

16 Kikugetsu-tei Teahouse

This sukiya-zukuri style teahouse is one of the main buildings of the garden, and was dearly loved by the successive generations of feudal lords of the Takamatsu Domain in the past. The name “Kikugetsu” comes from a line in a Tang era Chinese poem, which reads, “When I scoop up the water, I hold the moon in my hands.” Views of the Nanko Pond from the teahouse are worth seeing.

17 Neagari Goyo-matsu Pine

This large Japanese white pine was originally a bonsai presented from the 11th Tokugawa Shogun to the Takamatsu Domain in 1833.

18 Shofuda

This landscaped hill is built of many stones piled together, using a technique developed around the year 1400. It is said that this was the oldest landscaped area in the garden.

19 Nanko / South Pond

The unified landscape centering on this 7,900 m² pond is constructed so that you can enjoy the changing scenery while walking around or riding on a wasen boat. It is the place in the garden in which the most effort has been taken to create a rich sense of artistry. [Cover photo]

20 Fugan / Maple Tree Shore

There are 70 maple trees around here. In late November, the trees create a vividly colorful atmosphere. [Photo]

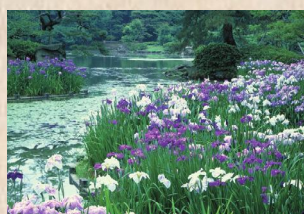


21 Fukiage / Water Spout

This spot is the garden’s water source. Since Ritsurin Garden used to be a riverbed 400 years ago, there is a lot of underground water and this particular water source never dries up.

22 Gun’o-chi, 23 Hanashobu-en / Iris Garden

Gun’o-chi is the largest pond in the whole garden and was used for hunting ducks during the Edo Period. In Hanasyobu-en, there are around 4,000 irises.



24 Kamoba

The North Garden used to be the grounds for the feudal lord to hunt ducks. These duck hunting facilities were restored in 1993 and exist today as the largest duck hunting ground in Japan. [Photo]



General Information

Open : Every day

Free Admission Day : January 1 (New Year), March 16 (Opening Anniversary)

Open :

December, January	7:00am-5:00pm	June-August	5:30am-7:00pm
February	7:00am-5:30pm	October	6:00am-5:30pm
March	6:30am-6:00pm	November	6:30am-5:00pm
April, May, September	5:30am-6:30pm		

Admission Fee :

410 yen/adult (Group of 20 or more: 320 yen)

170 yen/child (Group of 20 or more: 140 yen)

Ticket book 4,100 yen for 11 tickets

Annual pass for one person 2,570 yen

Annual pass for three persons 5,140 yen

Services :

Paid-Locker : Available at North Gate and East Gate

Rental Item : Audio guide device: 200 yen plus deposit (1,000 yen)

(Device is available in Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, French, German and Spanish.)

Wheelchairs, baby strollers and walkers for the elderly are available for free rental

Free guide service : Conducted by volunteer staff

Garden Map



Access

From JR Takamatsu Station
-7 min. by car

From JR Ritsurin Station
-20 min. walk

From JR Ritsurin Koen
Kitaguchi Station
-3 min. walk

From Kotoden Ritsurin Koen
Station
-10 min. walk

From Kotoden Ritsurin Koen
Mae Bus Stop
-1 min. walk

From Takamatsu Airport
-30 min. by car

From Takamatsu Nishi
Highway I/C
-20 min. by car

From Takamatsu Chou
Highway I/C
-15 min. by car

Ritsurin Garden Tourism Office

1-20-16 Ritsurin-cho Takamatsu, Kagawa 760-0073 JAPAN

Phone: 087-833-7411 Fax: 087-833-7420

Website: <http://www.my-kagawa.jp/ritsuringarden>



Ritsurin Garden's Official Character
Rin-chan

(June 2017)

Special Place of Scenic Beauty

Ritsurin Garden 栗林公園

Ritsurin Garden is a strolling-style daimyo (feudal lord) garden built in the Edo period. 6 ponds and 13 landscaped hills have been strategically placed in front of the green vista of Mt. Shiun, together with great rock arrangements and various plants. Seasonal flowers and 1,000 well-cared pine trees create variety of great scenery in the garden throughout a year. This Japan’s largest Cultural Property Garden is an important cultural asset that has been handed down to us since 400 years ago.



1 Sanuki Mingeikan / Sanuki Folk Craft Museum

It exhibits a great variety of collection including local pottery called Rihei-yaki, wooden products, Kagawa lacquer ware, and traditional tools that were once popular among ordinary people and used for their daily activities.

2 Shoko Shoreikan / Commerce and Industry Promotion Hall

It was originally built as Kagawa Prefectural Museum in 1899. Information on Ritsurin Garden’s history and local traditional crafts are available inside the building. Furniture created by a well-known wood worker named George Nakashima is exhibited on the 2nd floor. From balcony, great views of the North Garden can be enjoyed. [Photo]



3 Oteue-no-matsu / Royal-Family-Planted Pine Trees

Four of these pines were planted by the Japanese royal family in 1914 and 1923. The center tree was planted in 1922 by Edward VIII (UK), when he was the crown prince.

4 Tsurukame-matsu / Crane and Turtle Pine Tree

A fluttering crane appears to be standing on the back of a turtle. There are 1,400 pine trees in the garden and 1,000 of them are tended by gardeners, but this is the most precious one. [Photo]



5 Hakomatsu / Box Pine trees, Byobumatsu / Folding Screen Pine trees

The lower pine trees on the south side are Hakomatsu. The higher ones on the north side are Byobumatsu. Hakomatsu have complicated shapes and are found only in Ritsurin garden. They have been preserved through the accumulation of careful tending and pruning for over 300 years.

6 Hyakka-en Ato

This area served as a flower garden, then as an herbal garden during the 18th century. Today, you can find 100 plum trees here. You can enjoy the beautiful plum flowers from February through March.

7 Hokko / North Pond

With 7,000 m² in surface area, this is the second largest pond in the South Garden. There are two islets called Zensho (Front Island) and Kousho (Back Island).

8 Higurashi-tei

This thatched-roof teahouse was built in 1898. There are pathways on both sides serving as Roji, or teahouse gardens.

9 Kyu Higurashi-tei Teahouse

This small teahouse, formerly called Kōhan-tei was originally built around 1700. After changing its name and location in and out of the garden a few times, it was finally moved to the present location in 1945. This building is culturally and historically valuable, as it represents the style of daimyo teahouse of the early Edo period. [Photo]



★★★ Three Stars!

In France's Michelin Green Guide Japan, Ritsurin Garden was given the guidebook's highest rating of three stars, meaning it is "worth a special journey."



Mt. Shiun

One point information for Walking Facing Mt. Shiun, This map is easy to understand.

Best Pine Trees in Japan

While "Ritsurin" means chestnut groves, Ritsurin Garden has always been with many pine trees from the beginning. Today, there are as many as 1,400 pines in the garden and about 1,000 of them are looked after by gardeners. Some of these pine trees are over 300 years old and their branches are beautifully curved like a bonsai.

- South Garden Recommended Course (Required time: 60 min.)
- North Garden Recommended Course (Required time: 40 min.)
- Impassable for wheelchairs



History of Ritsurin Garden

It is believed that Ritsurin Garden was originally started in the late 16 century, from a garden of the Sato clan, which was located in the southwest corner of present Ritsurin Garden. When Takatoshi Ikoma was ruling the Sanuki Province (old name of Kagawa) around 1625, the current area of Nanko Pond was formed. In 1642, Yorishige Matsudaira began ruling the Takamatsu Domain and inherited the garden. He and successive generations of his family kept developing the garden over 100 years, before it was finally completed in 1745. When the domain's fifth lord, Yoritaka Matsudaira was in power, the garden's 60 scenic spots were named. The garden was used as the Matsudaira's villa for 228 years, and eventually became a public garden in 1875. In 1953, the garden was designated as one of Japan's Special Places of Scenic Beauty by the Government.

Size

Total Area : Approximately 75 hectares
Garden Area : Approximately 16 hectares

Garden Facilities

Kikugetsu-tei Teahouse:

Opening Hours : 9:00am-4:30pm (Last entry by 4:00pm)

Teahouse Entrance Fee:

700 yen/adult, 500yen/child for matcha (powdered green tea) with sweet
500 yen/adult, 400 yen/child for sencha (infused green tea) with sweet

Higurashi-tei Teahouse:

Opening Hours : 9:00am-4:30pm (Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays only)

Teahouse Entrance Fee:

500 yen for matcha (powdered green tea) with sweet

Sanuki Mingeikan (Sanuki Folk Craft Museum):

Opening Hours : From 8:30am to 5:00pm (closed on Mondays and Tuesdays)

Ritsurin-An Gift Shop:

Varieties of Kagawa Prefecture's original products including sweets, olive products, sake, and traditional crafts are available.

Opening Hours: From 9:00am till garden's closing time

Boat Ride in the South Pond

Like feudal lords in the past, enjoy our relaxing Japanese-style boat ride with our boatmen.

Boat Ride Information

Ticket: 610 yen/adult, 300 yen/child

Operation Hours: From 9:00am to 5:00pm

(From October to February, the final departure time is 1 hour before the garden's closing time.)



Shops, Restaurants and Cafes

Garden Café Ritsurin : Tel 087-813-0870

Hanazono-tei Teashop : Tel 087-831-5255

Fukiage-tei and Komatsu-tei Teashops : Tel 0120-15-3044

Satsuki-tei Teashop : Tel 087-833-6775