15_14_English 延暦寺 法華堂 Enryakuji Temple – Hokkedo Hall Important Cultural Property [A.D.1595]

Enryakuji Temple's Hokkedo Hall is a building with a pyramid roof that uses Japanese horse chestnut shingles. The neighboring Jogyodo Hall possesses this same style of construction, and since they are connected by a corridor, the corridor is likened to a carrying stick which balances two objects (known as a "ninai-bo" in Japanese), and the two halls are collectively called the "Ninai-do." The Hokkedo Hall enshrines a main statue of the Fugen Bodhisattva, and the building's purpose is for performing a training known as "Hokke Zanmai" for practicing monks. The building was constructed in 1595 using a traditional Japanese style of architecture which can be observed in its exterior latticed shutters known as "shitomi-do," and doors made of one or several wooden planks and no framework known as "itakara-do."