

### **Third Floor**

The low-ceilinged third floor is illuminated only by a single latticed dormer, for which it is named the “dark floor” (*kurayamijū*). This floor is hidden from the outside by the tiled eaves above the second floor. As a result, Matsumoto Castle appears to have only five stories when viewed from outside, but it has six floors. While the purpose of the third floor is unknown, it may have been used for storage.

### **Fourth Floor**

The interior appearance of the fourth floor is quite different from those of the lower floors. The ceiling is higher, and the pillars have all been planed smooth. The interior was likely divided into separate rooms using folding screens. The largest of these rooms was reserved for the castle’s lord. It is now demarcated by bamboo blinds.

Note: The staircases on the fourth floor and above are narrow and very steep.