

The Edohigan Cherry Tree in Suge

This cherry tree stands on the slope of the embankment in front of Juo-do Hall in the Suge district, its great branches extending out over the hall and the local road.

This large tree in the family *Rosaceae* is about 20 m high, its branches spread about 16 m, and at eye height, the circumference of its trunk is 3.9 m.

Some of the middle branches appear to have withered, showing its age.

In spring, this well-shaped tree blooms before the other cherry trees in this rural landscape of farmsteads and mountainsides and creates a wonderful spectacle when in full bloom, filling the sky with light pink blossoms when standing below it.

It is surmised that Juo-do Hall, which has stood beneath the tree since long ago, and its 44 stone statues, most notably of Bato Kannon (Hayagriva), were erected in the early Edo period (1603-1867), so it is thought this designated tree has stood alongside them to reach an age of some hundreds of years.

Source: Kiso-mura no Bunkazai Meguri ("A Tour of Cultural Properties in Kiso Village")

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