

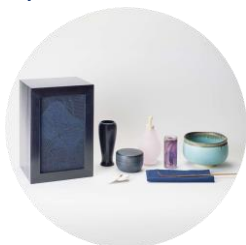
## BLUE CAT INN — A Historic Retreat in Tokushima

Run by **Akiyama Store**, a heritage merchant family with over 80 years of history, our guesthouse invites you to experience Tokushima with all five senses. Located on the second floor of the Akiyama family home, it offers the warmth and authenticity of a real Japanese household.



The interior is bathed in calming indigo tones, inspired by Tokushima's world-renowned dye. Local craftsmanship is woven into every detail — from Tokushima-made washi paper, indigo-dyed cow leather, and fragrant cedar, to handmade ceramics. Even the kitchen features a striking indigo-toned mortar countertop, created by a celebrated local artist.

Ancestral treasures, such as the family's Shinto altar, remain in place, preserving a sense of history. Guests can also admire the Chahōbako — exquisite Japanese tea ceremony boxes produced by the current head of the family.



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<https://www.airbnb.jp/h/bluecatinn>



Indigo Serenity  
Hidden Retreat in Tokushima

BLUE CAT INN

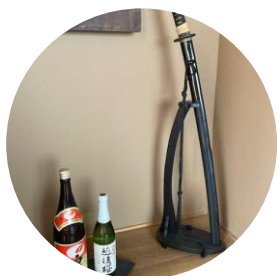


# Experience a Traditional Japanese Room



## Signboard

This signboard, from “Matsuo-gumi,” the predecessor of Akiyama Store, is displayed in the tokonoma, a special alcove separate from the main room traditionally used to display art or flowers, highlighting the history of the family business.



## Replica Katana and Japanese Sake in the Tokonoma

In the tokonoma, a special alcove separate from the main room, we display a replica katana used by the previous owner for practicing kendo, as well as Japanese sake that he particularly enjoyed. This combination is quite unique and may not be seen in typical Japanese homes.



## Shinto Altar (Kamidana)

We enshrine the Shinto altar that our founder, Kihachiro Matsuo, was devoted to. It includes deities from Kyoto, as well as Inari, the god of commerce. Our altar reflects Shinbutsu-shugo, the traditional Japanese practice of combining Shinto and Buddhist elements.



## Old Photo of a Chestnut Stall

This photo shows a chestnut stall from the early Showa period, with the word “Matsuo” visible. The stall was set up daily until the late Showa era next to the former Marushin Department Store in Higashi-Shinmachi, at the site of today’s Awa Bank Head Office.



## Furniture

The dresser, low table, and other furniture are original pieces that have been used in the home for many years, preserving the authentic atmosphere of a traditional Japanese household.



## Kōjin Shrine

Next to the stove, we enshrine Kōjin, the deity of fire, affectionately called O-Kōjin-san by our family. Believed to protect the home and kitchen, this small shrine reflects traditional Japanese household customs and our family’s devotion.

