Said to have housed six thousand monks during the Warring States Period, today what remains of Heisen-ji Temple are its ruins and Hakusan Shrine. Its stone walkways, moss paths, old trees, and beautiful stone walls create an air of enchantment, drawing in visitors to this former religious mecca.

Heisen-ji District maintains much of its medieval form.

At approximately 200 hectares in area, Hakusan Heisen-ji Temple is one of the largest historic sites in Japan. Built by the grand monk Daichō in 717, it served as the headquarters of the Hakusan religion in the Echizen region, and at its peak housed 48 shrines, 36 temple halls, 6,000 monks, and sōhei warrior monks. It was burned to the ground in 1574 following an insurrection.

Since then much of the temple's central area has been uncovered and restored, though the living quarters of the monks are buried and have yet to be found. Excavation work was begun in 1989, unearthing the buried stone pathway and monk's quarters. The site was designated the largest remains of a religious city from Japan's medieval period shortly thereafter.

Known as a Bhodi tree forest, Heisen-ji's old walkways are lined by 300 year-old trees stretching along approximately 700 meters of medieval stone paths. Many of the remaining traditional homes and storehouses within the area of the ruins were built using the original stones used to construct the monks' dwellings, creating a landscapes blending the medieval period with farmhouses used even today.