

The Trees Exclusive to Japan

Unique Flora of the Japan



Hinoki is a type of wood that is found only in Japan. Within the country, its northern limit is said to be Fukushima Prefecture, making it an extremely rare resource.

This wood, exclusive to Japan, brings various benefits and effects to our lives. The more you learn about it, the more you realize that Hinoki truly is a "miracle tree."

In Japan's oldest historical book, the Nihon Shoki, it is stated, "Use cedar and camphor for boats, **Hinoki for palaces**, and Maki* for coffins."

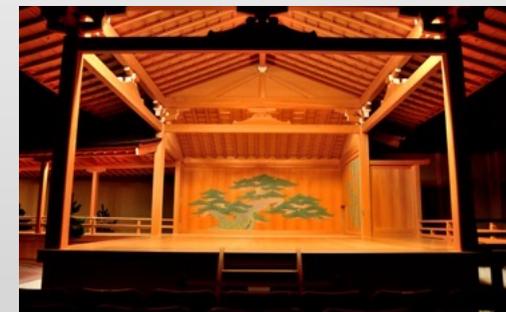
This suggests that even 1,300 years ago, the high value of Hinoki was already recognized, highlighting its special significance.

*Japanese Umbrella Pines



During the Edo period, permission from the Shogunate was required to construct a stage using Hinoki. Only the Shogunate-approved major theaters were allowed to use Hinoki boards for their flooring. It was not something that could be done just by paying money.

Performing on the stage of a major theater was reserved for a select few artists within the entertainment world. This is the origin of the phrase "stepping onto a Hinoki stage," which signifies being in a prestigious or special place.



Hinoki is commonly found in high-end hot spring baths, Hinoki counters in sushi restaurants, and sake cups (masu). In Japan, Hinoki is both a familiar and a uniquely special wood.