

KUMANO HONGU HERITAGE CENTER

This building was built as the visitor center for the people who visit the Kumano Kodo (a series of ancient pilgrimage routes that UNESCO designated as a World Heritage Site). The site is in front of Kumano Hongu Taisha, an important shrine of the Kumano Kodo. Pass through Torii of the shrine and finish climbing the long steep stone stairway, you will be welcomed by the grand ancient buildings of Kumano Hongu Taisha. Through the back of the site, cool and clear Kumano River flows, and a riverbank of white-shinning pebbles opens. Otorii rises and one grove is located in the right hand of the site, it is ruins of the former

Kumano Hongu Taisya. The building featured large, gently sloping roofs is fronted by a colonnade which makes the front open area that matched the scale of rows of houses along a town street. This area is a front yard, special event space and the parking lot which accepted a charge of the number of the visitors by the season. The building is divided into ridge of two right and left, the space invites people from the shrine, and the axis leads the eyes, a line of flow to the River and the mountain range at the back. The roof is supported by the dignified pillar of 240mm square in the shape of a grid of 2.7m.