

Practical Travel Guide - 808

JAPANESE GARDENS



The classic Japanese garden is an artificial garden that reproduces natural scenic beauty in a heightened intensity. Its charm lies in its subtle, highly sophisticated layout in a limited space. The aim of Japanese landscape gardening, which has a long history of development, is to create a scenic composition by arranging rocks, trees, shrubs and running water in such a way as to create the sweep of a vast landscape.

Japanese gardens are usually referred to as the "hill garden" ("tsukiyama") and the "waterless stream garden" ("karesansui"). The hill garden features a hill usually combined with a pond and a stream. It can be viewed from various vantage points, as you stroll along the paths, or appreciate it from within a house to which it is attached. Fine specimens of this style are the gardens of Tenryuji Temple and Saihoji Temple, both in Kyoto. In the dry landscape garden, rocks and sands form the main elements, the sea being symbolized not by water but by a layer of sand

with furrows suggestive of the rippling movement, and waterfalls by an arrangement of rocks. Examples of this style are the gardens of Ryoanji Temple and Daitokuji Temple, also in Kyoto.

With the introduction of the tea ceremony in the 14th century, the chaniwa (garden attached to the tea-ceremony house) came to be designed and laid out. Actually, it is not a garden but a narrow path leading up to the chashitsu (tearoom proper). The aim of the designer of this style was to create a feeling of solitude and detachment from the world. A tea garden is mainly featured by the placement of stepping stones.

* Listed in this leaflet are principal Japanese gardens in Kyoto, Tokyo and other areas.

* Most of the tea gardens are not open to the public.

* The gardens are mostly closed from Dec. 28 to Jan. 4.

* Ticket windows are usually closed 30 min. or 1 hr. before closing time.

Kyoto

Gardens of Imperial Palaces and Villas:

① Kyoto Imperial Palace (京都御所): Stroll garden designed by Kobori Enshu (1579–1647). Located almost in the center of the city, this huge park-like compound includes several palace buildings. It was also the location of many fine residences belonging to the ranking noble court families. These residences were torn down and a massive park, with lawns and over 9,000 trees, was created. Today, this extensive park area is a highly popular recreation and relaxation zone. 5-min. walk from Imadegawa Subway Sta..

Addr.: Kyoto Gyo-en-nai, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto

② Sento Palace (仙洞御所): Stroll garden designed by Kobori Enshu. Guided tours (English Audio Guidance) are available. Near Marutamachi Subway Sta.

Addr.: Kyoto Gyo-en-nai, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto (in the Kyoto Old Imperial Palace compound)

③ Katsura Imperial Villa (桂離宮): A typical stroll garden laid out in the 17th century. This garden is renowned as an outstanding example of Japanese landscape gardening. Guided tours (English Audio Guidance) are available. 20-min. walk from Katsura Sta. on Hankyu Dentetsu Line or reached from Katsura-Rikyu-mae Bus Stop.

Addr.: Misono, Katsura Nishikyo-ku, Kyoto

④ Shugakuin Imperial Villa (修学院離宮): Stroll garden laid out in the 17th century. This garden is characterized by a complete unification of nature and garden. Guided tours (English Audio Guidance) are available. 15-min. walk from Shugakuin-Rikyu-michi Bus Stop or Shugakuin Sta. on Eizan Dentetsu Line.

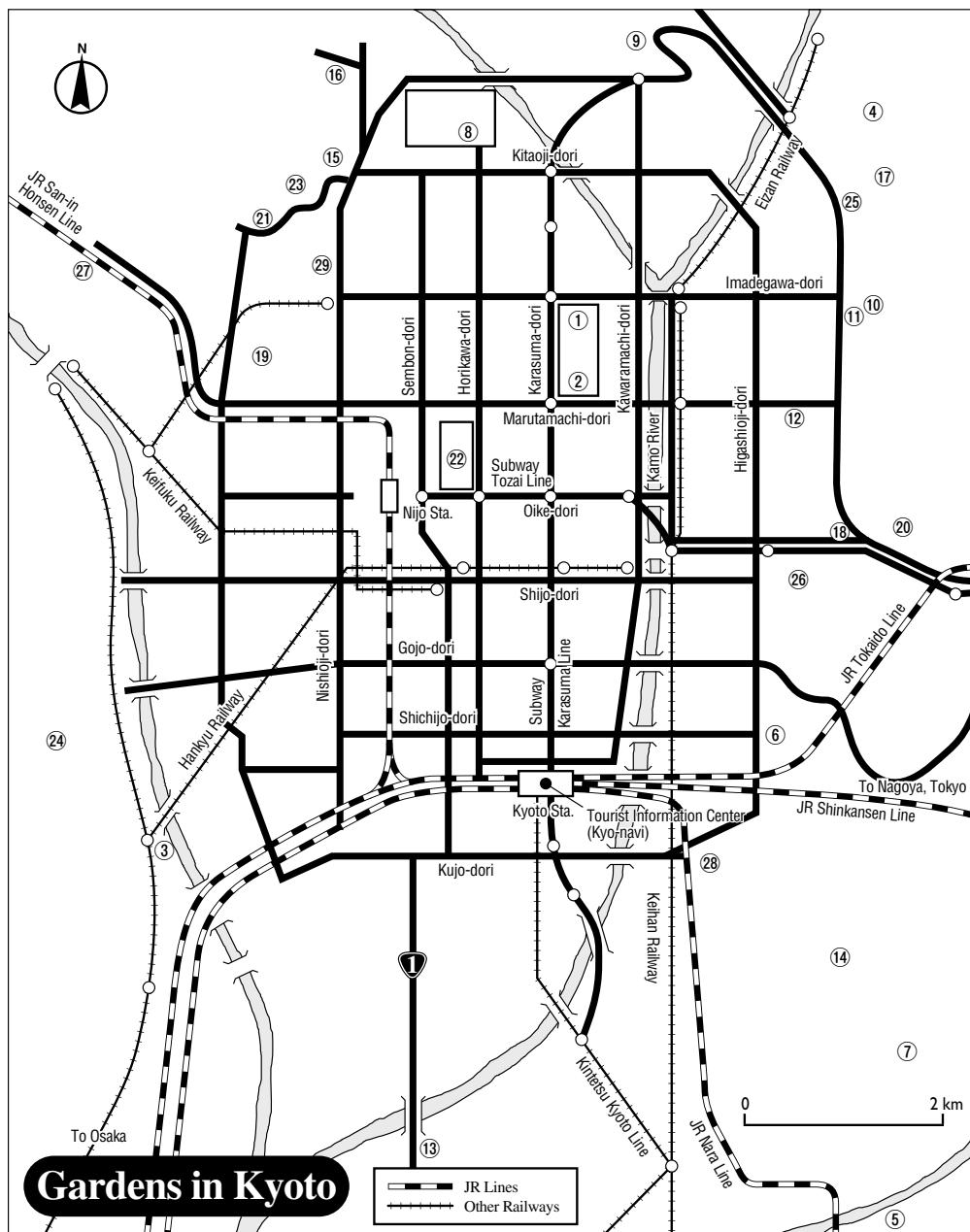
Addr.: Shugakuin, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto

Note: How to Apply for Admission

Kyoto Old Imperial Palace Garden: Reservations are required for the inner palace area in advance at the Kyoto office of the Imperial Household Agency. English guide tours are available. Closed: Sat., Sun. and national holidays. Tel: 075-211-1215 URL: http://sankan.kunaicho.go.jp/order/index_EN.html

Gardens of Sento Palace, Katsura Imperial Villa and Shugakuin Imperial Villa: Reservations are required in advance at the Kyoto Imperial Household Agency at least one day before the tour date. Bring your passport or Alien Registration Card to the Agency office. Or apply by Internet four days before the tour date. Visitors must be over 18 years or older, and up to four individuals.

URL: http://sankan.kunaicho.go.jp/order/index_EN.html



- ① Kyoto Imperial Palace 京都御所
- ② Sento Palace 仙洞御所
- ③ Katsura Imperial Villa 桂離宮
- ④ Shugakuin Imperial Villa 修学院離宮
- ⑤ Byodo-in Temple 平等院
- ⑥ Chishakuin Temple 智積院
- ⑦ Daigoji Samboin Temple 醍醐寺三宝院
- ⑧ Daitokuji Temple 大徳寺
- ⑨ Entsuji Temple 円通寺
- ⑩ Ginkakuji Temple 銀閣寺

- ⑪ Hakusasono Villa 白沙村莊
- ⑫ Heian Shrine 平安神宮
- ⑬ Jonangu Shrine 城南宮
- ⑭ Kakuji Temple 勸修寺
- ⑮ Kinkakuji Temple 金閣寺
- ⑯ Koetsuji Temple 光悦寺
- ⑰ Manshuin Temple 曼殊院
- ⑱ Murin-an Villa 無鄰菴
- ⑲ Myoshinji Temple 妙心寺
- ⑳ Nanzenji Temple 南禪寺

- ㉑ Ninnaji Temple 仁和寺
- ㉒ Nijo Castle 二条城
- ㉓ Ryoanji Temple 龍安寺
- ㉔ Saihoji Temple 西芳寺
- ㉕ Shisendo Temple 詩仙堂
- ㉖ Shoren-in Temple 青蓮院
- ㉗ Tenryuji Temple 天龍寺
- ㉘ Tofukuji Temple 東福寺
- ㉙ Tojiin Temple 等持院

Bus Tours in Kyoto

The time-saving and convenient way to see the Japanese gardens in Kyoto is to join one of the tours. Reservation is required. (by phone or Internet)

Course	Time required	Fare	Operated by
Nijo Castle – Kinkakuji Temple – Kyoto Imperial Palace – (Nishi Honganji) – Lunch – Heian Jingu Shrine – Sanjusangendo Temple – Kiyomizudera Temple	10 hrs. 30 min.	¥11,600	Sunrise Tours (075) 341-1413 Tour with an English-speaking guide. On Sat., Sun., national holidays and some other days when Kyoto Old Imperial Palace is closed, the tour will visit Nishi Honganji, instead. On Tue. in Jan., Jul., Aug & Dec. when Nijo Castle is closed, the tour visit Ryoanji Temple, or Daitokuji Daisen-in Temple, instead.
Kinkakuji – Kiyomizudera – Arashiyama – Heian Jingu Shrine	7 hrs. – 8 hrs.	¥6,460	Keihan Bus/Kyoto City Bus (075) 672-2100 Tour with a Japanese-speaking guide
※Kyoto Imperial Palace – Daitokuji Hombo-Daisen-in Lunch – Sennyuji – Daitokuji Daisen-in Temple	5 hrs.	¥7,160	※Weekdays only

Other Gardens in Kyoto (in alphabetical order)

⑤ **Byodo-in Temple** (平等院): Originally a pond garden for boating laid out in the 11th century. The construction of the temple and its garden was intended to recreate the Buddhist paradise in this world. 30 min. by train from Keihan-Sanjo to Uji on Keihan-Uji Line, or 20 min. by train from Kyoto Sta. to Uji Sta. on JR Nara Line.

Addr.: 116, Uji Renge, Uji-city, Kyoto

Open: 8:30–17:30 Admission: ¥600 (¥300 during the Phoenix Hall repair until Mar. 31 2014)

⑥ **Chishakuin Temple** (智積院): Landscape garden for viewing from within a building, designed by Sen-no-Rikyu (1522–1591), the great ceremonial tea master of the Momoyama Period. The garden retains a vestige of its former glory. Near Higashiyama Nanajo Bus Stop.

Addr.: 964 Higashikawara-cho, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto

Open: 9:00–16:00 Admission: ¥500

⑦ **Daigoji Samboin Temple** (醍醐寺三宝院): Landscape garden for viewing from within a building, laid out in the 16th century. It is one of the finest examples showing the legendary fortuitous crane, tortoise and isle of eternal youth using stones and spring ponds of the type in the Momoyama Period. 10-min. walk from Subway Daigo Sta. on Tozai Line.

Addr.: 22 Higashi-ojicho, Daigo, Fushimi-ku, Kyoto Open: 9:00–17:00 (–16:00 1st Sun. of Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥600

⑧ **Daitokuji-Daisen-in Temple** (大徳寺大仙院): Dry landscape garden built in the 16th century. This garden is famed as a masterpiece of gardening developed for Zen temples. When you open the sliding paper doors, you will see the garden creating a panoramic scene resembling the landscape paintings you can find on sliding partition doors or folding screens in traditional Japanese homes. It represents the mental state of a Zen Buddhist priest going through ascetic practices in a natural surrounding. Near Daitokuji-mae Bus Stop.

Addr.: 54-1 Daitokujicho, Murasaki, Kita-ku, Kyoto (in the Daitokuji Temple compound) Open: 9:00–17:00 (–16:30 Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥400

⑨ **Daitokuji Hojo (Chief Abbot's Chamber)** (大徳寺方丈): Dry landscape garden constructed in the 17th century, designed by Kobori Enshu (1579–1647). The east garden depicts the image of Buddha's disciples practicing zazen meditation. This garden is only open to persons who join the Garden Tour operated daily. (See Garden Tours in Kyoto on Page 2) Individuals must join the tour to enter.

Addr.: 53 Daitokujicho, Murasaki, Kita-ku, Kyoto

⑩ **Entsuji Temple** (円通寺): Dry landscape garden constructed in the 17th century. The garden utilizes the distant view of Mt. Hiei for its backdrop. Near Entsuji-michi Bus Stop, or 15-min. walk from Midoroga-ike Bus Stop.

Addr.: 389 Hataedacho, Iwakura, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto

Open: 10:00–16:30 Admission: ¥500

⑪ **Ginkakuji Temple (Silver Pavilion)** (銀閣寺): Stroll garden combined with a dry garden built in the 15th century. The layout was influenced by the thought of Zen Buddhism. The Ginshadan of sand waves in front of the silver pavilion and the Kogetsudai with its piles of sand are beautiful. Near Ginkakuji-michi Bus Stop.

Addr.: 2 Ginkakujicho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto Open: 8:30–17:00 (9:00–16:30 Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥500

⑫ **Hakusasono Villa** (白沙荘): Stroll garden built in 1916 by Hashimoto Kansetsu, a famous contemporary Japanese-style painter. On the way to Ginkakuji Temple. Near Ginkakuji-michi Bus Stop.

Addr.: 37 Jodoji-ishibashicho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto

Open: 10:00–17:00 Admission: ¥800

⑬ **Heian Jingu Shrine** (平安神宮): Stroll garden constructed in 1895. This garden is well-known for its weeping cherry trees, maple trees, azaleas, irises and waterlilies. Characterized by the bridges crossing over the spring pond Taiheikaku and Garyokyo (stepping stones). Near Bijutsukan-mae or Kyoto Kaikan Bus Stop.

Addr.: 97 Nishi-Tennocho, Okazaki, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto

Open: 8:30–17:30 (–16:30 Nov.–Feb., –17:00 Mar. 1–14 and Oct.) Admission: ¥600

⑭ **Jonangu Shrine** (城南宮): Five different types of gardens representing the respective styles of the Spring, Heian, Muromachi, Momoyama and Jonan Rikyu. Near Jonangu Bus Stop. 15-min. walk from Takeda Sta. on Subway Karasuma Line or Kintetsu Line.

Addr.: 7 Toba Rikyucho, Nakajima, Fushimi-ku, Kyoto

Open: 9:00–16:30 Admission: ¥600

⑮ **Kajuji Temple** (勸修寺): Strolling garden and also a dry landscape garden in front of the study hall. The stroll-type garden was originally built in the 10th century. 20 min. by bus to Kajuji Bus Stop from Yamashina Sta. (next to Kyoto Sta.) on Subway Ono Sta. and 6-min. walk.

Addr.: Niodocho, Kanshuji, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto

Open: 9:00–16:00 Admission: ¥400

⑯ **Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)** (金閣寺): Landscape garden for strolling around the pond to enjoy the changing view of the Gold Pavilion. Residence of the 3rd Ashikaga Shogun Yoshimitsu constructed in the 14th century. Near Kinkakuji-michi Bus Stop.

Addr.: 1 Kinkakujicho, Kita-ku, Kyoto

Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥400

⑰ **Koetsuji Temple** (光悦寺): Tea garden with seven tea houses including Taikyo-an, reconstructed in 1915. The temple and garden were originally built as the residence of Honami Koetsu (1558–1637), a noted artist in the 17th century. This garden is famous for its attractive bamboo fences. 3-min. walk from Genkoan-mae Bus Stop.

Addr.: 29 Koetsujicho, Takagamine, Kita-ku, Kyoto

Open: 8:00–17:00 Closed: Nov. 10–13 Admission: ¥300

⑱ **Manshuin Temple** (曼殊院): Dry garden constructed in the 17th century. The washbasin with owls engraved on all four sides is a rarity. The low balustrade on the open veranda of the Ko-shoin (small study) represents a rudder, and it will take you towards the Horai (isle of eternal youth) Stone deep inside the garden. A composition of a painting seems created as you, upon a boat, watch the Tsuru and Kame Islands upon the sea. 20-min. walk from Ichijoji-Shimizuchō Bus Stop.

Addr.: 42 Takenouchicho, Ichijoji, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto

Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥600

⑯ Murin-an Villa (無鄰菴): Landscape garden with richly flowing waterfall drawn from Lake Biwa which incorporates the distant view of Higashiyama Hill in its design, laid out in 1896. Near Keage Sta. on Subway Tozai Line.
Addr.: 31 Kusagawacho, Nanzenji, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥400

⑯ Myoshinji Keishun-in Temple (妙心寺桂春院): Combination of dry landscape garden, tea garden and landscape garden for strolling constructed by the famous India ink painter, Kano Motonobu, in the 17th century. Near Myoshinji-Kitamono-mae Bus Stop. (in the Myoshinji Temple compound)
Addr.: 11 Teranonaka-cho, Hanazono, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–17:00 (–16:30 in winter) Admission: ¥400

⑯ Myoshinji Taizo-in Temple (妙心寺退藏院): Picturesque dry garden constructed by the famous India ink painter, Kano Motonobu, in the 15th century. Near Myoshinji-mae Bus Stop. (in the Myoshinji Temple compound)
Addr.: 35 Myoshinjicho, Hanazono, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥500

⑯ Nanzenji Hojo (Chief Abbot's Chamber) (南禅寺方丈): Dry garden constructed in the 17th century by Kobori Enshu (1579–1647). A samurai general and master of tea ceremony who also demonstrated his versatility in architecture and gardening. One of the typical gardens of Zen temples. An arrangement of garden rocks called “The crossing of tiger cubs,” depicting a scene where the mother tiger leads its cubs across the river. 10-min. walk from Keage Sta. on Subway Tozai Line. (in the Nanzenji Temple compound)
Addr.: Fukuchicho, Nanzenji, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 8:40–17:00 (–16:30 Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥500

⑯ Nanzenji Konchi-in Temple (南禅寺金地院): Dry garden constructed in the 17th century by Kobori Enshu. A special nationally designated site for its scenic beauty. One of the most celebrated gardens in Kyoto. 10-min. walk from Keage Sta. on Subway Tozai Line. (in the Nanzenji Temple compound)
Addr.: Fukuchicho, Nanzenji, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 8:30–17:00 (–16:30 Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥400

⑯ Nanzenji Nanzen-in Temple (南禅寺南禪院): Landscape garden for viewing from within a building, constructed in the 14th century by Muso Kokushi (1275–1351), a distinguished Zen priest. Its seclusive mood merging into the mountain landscape in the background attracts the visitor. 10-min. walk from Keage Sta. on Subway Tozai Line. (in the Nanzenji Temple compound)
Addr.: Fukuchicho, Nanzenji, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 8:40–17:00 (–16:30 Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥300

㉑ Ninnaji Temple (仁和寺): Landscape garden for viewing from within a building and for strolling laid out in the 17th century. A style of gardening reminiscent of the splendor and luxury of Genroku culture. It flourishes with viewers of the “Otafuku cherry blossoms” in mid-Apr. Near Omuro Ninnaji Bus Stop.
Addr.: 33 Omuro-Ouchi, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–17:00 (–16:30 Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥500

㉒ Ninomaru Garden of Nijo Castle (二条城二の丸庭園): Landscape garden for strolling and viewing from within a building, constructed in the 17th century. A garden designed for welcoming the Emperor’s visit. Near Nijojo-mae Bus Stop.

Addr.: 54 Nijocho, Nijodori Horikawa Nishiiru Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto Open: 8:45–16:00 Closed: Tue. of Jan., Jul., Aug. and Dec. Admission: ¥600

㉓ Ryoanji Temple (龍安寺): Dry garden constructed in the 15th century. Noted for stone arrangements in a rectangular space of white sand. A world cultural heritage site. With the ultimate beauty in its simplest form, removing everything that is unnecessary, you are able to actually experience the thoughts of Zen Buddhism, facing the garden and rejecting any superfluous explanations. Near Ryoanji-mae Bus Stop.

Addr.: 13 Goryonoshitamachi, Ryoanji, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 8:00–17:00 (Mar.–Nov.), 8:30–16:30 (Dec.–Feb.)
Admission: ¥500

㉔ Saihoji Temple (西芳寺): Famous as a moss temple. A world cultural heritage site. It consists of upper and lower layers of arranged rockwork, the spring pond garden on the flat ground and the dry landscape on the mountainside, creating a world of “yugen” (quiet beauty or the subtle and the profound) with its 100 or so different kinds of moss and tree groves. A landscape garden in the go-round style or boating style. Reservations are required to visit. Near Koke-dera Bus Stop or walk from Kami-Katsura Sta. on Hankyu Arashiyama Line.

Addr.: 56 Matsuo-Jingatani-cho, Nishikyo-ku, Kyoto
Note: How to Apply for Admission

Apply by mail from one week to 2 months ahead of the date of your intended visit. (Applicaion must reach the temple at least one week before your visit.). On a return postcard, please write your preferred date, time, representative’s mailing address, name and number of people. Sightseeing time is one and a half hours, but depending on that day’s religious event, time for sightseeing differs. Cost is more than ¥3,000. Visitors participate Kito (chant) and Shakyo (sutra copying) before seeing the garden. Apply to: Saihoji Sanpaikakari, 56 Matsuo-Jingatani-cho, Nishikyo-ku, Kyoto 615-8286 Tel: 075-391-3631

㉕ Shisendo Temple (詩仙堂): Stroll garden with running water “yari-mizu,” laid out in the 17th century by Ishikawa Jozan (1583–1672) a poet, scholar and the designer of the “sozu” or “shishi-odoshi.” The occasional tapping sound of “sozu” reverberates in the tranquility of the Chinese style garden, creating a refined atmosphere. Noted for the beauty of azaleas in spring and tinted foliage in autumn. 10-min. walk from Ichijoji-Sagarimatsu-cho Bus Stop.

Addr.: Monguchicho, Ichijoji, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–17:00 Closed: May 23 Admission: ¥500

㉖ Shoren-in Temple (青蓮院): Stroll gardens constructed by Soami & Kobori Enshu in the 16th century. The straight-line shaped washbasin donated by Toyotomi Hideyoshi is a rare masterpiece. 3-min. walk from Jingu-michi Bus Stop.

Addr.: 69-1 Sanjobo-cho, Awataguchi, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥500

㉗ Tenryuji Temple (天龍寺): Landscape garden for strolling and viewing from within a building constructed in the 14th century. The main motifs of this garden, which almost seems as though it were a landscape drawing in Indian ink, are Ryumon Falls and a stone bridge. A landscape of mountains, rivers and the ocean is presented with a pond and the above two in the center. Ryumon is a rapid current ravine which lies on the border of China's Yungxian and Wanxian. There is a 3-tier waterfall that even fish can't go up, but there's a legend that if fish could go up the waterfall, they would become dragons. This represents the process of a zen priest attaining enlightenment after strict practice. The stone bridge is a symbol of the first step into the state of enlightenment. 2-min. walk from Arashiyama Sta. on Keifuku Dentetsu Arashiyama Line.

Addr.: Susukinobaba-cho, Saga Tenryuji, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto
Open: 8:30–17:30 (–17:00 Oct. 21–Mar. 20) Admission: ¥500

㉘ Tofukuji Fundain Temple (東福寺芬陀院): Dry landscape garden laid out in the 15th century by Sesshu (1420–1506), a famous painter. The Kameishi or Tortoise Stone placed in the moss-covered garden surrounded by bamboo seems almost as if it were living and about to move. 10-min. walk from JR or Keihan Tofukuji Sta. (in the Tofukuji Temple compound)

Addr.: 15-803 Hommachi, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–17:00 (–16:00 Dec.–Mar.) Admission: ¥300

㉙ Tofukuji Hojo (東福寺方丈): Dry gardens in four different types rebuilt in 1938. The north garden is famous for the moss and square stones creating an Ichimatsu checkered design. The coloring of leaves are exquisitely beautiful viewed from the roofed passage called Tsuitenkyo. 10-min. walk from JR or Keihan Tofukuji Sta. (in the Tofukuji Temple compound)

Addr.: 15-778 Hommachi, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–16:00, 8:30–16:00 (Nov.), 9:00–15:30 (Dec.–Mar.) Admission: ¥400

㉚ Tofukuji Kaisando Temple (東福寺開山堂): Pond garden and dry garden, both constructed in the 18th century. The left side of the narrow passage from the entrance is an ichimatsu patterned dry landscape in the Zen Buddhist style. On the right is a pond garden in the Chikuzan fashioned samurai household study style. The two combined create an exquisite taste. 10-min. walk from JR or Keihan Tofukuji Sta..

Addr.: 15-778 Hommachi, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–16:00, 8:30–16:00 (Nov.), 9:00–15:30 (Dec.–Mar.) Admission: ¥400

㉛ Tojiin Temple (等持院): The family temple of successive Ashikaga Shogun generals. The west garden with its Fuyochi Pond is of a multifarious composition, with its trimmed hedges and dried-up waterfall work set against Kinugasa-yama and Ishibashi Bridge. Stroll garden constructed in the 14th century, and Fuyochi Pond was built in the 18th century. Near Tojiin-minami Bus Stop.

Addr.: 63 Kitamachi, Tojiin, Kita-ku, Kyoto
Open: 9:00–17:00 (–15:00 Dec. 30–Jan. 3) Admission: ¥500

Note: Numbers correspond to those on PAGE 2/6 the map of Gardens in Kyoto.

Tokyo

Hama-Rikyu Garden (浜離宮恩賜庭園): Strolling garden constructed in the 17th century. It is unique among Tokyo gardens in having a tidal pond that empties into Tokyo Bay. 7-min. walk from Shiodome Sta. or Tsukiji-ichiba Sta. on Subway Oedo Line. Addr.: Hamarikyu-Teien, Chuo-ku, Tokyo
Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥300

Kiyosumi Garden (清澄庭園): Strolling garden laid out in the 19th century. It is celebrated for the rocks collected from all parts of Japan. 3-min. walk from Kiyosumi-Shirakawa Subway Sta..

Addr.: 3-3-9 Kiyosumi, Koto-ku, Tokyo
Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥150

Koishikawa Korakuen Garden (小石川後楽園): Strolling garden constructed in the 17th century has four special features: 1. The basic structure is traditional. 2. Its subtheme is the duplication of famous sites around Japan. 3. The Chinese gardening style is incorporated. 4. It was the first to create a Tsukiyama in the shape of Mt. Fuji. 3-min. walk from Iidabashi Subway Sta..

Addr.: 1-6-6 Koraku, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥300

Rikugien Garden (六義園): Strolling garden constructed in the 18th century. A garden created in the Edo period under the supervision of Yanagisawa Yoshiyasu, a former "kosho" (page) promoted to the highest rank ever as feudal lord. Being fond of waka poetry and Confucian teachings, he selected 88 scenes from his favorite poems and incorporated them in his gardening. The main motifs are the town's prosperity in the Dokutsu-iwa (Cave Rock) and the prosperity of Imoseyama Hill. The premises include a large pond with an island and a hill covered with a dense grove of trees. 7-min. walk from Komagome Sta..

Addr.: 6-16-3 Honkomagome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥300

Kyu-Shiba-Rikyu Garden (旧芝離宮恩賜庭園):

Strolling garden constructed in the 17th century. One can command a bird's-eye view of the whole garden from the observatory of the Sekai Boeki Center Building nearby. Next to Hamamatsucho Sta..

Addr.: 1-4-1 Kaigan, Minato-ku, Tokyo
Open: 9:00–17:00 Admission: ¥150

Higashi Gyoen Garden (東御苑): Part of the Imperial Palace open to the public. Different flowers can be enjoyed each season. Close to Takebashi Sta. on Subway Tozai Line or Otemachi Sta..

Addr.: 1-1 Chiyoda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Open: 9:00–17:00 (–16:30 Mar.–Apr. 14, Sep.–Oct., –16:00 Nov.–Feb.) Closed: Mon., Fri., and days with special Imperial occasions Admission: Free

Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden (新宿御苑): One of Tokyo's largest and most popular parks for strolling and admiring the flowering shrubs and foliage. It is particularly splendid during the cherry blossom season. 5-min. walk from Shinjuku Gyoenmae Sta. on Subway Marunouchi Line.

Addr.: 11 Naito-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo
Open: 9:00–16:30 Closed: Mon. Admission: ¥200

Other Districts

Mito

Kairakuen (偕樂園): Strolling garden laid out in 1842. It is noted for its Japanese apricot trees which bloom in late Feb. to mid-Mar. The view from Kobun-tei, which extends across the garden, adjoining Lake Senba, Mt. Tsukuba, Sakuragawa River and the ridges of Mt. Maruyama, is said to be an imitation of Sai-ko Lake in China. 20 min. by bus from Mito Sta. on Joban Line to Kairakuen Bus Stop.

Addr.: Tokiwacho, Mito, Ibaraki

Open: Park 7:00–18:00, Kobuntei 9:00–16:30 (Oct. 1–Feb. 19);

Park 6:00–19:00, Kobuntei 9:00–17:00 (Feb. 20–Sep. 30)

Admission: Free (Park), ¥190 (Kobuntei)

http://www.koen.pref.ibaraki.jp/foreign_language/en/index.html

Yokohama

Sankeien Garden (三溪園): Strolling garden built by Hara Tomitaro (1868–1939), a business tycoon of Yokohama. It contains many historic buildings which have been brought from many parts of the country. Different flowers can be enjoyed each season; lotus, iris, plum, azalea and so on. 5-min. walk from Hommoku Sankeien-mae Bus Stop.

Addr.: 58-1, Hommoku Sannotani, Naka-ku, Yokohama

Open: 9:00–17:00 Closed: Dec. 29–31 Admission: ¥500

<http://www.sankeien.or.jp/en-about/index.html>

Nagoya

Ninomaru Garden of Nagoya Castle (名古屋城二の丸庭園): Dry garden for strolling constructed in the 17th century. Four tea rooms or teahouses are dispersed in the garden, connected by stepping stone paths and with stone lanterns in between. 5-min. walk from Shiyakusho Subway Sta.

Addr.: Hommaru, Naka-ku, Nagoya

Open: 9:00–16:30 (Entrance to the donjon until 16:00)

Closed: 29 Dec.–1 Jan. Admission: ¥500

http://www.nagoyajo.city.nagoya.jp/I3_english/index.html

Kanazawa

Kenrokuen (兼六園): Strolling garden constructed in the 19th century. It is one of the three most beautiful landscape gardens in Japan along with Kairakuen in Mito and Korakuen in Okayama. The special features are the two-legged Yukimi-toro or Kotoji-toro (snow-viewing lantern) and the “yuki-zuri” scene, where ropes are stretched from the top branches to the lower branches of trees to protect them from breaking from the weight of the snow and help them grow in a natural manner. The excellent skills and designs of the master artisan work can be found elsewhere in the arts and crafts of the garden. Near Kenrokuen-shita or Dewa-machi Bus Stop. (15 min. by bus from Kanazawa Sta.)

Addr.: I-4 Kenrokumachi, Kanazawa, Ishikawa

Open: 7:00–18:00, 8:00–17:00 (Oct. 16–Feb.) Admission: ¥300

<http://www.pref.ishikawa.jp/siro-niwa/kenrokuen/e/index.html>

Okayama

Korakuen (後楽園): Strolling garden constructed in the 17th century. Visitors can see sacred cranes and can be enjoyed different flowers each seasons. There are various structures like tea-ceremony room of Edo era. Near Korakuen-mae bus stop or 25 min. walk from Okayama Sta..

Addr.: I-5 Korakuen, Kita-ku, Okayama

Open: 7:30–18:00, 8:00–17:00 (Oct.–Mar. 19) Admission: ¥400

http://www.okayama-korakuen.jp/guide/pamphlet_en.pdf

Shimane

Adachi Museum of Art (足立美術館): The museum is famous not only for its collection of contemporary Japanese paintings but also for its gardens. The garden has been ranked as the finest garden in Japan by America's Journal of Japanese Gardening for 7 years in a row. The six gardens, with about 165,000 square meters in total, show you various sceneries by season. 20 min. by Free Shuttle Bus from Yasugi Sta. on JR Sanin Honsen Line.

Addr.: 320, Furukawa-cho, Yasugi City, Shimane

Open: 9:00–17:30 (–17:00 Oct.–Mar.) Admission: Main gallery (Japanese Art & garden) ¥2,200

<http://www.adachi-museum.or.jp/e/index.html>

Kagawa

Ritsurin Garden (栗林公園): It is admired as one of the masterpieces of Japanese landscape gardening. Covering 75 ha of land, it is skillfully laid out to harmonize with the surrounding pine-covered hills. Visitors can enjoy a variety of scenery throughout the four seasons. 15 min. by bus from Takamatsu Sta..

Addr.: I-20-16, Ritsurincho, Takamatsu, Kagawa

Open: 7:00–17:00 (Dec. & Jan.), 7:00–17:30 (Feb.), 6:30–18:00 (Mar.), 5:30–18:30 (Apr., May & Sep.), 5:30–19:00 (Jun., Jul. & Aug.), 6:00–17:30 (Oct.) 6:30–17:00 (Nov.) Admission: ¥400

http://www.pref.kagawa.lg.jp/ritsurin/index_e.html

Tourist Information Center (TIC)

TIC of Japan National Tourism Organization is your helping hand while in Japan. Its main services are providing travel information and free literature on Japan such as tourist spots, transportation, and suggesting tour itineraries, etc.

1st Fl., Shin Tokyo Bldg., 3-3-1, Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0005 Tel. 03-3201-3331

Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Closed: Jan. 1st)

<http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/arrange/travel/guide/tic.html>

Note: Transportation expenses, admission fees and other charges may change due to the increase in the consumption tax rate to 8% from April 2014.

All information, including transportation schedules, fares, prices and accommodation charges, which is contained in this leaflet is based on data as of August 2013, and is subject to change without notice. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of all information, regrettably errors do occasionally occur. Therefore, you should check with organizations concerned for updated and accurate information on your chosen destination. JNTO shall not be liable for any loss or damage of whatever nature that may arise as a result, directly or indirectly, from the use of any of the information or material contained in this leaflet.

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