Founded in 1656, Daishoin is a temple of the Rinzai School of Japanese Zen Buddhism and one of the family temples of the Mori, lords of the Choshu domain (modern-day Yamaguchi Prefecture).

A large cemetery is located behind the temple within Daishoin’s grounds. In the cemetery are the graves of Mori Hidenari (1595–1651) and the subsequent even-numbered (second, fourth, sixth, etc.) lords of the Mori clan, surrounded by hundreds of stone lanterns. The grounds also contain a restored main hall and study building, a small Zen garden, and a statue of the Shinto deity Akadoji—the only one of its kind in Japan.