

City of The Four Gods

# Spiritual Site, Onomichi

North



**Saikokuji Temple**

Iwaya-Yama Mountain  
from the Deva Gate,  
Saikokuji Temple

East



West



**Jodoji Temple**

Iwaya-Yama Mountain  
from the Mountain Gate,  
Jodoji Temple



**Senkoji Temple**

Iwaya-Yama Mountain  
from the Main hall,  
Senkoji Temple

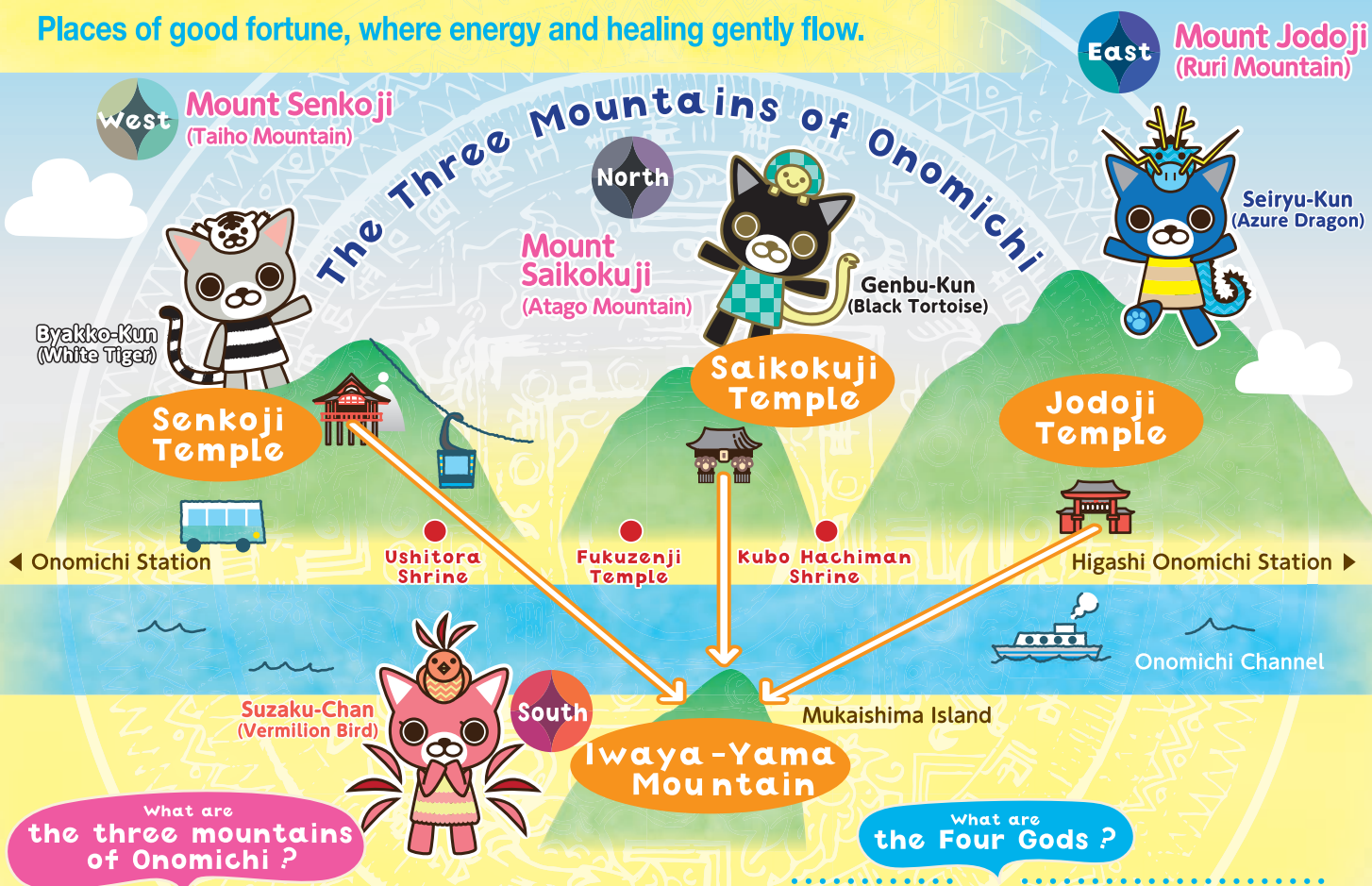
South



**Iwaya-Yama  
Mountain**

Onomichi Channel and Iwaya-Yama Mountain

Four areas of Onomichi, where the guardians of the points of the compass have dwelt since ancient times.  
Places of good fortune, where energy and healing gently flow.



They have been well known to local people since long ago. From the left, the three mountains of Onomichi are called Mount Jodoji (Ruri Mountain), Mount Shintennoji (Atago Mountain) and Mount Senkoji (Daiho Zan Mountain).

There is an old Temple of the Shingon sect of Buddhism on each of the three mountains, Jodoji Temple (AD 616) Saikokuji Temple (AD 729) and Senkoji Temple (AD806). Curiously, all three Temples face one point on the island across the Onomichi Channel: Iwaya-San Mountain on Mukaijima island.

The ancient cities of Japan, Fujiwara imperial capital (Asuka era AD 592-), Hieio imperial capital (Nara era AD 710-), and Heian imperial capital (Heian era AD 794-) are said to be spiritual areas that were built according to the principles of ancient Chinese city building.

It is an ancient Chinese yin-yang belief that The Four Gods are celestial constellations and represent the four mountains of the Earth. It could be said that the three mountains of Onomichi and Iwaya-San mountain represent The Four Gods, and have the same principles as an ancient yin-yang capital city.

<Explanation by Dr. HUANG,Yung-Jung, Osaka University, Doctor of Engineering>









## Mascots



### of The Four Gods of Onomichi

The four cat mascots in the pamphlet represent **the four gods of Onomichi**. They were chosen by students in grades 4-6 from three elementary schools in Onomichi (Kubo Elementary School, Nagae Elementary School, and Tsuchido Elementary School). These are the mascots of The Four Gods. **The four guardians** of the points of the compass are: black tortoise, azure dragon, vermilion bird, and white tiger. They are adorably perched on cats from Onomichi, **the Town of Cats**. Similar to how the three temples are facing Iwaya-Yama Mountain, the three boy cats are watching over the girl cat, vermilion bird.



Merchandise coming soon!

Merchandise for the four gods of Onomichi mascots are now being planned, you will be able to purchase them in the old town area of Onomichi. You are sure to have good fortune if you collect all four!

## Access to Onomichi



20 minutes by Sanyo Line from Fukuyama Station

15 minutes by Sanyo Line from Mihara Station

15 minutes by bus from Shin-Onomichi Shinkansen Station

By Airplane 51 minutes from Hiroshima Airport by shared taxi

Onomichi Hiroshima Airport Line

By Car **E** Sanyo Expressway, 15 minutes from Fukuyama Nishi exit on to Route 2

**W** Sanyo Expressway, 15 minutes from Onomichi exit on to Route 184

**S** Nishi Seto Expressway, Setouchi Shimanami Kaido leave at Nishi Seto Onomichi exit

**N** Chugoku Expressway, Chugoku Yamanami Highway leave at Onomichi exit.

a great deal on sale everyday

## Onomichi One-Day Pass

Round Trip  
Senkoji Temple  
Cable Car

+ One-Day Pass  
for Onomichi Bus

+ Discounts for  
Sightseeing  
Spots

¥600

\*Discounts are available at; Onomichi City Museum of Art, Onomichi Literature Museum, Jiko-ji Temple (Nigiri Botoko / Squeezed Buddha), Jodo-ji Treasure Hall, Onomichi Movie Museum, Onomichi History Museum, and Nakata Museum.

\*One-Day Pass is sold at; Onomichi Station Bus Center (Shimanami Exchange Center 1F), Shin-Onomichi Station Bus Center, Onomichi Bus Head Office Sales Office, Onomichi Tourist Information Center, Green Hill Hotel Onomichi, Onomichi Kokusai Hotel, and Onomichi Royal Hotel.

## Onomichi Tourist Association, General Incorporated Association

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