Jikaku Daishi (Ennin) turned it into a Tendai-shu temple in the 7th year of the Jogan era (865) it then prospered as a gigantic temple with 160 monks and 3,000 sectarians.

● **Remains of Osato-no-Matsu (the pine tree of Osato)**
There used to be a big pine tree here where a girl called Osato is said to have committed suicide. The tree regrettably died recently, but still provides a superb view of Kitakabe (Northern wall) between the woods from a little-known place.

● **Graves of Sohei (monk warriors)**
Sohei trained day and night in their camp and near the Kinmon gate, as Daisen-ji temple expanded its territory, showed their presence in defending themselves. It is also said that they helped Emperor Go-Daigo flee from Oki Island.

● **Mt. Jakujyo**
An ideal spot to view Daisen Kitakabe rising 868.5 meters above sea level. It is also known as the place of nirvana for Kinren Shonin, the great monk who founded Daisen-ji temple.

● **Fuketsu Air Hole**
A natural refrigerator that makes use of cold air flowing down the slopes of the mountain. Local residents sold ice they made in this natural refrigerator by stuffing it with snow that accumulated outside in the Yonago area from the Meiji era, and they also preserved eggs of silkworms that they then sold added to the ice.

● **Kinmon gate**
The Sadagawa River gorge used to be even narrower and was used as a pilgrimage road to Daisen-ji temple. It is said that Kinmon became a waterway due to a large flood that occurred immediately after they had widened the pilgrimage road. The view of Daisen Kitakabe is breathtaking from here.

● **Amidado temple**
The oldest building of the existing temples on the Daisen-ji temple premises that was founded at the beginning of the Heian era and completed in the Fujiwara period. However, the building was destroyed by a mountain tsunami in the 2nd year of the Kyoroku era (1559) and then rebuilt in the 21st year of the Tenmon era (1552) where it still stands. The temple is dedicated to the 2.79-meter Amitayus statue made by the sculptor of Buddha statues Ryoen, Guan Yin, with Mahasthamaprapta on both sides. Both the building and the statues are national important cultural properties.

● **Stone steps slope to the right**
The north side of the road is raised in order to drain the rainwater by making it pour into the right end of the road which is diagonally cut.

● **Rishosui springwater**
Since ancient days it has been said that this magic water can return a girls' damaged hair to be being beautiful again. Perhaps it is worth a try?

● **Remains of Renjoin temple**
Originally belonged to the Nankoin valley and at one time popular as one of the few temple inns in the Daisen-ji temple area. In the 3rd year of the Taisho era, Naoya Shiga, a great writer, stayed here and climbed Mt. Daisen, the experience of which he described in his novel "Anyu Koro" (A Dark Night's Passing).

● **Daisen Information Center**
(Natural Parks Foundation office TEL. +81-859-52-2165)
Opened in November 2003 as a sightseeing base for the Daisen National Park. The Natural Parks Foundation office and waiting room for regular buses and winter-limited shuttle buses on the 1st floor and Daisen-cho Sightseeing Information Desk (managed by Daisen-cho Sightseeing Association) and lounge with various information sources on the 2nd floor. The building is entirely barrier-free, has a nursing room on the 2nd floor with hot water available around the clock, and a freely accessible changing room on the 1st floor, and was designed with due consideration to the protection of local industries and of the environment with its inner walls being made of red pines produced in Daisen-cho, and exterior walls made of Andesite quarried from Mt. Daisen, and a part of its electricity needs are covered by photovoltaic power generation. The center is open 7 days a week.

● **Mt. Goen**
An observatory at the top provides a completely clear view of Daisen Kitakabe (Northern wall). Looking backwards you can enjoy the sight of the Sea of Japan stretching endlessly over the woodland at the foot of the mountain. A jizo stone statue of Goen-sojo (great monk) is enshrined here.

Fine observatory

Motodani valley hiking course

● Estimated time required: approximately 1 hour 55 minutes
Daisen Nature and History Museum = 30 minute ascent and 25 minute descent = Ogamiyama shrine = Motodani valley

Mt. Jakujyo, Mt. Goen Course

● Estimated time required: approximately 2 hours
Daisen Nature and History Museum = 15 minutes = Ogamiyama shrine torii = 5 minutes = Pedestrian exploration walk crossroad = (10 minutes = Ogamiyama shrine) = 20 minute ascent and 15 minute descent = Mt. Jakujyo = 30 minute ascent and 25 minute descent = driveway junction = 20 minute ascent and 15 minute descent = Mt. Goen = 20 minutes = Daisen Nature and History Museum

Amidado historic ruins exploration course

● Estimated time required: approximately 1 hour 25 minutes
Daisen Nature and History Museum = 15 minutes = Renjoin temple = 15 minutes = Amidado temple = 10 minutes = Rishosui springwater = 30 minutes = Daisen-ji temple main hall = 20 minute ascent and 15 minute descent = Daisen Nature and History Museum

Requests to mountain climber

- Do not pick any of the wild plants, flowers or edible wild plants or break or step on any twigs and branches
- Remove all your own waste
- Ensure you have applied to climb in advance (Daisen-ji temple police substation TEL. +81-(0)859-52-2200)

for Masumizu, Kagamiganaru

for Yonago IC

for Daisenguchi station

for Katoji, Akasaki

Ususama-myo-o wisdom king

Kitakabe(Northern wall) seen from Sai-no-Kawara riverbank

This is a copy of a 1:25,000 topography map issued by Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI) made with the permission of the Director General thereof. (Approval No. H. 16 mid. copy 49, 2004)

Inquiry

- Daisen-cho Sightseeing Commerce and Industry Section: 500 Suenaga, Daisen-cho, Saihaku-gun, Tottori-ken 689-3332, Japan TEL. +81-(0)859-53-3110 FAX. +81-(0)859-53-3163
- Daisen-cho Sightseeing Association (located on the premises of the Daisen Information Center): 40-33 Daisen, Daisen-cho, Saihaku-gun, Tottori-ken 689-3318, Japan TEL. +81-(0)859-52-2502 FAX. +81-(0)859-52-2770

Mt. Daisen Hiking COURSE

Summer Mountain Climbing Course

- Estimated time required: approximately 4 hours 35 minutes
- Daisen Nature and History Museum = 10 minutes
- Summer mountain climbing entrance = 40 minutes ascent and 25 minutes descent = 30% peak = 40 minute ascent and 25 minutes descent = Gyojwakarie crossroad = 15 minutes ascent and 10 minutes descent = 60% peak = 30 minutes ascent and 20 minutes descent = Summit
- Daisen Nature and History Museum-Gyojwakarie crossroad optional course
- Daisen Nature and History Museum = 50 minutes ascent and 40 minutes descent = Motodani-hut = 50 minutes ascent and 30 minutes descent = Gyojwakarie crossroad (Gyojwakarie Course)

Utopia Course

- Estimated time required: approximately 4 hours and 10 minutes
- Daisen Nature and History Museum = 30 minutes ascent and 25 minutes descent = Ogamiyama shrine = 30 minutes ascent and 20 minutes descent = Shimo-hoji-trail = 30 minutes ascent and 20 minutes descent = Naka-hoji-trail = 30 minutes ascent and 20 minutes descent = Kari-hoji-trail = 25 minutes ascent and 10 minutes descent = Sankoh Peak
- Daisen Nature and History Museum-Shimo-hoji-trail optional course
- Daisen Nature and History Museum = 15 minutes ascent and 10 minutes descent = Nakanohara ski resort = 50 minutes ascent and 40 minutes descent = Mt. Hoju = 15 minutes = Shimo-hoji-trail

Requests to mountain climber

- Do not pick any of the wild plants, flowers or edible wild plants or break or step on any twigs and branches
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- Ensure you have applied to climb in advance (Daisen-jī temple police substation TEL: +81-(0)859-52-2200)

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● Kitakabe (Northern Wall) — As much as several thousand tons of earth, sand and stones slide down from Kitakabe every year, thereby gradually changing the shape of Mt. Daisen. In winter it attracts many people as a climbing mecca.

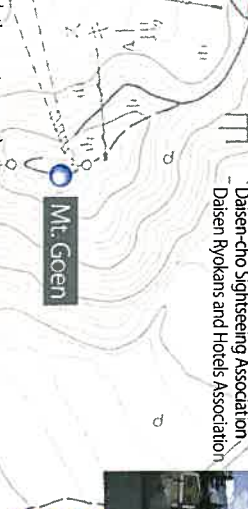
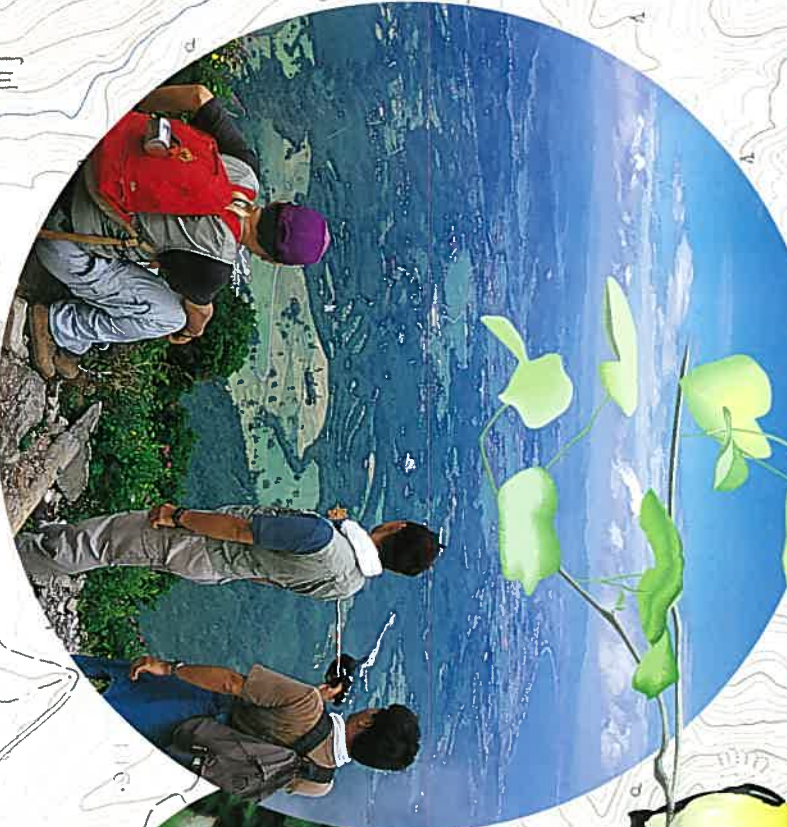
● Daisen Kyaraboku (*Fagus cuspidata* var. *nana*) *Fagus cuspidata* var. *nana* is a variety of *Fagus cuspidata* that range throughout the mountainous areas on the Japan Sea side from the Tohoku through to the Chugoku region. In the Mt. Daisen area it is commonly known as Daisen Kyaraboku (*Fagus cuspidata*). and on the gradual slope starting at 80% peak (about 1,600 meters above sea level) it forms the largest colony in Japan. The tree is a designated special natural monument and also the representative tree of Totomi prefecture.

● Zephyrus (butterfly) Male Lycaenidae with either gold-green, yellow-green or blue-green wings such as *Neozephyrus japonicus*, *Faonius taida*, and *Faonius jazonis* are generally called Zephyrus. Zephyrus larvae mainly eat the leaves of *Quercus cuspidata*, *Quercus dentata* (Japanese Emperor Oak), *Fagus crenata* (Japanese Beech) and *Quercus serrata*, Daisen, where a lot of these trees grow, is a Zephyrus reserve.

● Tit (bird) Visitors walking along the course in the peak of summer will see a number of little birds that include *Parus major* (Great tit), *Parus montanus* (Willow tit) and *Parus ater* (Coal tit).

What's "Ichi-moku isseki"? To protect vegetation and environment of summit area, we have a keep green campaign "Ichi-moku isseki". Please bring a stone when you climbing Mt. Daisen. That stones has put in the parking lot near the Daisen-jī bridge. (Don't bring from another area.) At the summit of Misen, you can find stone storage and a lot of stones. These stones are used for conservation work.

Mt. Daisen Climbing Course



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 ● Daisen-cho Sightseeing Commerce and Industry Section: 500 Suemaga, Daisen-cho, Saihaku-gun, Totori-ken 689-3332, Japan TEL: +81-(0)859-53-3110 FAX: +81-(0)859-53-3163
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See back page for this area.

for Daiseiguchi station

Vertical distribution of vegetation
 ● 60% peak
 ● 80% peak
 ● 30% peak

Vertical distribution of vegetation
 Around the 60% peak, visitors passing through the beech woods will see the shrubs of *Sorbus communita* (Japanese Rowan), *Saxifraga sibirica*, *Acer strobilatum*, *Koelitzium* and *Ilex crenata* (Japanese Box (Leaved Holly)). In even higher areas trees of even less height grow. At the 80% peak the woods are composed purely of *Kyaraboku* (*Fagus cuspidata* var. *nana*), and around the top of the mountain unfolds the vegetative area of *Calamagrostis longipes*, *Veronicastrum sibiricum* etc. This is because the climate grows more severe as the altitude rises.

The grave of Heita Miwa
 Heita Miwa was a master builder of shrines and temples in Kyoto, and headed the reconstruction of the main building of Daisen-ji temple (currently Ogamiyama shrine Okunomiyama-jinner shrine). As envious local carpenters cut off one of the pillars the two short Heita had to proceed with the reconstruction after first cutting all the other pillars to the same height. In 1802, (the 2nd year of Kyowa era), he is said to have committed suicide in this place, on his way back to Kyoto without having seen the completion of the reconstruction.

Ancient road
 This road was a pilgrimage road connecting Besaku in Okayama prefecture, Bihoku in Hiroshima prefecture, and Hino in Totori prefecture with Daisen-ji temple. The six Rokujizo statues and stone torii (shrine gate) all being made of stone reflects the prosperity of the time.

Amatsubame (Apu pacificus, Fork-tailed swift) and Iwatsubame (*Delichon urbica*, House martin)
 From spring through to summer a number of house martins can be seen flying over from Daisen-ji Bridge. The swallows fly in from the south as summer birds and nest under the bridge before summer falls. Fork-tailed swifts, which are bigger and a dark black color, can be seen near the top of Mt. Daisen.

Daisen sightseeing driveway
 for Yonago IC