

#### ㊦ 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.

#### ㊤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.

#### ㊦ 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.

#### ㊦ Nanko / South Pond / ㊤Engetsu-kyo

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]

#### ㊤ Fugan / Maple Shore

Many maple trees are planted here.

In late November, the trees create a vividly colorful atmosphere. [Photo]



#### ㊤Fukiage / Water Spout

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

#### ㊤Hirai-ho

This hill is said to have been constructed to resemble Mt. Fuji. When facing the South Pond, the view from the top encompasses Kikugetsu-tei Teahouse and the Engetsu-kyo Bridge, and has Mt. Shiun-zan as its backdrop. This view is incredibly beautiful and breathtaking, and considered the best in the garden.

#### ㊤Gun’o-chi, ㊤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 Hanashobu-en, there are around 4,000 irises. [Photo]



#### ㊤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 :**

500 yen/adult (Group of 20 or more: 400 yen)

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

Ticket book 5,000 yen for 11 tickets

Annual pass for one person 3,180 yen

Annual pass for three persons 6,380 yen

**Services :**

Paid-Locker : Available at North Gate and East Gate

Rental Item : 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  
—15 min. walk

From JR Ritsurin Koen  
Kitaguchi Station  
—3 min. walk

From Kotoden Ritsurin Koen  
Station  
—7 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 Chuo  
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: <https://www.my-kagawa.jp/ritsuringarden>



Ritsurin Garden's Official Character  
Rin-chan

(May 2025)

## 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-zan, 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.



#### ㊤Sanuki Mingeikan / Sanuki Folk Craft Museum

A great variety of collections are exhibited here, including local pottery, woodcraft, lacquer-ware and other traditional tools.

The New Folk Craft Museum also serves as a rest area for visitors.

#### ㊤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]



#### ㊤Oteue-matsu / Royal-Family-Planted Pine Trees

These five tall pine trees were planted by members of the Japanese Imperial Family and the British Royal Family to commemorate their visits to the garden between 1914 and 1925.

#### ㊤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]



#### ㊤Hako-matsu / Box Pine trees, Byobu-matsu / Folding Screen Pine trees

The lower pine trees on the south side are Hako-matsu. The higher ones on the north side are Byobu-matsu. Hako-matsu 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.

#### ㊤Hyakka-en Ato

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

#### ㊤Hokko / North Pond / ㊤Fuyo-ho

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 Kosho (Back Island).

#### ㊤Higurashi-tei

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

#### ㊤Kyu Higurashi-tei Teahouse

This small teahouse, formerly called Kohan-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 Michelin Green Guide Japan, Ritsurin Garden has been listed in the guidebook's highest rating of three stars, meaning it is "worth a special journey."

0 Number plate locations

You can find your present location by matching the number on the number plate to the number on the map.



One point information for Walking  
Facing Mt. Shiun-zan, 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

## South Garden ◀▶ North Garden



## History of Ritsurin Garden

It is believed that Ritsurin Garden was originally started in the late 16th 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:

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

### Higurashi-tei Teahouse:

Opening Hours : 10:00am-4:00pm (Last entry by 3:30pm)

(Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays only)

### Teahouse Entrance Fee:

700 yen for matcha (powdered green tea) with sweet

### Ritsurin-An Gift Shop: Tel 087-812-3155

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

The content is as follows:

From 9:00am to 5:00pm (January, November, December)

From 9:30am to 5:30pm (February, October)

From 10:00am to 6:00pm (From March to September)

## 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: 850 yen/adult, 420 yen/child

Operation Hours: From 9:00am to 4:15pm

(From November to January, the final departure time is 4:00pm)



## Shops, Restaurants and Cafes

Garden Café Ritsurin : Tel 087-802-2123

Hanazono-tei Teashop : Tel 087-831-5255

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

Satsuki-tei Teashop: Tel 087-833-6775