## **Ikoan Teahouse**

Myoe (1173–1232), the founder of Kosanji, was a pioneer of tea cultivation in Japan. He started a tea field near Kosanji using tea seeds that Zen master Eisai (1141–1215) had brought back to Japan from China. To this day, Kosanji maintains a tea plot a short distance from the Ikoan Teahouse.

The Ikoan Teahouse was built in 1931 to commemorate the 700th anniversary of Myoe's death and his great contribution to the history of tea in Japan. Over 100 tea masters from around Japan made donations to help build Ikoan, a classic teahouse, as a gesture of respect to Myoe.

The teahouse is not open to the public.