

Kobodaishi, "Kukai," founded the 88 Temple Pilgrimage. Amidst the chirping of the cicadas, I walked as a pilgrim, wiping the sweat from my brow. When I saw the temple gate ahead, I felt the fresh wind blow not by me, but through me.



### 23 Tairyuji Temple

Historic Site

Phone/0884-62-2021

Restrooms, Parking (150 spaces, in front of ropeway station)

### 24 Byodoji Temple

Historic Site

Phone/0884-36-3522

Restrooms, Parking(30 spaces)

A Well From Which Clear "Kobo Water" Springs  
Byodoji is the 22nd temple of the Shikoku Pilgrimage. Kobodaishi carved a statue of Yakushinyorai, a monk to whom the temple was sacred, and called it Byodoji (Equality Temple) because he endeavored to save everyone equally. An old legend tells that Kobodaishi once drove a cedar walking stick into the ground, and that stick became a giant cedar tree. On the site of Byodoji, a thousand-year-old towering cedar stands with the grandeur of that legend.

### A Temple Resembling the Chief Temple of Mount Kouya

Kobodaishi founded Tairyuji, the 21st temple of the Shikoku 88 Temple Pilgrimage. The temple stands 602 meters above sea level, and the surrounding territory is full of giant, centuries-old cedar and cypress trees. The grounds are dotted with the maintemple, Daishi temple, Tahou Temple, and the bell tower. These are particularly striking among the sites of the 88 Temple Pilgrimage. Natural mountain foliage gives comfort to visitors no matter the season.



### A Steep Climb for Pilgrims

The approach to Tairyuji is a steep slope. It is one of three such grueling climbs on the long pilgrimage, along with Shouzan and Kakurin Temples. Nowadays, though, one can easily take the ropeway from Washinosato up to the temple gate. In spring and fall, though, it is recommended to enjoy the hike on foot, which takes roughly 30 minutes.

### LED ANAN Flash Tip

There is a statue of Kobodaishi perched atop the mountain. If shows monk as a young man, when he meditated fervently in the mountains for 100 days. Can you find it?

