

### **Wakamiya Jinja Shrine**

Wakamiya Jinja is an auxiliary shrine located outside the torii gate that marks the entrance to the [Jogu \(Upper Shrine\)](#) area of [Usa Jingu Shrine](#). The five deities worshipped at Wakamiya Shrine are Osasagi no Mikoto, Obae no Miko, Kobae no Miko, Hayabusawake no Miko, and Metori no Himemiko. All these deities are children of Emperor Ojin, the legendary 15th emperor of Japan, who is deified as Hachiman, the main deity of Usa Jingu. Osasagi no Mikoto is of particular note, as he was the one who ascended the throne after his father to become Emperor Nintoku. The deities of Wakamiya Shrine are believed to grant protection from misfortune and disasters.

According to Usa Jingu records, in 824 an oracle from Hachiman decreed that a shrine should be built to worship his divine children. To fulfill the deity's wish, Wakamiya Shrine was constructed in 852. The current shrine buildings date to 1843 and underwent repairs in 2009.