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Hiyoshi Taisha Shrine – Omiya Bridge

Important Cultural Property

[A.D.1699]

Omiya Bridge is a stone bridge which hangs above the Omiya River along the path toward the Western Main Shrine of Hiyoshi Taisha Shrine, which is also known as “Omiya.” It is said that the bridge was originally presented as a wooden bridge by warlord Toyotomi Hideyoshi [1537–1598] in the late 16th century, but was later replaced by the current stone bridge in 1699. When it was replaced however, the shape of the new stone bridge maintained that of the original wooden bridge. The bridge is 5 meters wide and 13.9 meters long, and has handrails made of hollowed-out stones on both sides. Among the three bridges on the premises of Hiyoshi Taisha Shrine, the Omiya Bridge is the most elaborate one with the most attention to detail. The three bridges of Hiyoshi Taisha Shrine (known as the “Hiyoshi Sankyo” in Japanese), are the Omiya Bridge, the Ninomiya Bridge, and the Hashiri-i Bridge.