

A Town Where
the Middle Ages Live On

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Kongo-ji Temple Course

Why not make a pilgrimage to Kongo-ji, Kawachinagano's storied temple?

Kawachinagano is famous for the Buddhist temple Kongo-ji. The pride of the town, this temple is something no Kawachinaganoan would let you away *without* seeing if they heard you were coming here!

After getting off at Kawachinagano Station, take a walk to Nagano-jinja Shrine and Nishindai-jinja Shrine, then hop on the bus to Amano-san Kongo-ji Temple.

The nearby Sudare Museum will give you the opportunity to experience traditional Japanese culture.

Amano-san Kongo-ji Temple Course

Starting Point Kawachinagano Station	
Around 2 minutes	On foot
Nagano-jinja Shrine	Spend around 10–15 minutes here
Around 13 minutes	On foot
Nishindai-jinja Shrine	Spend around 10–15 minutes here
Around 20 minutes	5 minutes on foot to the bus stop From Nankai Bus "Nosaku" bus stop, get either the 1, the Toku-2, the 4 or the Toku-4. Get off at "Amano-san" bus stop and it's right there.
Amano-san Kongo-ji Temple	Spend around 90 minutes here
Around 3 minutes	On foot
Sudare Museum (advance booking required)	Spend around 30 minutes here
Around 20 minutes	About 2 minutes on foot to the bus stop From Nankai Bus "Amano-san" bus stop, get either the 1, the Toku-2, the 4 or the Toku-4 to "Kawachinagano eki-mae"
Finish Line Kawachinagano Station	



Camphor tree at the Yodoshi Residence

This massive camphor tree is roughly 20 meters tall, with a trunk circumference of around 4.7 meters and a branch spread of around 30 meters, and is designated by the city as a natural monument. The powerful evergreen, growing strong, known as the camphor (*kusunoki* in Japanese) was also selected as the city tree of Kawachinagano.

Data	Wide area map : a
Location	8-3 Nagano-cho
Tel.	* As a private residence, you are only allowed to see from outside.
Access	3 minutes on foot from Kawachinagano Station

Column: "The Difference Between Shinto Shrines and Buddhist Temples"

Temples are places of reverence for the Buddhas (*hotoke-sama* in Japanese), where monks dedicate themselves to the Buddhist law. There are monks here, as well as a central idol (the *go-honzon*) wherein the primary Buddha to whom the site is dedicated is enshrined. Shrines, on the other hand, are not Buddhist but Shinto, and are places of worship for the indigenous gods (*kami-sama*) of Japan. Their entrances are always marked with a torii, a kind of arch with an iconic cross-beam, which marks the boundary between the world of humans and the domain of the gods.

Nagano-jinja Shrine

The current main shrine was likely built in the late Muromachi Period (16th century). It is a National Important Cultural Property and has an austere dignity. Festivals celebrated here include the Toka-ebisu (January 9–11) to pray for commercial prosperity and the Taimatsu-tate (a City-Designated Cultural Property) in early October, with many visitors gathering here for them.

Data	Wide area map : a
Location	8-19 Nagano-cho
Tel.	0721-52-2004
Entry fee	Free
Time	All day
Access	Open year round 2 minutes on foot from Kawachinagano Station



Nishindai-jinja Shrine

In the 14th century, when the imperial court was divided into two warring factions, warriors loyal to Emperor Go-Daigo of the Southern Court prayed at this shrine. Its age is unknown. In early October, the Nishindai Kagura dance, a City-Designated Important Intangible Cultural Property, is performed here to please the gods. Inside the shrine grounds, red *torii* are lined up before the Inari Shrine devoted to a rich harvest.

Data	Wide area map : C-2
Location	16-5 Nishindai-cho
Tel.	0721-53-1762
Entry fee	Free
Time	All day
Access	Open year round 15 minutes on foot from Kawachinagano Station