



## Zuihō-in 瑞峯院

Zuihō-in is a sub-temple of Daitoku-ji in Kyoto and hosts an amazing dry landscape garden designed by Shigemori Mirei. It is one of the few temples on Daitoku-ji's grounds, which is open any time.

### Daitoku-ji temple

Daitoku-ji is the head temple of the Daitoku-ji branch of Rinzai Zen Buddhism and has 22 sub-temples on his compounds in Kyoto.

The temple was founded in 1315 by the priest Shūhō Myōchō who later received the name Daitō Kokushi.

A great part of the temple burnt down during the Ōnin War in 1474. Ikkyū Sōjun, the new head priest of Daitoku-ji, rebuilt many of the temples with the help of some merchants money.

Daitoku-ji is also known as the "family temple" of tea masters since in the Sengoku period and the Azuchi-Momoyama period (1467 - 1603) a lot of tea masters came here to study, teach, and drink tea.

### History of Zuihō-in

Zuihō-in was founded in 1546 by Ōtomo Sōrin, a daimyo from Kyushu. His Buddhist name is Zuihōin Denzuihō Sōrin Kyōshi (瑞峯院殿瑞峯宗麟居士). Obviously, he shares the name with his temple. The founding priest was Tesshū Sōkyū (different name: Taiman Kokushi).

Interestingly, Ōtomo Sōrin converted to Christianity at the age of 48 and received the name Francisco. He is very well known as the *Christian daimyo* in history. However, Zuihō-in stayed a true Buddhist temple with only one indication that the *daimyo* was a Christian - a lantern. The garden of the cross was installed later by Shigemori Mirei.

### Sub-temple

Sub-temples are autonomous temples under the authority of the head temple

### Rinzai-Shū

臨濟宗

The Rinzai school is the second largest school of Japanese Zen Buddhism, after the Sōtō school and followed by the Ōbaku school

### Ikkyū

一休宗純

1394-1481

Ikkyū Sōjun, Zen monk and poet who introduced Zen philosophy to Japanese art and culture

### Tesshū Sōkyū

徹嶋宗九

1481-1556

Different name: Taiman Kokushi