Ver 4.0

聖天宮 Sheng Tian Gong

Holy Celestial Palace of 5000 Soaring Dragons

9 must-sees

Largest Taoist temple in Japan

(Taoism is related to Lao-tsu not to Buddha)

獅子 1

A pair of "Fu lions"; "Guardian Lions"

carved from a single stone

Male on the Yang side with stringed coins, symbolize the role to provide. Female on the Yin side with cub, symbolize the role to prevent the drop off into the Yin.

East, lions were considered mythical. West, tigers were considered mythical.

Where to find: near the front desk.

竣工記念石碑 2

Commemorative Stone Monument

Carved from a single stone. All words are embossed and gilded in gold leaf

Characteristic of the Chinese-verse, with same meter and same line length.

Where to find: south eastern lawn.

門神 4

"Men Shen" Portal guardians

Carved from a solid wood, 4m high, not made of parts

Deities riding clouds and bearing heavenly garments. Not Buddhism hence not depicted with lotuses.

Where to find: behind the fortune sticks.

九龍柱 3

Pillar of 9 Dragons

East, dragons are auspicious and do not have wings.

Carved from a single 5m stone pillar.

Nine is the biggest of the digit and is pronounced as the word "eternity"; also represents "omnipresent".

Where to find: front of the temple.

八卦 5

the "Bagua"

Assembled form 10,000+ embedded wood parts.

"The Octagonal expansion." Starting from the Yin and the Yang, and on to the myriads, via the "Bagua" (8, 64, 512・・・).

Where to find: ceiling of the front hall.