

Fushimi Inari Shrine Etiquette Leaflet



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History of Fushimi Inari Shrine

伏見稲荷大社は、711年2月初午の日に稲荷大神が初めて稲荷山に祀られたことから始まったと言われています。伏見稲荷大社は全国に数多くある稲荷神社の総本宮であり、五穀豊穡、商売繁盛の神として名高く広く信仰されています。2011年には御鎮座1300年を迎え、境内の社殿は記念事業ですべて修復され、見事な朱が蘇りました。
また、本殿の背後より奥社へ続く参道には無数の鳥居が立ち並び、「千本鳥居」と呼ばれ、今や観光スポットとなっています。

鳥居と共に有名で親しまれているのが狐です。この狐は稲荷大神のお使い(眷属)とされています。ただし、野山にいる狐とは違い、眷属も神様同様に我々の目には見えません。そのため、白(透明)狐=“びやっこさん”と呼ばれあがめられています。もちろん稲荷大神は狐ではありません。

Fushimi Inari Shrine was founded when the god Inari was enshrined on Mountain Inari in February, 711. Fushimi Inari Shrine is the main shrine of all the Inari shrines all over Japan. Fushimi Inari Shrine is worshiped for a huge harvest and successful business. In 2011, the shrine had the 1300 anniversary of the enshrinement, and all the buildings in the ground were restored and beautiful red reappeared.

There are a large number of torii-gates behind the main shrine, along the path to the inner shrine. The gates are called "Senbon Torii" (thousand gates) and Fushimi Inari Shrine including the gates is one of the most famous tourist spots in Kyoto.

"Kitsune" (foxes) are also famous as well as the torii-gates, for foxes are regarded as "Kenzoku" (messengers of gods). Yet they are different from foxes in the mountains. Kenzoku are invisible like gods, and people call them as "Byakko-san" (white / transparent fox) and worship it. Of course the Inari God is not a fox.

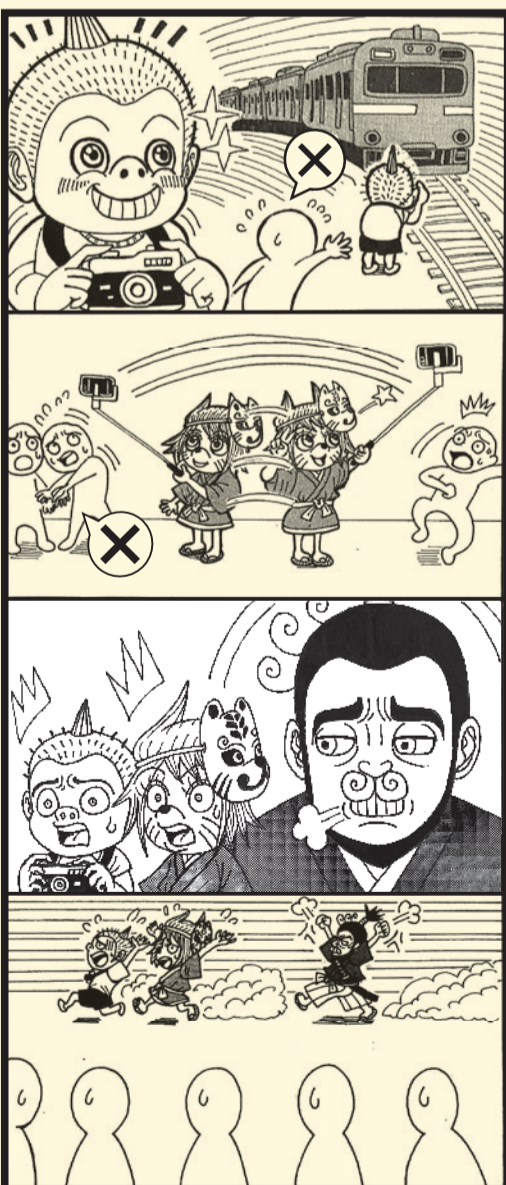
Etiquette of "Sampai" at Shrine

"Sampai" in Japanese means to visit and pray for gods.
How to pray is explained below.



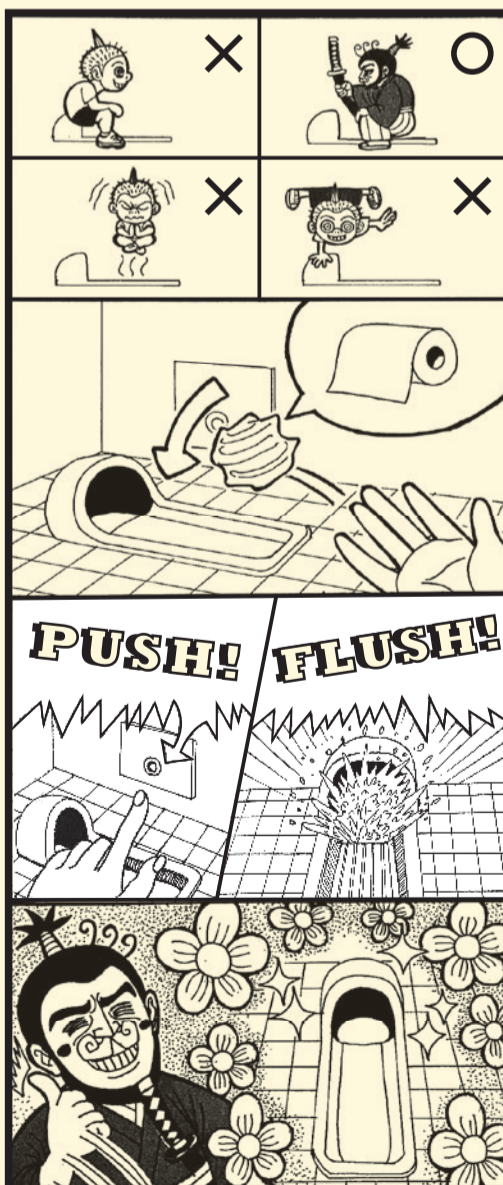
Let's visit and pray at the main shrine!

Etiquette at Station



Don't lean over or walk into a railway.
Leaning over a railway to take photos etc. is against Japanese etiquette.

Etiquette at Lavatory



Let's flush out toilet paper.

Etiquette for Throwing Away Rubbish



Please finish the food you bought at stall.
Bring back your rubbish to your hotel when dustbins are full.

Guide map and Introduction of the Characters



Shinshi-samurai:

Shinshi-samurai loves Japanese samurai spirit. He gives advice to people who behave against Japanese manners. He keeps his sword at any time. He likes going on a trip and desserts.



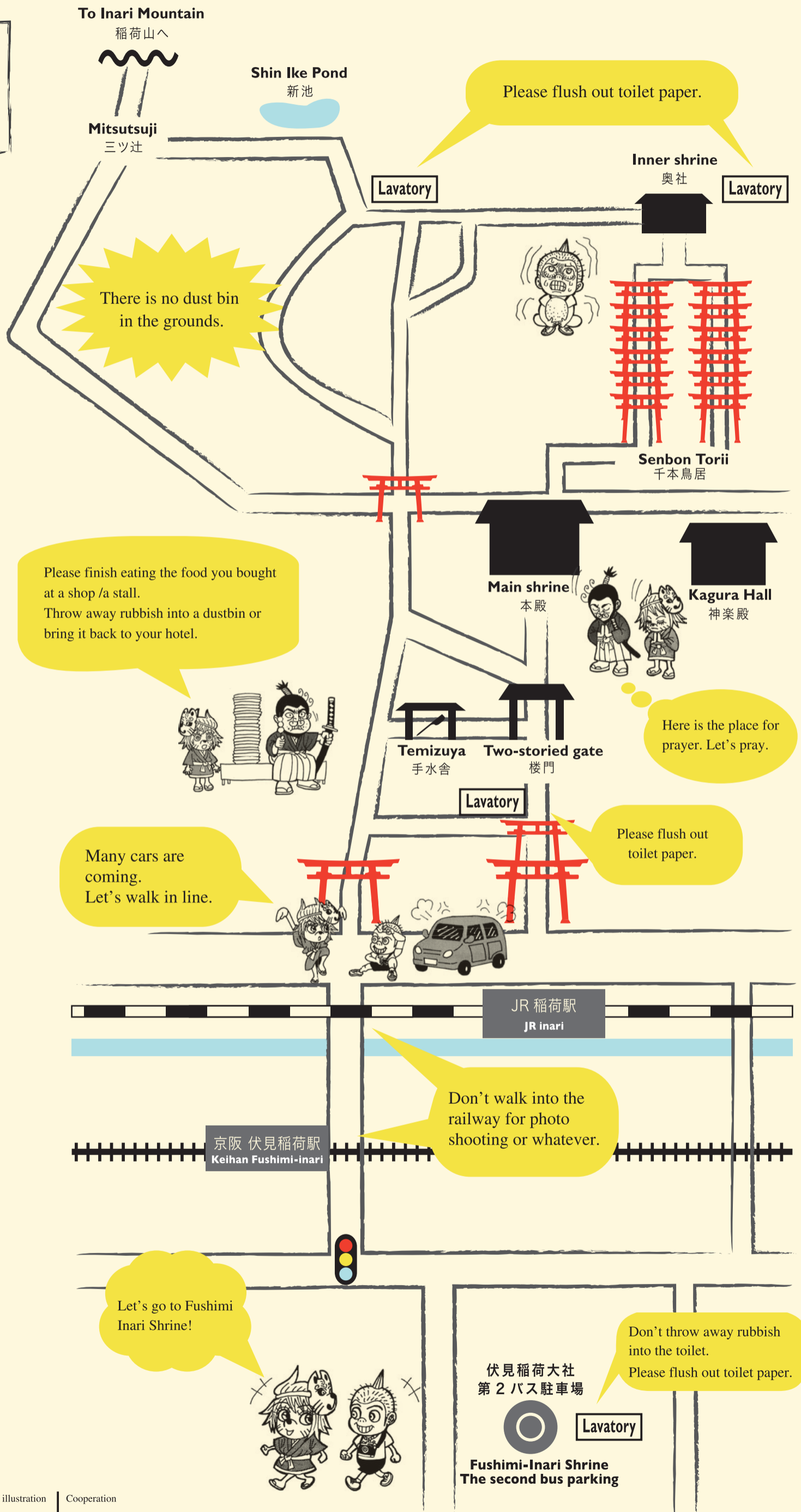
Kon-chan:

Kon-chan is a fox disguised as a girl. She is very smart but sometimes loses herself in something. She loves "abura-age" (fried tofu).



Tongari-kun:

Tongari-kun is an elementary school boy living near Fushimi Inari Shrine. He likes taking photos using his father's camera.



このガイドを読んだあなたへ

せっかく京都に、この伏見稲荷に来たのなら、思い出だけでなく日本の「心」を持って、気持ちよく観光しましょう。
そして是非、このガイドと日本の作法をあなたの国に持ち帰り、故郷の人々に伝えてください。

For readers

Let's enjoy learning Japanese manners, taking advantage of your visit to Fushimi Inari Shrine and Kyoto.

Then please bring back this leaflet as well as "Japanese heart" and talk about your experiences in your home countries.