

## Stone Buddha statues of Ooyaji Temple



### Finely carved stone Buddha statues, known as the Cliff-carved Buddhas of the East

10 stone Buddha statues—the principal Senju Kannon, three Buddhas of Shaka, three Buddhas of Yakushi, and three Buddhas of Amida—were nationally designated as a Special Historic Site in March 1954 and as Important Cultural Properties in June 1961 for their outstanding craftsmanship among Japan's stone statues. These artistic, precious stone Buddha statues are known as the Cliff-carved Buddhas of the East, in contrast with Usuki Stone Buddhas of the West (Oita Prefecture).

## Mt. Otome and Keikan Park

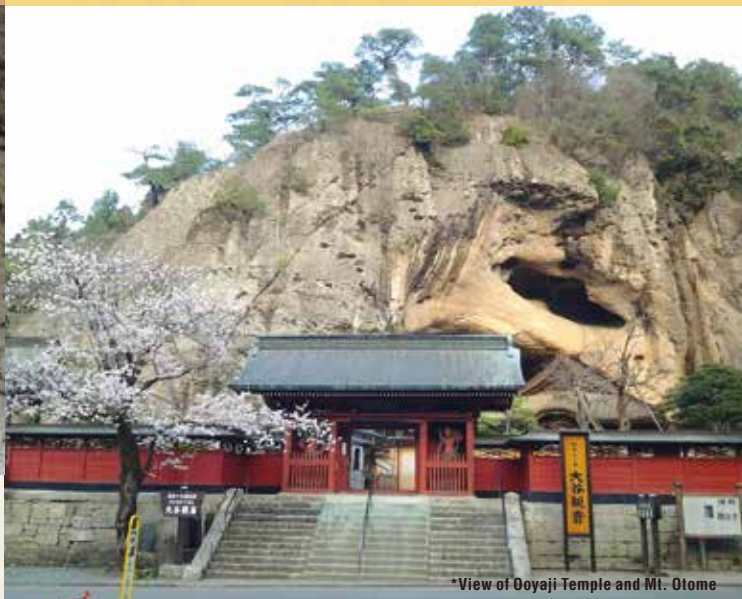
### Nationally- designated Place of Scenic Beauty on par with Kegon Falls in Nikko

Mt. Otome of Ooyaji Temple has a scenic view of natural, strangely shaped rocks and red pine trees. It is referred to as "Matsushima on land" and was nationally designated as a Place of Scenic Beauty (July 2006). It is the second Place of Scenic Beauty to be recognized in Tochigi Prefecture, after Kegon Falls in Nikko.



\*Mt. Otome seen from Keikan Park

## About Ooya Kannon (Senju Kannon)



### Senju Kannon, known as Japan's Silk Road

Senju Kannon, which is 4 meters high is the principal statue of Ooyaji Temple. It is said to have been made by Kobo Daishi in the Heian period (year 810). Known as Ooya Kannon since the ancient times, it became the 19th sacred place of the Bando Pilgrimage in the Kamakura period and has been worshiped by many people. The surface, carved directly into the rock, was coated with vermilion, finely beautified with clay, lacquered, and covered with gold leaf. It used to shine gold. Recent research revealed similarities between Ooya Kannon and the Buddhas of Bamiyan. It is believed to be Japan's Silk Road and carved by Afghan monks.



“Ooya Kannon” Japan's oldest stone Buddha statue

大谷寺  
Ooyaji Temple

Ooyaji Temple has been Nationally designated Special Historic Site,  
Important Cultural Property, Place of Scenic Beauty  
19th Temple of the Bando Pilgrimage

English





## Map



## About visiting

- Hours of operation** Summer (April–September): 8:30 am–5:00 pm Winter (October–March): 9:00 am–4:30 pm  
*\*Entrance closes 20 min. before end of operation*
- Closed** Thursday of the month from December to March  
 December 21st–31st each year
- Entrance fee** Adults: 500 yen / Junior high school students: 200 yen / Elementary school students: 100 yen  
 Group discount: Adults: 400 yen / Junior high school students: 150 yen / Elementary school students: 70 yen *\*Group of 25 people or more*  
*\*The entrance fee for the number of passengers is required.*
- Parking** 50 spaces (3 for large buses) *\*Visitors to the temple may park for free.*  
*\*The entrance fee for the number of passengers is required.*  
 Utsunomiya City Free Parking (100 cars, 10 buses) is also available.
- Notice** Photos are allowed in the precincts but not inside the buildings.

## Ooyaji Temple

Buddha name: Namu Honzon Senju Kannon Bosatsu  
 Mantra: On Basara Daruma Kiriku  
 Sect: Tendai-shu

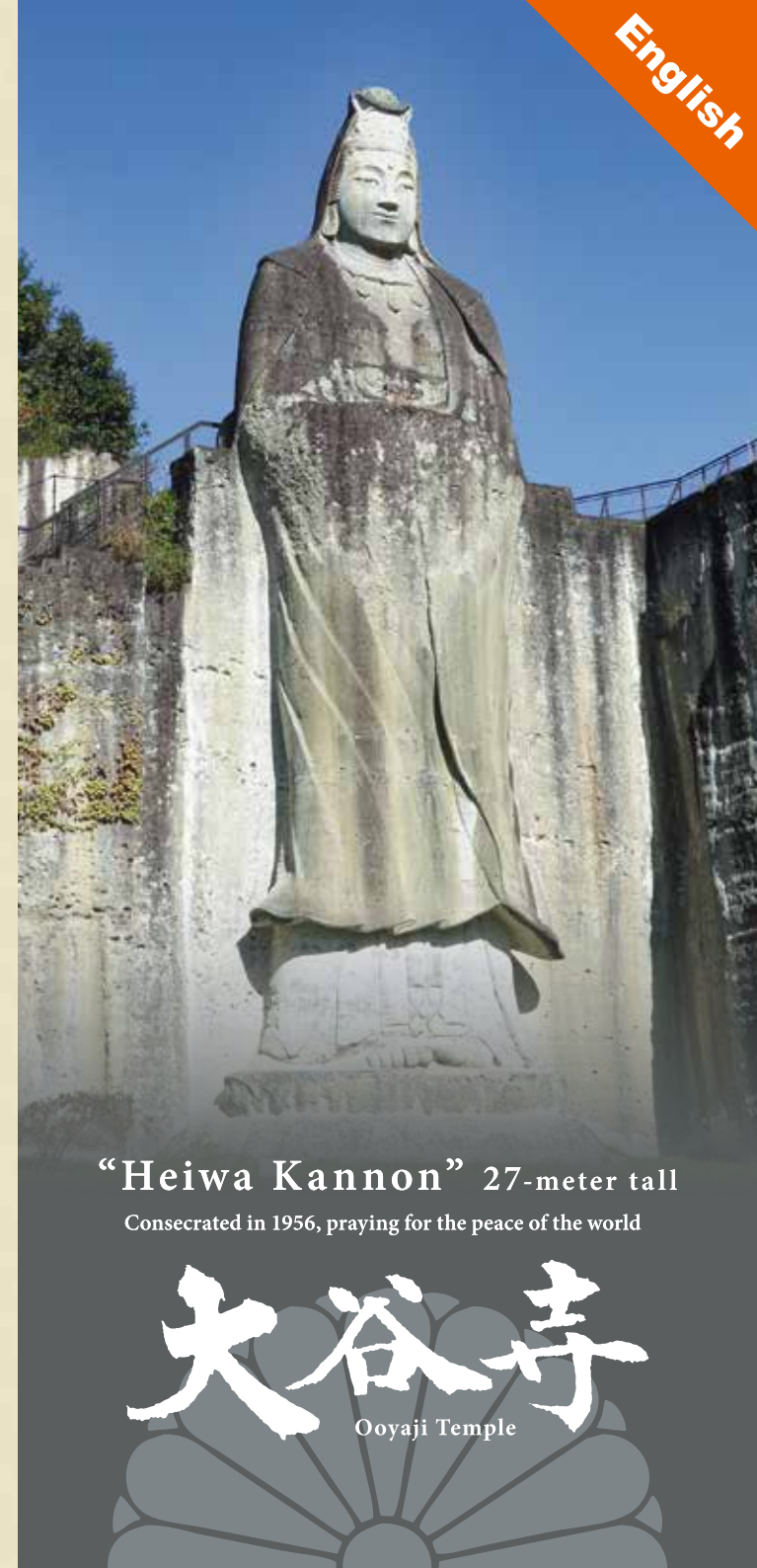
Tel: 028-652-0128

Please do not call outside of normal business hours.  
 1198, Oya-machi, Utsunomiya-shi, Tochigi 321-0345  
<http://www.ooyaji.jp>



■ By public transportation ▶ 30 min. from JR Utsunomiya Station, West Gate. Take a Kanto Bus bound for Ooya Tatewa (line 6). It's a 3-minute walk from Ooya Kannon-mae bus stop. ■ By car ▶ 10 min. from Tohoku Expressway Utsunomiya Interchange (IC). Take Route 293 (8 km).

English



“Heiwa Kannon” 27-meter tall

Consecrated in 1956, praying for the peace of the world

大谷寺  
 Ooyaji Temple