

Temple 14: Jorakuji

Kukai founded many temples along the Shikoku Pilgrimage, but this is the only one with a main statue of the Buddha of the Future (Maitreya). Legend says that the deity appeared to Kukai during his training, so he carved a statue and enshrined it at this sanctuary, which was likely established in 815.

On the temple grounds is an unusual rock outcrop, known as Ryusuigan no Niwa, or the “Garden of Running Water Rocks.” Also located on-site is the Araragi Daishi, a statue sitting in a ten-meter-high tree. According to local lore, the tree is endowed with special powers to heal disease. It is particularly popular among those seeking to be cured of diabetes.