

Kuzu Hachiman Shrine Paired Cedar Trees

Two ancient “wedded” cedar trees flank a torii on the grounds of Kuzu Hachiman Shrine. They are colloquially known as *meoto sugi*, or “husband and wife” cedar trees, due to their physical proximity and similarities. The shrine is believed to be as old as the trees, thought to date back around 1,500 years.

The “husband” tree stands between the torii and the main hall. It is 10 meters in circumference and 35 meters tall. The “wife,” on the opposite side of the torii, has a trunk circumference of 9.3 meters and a height of 39 meters. The trees are designated National Natural Monuments.