

18_13_English_石造阿弥陀如来坐像(志賀の大仏) Seated Stone Statue of the Amida Nyorai Buddha (also known as the “Shiga no Obotoke”)

This seated statue of the Amida Nyorai Buddha is about 3.1 meters tall, and was sculpted from a stone that was about 3.5 meters tall and 2.7 meters wide. It is thought to have been constructed during the 13th century, and the path to the side of this statue is the Yamanakagoe Road which leads from Otsu to Kyoto. Similar stone statues can also be found at Yamanaka-cho's Saikyoji Temple and Kyoto's Kitashirakawa area in Kyoto. Each statue is said to have been erected in order to wish for the safety and wellbeing of travelers along the paths they are placed on. The statues are currently maintained and taken care of by locals in their respective areas.