IROHANIHON

Experience the Soul of Japan

DONATIVE STAY-TYPE ZEN EXPERIENCE

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SHINNYOJI TEMPLE (A SUB TEMPLE OF SHOKOKUJI TEMPLE)

A private *Zen* temple (not open to the public) that has an elegant Japanese garden. In the autumn, visitors will enjoy the colored leaves. Visitors will be able to experience the real *Zen* by placing themselves in a life of *Zen* Buddhist monk.

Room information
69.43 sq meter ／Bathroom ／Bathtub/shower
Air conditioning ／Futon, Japanese-style mattress (No bed)
Free WiFi

Amenities:
Humidifier ／ Towel and toothbrush

* This plan is only one party a night. (Maximum number of people is 5)
Dinner and breakfast at the nearby Japanese restaurant are included.
An interpreter will accompany the guests.

Supported by 日本財団 THE NIPPON FOUNDATION
The fitting-out works required in the start-up of this business can be achieved under the sponsorship of THE NIPPON FOUNDATION.

SHINNYOJI TEMPLE

Lecture Hall

Staying Facility

Schedule (Tentative plan)

[First day]

1:30pm Depart from Kyoto station or Hotel

2:30pm Exploring the nearby area

5:00pm Tea ceremony and a lecture about the history of the temple

6:30pm Dinner

[Second day]

7:00am Experiencing Zazen

8:00am Breakfast

9:00am Free time

11:30am Arrive at Kyoto station or Hotel

*Since the schedule above is tentative, times and activities may change.

Points of Interest

Japanese garden

Since the temple is not open to the public, its garden is not so famous, yet, there is a beautiful Japanese garden at Shinnyoji temple. The garden shows beautiful colored leaves in autumn. During the season, ceiling of the room becomes salmon pink color because of sunshine reflected by colored leaves.

Tea ceremony

A Zen Buddhist monk directly serves guests tea. The guests will be able to have an private experience of traditional tea ceremony, enjoing the luxurious view of a study room. (Japanese traditional architecture called Sho-in)

Zazen

Zazen is one of the basic Zen practices aiming of one's mental concentration, by sitting in the right posture. Guests experience this practice by learning from a Zen Buddhist monk.

Egami, Shoudou
(Chief priest)

History:

Shinnyo-ji was founded in 1342 by the eminent *Zen* master *Musō Soseki*, with the support of *Ashikaga Tadayoshi* (brother of the *shogun Ashikaga Takauji*) and *Kōno Moronao* (*Takauji's* chief deputy). It is presently associated with the *Shōkoku-ji* school of *Rinzai Zen* Buddhism, and has close historical ties with *Rokuon-ji* (the Golden Pavilion) and *Jishō-ji* (the Silver Pavilion). At its height, *Shinnyo-ji* possessed six subtemples and, as part of the Five Mountains and Ten Monasteries system, was counted among the top-ranked *Zen* temples of *Kyoto*.

However, a serious fire in 1461 and further damage during the *Ōnin* War (1467-77) left *Shinnyo-ji* in near ruins. Only in 1499 did restoration commence with construction of a new *hōjō* (main hall) and other buildings. The retired emperor *Go-Mizunō* financed a new *hattō* (*Dharma* hall) in 1656, and in 1662 donated sacred images of *Shakyamuni, Mahakashyapa*, and Ananda from the imperial palace.

Among the buildings constituting *Shinnyo-ji* today are a *kyakuden* (guest hall), *shoin* (reception hall), *chashitu* (teahouse), and *hattō* (in which are found images of the *Zen* masters *Musō Soseki* and *Mugaku Sōgen*, and of several imperial princesses who ordained as nuns). The buildings are surrounded by large gardens graced with two ponds, expanses of green moss, and many stately trees.