境内ガイド諏訪大社上社本宮

Guide to Suwa Taisha Kamisha Honmiya

我国最古の神社の一つであり、信濃國の国造りをなされたのち、日本国土の守護神としてこの地にお鎮り になり、信濃國一之宮として皇室・武門および一般の信仰が厚く、全国一万有余の諏訪神社の総本社です。

Suwa Taisha is one of the oldest shrines in Japan. It was built on this location after the establishment of Shinano Province to enshrine Japan's quardian deities. Also known as Shinanonokuni-ichinomiya (literally the number one shrine in Shinano Province), this shrine is strongly associated with worship of the Imperial Family and samural classes in addition to regular Shinto worship. Suwa Taisha is the Grand Head Shrine of the more than 10,000 Suwa Shrines in Japan.



① 勅使殿•五間廊 Chokushiden (Imperial Envoy Hall) and Gokenro (Five-ken Gallery)

勅使殿は朝廷から来た勅使が着座し、数々の神事が行われた建物です。低い 方の五間廊は、諏訪大社の神職が着座したところだと伝えられています。

The Chokushiden is a hall where envoys from the Imperial Court sat and where various rituals were performed. The lower Gokenro is said to be where Suwa Taisha priests were seated.

②神楽殿 Kaguraden (Sacred Dance Hall)

上社では一番大きな建物で、文政10年(1827)に建てられました。その昔 は、太々神楽や湯立神事が連日行われていたとされます。中の大太鼓は江戸 時代のもので、現在では元旦のみ打ち鳴らされています。

Built in year 10 of the Bunsei era (1827), this is the largest structure in Kamisha (Upper Shrine). It is said that Daidai Kagura (grand kagura performances) and Yudate (kagura ceremonies) were once held here on a daily basis. The large taiko drum inside dates from the Edo period, and is currently only played on New Year's Day.

③ 宝殿 Hoden (Treasure Halls)

左側を東宝殿、右側を西宝殿といい、御柱祭毎に交互に建て替えられます。 -般の神社の本殿に相当するもので、中には御神輿が納められています。

The structure on the left side is called the Higashi Hoden (East Treasure Hall), and the one on the right side the Nishi Hoden (West Treasure Hall). The buildings are rebuilt alternately every time the Onbashira-sai (Sacred Pillar Festival) is held. These halls correspond to the main hall of an ordinary shrine, and an omikoshi (portable festival shrine) is stored inside.

④四脚門 Shikyakumon (Quadrupedal Gate)

2つの宝殿の間にあり、天正10年(1582)に焼失しましたが、慶長13年 (1608)、徳川家康が国家の安泰を願い寄進し、再建されました。

Located between the two Hoden Halls, the gate burnt down in year 10 of the Tensho era (1582), but was rebuilt in year 13 of the Keicho era (1608) thanks to donations from Tokugawa leyasu as a wish for peace and security in the nation.

⑤ 勅願殿 Chokuganden (Imperial Prayer Hall)

昔は行事殿とも御祈祷所とも言われ、朝廷や諸侯の祈願を行った建物として伝えら れています。現在の建物は元禄3年(1690)、高島藩によって建てられたものです。

It is said that in the past this hall was used for ceremonies and prayers, which were offered for the Imperial Court and some feudal lords. The current structure was built by the Takashima Clan in year 3 of the Genroku era (1690).

⑥ 拝殿 Haiden (Worship Hall)

本宮の社殿は本殿を持たない「諏訪造り」の代表的なもので、正面に拝殿 と幣殿が続き、左右に片拝殿があります。天正10年(1582)の織田信長 の進攻により焼失しましたが、元和3年(1617)に再建。その後の天保9年 (1838)、二代立川和四郎富昌を中心に建て替えられ、細部に施された見 事な彫刻などから、立川流の代表作と言われています。

The main shrine is in typical "Suwa-zukuri" style and has no main hall. The Haiden (Worship Hall) and the Heiden (Hall of Offerings) are located at the front with a Katahaiden (long hall of worship) on each side. The hall was burned down by the forces of Oda Nobunaga in year 10 of the Tensho era (1582), but was rebuilt in year 3 of the Genna era (1617). Later, in year 9 of the Tempo era (1838), the hall was rebuilt principally by Tatekawa Washiro Tomimasa II. With its stunning carved details, this hall is considered a masterpiece of the Tatekawa style.

⑦ 御柱 Onbashira (Sacred Pillars)

寅年と申年の7年目に一度行われる御柱祭(式年造営御柱大祭)で社殿の四 隅に建てられる樅の巨木。大きなもので長さ17m、重さ10tを超え、山中か ら人力のみで神社まで運ばれ、建て替えられます。東参道より入って右手に 見えるのが二の柱、そこから廊下を進んだ先に一の柱、社殿南の林の中に三 と四の柱が建っています。

These large fir trees in the four corners of the shrine are replaced during the Onbashira Festival (officially named "Shikinen Zoei Mihashira Taisai") held every six years (traditionally counted as seven), in the year of the Tiger and the year of the Monkey. The largest pillars are about 17 meters tall and weigh over 10 tons. They are dragged from the mountain to the shrine and stood in place by human power alone. When entering from the Higashi Sando, the second pillar is visible on the right, the first pillar comes into view further down the corridor, and the third and fourth pillars stand in the woods in the south of the shrine.