



The Pilgrimage Route (遍路道)
This beautiful, old stone path leads up to Kakurinji.
Thanks to the actions of the local people, there is no garbage.

この古く美しい石畳は鶴林寺に続いています。地元の人々のおかげでゴミが一つも落ちていません。



1 Origin of Kakurinji (鶴林寺の由来)
When Kūkai trained at Kakurinji, he saw a male and a female crane swoop down in turns to protect a small golden statue of Jizō Bosatsu in a big tree. Kūkai was amazed by their action and built this temple.

※Jizō Bosatsu 地藏菩薩

空海が修行をしていた時に雄雌2羽の鶴が大きな木に代わる代わる舞い降りたそうです。この鶴が小さな黄金の地藏を守っていたのに感激して、鶴林寺を創建したそうです。

Kūkai/Kōbō Daishi (空海/弘法大師)

Kūkai, also called Kōbō Daishi, (774-835) is a Buddhist monk from the Heian Period (794-1185). He is the founder of Shingon Buddhism, one of the major schools of Buddhism. He studied in China and built Kongōbuji Temple on Mt. Kōya in Wakayama Prefecture. He is also one of the three most famous calligraphers in Japanese history.

※空海 [774~835] 平安初期の僧。日本仏教の宗派の一つである真言宗の開祖。別名、弘法大師。中国(唐)で修行し、和歌山県高野山に金剛峰寺を建立、真言道場とした。書は日本三筆の一人。

3 Legendary spring, Mizunomi Daishi (伝説の湧き水、水呑大師)

This is a spring on the mountain path to Kakurinji. Legend says that when Kūkai came here, he was thirsty so he hit the ground with his staff and drank the water that came up, so this spring is called Mizunomi Daishi or "Daishi who drank water."

これは鶴林寺道の山道にある湧き水です。空海が地面を杖でつくくと水が湧き出したという伝説があります。



2 Super convenient Chōseki (超便利な丁石)

On the path to Kakurinji, there are 11 stone distance markers called chōseki, which are about 100 meters apart. Each is about 100 cm. tall. The distance to next temple is written on each one and they act as a guide to the temple.

※Chōseki (stone distance markers) 丁石

鶴林寺道には丁石が11個あり、100メートルごとに立っています。それは、約100センチメートルの石柱です。それは、寺までの距離をしめしており、道しるべにもなっています。



4 Pilgrim grave (遍路墓)

There are many mandarin orange groves and pilgrim graves scattered along the route. In the past many people who tried the pilgrimage died during their trip. Some graves are from the Edo Period (1603-1867) when pilgrims risked their life to make the journey around Shikoku.

ミカン畑が多く、道のあちこちに遍路墓があります。多くの方が思いを込めて巡礼し、旅の途中で亡くなりました。江戸時代のお墓があります。昔の旅は命がけでした。

6 Viewpoint (絶景地)

This is a viewpoint on the way to Kakurinji. It overlooks the Naka River and you can see Temple no. 21, Tairyūji on top of the mountain in the distance.

ここは、鶴林寺道のビューポイントです。那賀川と21番札所太龍寺が一望できます。



6 The ruins of a Tsuyadō free place to spend the night (宿泊料0円の通夜堂跡)

This is where a free place for pilgrims to stay, called a tsuyadō, was located. It is located near the fifth stone distance marker (chōseki).

※Tsuyadō (The ruins of a free place to stay) 通夜堂跡
※Fifth chōseki (fifth stone distance marker) 五丁石

五丁石の近くにあった「通夜堂跡」です。お遍路さんが無料で宿泊できました。



Shikoku Pilgrimage (四国遍路)

鶴林寺まで 4.1km

鶴林寺まであと2.5km

所要時間 東林庵～鶴林寺まで 約2時間

鶴林寺まであと1.6km

Designated National Historic Site Area (国史跡指定エリア)

鶴林寺まであと900m



7 Dōhyō (道標)
Mohei Nakatsukasa built this signpost about 100 years ago. An engraved thumb on the post shows the direction to the next temple.
※Mohei Nakatsukasa (1845-1922) walked the pilgrimage 280 times. 中務茂兵衛
この道標は中務茂兵衛が約100年前に建てたものです。親指で次の寺の方向を示しています。



Modern Signpost (現代の道標)
There are stickers written in English and others with directional symbols on the utility pole. They have been put there to help travelers.
英語やマークで表された道標が電柱に貼られています。旅人に親切です。