

Nonomiya Shrine

Nonomiya Shrine is a Shinto shrine where, in ancient times, unmarried imperial princesses stayed for a year or more to purify themselves after which they were sent to Ise Shrine in Mie prefecture to serve as a representative of the Imperial family. The shrine famously appears in the tenth chapter of the Tale of Genji, a classic work of Japanese literature from the eleventh century and the world's first novel.



The black torii (gate) at the entrance of the shrine is an example of the earliest style of torii – unlike later versions, the bark is exposed. It has become a popular destination for young singles who come to pray for marriage.

