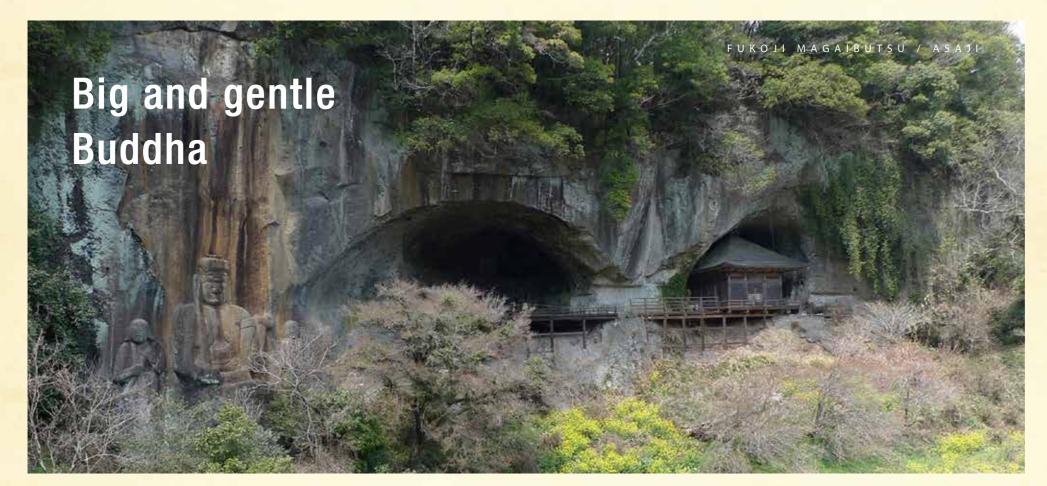






Open Hours: 9:30 AM-6:00 PM (vary by season) Roadside Station Asaji offers a wide variety of local products such as fresh vegetables and crafts. The restaurant serves delicious dishes featuring Asaii

Oita Bungo-Ono Geopark Promotion Council http://bungo-ohno.com Bungo-Ono City Commerce and Tourism Division, 1200 Miemachi-Ichiba, Bungo-Ono City, Oita Prefecture 879-7198, Japan TEL: 0974-22-1001 (main) FAX: 0974-22-1426



BUNGO-ONO GEOSITE FILE NO.08

Buddha Statues Carved in Rock at Fukoji Temple (Fukoji Magaibutsu)

Fukoji Temple, believed to have been built during the Kamakura period, was also called Fukozan Chikushio Temple. But because "Chikushio" sounded like "chikusho" (a derogatory term meaning "brute" in Japanese), "Chikushio" became the name of the mountain preceding the name of the temple, and the temple itself was named Fuko. This name change was made during the early Edo period. At the temple, there is a gigantic rock-engraved Buddha measuring 8 meters to 12 meters in height, which is one of the largest Buddha statues carved in rock in Japan. It is said to be 800 years old. The huge Buddha in the center is the Fudo-myo'o (Acala), on the right side is the Kongara-doji (Kimkara), and on the left side there is the Seitaka-doji (Cetaka). Although Fudo-myo'o Buddhas usually have angry expressions, this rock-engraved image has developed a round and gentle expression that resulted from being exposed to winds and rain for many years, making it very likable even though it may be very big.