

Kitakamakura Area

Kobukurozaka

Kamegayatsuzaka

Kewaizaka

Western Area



Daibutsu

Gokurakuji

Southwestern Area

Shichirigahama Beach

Inamuragasaki Cape

Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine

Central Area

Wakamiya Oji Avenue

Eastern Area

Asaina

Seven Kiridoshi Pass of Kamakura

Map of Kamakura

Yuigahama Beach

To Hayama

Zaimokuza Beach

Sagami Bay

Recommended Course #1: The Basics to know Kamakura

 Total 180 mins.

Kamakura Sta. East Exit

  10 mins.
on foot

Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine

10 mins. on foot

  Kamakura Sta.
 

5 mins. by Enoden Train

  Hase Sta.


10 mins. on foot



Great Buddha



5 mins. on foot

Hase Temple



Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine: Near Kamakura Station on Wakamiya-oji, through the second Torii gate you will find this avenue, which served as a sacred approach to this principal shrine in Kamakura dedicated to the Hachiman deity, the patron of samurai warriors. It has been the long-time spiritual center of Kamakura since its foundation by Minamoto Yoritomo in 1180, the first shogun of the country's first military government called "Bakufu (shogunate). You will experience the 150-year history of the rise and fall of his clan while strolling through national treasures and important cultural properties.

[Central Kamakura]

Great Buddha of Kamakura: Kotoku-in Temple is one of the most visited destinations in Kamakura because of its National Treasure, a giant, bronze Buddha statue, known as the Great Buddha or "Daibutsu" of Kamakura. The statue has endured through the tsunami of the late 15th century with only the main hall being swept away and suffered minor damage from the Great Kanto Earthquake in 1923. Daibutsu sits still in the open air with a gentle smile on its face, wishing for a peaceful world for us.

[Southwestern Area]

Hase Temple: A ten-minute walk from Daibutsu you will find this old and famous temple. Its foundation dates back to 736. The principal image of this temple, is its eleven-headed, gold gilded, 9.18 m statue of Kannon, the goddess of mercy. Here you will see the beautiful gardens of seasonal flowers (especially hydrangeas during the rainy season), and the marvelous ocean view from the observation platform. There are halls/cave to explore and worship two of the seven gods of good fortune, Benzaiten and Daikokuten.

[Southwestern Area]

Recommended Course #2: Kitakamakura to Central Area via “Kiridoshi”



Total 180 mins.

Kita Kamakura Sta.

3 mins



Engakuji Temple

10 mins



Jochiji Temple

10 mins



Kamegayatsu Zaka



10 mins



Jufukuji Temple



10 mins



Kamakura Sta. West Exit



Engakuji Temple: Kita Kamakura is the home of prominent Zen temples. Located next to the station, this temple was established in 1282 by Hojo, the family of Kamakura shogunate regent along with a high Chinese Zen priest to console the spirits of the victims who died during the two-time Mongolian invasions of Japan in the late 13th century. A complex of buildings, including Shariden, a designated National Treasure with unique Zen-style architectural details, nestles in this sacred precinct.

[\[Kita Kamakura\]](#)

Jochiji Temple: About a 10 minute walk off the busy road from Kita Kamakura Station, you will find a quiet Zen temple surrounded by a deep forest. At the entrance you will find a small stone bridge over a small pond leading you to stairways to an unusual gate with the inscription saying “What you seek is next to you”. Further down the main hall you will find an area to worship three buddha statues representing the past, present and future. Before you leave this temple, gently pat the stone statue of Hotei, one of the seven gods of good luck, standing in a cave behind the buildings.

[\[Kita Kamakura\]](#)

Kamegayatsuzaka: It is one of the seven “Kiridoshi” or passes cutting through the hilly terrains of Kamakura. It was the only gateway to Kamakura from the north when Minamoto Yoritomo, the first shogun of Kamakura Shogunate, came into Kamakura for the first time in 1180. Today, this pass (0.9 km long/.56 mile) is used as a shortcut for the local people between Kitakamakura and the Western area via Ogigayatsu.

[\[Kita Kamakura~Central Area\]](#)

Jufukuji Temple: This area called “Ogigayatsu” was the place where Yoritomo’s father had his residence. Hojo Masako, Yoritomo’s wife, established this temple here in 1200 in memory of her deceased husband. The founding abbot, Eisai, a high Zen priest, is known for having introduced green tea (matcha) from China to Japan. Once you step into the outer gate, you will subtly sense that the atmosphere turns solemn. The stone-paved approach lined with tall trees leads you to the inner gate to the main hall.

[\[Central Area\]](#)

Recommended Course #3: Kitakamakura to Central Kamakura

 Total 180 mins.

Kita Kamakura Sta.

10 mins  

Meigetsuin Temple

 20 mins  

Kenchoji Temple

 10 mins.  

Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine

 10 mins.  

Kamakura Sta. East Exit



Meigetsuin Temple: The temple dates back to 1160 when a hermitage named “Meigetu-an” (Bright Moon Hermitage) was built. Later, in the mid-13th century, this place became the last resting place for Hojo Tokiyori who stepped down from the position of the 5th regent of the Kamakura shogunate at the age of 30. Known also as the “Temple of Hydrangeas”, many come here to look for the harmony between Zen serenity and natural scenery.

[Kita Kamakura]

Kenchoji Temple: The dignified principal gate signifies that this is the highest-ranked of the five great Zen temples of Kamakura. It was founded in 1253 by the Hojo family with the help of a Zen priest invited from China. Kenchoji is known as the oldest Zen training monastery in Japan. At the end of the complex of buildings, you will find a serene garden with a pond behind the hall called “Ryuoden”. To complete this extraordinary experience, take a moment to sit on the bench and overlook the garden said to be designed by its founding abbot.

[Kita Kamakura]

Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine: Near Kamakura Station on Wakamiya-oji, through the second Torii gate you will find this avenue, which served as a sacred approach to this principal shrine in Kamakura dedicated to the Hachiman deity, the patron of samurai warriors. It has been the long-time spiritual center of Kamakura since its foundation by Minamoto Yoritomo in 1180, the first shogun of the country's first military government called “Bakufu (shogunate)”. You will experience the 150-year history of the rise and fall of his clan while strolling through national treasures and important cultural properties.

[Central Kamakura]

Recommended Course #4: Eastern Area



Total 180 mins.

Kamakura Sta.

West Exit

10 mins
by bus



Sugimotodera Temple



5 mins.



Hokokuji Temple

5 mins.



Jomyoji Temple



10 mins.



Bus Stop
Hachimangu Mae

Komachi Shopping St.



Kamakura Sta. East Exit



Sugimotodera Temple: As the name indicates, it is situated under the thickly grown cedars. Small in size, but recognized for having the richest history in Kamakura. This temple founded in 734, about 450 years before the establishment of the Kamakura shogunate. Its founder Gyoki was a well-known missionary monk. Beyond the moss-covered stone stairs, you will reach the main hall where you will see the three statues of the principal image of eleven-headed Kannon Bosatsu (goodness of mercy) .

Hokokuji Temple: In 1334, one year after the decline of the Kamakura Shogunate, this Zen temple, known as the Bamboo Temple was established by the Ashikaga clan. The dense forest covered with about 2,000 bamboos was used as a sub-temple for its founding Zen priest. Once you step into the forest, you will be swept away from the hustle and bustle of the busy life and immerse yourself in the tranquil Zen universe while enjoying a cup of Matcha (green tea) at the small tea house behind the forest.

Jomyoji Temple: Originally established in 1188 by a loyal vassal of Yoritomo. The father of the first Muromachi shogun, Ashikaga Takauji, in the mid-13th century, restored this temple with a disciple of the founding zen abbot of Kenchoji temple. It had a flourishing period when it was developed as a great temple with 26 sub-temples on the ground. On the left of the main hall, there is a tea house named "Kisen-an", where you can enjoy a cup of green tea "macha" with Japanese seasonal sweets for a small fee, while appreciating the view of Kare-sansui ("dry garden").

Komachi Shopping Street: Before leaving the city, it is recommended to stroll around "Komachi-dori" nearby the station. Along this lively 360-meter-long shopping street there are more than 250 shops: various restaurants, including a Kamakura specialty, "Shirasu-don" (rice bowl covered with baby sardines), shops selling Japanese souvenirs, etc.

Recommended Course #5: Kuzuharagaoka Hiking Course



Total 180 mins.

Kita Kamakura Sta.
West Exit

10 mins.
on foot

Jochiji Temple

40
mins.

Kuzuharaoka
Shrine

5 mins.

Genjiyama Park

10 mins.

Zeniarai Benzaiten
Shrine

15 mins.

Kamakura Sta. West Exit



Jochiji Temple: About a ten-minute walk off the busy road from Kita Kamakura Station, you will find a quiet Zen temple surrounded by a deep forest. In the main hall you will find three buddha statues representing the past, present and future. Before you leave this temple, gently pat the stone statue of Hotei, one of the seven gods of good luck, standing in a cave behind the buildings.

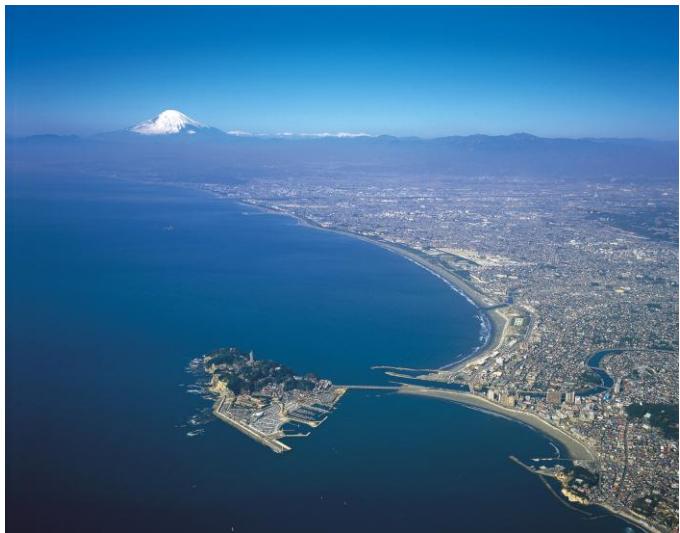
Kuzuharagaoka Hiking Trail: Right behind Jochiji Temple, the Kuzuharagaoka Hiking Course starts. Walking up the relatively mild elevation in the forest for half an hour or so leads you to Kuzuharaoka Shrine. After visiting the shrine or without stopping by at the shrine, you may extend your hiking up to Great Buddha.

Kuzuharaoka Shrine: This shrine was established in the 19th century in honor of Hino Toshimoto who was a loyal vassal of Emperor Go Daigo. He joined the Emperor's plot to gain back his political power by overthrowing the Kamakura Shogunate, but it was revealed to the Shogunate and Toshimoto was caught and then executed here at Kuzuharagaoka in 1324. Nowadays, many people come to this shrine to look for good luck in love and marriage relationship.

Genjiyama Park: You can find this park with several minute walking down to the east from Kuzuharaoka Shrine. It is surrounded by rich nature, where many come to take a rest or have lunch on their way of hiking. We can appreciate cherry blossoms in spring and colored leaves in autumn, with the bronze statue of Minamoto Yoritomo, the founder and the 1st shogun of the Kamakura Shogunate.

Zeniarai Benzaiten Shrine: This shrine was established from a dream of Yoritomo. He worried about the people who suffered from the famine in 1185. In his dream, the god of harvest named "Ugafukujin" appeared and guided him to find a hidden spring that could bring peace in the world. Even today, hundreds of thousands of people who still believe in the myth come here to wash money in the spring for good fortune and prosperity.

Recommended Course #6: Enoshima



Enoshima: A Sacred Island of Myth and Scenic Beauty

Located just 6 km southwest of Kamakura, Enoshima is a small island rich in history, legend, and natural charm. The island is home to Enoshima Shrine, dedicated to Benzaiten (or Benten), the goddess of music, fortune, and water. Visitors can explore three shrine precincts—Hetsunomiya (Outer Shrine), Nakatsunomiya (Middle Shrine), and Okutsunomiya (Inner Shrine)—each offering insight into medieval religious practices and local folklore, including the famous dragon legend. The island also features panoramic views of Sagami Bay and Mt. Fuji from Benten Bridge and the Sea Candle lighthouse, as well as the mysterious Iwaya Caves, once visited by monks and pilgrims. Enoshima is an ideal extension to a Kamakura tour, blending spirituality, history, and coastal beauty.

Recommended Course:

An Enoshima station (Odakyu line, Enoden Line or Shonan Monorail) ->Benten Bridge-> Bronze Torii Gate-> Hetsunomiya->Hoanden (Octagonal Hall for Statues) -> Nakatsunomiya-> Samuel Cocking Garden and Sea Candle (optional) -> Yoritomo's Torii Gate->Okutsunomiya-> Iwaya Caves (optional)

Total: 120~180 mins.

Recommended Course #7: Ten-en Hiking Course

Ten-en Hiking Course: A Cultural and Historical Walk Along Kamakura's Sacred Ridge

The Ten-en Hiking Course is one of Kamakura's most atmospheric ridge trails, linking ancient temples, medieval legends, and sweeping viewpoints across the city's northern hills. The route also includes Ohirayama, Kamakura's highest peak at 159 meters, as well as several scenic points offering views of Mt. Fuji. The recommended journey begins at Kita-Kamakura Station and concludes at Zuisen-ji, guiding visitors through the spiritual and political heartland of the Kamakura Shogunate.



Recommended Course:

JR Kita-kamakura Station -> Kenchoji Temple -> Hansobo Shrine -> Shojoken Viewpoint -> Juo-iwa Rock -> Statue of Kobo Daishi -> Hyaku-hachi Yagura Cave -> Ohirayama Mt. -> Ten-en (Heavenly Garden) -> Tendaiyama Mt. -> Kaifuki (Conch Shell Blowing) Jizo Statue -> Ogame-ishi (Big Turtle Stone)-> Hen-kai Ichiran-tei (Teahouse) Area -> Zuisenji Temple -> Kamakura-gu Shrine Bus Stop

Total: 180~210 mins.