

GARDEN FEATURES

1 Entry Your gateway to SuihoEn stands just before the Dry Garden. Look for the open wooden gate leading to the stone walkway. You may also enter through the Admin Building.

2 Dry Garden In the Dry Garden, or karesansui, a large grass-covered mound represents the mythical Tortoise, who can live for 10,000 years. Upright stones symbolize Horaisan, the island of immortals and everlasting happiness.

3 Redwoods The “wall” of Redwood trees offers seclusion from the busy world outside.

4 Water Garden The one major structural addition to SuihoEn after its initial opening; a magnificent sight in summer, when water lilies and lotus flowers bloom.

5 Snow Viewing Lantern Known as “Ishidoro,” this stone lantern is a gift from Nagoya, Los Angeles’ sister city in Japan.

6 Boat Landing Comprised of hand-hewn granite stone steps leading out to black pebbles, representing beaches, and the centerpiece pond, an expression of the sea. Here, an intrepid mariner could set sail for mythological islands of good fortune.

7 Heavenly Floating Bridge Our man-made bridge replacates the Amano-Hashidate, a naturally occurring sandbar, considered one of the 3 most scenic spots in Japan. When viewed upside down, its reflection suggests a “heavenly bridge.”

8 Tea Garden In the Tea Garden, a Roji, which means “dewy ground,” is the primary walkway, with stepping stones as the main design element. The water basin and bamboo spout are for guests to purify themselves before entering the Chashitsu, or adjoining Teahouse.

9 Shoin Building Of the zukuri style, this was the parlor room of 14th century aristocrats. Here they would host other dignitaries, and flaunt it’s open design, integrating indoors with nature.

10 Main Gate With Ichimonji roof tiles, and white stucco walls, this gate typifies the regal entry of a 1500’s aristocratic residence.

11 Arbor Following “sukiya style,” and overlooking the ike (pond), this arbor is a place to rest, meditate and view the Garden.

12 Waterfall The mythical source of all life, the waterfall, or taki, is designed with three vertical tiers, representing Heaven, Man, and Earth.

13 Crane Island Shaped to interpret a Crane, who symbolizes longevity. There are no bridges to this sacred island.

14 ZigZag Bridge Lifted from the eleventh century “Tale of Ise,” this zigzag bridge, or Yatsubashi, rises over a marsh of water irises.

15 Weeping Willow The Weeping Willow Tree is symbolic of the feminine—kind, loving and bending, while the Black Pines across the pond represent the masculine—warlike, strong and unbending.

水
芳
園

“An important concept of the garden is simplicity or ‘Kanso’... the achievement of maximum effect with minimum means.”

DR. KOICHI KAWANA , SUIHO-EN DESIGNER



SuihoEn
The Japanese Garden