

## **Nanzenji Temple**

Nanzenji Temple is the main temple of the Nanzenji sect of the Rinzai school of Zen Buddhism, with numerous subtemples on its expansive grounds. It began its existence as a retirement villa for Emperor Kameyama, but it was dedicated as a Zen temple upon his death in 1291. Its original buildings were burned down in the late 15th century, and most of the present structures were reconstructed in the 17th century. In front of the main hall, there is a dry landscape garden called the "Leaping Tiger Garden", which is well worth a visit. Gorgeous paintings are also shown on the thick paper sliding doors in the main halls. Nanzenji Temple is as graceful, splendid and magnificent Zen temple.