

Rikugien Gardens

Graceful daimyo garden filled with refined mind of Waka poetry



Designated Administrator Public Interest Incorporated Foundation
Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association

For Stamping

Special Place of Scenic Beauty Rikugien Gardens

- Garden inauguration
October 16, 1938
 - Area
87,809.41㎡
 - Hours
Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(Entry closes at 4:30 p.m.)
※Opening hours may be extended during special events, etc.
 - Closed
Year-end holidays (December 29 to January 1)
 - Free admission days
Greenery Day (May 4)
Tokyo Citizen's Day (October 1)
 - Guided tours in English (Free)
1st and 3rd Sundays
(Twice a day from 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.)
※The tours may be canceled due to weather conditions, etc.
- [Contact]**
Rikugien Gardens Office
Tel: 03-3941-2222
6-16-3 Hon-komagome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
〒113-0021

	Individual	Group (20 or more)	Annual passport (Rikugien)	Annual passport (Common for 9 gardens)
Admission	General	¥300	¥1,200	¥4,000
	65 or over	¥150	¥600	¥2,000
	Admission free	Elementary school students or younger (guardian required) and middle school students (living or attending school in Tokyo Metropolis)		

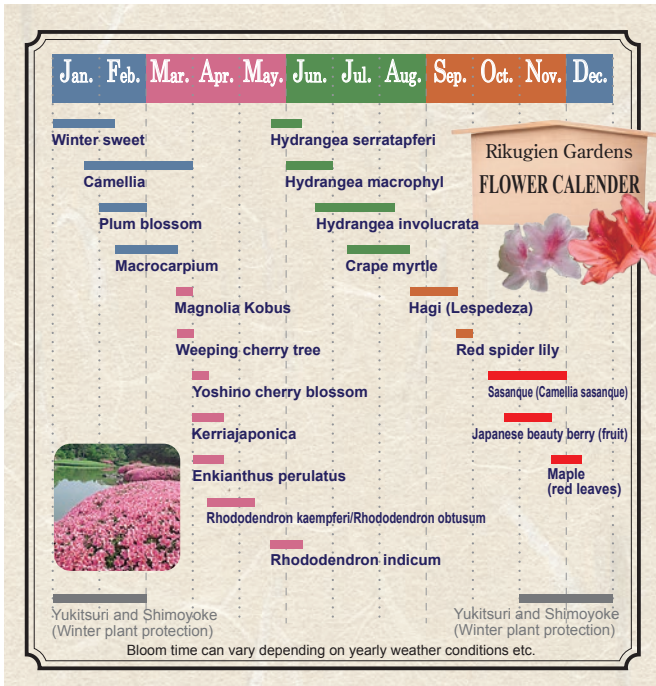
Joint Ticket with Kyu-Furukawa Gardens General ¥400 / 65 or over ¥200

Meeting Facility	①Morning 9:00~12:00			②Afternoon 12:30~16:00			③Whole day 9:00~16:00		
	Shinsen-tei, all rooms (25)	¥4,800			¥4,800			¥9,600	
Shinsen-tei, Matsu, Tsutsuji-no-ma (17)	¥3,600			¥3,600			¥7,200		
Shinsen-tei, Momiji-no-ma (8)	¥1,200			¥1,200			¥2,400		
Gishun-tei, Tea room (5)	¥7,400			¥7,400			¥14,800		

※Reservations are accepted from 10 a.m. of the day 6 months before.
※The rent does not include admission fee.



- [Access]**
〔Train〕
 JR Yamanote Line, Komagome Sta. (South Exit)
 Tokyo Metro Namboku Line, Komagome Sta. (Exit No.2)
 7 minutes on foot to Main Gate
 2 minutes on foot to Somei-mon Gate
 ※This gate is temporarily opened for events, etc.
 Toei Mita Line, Sengoku Sta. (A3 Exit)
 10 minutes on foot to Main Gate
 ※Parking is not available.
 18 minutes on foot to Kyu-Furukawa Gardens



Welcome to Cultural Heritage Gardens

Every Tokyo Metropolitan Garden is designated as a cultural heritage of either the State or of Tokyo, combining history, culture, and nature since the Edo, Meiji and Taisho eras.

They are valuable properties that have survived disasters including the Great Kanto Earthquake and the War, as well as progressing urbanization. Your understanding and cooperation are greatly appreciated in order to allow such important properties to be left to prosper in better conditions.

[Request from the garden]

- Please refrain from entering with pets, collecting plants and animals from the garden, use of mats, or bringing in alcoholic beverages.
- Taking photos and making sketches in certain areas are also prohibited in order to preserve the buildings and landscape.
- Part of the cultural assets might not be available for viewing due to the need for regular conservation and repair work.
- Smoking is forbidden on the premises. No smoking sections are available.

9 Metropolitan Cultural Heritage Gardens

- Hama-rikyu Gardens
- Kyu-Shiba-rikyu Gardens
- Koishikawa Korakuen Gardens
- Rikugien Gardens
- Kyu-Iwasaki-tei Gardens
- Mukojima-Hyakkaen Gardens
- Kiyosumi Gardens
- Kyu-Furukawa Gardens
- Tonogayato Gardens

Garden of Waka poetry

Rikugien is a kaiyu-style (circuit style) daimyo garden with artificial hills and a pond that reflect the taste of the world of Waka poetry. This garden was designed in 1702 by the lord of Kawagoe domain, Yanagisawa Yoshiyasu, who was deeply trusted by the 5th shogun, Tokugawa Tsunayoshi. This delicate and tranquil garden shows us a wide range of beautiful views strolling around the pond. The garden reflects 88 scenes of *Wakanoura, scenic spots that appear in Waka poems, and landscapes written in Chinese classics.

This is a typical and representative daimyo garden of the Edo period. It became a villa of the founder of Mitsubishi, Iwasaki Yataro in 1878. Later, the Iwasaki family donated the garden to the City of Tokyo in 1938. The garden is not only a cultural heritage but a Special Place of Scenic Beauty of the country designated in 1953.



Tsutsuji-chaya

This teahouse was built using azalea wood in the Meiji era. It survived the wars, and remains in its original structure to this day. Autumnal tints of maple leaves are splendid.

Takimi-chaya

A mountain stream runs beside the arbor, falling through the rocks with splash. From the arbor, you can see the impressive views of the waterfall and rock formation. You can also enjoy the sound of water.



Sekichu (Stone pillar)

For each of the 88 beauty spots (the sceneries associated with Waka poetry and Chinese classics), there used to be a stone pillar respectively. However, only 32 of them exist now.

The origin of the garden's name

"Rikugien" was named after the six categories of waka poetry which originated from ancient Chinese poems. These six categories are written in Kokinshu (a collection of ancient and recent poems of the day). The garden was called "Mukusa-no-sono" in the Edo period, however, it is now read as "Rikugien" with Chinese pronunciation.

* Wakanoura is a bay in Wakayama pref. well known as its scenic beauty.

Fujishiro-toge

This is the highest artificial hill in the garden. The height is 35m, and the top is called "Fujimi-yama"



(Fuji-view peak). From there, you can see a panoramic view.

Sasagani-no-michi

In old days, spiders were called "sasagani", and the same name was given to this narrow path for remaining the Yanagisawa family and the read of waka poetry as a thread of a spider is thin but strong.



Togetsukyo

The name of this stone bridge came from a famous poem that depicts the moon moving in the sky as if crossing a bridge. "to" means crossing, "getsu" is the moon, and "kyo" means a bridge in Japanese.

Imo-no-yama / Se-no-yama

Two artificial hills located at Naka-no-shima, an islet in the pond. The hills represent man-woman relationship. "Se" and "Imo" meant "Man" and "Woman" in ancient expression. This islet symbolizes hope for fertility and family prosperity.

* This islet is off-limits.



Deshio-no-minato

This is one name of the pond edges. There is a nice view of Naka-no-shima island to the right, Horai-jima islet to the left, and Fukiage-no-hama shore on the opposite side of the pond. This place was made to look like a port.



Naitei-daimon

This gate leads you to the center of the garden. A large weeping cherry tree is at the nearby space.



Horai-jima

This typical stone made arch islet is based on the main theme of Taoist immortality. This is a legendary island where an immortal wizard is said to live. These islands were made in Japanese gardens to wish the eternal youth and immortality.

Guided tours in English

We recommend to join the guided tour with volunteers who can tell you the spots you must see in the garden, the story of Japanese gardens and history as well as topics of Waka poetry.

* Twice a day from 11am and 2pm on 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month. Time required is approximately 60 minutes. Free of charge.