



- FLOWER CALENDAR**
- January - : Chimonanthus praecox (*Chimonanthus praecox*), macrocarpium (*Cornus officinalis*)
  - February Japanese apricot (*Prunus mume*)
  - March Mitsumata (*Edgeworthia chrysantha*), stachyurus praecox (*Stachyurus praecox*), camellia (*Camellia japonica*), magnolia praecocissima (*Magnolia praecocissima*), weeping cherry tree (*Prunus pendula* f. *pendula*)
  - April Yoshino cherry blossom (*Prunus x yedoensis*), azalea (*Rhododendron*), kerriajaponica (*Kerria japonica*)
  - May: Cornus controversa (*Cornus controversa*), styrax japonica (*Styrax japonica*), deutzia crenata (*Deutzia crenata*), azalea (*Rhododendron indicum*)
  - June: Hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla*), evergreen magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)
  - July: Crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*)
  - September: Hagi (*Lespedeza*)
  - October Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*), Sasanqua (*Camellia sasanqua*),
  - December: camellia sinensis (*Camellia sinensis*)

### Guide service

Guests are invited to take advantage of free guide service while strolling through the Garden. This service is carried out by volunteers and includes explanations of the garden, related information on Japanese gardens in general, and related historical information and explanations of Waka poetry. This service is available on Sundays and holidays, beginning 11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M.. The walk around the garden with the guide requires about one hour. Please note that the guide service is carried out in Japanese only. No English or other foreign language guide service is available.

園名の由来

The name "Rikugien" refers to a system for dividing Chinese poetry into six categories. This system also influenced the division of Japanese Waka poetry as well. Although the number six is usually read "roku," in the case of the garden's name, it is pronounced "riku" in keeping with the Chinese pronunciation of the word.

## 六義園 Rikugien Gardens

**Inauguration as a garden:** October 16, 1938

**Area:** 87,809.41m<sup>2</sup>

**Main plants:** Pine (*Pinus*), maple (*Acer palmatum*), zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*), cornus controversa (*Cornus controversa*), cinnamonum javanicum (*Cinnamomum camphora*), castanopsis cuspidate (*Castanopsis sieboldii*), azalea (*Rhododendron indicum*), cherry tree (*Prunus*), chimonanthus praecox (*Chimonanthus praecox*), Japanese apricot (*Prunus mume*), camellia (*Camellia japonica*), weeping cherry (*Prunus pendula* f. *pendula*), idesia polycarpa maxim (*Idesia polycarpa*), evergreen magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), hagi (*Lespedeza*), sasanqua (*Camellia sasanqua*), Japanese beauty-berry (*Callicarpa japonica*)

**Main wild birds:** Non-migratory: Japanese great tit (*Parus major*), turtledove (*Streptopelia orientalis*), bush warbler (*Cettia diophona*), Japanese white-eye (*Zosterops japonica japonica*), little grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis poggi*)

Migratory: Pintail (*Anas acuta*), baldpate (*Anas penelope*), mallard (*Anas penelope*), mandarin duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*), tufted duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

**Hours:** Open from 9:00 to 17:00 (Entry until 16:30)

**Closed:** Year-end holidays (December 29 to January 1)

**Entrance fee:** ¥300 (65 and over: ¥150)

(No charge for primary school children or younger, and junior high school students living or attending school in Tokyo)

\*20% discount for groups of 20 and more

**Related facilities:**

**Shin sentei:** All rooms: Maximum 25 persons (Charge: ¥4,800)

Matsu-no-ma, Tsutsuji-no-ma: Maximum 17 persons. (Charge: ¥3,600)

Momiji-no-ma: Maximum 8 persons (Charge: ¥1,200)

**Gishun-tei:** Tea ceremony rooms: Maximum 5 persons (Charge: ¥7,400)

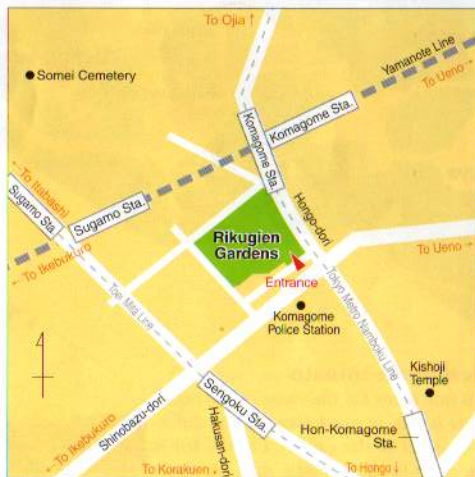
**Park location:** 6-16-3 Hon-komagome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0021

**Contact:** Rikugien Garden Office Tel: 03-3941-2222

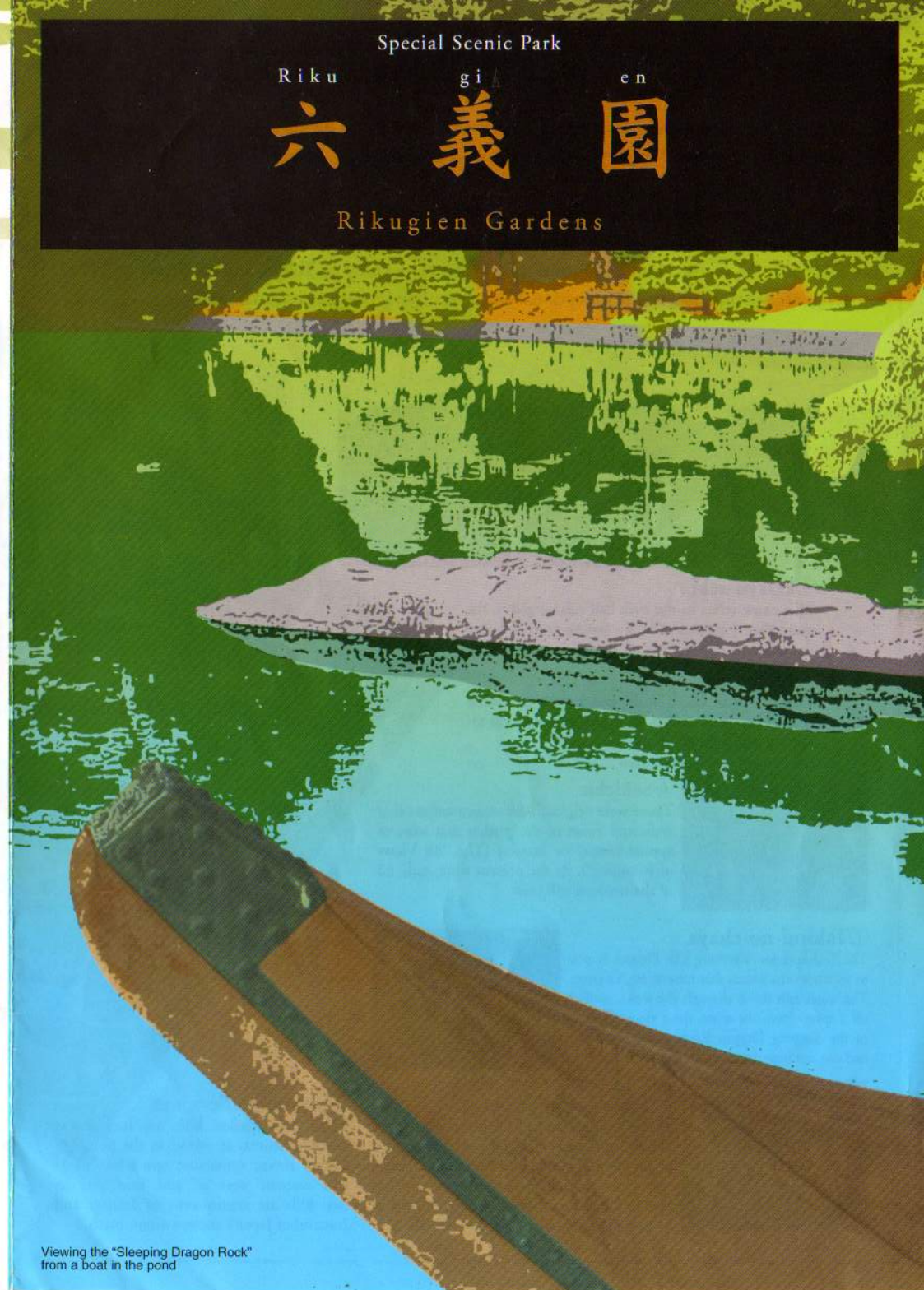
**Access:** JR/Tokyo Metro Namboku Line, Komagome Station (7 minutes on foot) N-14

Toei Mita Line, Sengoku Station (10 minutes on foot) I-14

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Rikugien Gardens

Viewing the "Sleeping Dragon Rock" from a boat in the pond

# The Waka poetry garden, Rikugien

This strolling, mountain and pond-style garden was created based on the theme of Waka poetry in the 15th year of the Genroku Period (1702) by the shogun, Tokugawa Tsunayoshi's trusted confidante Yanagisawa Yoshiyasu.

This garden is a typical example of the famous gardens of Edo Period. In the Meiji Period, this garden became a second residence of the founder of Mitsubishi, Iwasaki Yataro. Later, in the 13th year of Showa (1938), the Iwasaki family donated this garden to the City of Tokyo, and in Showa 28 (1953) it was designated as a special site of exceptional beauty and an important cultural asset.



## ④ Garyu-seki

This name refers to the rock half submerged in the pond that it appears to be a sleeping dragon, hence the name, "Sleeping Dragon Rock."

## ⑤ Horaijima

This is a small island in the pond made of stones, created based on a form of mysticism aimed at attaining supernatural power.

The stone path marker on the Hill of Instruction



## ⑥ Sekichu

There were originally 88 stone markers that indicated views of the garden that were of special beauty or interest (The "88 Views of Rikugien"). At the present time, only 32 of the markers still exist.

## ⑦ Takimi-no-chaya

The Teahouse for Watching The Dragon is next to an arbor on a stream that runs through a gorge. The water falls down through the rocks, sending off a spray. From the arbor, there are good views of the Sleeping Dragon Rock and other scenes and one can hear the sound of the water.



Teahouse and Maple trees (Around November)



## ⑧ Tsutsuji-no-chaya

This teahouse was built using the wood of old trees during the Meiji Period. It managed to survive the war and at the present time is still a site of great attraction because of its rare and beautiful form that can be seen at its best when maples turn red in the fall.

## ③ Imo-yama/Se-yama

These two garden hills are located on Naka-no-shima, an island in the pond. In former times, vernacular terms for "man" and "woman" were "se" and "imo" and the two hills are reminiscent of Izanagi and Izanami of Japan's ancient origin myth.



## ⑨ Fujishiro-toge

The tallest hill in the garden is 35m high. The summit of this hill is called Fujimi-yama ("Fuji-view peak"). The views from the top of this hill are truly wonderful. The name for the hill is taken from a mountain pass of the same name in Kishu (present day Wakayama Prefecture).



## ⑩ Sasakani-no-michi

Ancient people referred to spiders as "sasakani." The path is very narrow and therefore likened to a strand of a spider's nest.

## ⑪ Togetsukyo

This stone bridge was named after a famous Waka poem about the view of the moon moving across the sky with the cry of a crane in a rice paddy heard nearby. The bridge is using two large slabs of stone.



## ② Deshio-no-minato

This is one name for the shore of the pond. The site is rich in good views of the different highlights of the garden. On the left is Horaijima. On the opposite side, the shore of the pond called Fukiage-hama is visible.



## ① Naitai-Daimon

This gate was created so that it is possible to enter the garden from a central point. There is a large weeping cherry tree (Prunus pendulaf. Pendula) in the open space close by.

