



“Kamakura” - Snow hut



We had some very cold days this winter. Blizzards hit some areas. Even in Osaka, we had snow flurries. The neighboring prefectures receive more snow, so there are some ski resorts we can enjoy skiing.

It snowed more in Osaka long time ago. We were able to have a snowball fight and make “Kamakura”. “Kamakura” is the Japanese name for an igloo, a handmade snow hut.

The snow huts were originally built to honor the Shinto water gods. A miniature Shinto alter is placed

Snow Monkeys



The monkeys of the Jigokudani Monkey Park are famous. They are the only troop of monkeys in the world known to bathe in hot springs.

This park is about 20 kms away from Iiyama City located in the mountainous region in central Japan where one of the snow hut festivals takes place.

While the park was created for protection of the monkeys, once in the park, they observed humans enjoying the natural hot spring at a nearby guesthouse.

In general, monkeys do not like water, but they became curious about our behavior and did the same.

The recent research has indicated that the monkeys bathe not merely for pleasure but for a form of stress relief.

inside and the locals would pray for abundant water, good harvests and the safety of the community.

“Kamakura” is now widely known as a place where you can enjoy some of the welcoming hospitality. “Kamakura” can be found in areas that receive heavy snowfalls.

There are several annual events in those areas. During the festival, the snow huts offer freshly grilled mochi (sticky rice cakes) and amazake (a sweet drink made from fermented rice).

Lights inside the “Kamakura” create a warm and romantic atmosphere. At night, the town is lit up by “Kamakura” with candles and lanterns, turning the town into a magical winter wonderland. The larger snow huts are available for rental to enjoy meals.

As these festivals are very independent on the weather, you need to check the latest information. When visiting, put on your warmest winter clothes and find your favorite “Kamakura”.

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- * Flange type (JIS)
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- * Model No.: HT-4211
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