

What Are Ninja?

The role of the Koka ninja evolved over time. During the Sengoku period (1467–1568), a time marked by intense warfare, they were involved primarily in combat, intelligence gathering, and strategic planning. In the relatively peaceful Edo period (1603–1867), they served mostly as guards and bodyguards.

There were two types of ninja: *innin*, who hid in darkness and engaged in combat and infiltration, and *yonin*, who disguised themselves as priests, merchants, street performers, and the like while engaging with their targets to gather information. *Yonin* would stay in an area for an extended time, becoming friendly with local residents to achieve their purpose. They employed a range of stealth and survival tactics that required physical endurance and agility, mental acuity, and strategic thinking.

The Koka ninja served various patrons, using their expertise to investigate enemy movements, assess weaknesses, launch surprise attacks,

and provide strategic advice. Their role was crucial, and their activities often determined the outcome of battles and the fate of their patrons.

Discover the world of the ninja and learn about their skills, tools, and importance in history during your visit to Koka.