



*Schistostega pennata*



*Schizocodon soldanelloides*



*Rhododendron brachycarpum*

## Tōeizan Kan'ei-ji

Tōeizan Kan'ei-ji is a temple set up by Tenkai, a Tendai Buddhist monk who was a Daisoujou (the highest ranked priest) to protect the city from evil in 1622. It is used as family temple of the ruling Tokugawa clan during the Edo Period.

## Mount Asama Kannon-do Temple

Mount Asama Kannon-do Temple was founded in May 25, 1958 and is a branch temple of Tōeizan Kan'ei-ji in Ueno, Tokyo. Located at the center of the park stand a temple dedicated to the Buddhist Goddess of Mercy Kannon for a memorial to the victims of the great eruption in 1783.

## Hot Spot in the Park:

Somon (惣門) – The front gate of the school of Tōeizan Kan'ei-ji

Nitensonzo (二天尊像) – The two statue of Buddha

Left: His name Jikokuten means “ watcher of the lands” .

Right: His name Zōchō-ten means “Patron of Growth” .

Ishitouro (石燈籠) - Stone lanterns donated by Daimyos (subordinate only to the shogun, Tokugawa)

Honoh-Kannon (炎観音) – Kannon of the fire

Asama-kannon-do – Temple founded in 1958.

## Onioshidashi Park

Onioshidashi Park (鬼押し出し園) is located about 22 km from Karuizawa Station and just across the prefectural border of Gunma Prefecture. The Park is located at 1,325m in the Jōshin'etsu-kōgen National Park which is the second largest national park in Japan.

Onioshidashi Park, which can roughly be translated as ‘demon pushing out rocks’, is an enormous stream of solidified lava formed by the eruption of Mt. Asama in 1783. On that fateful day, a 7 km wide stream and 8 km long, and 12 km<sup>2</sup> area of flaming lava from the volcano swallowed the entire surrounding area and wiped a nearby village. Therefore, its name ‘Onioshidashi’ comes from the impressions of the people in those days.

Besides presenting the opportunity to take a closer look at sharp and blocky black volcanic rocks of various curious shapes, Onioshidashi Park also offers interesting lava tree molds, the National Natural Monument, which was formed when lava surrounds a tree. If you are lucky, you can see nice views over nearby towns and of Mt. Asama on clear days.

Onioshidashi Park is one of the world’s top three scenic spots including Mt. Vesuvius Volcano in Italy and Sakurajima in Japan.