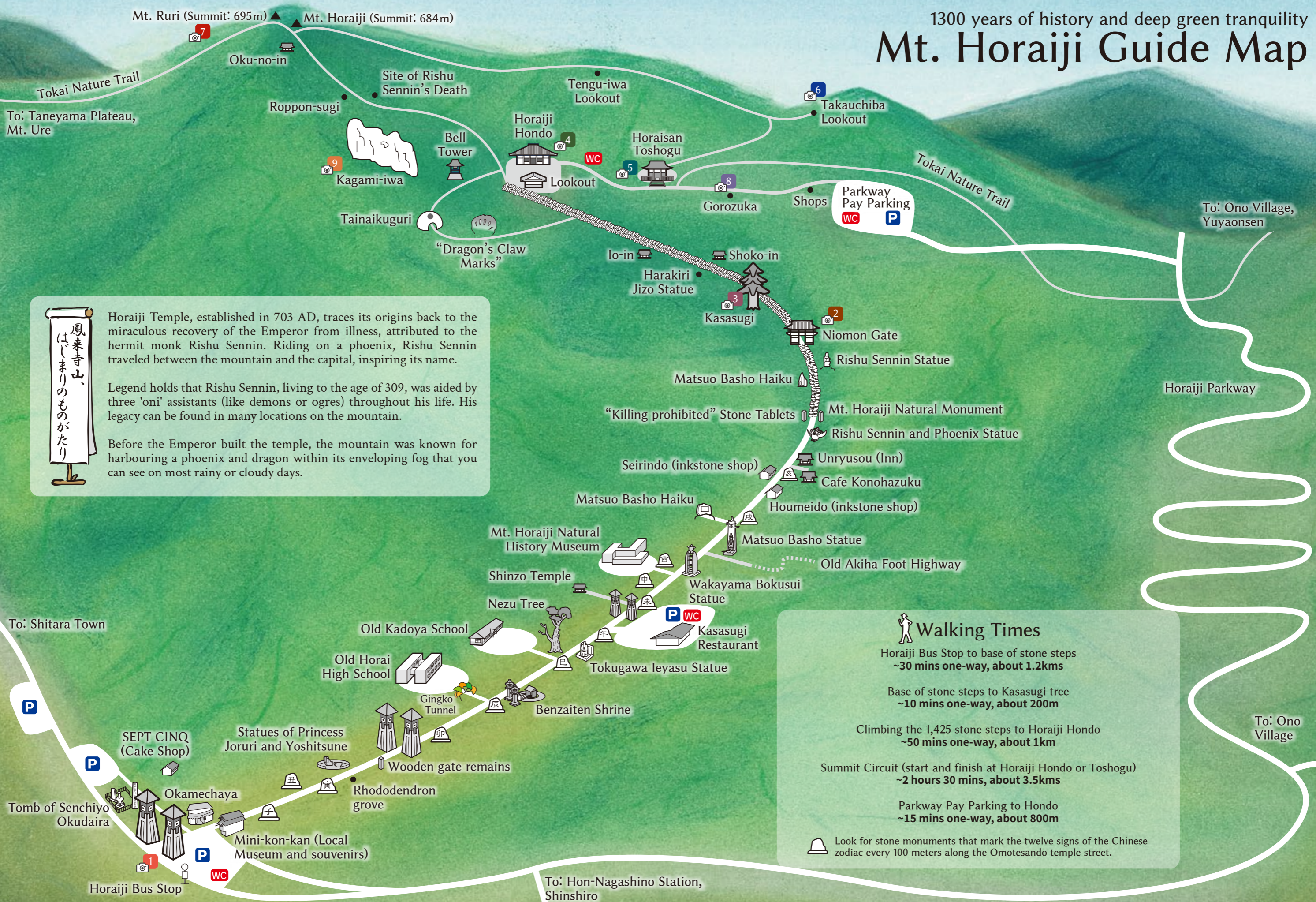
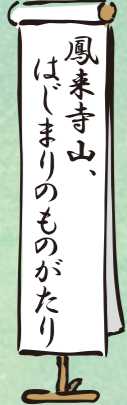


# 1300 years of history and deep green tranquility Mt. Horaiji Guide Map





 Horaiji Temple, established in 703 AD, traces its origins back to the miraculous recovery of the Emperor from illness, attributed to the hermit monk Rishu Sennin. Riding on a phoenix, Rishu Sennin traveled between the mountain and the capital, inspiring its name.

Legend holds that Rishu Sennin, living to the age of 309, was aided by three 'oni' assistants (like demons or ogres) throughout his life. His legacy can be found in many locations on the mountain.

Before the Emperor built the temple, the mountain was known for harbouring a phoenix and dragon within its enveloping fog that you can see on most rainy or cloudy days.

### Walking Times

- Horaiji Bus Stop to base of stone steps  
~30 mins one-way, about 1.2kms
- Base of stone steps to Kasasugi tree  
~10 mins one-way, about 200m
- Climbing the 1,425 stone steps to Horaiji Hondo  
~50 mins one-way, about 1km
- Summit Circuit (start and finish at Horaiji Hondo or Toshogu)  
~2 hours 30 mins, about 3.5kms
- Parkway Pay Parking to Hondo  
~15 mins one-way, about 800m

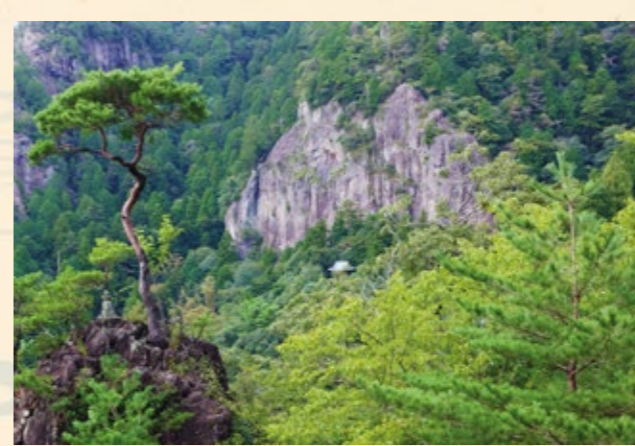
 Look for stone monuments that mark the twelve signs of the Chinese zodiac every 100 meters along the Omotesando temple street.





### 5 Horaisan Toshogu

The shrine was built in 1651 by Iemitsu, the third Shogun of the Tokugawa Shogunate. The god of worship is the samurai Tokugawa Ieyasu, whose family ruled Japan for over 200 years. It is a nationally designated Important Cultural Property.



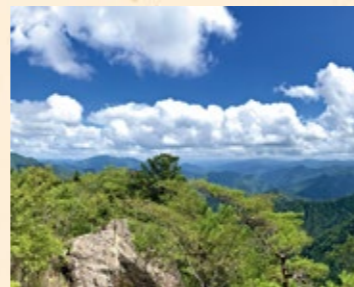
### 9 'Kagami-Iwa' (Mirror Rock)

The face of Mt. Horaiji, this magnificent rock wall is 70m high and 250m wide. The mountain's Bell Tower is nestled in the forest at the base of the cliff.



### 4 Horaiji Hondo (Main Temple)

As the head temple of the Gochi Order within the Shingon Sect, this sacred site enshrines Yakushi Nyorai. Mysterious remains of Rishu Sennin's 'oni' assistants were unintentionally discovered when the Hondo underwent reconstruction in 1974. The remains are still buried under the building to this day.



### 6 Scenic Lookouts

The volcanic history of Mt. Horaiji has produced natural rocky lookouts with views to the ocean and even the Southern Alps.

**Takauchiba (left)** was a site of falconry in the Edo period, a 30 minute walk from Toshogu Shrine along the Tokai Nature Trail.

**Mt. Ruri Summit (right)** is a highlight of the Summit Circuit, less than 5 minutes walk from the Mt. Horaiji Summit. Take in stunning panoramic views from a ridge of ancient volcanic rock.



### 1 Omotesando (Temple Street)

Main streets leading to temples and shrines are called 'Omotesando,' and at Mt. Horaiji the Omotesando leads to the base of the 1,425 stone steps. As the main path to reach the mountain for over 1,300 years, this quaint area has deep history and traces of the visitors that came to see Mt. Horaiji and its temples for centuries. At its peak in the Edo Period, there were many inns and even a playhouse.



### 8 View from Gorozuka

See distant mountains, Mikawa Bay, the quiet Kadoya Village, and the lush forest below. This location is also the best for seeing the Kagami-Iwa.



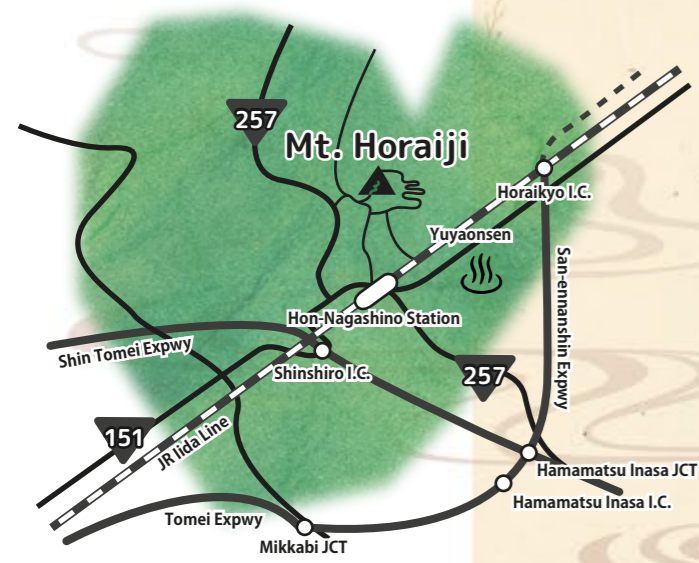
### 3 Kasasugi

Kasasugi is a Japanese Cedar tree, roughly 60 meters high and estimated to be over 800 years old. Kasasugi is the second tallest 'sugi' tree in Japan and has been selected as one of the 100 best trees in the country. Each year the rice grass rope is replaced in a ceremony to celebrate Kasasugi as a deity.

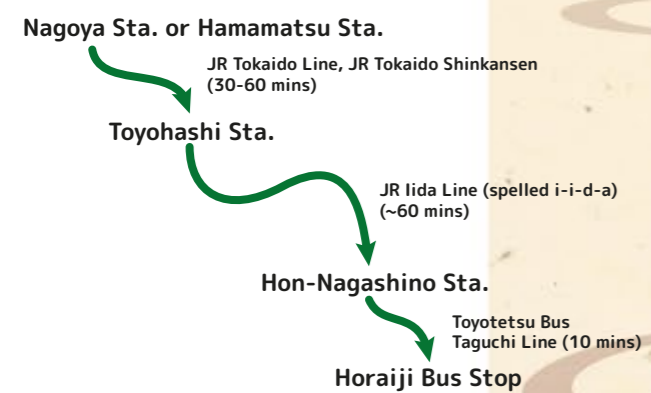


## Mt. Horaiji Guide Map

## Area Map and Access



## Public Transport



## For more information



@houraijisanguide on Instagram regularly posts updates about Mt. Horaiji and what's happening each season. Please follow and keep up to date.