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Karasaki

Designated Place of Scenic Beauty of Shiga Prefecture Designated Historic Site of Otsu City

The area name of "Karasaki" has existed in Otsu since ancient times. The region was long thought of as a port area, and during the Heian period [794–1185], it was also considered as a location for warding off calamities by the emperor. From the 11th century onward, the Karasaki region became famous as a region for superb scenic views. There is a famous pine tree located here that is closely related to the legend regarding the birth of Hiyoshi Taisha's western main shrine known as the "Karasaki no Ipponmatsu" (or the "one pine tree of Karasaki" in English), which has become a landmark adored by people all over. The tree is preserved to this day within the temple grounds of Karasaki Shrine.